

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Council Pre-Meeting

June 2, 2015

6:00 p.m.

A Pre-Meeting of the City Council of the City of Gillette, County of Campbell, State of Wyoming, was held on Tuesday the 2nd day of June 2015, in the third floor conference room, pursuant to due notice and call. The Presiding Officer called the meeting to order and upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Council Members present: Dan Barks, Tim Carsrud, Ted Jerred, Robin Kuntz, Kevin McGrath, Forrest Rothleutner, and Mayor Louise Carter-King.

Staff present: J. Carter Napier, City Administrator; Charlie Anderson, City Attorney; John Aguirre, Human Resource Director; Pamela L. Boger, Administrative Services Director; Patrick Davidson, Asst. City Attorney; Kendall Glover, Utilities Director; Dustin Hamilton, Director of Development Services; Tom Pitlick, Finance Director; Sawley Wilde, Public Works Director; Brent Wasson, Lieutenant; Michelle Henderson, Finance Manager; Ry Muzzarelli, Utilities Electrical Engineer; Mick Wolf, Electrical Services Superintendent; Levi Jensen, Utilities Project Manager; Geno Palazzari, Communications Manager; Patti Davidsmeier, Community & Gov't Relations Manager; and Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk.

Warm Up Items

Mayor Carter-King asked for warm up items. City Administrator Napier asked if Council would be interested in discussing the zoning text amendment request that is on the agenda for the upcoming Regular Meeting. Council was in agreement. Development Services Director Hamilton explained the applicant's request. He added that the City's residential zoning districts do not allow residential occupancy as an accessory use. The applicant's proposal is to modify the text in the R-R Zone, allowing caretakers to be permitted as an accessory use with acreage greater than two acres. Staff's recommendation to the Planning Commission was denial of the text amendment because of the significant change to residential zoning, and it could certainly convey precedence for future requests. The Planning Commission agreed to support staff's recommendation for denial of the request. Discussion regarding the caretakers moving into the house, or moving their RV to a park, as well as processes of the Board of Adjustments and options regarding what steps the applicant could take with the BOA, took place.

Discussion of Adding a New Item to the June 2nd Council Meeting

City Administrator Napier reported that there is an agreement that has been signed by Powder River Energy Corporation for the acquisition of assets into the City's electrical network that was not signed at the time the agenda was originally created. In order to expedite the acquisition of assets, and to get power to customers more quickly, staff is recommending that this item be added to the Consent Agenda for consideration during the Regular Meeting. Councilman Barks asked the dollar amount, and where the funds would come from. City Administrator Napier explained that the dollar amount is approximately \$2.8 million provided through the power fund; a portion of which has been offset by funds from the General Fund.

Gillette Dog Park Discussion

City Administrator Napier reminded Council of their agreement to give a two acre parcel to be used as a dog park. Michael Surface, representative of the Gillette Dog Park Group, explained the request for a public dog park. He added that currently, there are five City owned dog parks around the state. Mr. Surface stated that the Gillette Dog Park Committee has raised \$22,000 and is willing to provide the money toward the construction of the park. The group also understands that it would be done in phases. Efforts are being continued to raise funds and the group is looking for donations from various businesses in Gillette. The group is requesting the City begin a volunteer program to keep all parks across Gillette clean. Mayor Carter-King asked what exactly is the group requesting. Mr. Surface stated that his understanding is that the last time Council met, there was concern about the maintenance of the park. The group feels since it is a public park and public land, the City should provide the maintenance. Councilman Barks stated he recalls the City agreeing to matching the funds raised by the Gillette Dog Park Group, and that staff would not maintain the dog park. City Administrator Napier stated that the direction he recalls is that funding would be provided to supplement what the group has raised, not to exceed \$40,000 for the total fencing project, which would amount to approximately, \$18,000 for the City's portion. Mr. Napier added that it is also his understanding that staff would not maintain, or mow, the park. Councilman Jerred suggested that Council step back and have staff research how the other five communities handle their dog parks regarding what works and what doesn't. Councilman McGrath voiced his concerns regarding the earlier discussions with the dog park group. He went on to say that he recalls the group saying that they would maintain the land if the City provided it. Councilman McGrath also raised concerns of future requests that could be made by the group for parking, water, benches, etc. Kathryn Mahoney, chairperson for the Gillette Dog Park Group, addressed Councilman McGrath's concerns by stating that there are several grants available, and fundraising efforts that the group is looking into. She added that several businesses around town are also donating materials and volunteering services. There was discussion of what steps needed to take place next. After further discussion, the majority of the Council was in favor of mowing, however, directed staff to research how other communities handle the maintenance of their dog parks. Public Works Director Wilde added that the area is mowed four times a season, as part of the City's right-of-way mowing, and asked to keep it the same. Council agreed. Michael Surface reported that the group can provide a master plan for Council and staff's review.

Parks & Beautification Board Recommendation - Smoke Free Community

City Administrator Napier explained that the Campbell County Prevention Council (CCPC) has been visiting with the Parks & Beautification Board regarding a pilot program to introduce a "smoke free community" at the Energy Capital Sports Complex and the Little League Fields, allowing children who use these areas, a smoke free environment. Little League requires that tobacco be used only in the parking lot and the CCPC is recommending the same process for the Energy Capital Sports Complex. Members of the CCPC explained the proposed Smoke Free Community Pilot Program and supports the proposed local pilot project primarily for four reasons: 1) negative health impact; 2) significant

litter impact; 3) the cost incurred with clean-up of smoke product litter; and 4) the support of the program both in support, and local contribution. Discussion of litter receptacles took place along with signage. Staff will bring a Resolution forward for Council's consideration in the upcoming weeks. Councilmen Kuntz and Jerred voiced concerns of enforcement. Councilman McGrath asked that the E-cigarettes be included in the Resolution.

Cam-Plex Capital Budget Requests

Paul Foster, General Manager for Cam-Plex, explained the request. He stated the roofing projects came in over budget, therefore, the need for a transfer of funds regarding capital line items within the budget. Mr. Foster stated that no additional funds are being requested, only the transfer of funds. After the discussion, Council was in agreement to allow Cam-Plex to transfer capital funds from one account into another.

Citizen Advisory Board Recommendations

City Administrator Napier introduced Jessica Klym, recommended for the Mayor's Art Council, and Glen Asay and Adrien Gerrits, recommended for the Parks & Beautification Board. Appointments will take place on June 16, 2015.

Review June 2nd Council Agenda

The group reviewed the upcoming agenda items.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Louise Carter-King

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk

Publish date: June 10, 2015