

A Pre-Meeting of the City Council was held on Tuesday the 21st day of May 2019.

Present were Councilmen Brown, Carsrud, Lundvall, McLeland, Montgomery, Neary, and Mayor Carter-King; City Administrator Davidson; City Attorney Reyes; Directors Cole, Henderson, Hloucal, Muzzarelli, and Wilde; Managers Schoen, Palazzari, and Toscana; City Clerk Staskiewicz.

### **Warm Up Items**

Councilman Montgomery commented that he attended an event at the Boys' & Girls' Club and met the new director.

### **Carbon Valley Development Blueprint**

Dr. Doug Gilbert of Lone Tree Academics, LLC, presented the proposed Carbon Valley Ecosystem Blueprint Development Program. Dr. Gilbert explained that the Carbon Valley concept is part of a broader process to promote future competitiveness and accommodate existing efforts, such as the Integrated Test Center, into future planning. The presentation provided information and examples of carbon technologies and dimensions of a Carbon Valley Business Ecosystem, which include leadership & policy, markets, finance, human capital, business culture, and supporting structures. There would be two (2) proposed phases to the project. Phase I would consist of Regional research and orientation, ecosystem assessment, and potential sector review. Phase II would consist of ecosystem mapping, blueprinting of key actions, and partner outreach and communication. Dr. Gilbert pointed out that the initiation of dialogues with partners would remain with Energy Capital Economic Development, the City of Gillette, and Campbell County. The Program's next steps are to develop a timeline and host a kick off meeting in Gillette. County Commissioner Christensen commented that of the different programs he has researched, this program impressed him with the higher education initiative that Dr. Gilbert presents. The program builds on what Campbell County wants to do with energy, specifically, coal. County Commissioner Reardon stated that the County has been looking at different projects, he felt the Blueprint would help keep Gillette viable. The County would like to proceed with the project and asked for a partnership with the City, both financially and with staffing support. Dr. Gilbert stated that the City's share of the funding would be approximately \$45,000, and final figures would be provided, when available.

James Francis, an MBA student of University of Wyoming, presented Council with strategies for attracting new carbon-based businesses to Campbell County. The process began in March of 2019 with a group of University of Wyoming MBA students that worked to clarify goals and objectives, and identify available resources. Ideas were broadly generated and narrowed down, with the concept that the client would ultimately be considered the expert and would choose which ideas on which to focus. One notion would be to establish Campbell County as the "Carbon Hub" of the World, by strengthening incentives, infrastructure, and workforce development. Another idea would be to make Campbell County known domestically and internationally, by developing a consistent brand and identity, and focusing on community selling points. A third objective would be to have an annual Campbell County Carbon Conference to collaborate for coal innovation. A Marketing Plan Execution Timeline was outlined and explained.

### **Review May 21st Council Agenda**

The Council Agenda items were reviewed and discussed.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m. An audio recording of this meeting is available in the City Clerk's Office.

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ATTEST:

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Cindy Staskiewicz, City Clerk

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Louise Carter-King, Mayor

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