

A Pre-Meeting of the City Council was held on Tuesday the 2nd day of June 2020 in the 2nd Floor Community Room.

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

Warm Up Items

Mayor Carter-King informed Council of receipt of a written Citizen request and petition asking Council to reconsider allowing chickens within City limits. Councilman Carsrud was open to discussing the topic at a future Work Session; the remaining Council Members expressed no interest in re-addressing the issue. Mayor Carter-King stated that the topic had been discussed, more than once, with the decision to not allow chickens. Council decided there was no need to re-address the issue.

Census Update

Tammy Hanshaw, U.S. Census Bureau, Wyoming Partnership Specialist, provided updated Census information to Council, via telephone conference call. Specialist Hanshaw informed Council that current statistics indicate a 58.4% Census response rate for Gillette. Ms. Hanshaw provided an updated Census timeline, modified because of the COVID-19 restrictions.

Black Hills Power Agreement Preview

Utilities Director Cole informed Council of the proposed amendment to the Restated Generation Dispatch and Energy Management Agreement with Black Hills Power, Inc., which would be considered on the upcoming Council Agenda. Director Cole stated that the requested amendment would address various internal reporting changes and clean-up some departmental/stylistic references based on consolidation and reorganization of various department and subsidiary companies of Black Hills Corporation.

Police Department Presentation

Police Chief Hloucal informed Council of the department’s strict standards for screening applicants, hiring practices, training, extensive field training, and law enforcement academy training. The Gillette Police Department employs regimented supervision, and utilizes GPS and body cameras for incident review by a committee of supervisors. Chief Hloucal stated that the Department opposed the actions of the police in Minneapolis that resulted in the death of an African-American man in their custody. He assured that the Gillette Police Department is highly trained to handle situations, and would not tolerate such inappropriate actions. Councilman Montgomery commended the Police Department for their professionalism. Councilman Neary thanked Chief Hloucal for his public response to the current national issues.

Review June 2nd Council Agenda

The Mayor, Council, and Administrator discussed the upcoming agenda items.

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.

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

Cindy Staskiewicz, City Clerk

Louise Carter-King, Mayor