

A Pre-Meeting of the City Council was held on Tuesday the 18th day of February 2020.

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

Warm Up Items

Councilman Carsrud wished Community and Government Relations Manager Toscana a happy birthday. Councilman Montgomery informed Council that the Campbell County Prevention Council named Dairy Queen as the March *Champion of Hope*. Councilman Montgomery also encouraged everyone to view the AVA Art Center's art display of J.P. Caffee's photography, depicting stories of homelessness and addiction.

Quarterly Updates

Cam-Plex – Jeff Esposito, General Manager, gave an update on the current construction project and informed that the scheduled completion date is June of 2020. Manager Esposito informed Council that the project is over budget, due to unforeseen expenses for the operable partition walls. They are attempting to cover the additional expenses within their available funds, but may need the City's help to offset the difference. Mr. Esposito stated that hail damages were significant, and funds may be needed to assist with their substantial insurance deductible. Cam-Plex staffing changes have been proposed to create a blended job description to combine job duties, which could result in a payroll increase, which they hope to internalize the cost, if possible, but may ask for financial assistance from the City.

Gillette College – Janell Oberlander, Vice President, proudly announced that Gillette College will soon be able to offer 4-year degrees in Business and Industrial Technology. The College is offering a Weekend Welding Program, beginning in March, for a one-year welding certification course; class registration is full, with a wait list. Vice President Oberlander provided enrollment statistics, and stated that enrollment has increased, including dual enrollment registrations. She announced that Jed Jenson, Dean of Technical Career Education would soon be retiring, and stated that the men's basketball team and the women's basketball and soccer teams were having a good year.

Energy Capital Economic Development – Phil Christopherson, Chief Executive Officer, and Curtis Burdette, Vice President of Operations, presented an update of their operations. CEO Christopherson informed Council that ECED is working on becoming self-funded. Vice President Burdette provided information regarding the Enterprise Center, a cost analysis plan for a commercial kitchen, the "Desk for a Day" Program, and the March Lunch and Learn Program, which will feature a marketing and personal branding presentation. CEO Christopherson provided information on the New Growth Alliance, the Advanced Carbon Products Innovation Center (ACPIC), the Cheyenne legislative reception, the Leadership Wyoming Program, and Vision 2040.

Campbell County Convention and Visitors Center – Jessica Seders, Executive Director, and Christen Burdette, Sales and Event Coordinator, provided 2019 statistics regarding the numbers of visitor bags distributed, mailers sent out, and phone calls received, and informed Council that the lodging tax increased from the previous year. Director Seders stated that repairs for hail damages to the Visitor Center have been completed. Director Seders reported that the 2019 Sparkler event, attempting to beat the Guinness Book of World Records, was not successful, and added that the event would be re-scheduled to include extra activities, and incorporate changes and ideas needed for success. Ms. Seders gave an overview of 2020 promotional events, and Event Coordinator Burdette provided information regarding sporting events. Ms. Burdette stated that Gillette is hosting the Cowboy State Games, which requires seven (7) to ten (10) sporting events over a 3-year period. A design for a downtown torch is in process, with the hope that the completed torch will be part of the Mayor's Art Council. Ms. Burdette thanked Council for their support of expanding the Energy Capital Sports Complex; the additional fields are needed for tournaments, which boost tourism revenues.

Review February 18th Council Agenda

The group discussed the upcoming agenda items.

Executive Session

Councilman Carsrud made a motion to move into an Executive Session to discuss litigation; seconded by Councilman Montgomery. All voted aye. The motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m. An audio recording of this meeting is available in the City Clerk's Office.

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

Cindy Staskiewicz, City Clerk
Publish date: February 26, 2020

Louise Carter-King, Mayor