

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Special Meeting

April 5, 2016

5:13 p.m.

A Special meeting of the City Council of the City of Gillette, County of Campbell, State of Wyoming, was held on Tuesday the 5th day of April 2016, in the 3rd 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, Billy Montgomery, and Mayor Louise Carter-King.

Staff present: J. Carter Napier, City Administrator; Charlie Anderson, City Attorney; Pamela L. Boger, Administrative Services Director; Patrick Davidson, Asst. City Attorney; Kendall Glover, Utilities Director; Dustin Hamilton, Development Services Director; Tom Pitlick, Finance Director; Sawley Wilde, Public Works Director; Dan Bridges, Utilities Electrical Manager; Heath VonEye, City Engineer; Mick Wolf, Electrical Superintendent; Brent Wasson, Lieutenant; Geno Palazzari, Communications Manager; Patti Davidsmeier, Community & Government Relations Manager; and Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk.

### Executive Session

It was moved by Councilman Carsrud and seconded by Councilman McGrath to move into an Executive Session to discuss litigation, personnel, and confidential matters. Roll was called with the following results. Council Members voting aye: Barks, Carsrud, Jerred, Kuntz, McGrath, Montgomery, and Mayor Carter-King. The Presiding Officer declared the motion carried and the group moved into an Executive Session at 5:13 p.m.

The Special Meeting resumed at 6:25 p.m.

### Warm Up Items

Councilman Barks reported that there is a lot of trash being blown onto the interstate from a motel being built near Towers West. He asked if there is an ordinance addressing this issue and if something could be done.

Councilman Montgomery reported on the Wyoming Welcome Home Veterans Day, and thanked Rozet School for hosting the ceremony.

### Downtown Plaza Management Discussion

City Administrator Napier reported that staff, and the Gillette Main Street Committee, have been working together to better facilitate the downtown activities with regard to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Plaza. A draft MOU has been prepared for Council's review. Assistant City Attorney Davidson highlighted some of the details within the MOU. He explained calendar events and processes regarding street closures, as well as permitting processes for events that will include alcohol. Councilman McGrath asked who would be responsible for cleaning the restrooms and for placing the barricades. Mr. Davidson stated that the barricades will be fairly mobile and the organization requesting the closure would be responsible for placing, and removing the barricades. The restroom details are still being discussed. Councilman Jerred asked what the processes would be if an event encroaches onto

Gillette Avenue. Mr. Davidson stated that these processes are still being discussed as well.

#### Rates Review

City Administrator Napier explained, in light of calls that have been received, it seems that most of the conversations have been, primarily, power, and why a rate increase is necessary. Staff prepared information for Council, as a reminder, as to the need for rate increases. There is not, technically, a request for water rates to be increased. Staff is trying to reconcile the way water rate modeling has been conducted with what was agreed upon, by virtue of signing a joint powers agreement that enabled us to secure support for the Madison water-line funding. The requirement, that this reconciliation process involves, is deconstructing water base rates, as well as ensuring that a similar rate is charged for those both inside and outside the community. He views this as a contractual obligation to reconcile the way rates are being paid both inside and outside the city. A presentation was given for the electric fund. Mr. Napier went over the rate adjustment/subsidy scenarios and the risk of not increasing electric rates. He then presented information regarding the history of the power fund since the year 2008. He assured Council that rates are not being increased to keep up with employee raises; they are being increased to keep up with significant capital expenses associated with operating a power company that has both transmission obligations, as well as production obligations. The power fund has increased because of growth and development pressures, and extending our network into areas that had interest in becoming part of the city. It is not the arbitrary decision of staff to do, or not do, projects; it's been in response to the demands of customers and potential customers.

#### Review April 5<sup>th</sup> Council Agenda

The group reviewed the agenda items for the upcoming April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. City Administrator Napier updated Council regarding the tabled item on the agenda and added that communication was received from the State and they agree that the project should be rebid. Staff is requesting, if the item is removed from the table, that Council move forward and reject all bids. Councilman Kuntz reported that he has a conflict of interest regarding item H-1(g) and would be abstaining.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Mayor Louise Carter-King

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

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Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk

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