

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes**

May 6, 2013

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into special session on the 6th day of May, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in the City Auditorium. Those present were Councilmembers Rick Brainard, Harry Butler, Martin Chazen, Phyllis Norris, and Sam Susuras. Councilmembers Bennett Boecheinstein and Jim Doody were absent. Also present were City Manager Rich Englehart, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Councilmember Susuras called the meeting to order. Councilmember Chazen led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation from Councilmember Harry Butler.

Election of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem/Administer Oaths of Office

Councilmember Butler said they should not vote for a Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem until all Councilmembers are present.

Councilmember Norris said she has been attending the City Council meetings for over six months and Councilmember Susuras always comes prepared.

Councilmember Norris nominated Councilmember Susuras for President of the Council/Mayor of the City of Grand Junction for 2013-2014. Councilmember Chazen seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations.

A roll call vote was called. Councilmember Susuras was elected as President of the Council/Mayor for 2013-2014 with Councilmember Butler abstaining.

Councilmember Norris nominated Councilmember Chazen as President of the Council Pro Tem/Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Grand Junction for 2013-2014. Councilmember Brainard seconded the motion.

There were no other nominations.

A roll call vote was called with Councilmember Butler abstaining. Councilmember Chazen was elected as President of the Council Pro Tem/Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Grand Junction for 2013-2014.

City Clerk Stephanie Tuin administered the oath of office to both Council President Susuras and Council President Pro Tem Chazen.

City Council seats were retaken and the meeting continued.

Amending the 2013 City Council Meeting Schedule

On January 16, 2013, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 01-13 setting the meeting schedule for City Council meetings for 2013. This resolution will amend that schedule to change the regular meeting scheduled for May 15, 2013 to May 22, 2013. The Grand Junction Municipal Code, Sec. 2.04.010, requires the meeting schedule be determined by resolution.

City Clerk Stephanie Tuin presented this item. She advised that the City Council meeting schedule was set per the City's Code of Ordinances by Resolution No. 01-13. The proposal to change the next City Council meeting from May 15 to May 22 may be accomplished by amending that resolution to reflect the changed date.

Resolution No. 29-13—A Resolution of the City of Grand Junction Amending the 2013 City Council Meeting Schedule

Councilmember Brainard moved to adopt Resolution No. 29-13. Councilmember Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

City Council Committee Assignments for 2013 – 2014

Annually the City Council reviews and determines who on the City Council will represent the City Council on the various boards, committees, commissions, authorities, and organizations.

City Council discussed Committee Assignments for 2013-2014.

Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC)

Council President Susuras noted that Councilmember Jim Doody has been serving on that board so he nominated Councilmember Doody. Councilmember Chazen stated he was interested in serving on that board also.

Councilmember Chazen was voted in to serve as the Council representative on AGNC committee by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Butler voting for Councilmember Doody.

Downtown Development Authority/Downtown Business Improvement District (BID)

Council President Susuras noted that Councilmember Bennett Boeschenstein has been serving on that board so he nominated Councilmember Boeschenstein. Councilmembers Chazen and Butler stated they were interested in this board as well.

Councilmember Chazen was voted in to serve as the Council representative on the Downtown Development/BID board by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Butler voting for Councilmember Boeschstein.

Grand Junction Housing Authority (GJHA)

Councilmembers Harry Butler and Rick Brainard both said they were interested in serving on this board. Councilmember Butler was selected to serve as the Council representative on GJHA by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Brainard voting for himself.

Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority (GJRAA)

Council President Susuras said he was interested in serving on this board. No one else expressed an interest. Council President Susuras was voted in to serve as the representative on the GJRAA board by roll call vote.

Parks Improvement Advisory Board (PIAB)

Councilmember Harry Butler advised that he currently sits on this board as the School District representative and would be willing to serve as the City's representative also. City Attorney John Shaver advised against this but suggested a representative could be appointed with Councilmember Butler as the alternate. Once Councilmember Butler is no longer on the School Board, the City's PIAB representative could cede their seat to Councilmember Butler. Council President Susuras, who served as the alternate with former Councilmember Kenyon, was selected to represent the City Council currently with Councilmember Harry Butler selected as the alternate by roll call vote.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)

The City Council is currently represented by Councilmember Doody. Council President Susuras nominated Councilmember Doody. Councilmember Doody remained as the Council's representative to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board by roll call vote.

Riverfront Commission

The City Council representative for this Commission is currently represented by Councilmember Boeschstein. Councilmember Boeschstein remained as the Council's representative to the Riverfront Commission by roll call vote.

Mesa County Separator Project Board

The City Council is represented by Councilmember Boeschstein on the Board. Council President Susuras nominated Councilmember Boeschstein. Councilmember Boeschstein remained as the Council's representative to the Mesa County Separator Project (PDR) Board by roll call vote.

Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee (GVRTC)

Councilmember Norris expressed a desire to serve as the City Council representative for the GVRTC board. Councilmember Norris was selected as the City Council's representative by roll call vote.

Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP)

Councilmember Brainard said he would like to serve on this board. Councilmember Brainard was selected as the City Council representative to the Grand Junction Economic Partnership by roll call vote.

Colorado Water Congress

Council President Susuras stated he has been serving on this board and was elected for a three year term. He asked that he remain as the City's Representative. Council President Susuras remained as the Council's representative to the Colorado Water Congress by roll call vote.

Chamber Governmental Affairs (Legislative) Committee

The City Manager attends as well as other members of City Council. It is posted on the City Council calendar and Council President Susuras asked if it is the desire of the City Council that it remain as is. The City Council voted by roll call vote to leave that as is.

5-2-1 Drainage Authority

Council President Susuras said he is the current representative for the Council but Councilmember Doody has also served on this board. Councilmember Butler nominated Councilmember Doody. Council President Susuras remained as the Council's representative to the 5-2-1 Drainage Authority by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Butler voting for Councilmember Doody.

Criminal Justice Leadership 21st Judicial District

The Municipal Judge is currently representing the City for Criminal Justice Leadership 21st Judicial District, also known as EBDM (Evidence Based Decision Making). No one on City Council expressed a desire to change that representation.

Club 20

Council President Susuras noted that for Club 20 representation, it has historically been the Mayor who represents the City Council. Councilmember Norris suggested that the appointment be by name rather than by position. Council President Susuras remained as the Council's representative to the Club 20 Board by roll call vote.

The City Council next reviewed the list of Ad Hoc Committees.

Avalon Theatre Committee

Councilmember Boeschstein currently represents the City Council on this committee. Councilmember Chazen, expressed an interest in serving on this committee. Following the roll call vote, 3 votes for Councilmember Chazen and 2 votes for Councilmember Boeschstein. Council President Susuras noted the selection had to be by 4 votes. Councilmember Chazen then withdrew his name and Councilmember Boeschstein remained as the Council's representative.

Agenda Setting

For the Council Agenda Setting Meeting, Council President Susuras said the Mayor Pro Tem has been attending those meetings and asked if anyone felt the need to change this. No one spoke, so it was decided President of the Council Pro Tem Chazen will attend the Council Agenda Setting Meetings.

Las Colonias Committee

Councilmember Boeschstein has been representing the City Council on the Las Colonias Committee. Councilmember Boeschstein remained as the City Council representative to the Las Colonias Committee by roll call vote.

Matchett Park Committee

Councilmember Butler expressed an interest, citing the fact that it has been ongoing since he was on Council previously. Councilmember Chazen also expressed an interest. Councilmember Chazen was voted to represent City Council on the Matchett Park Committee by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Butler voting for himself.

Mesa County Fire Study Committee

Councilmember Norris said she would like to serve on the Mesa County Fire Study Committee. She was selected to serve as the City Council representative by roll call vote.

Public Safety Project Committee

Councilmember Jim Doody has been serving on the Public Safety Project Committee. Councilmember Doody remained as the Council's representative by roll call vote.

Quarterly Budget Reviews

Quarterly Budget Reviews have been attended in the past by two Councilmembers. A discussion ensued regarding keeping the limitation at two Councilmembers unless the meeting is posted. It was determined by roll call vote that Councilmembers Chazen and Norris will attend those Quarterly Budget Reviews, unless otherwise noticed and posted.

Under "Other Boards", several other boards were listed for informational purposes only. Many are boards for which the City Council appoints the membership. Associated

Members for Growth and Development (AMGD) was an exception and it was determined that it could be open to all. In case any Councilmember discusses public business while in attendance, the meetings will now be included on the posted City Council calendar.

Councilmember Brainard asked if the other Boards could also be noticed so that Councilmembers can attend as they would like. Council President Susuras said the Council appoints to all these boards but, if noticed, any and all can attend.

City Manager Rich Englehart noted that the Grand Valley Trails Alliance is a newly formed board and had sent out a solicitation for board members. It is up to the City Council if they would like to make an appointment to that board. The City Council declined to take any action.

Council President Susuras noted that the Persigo Board includes all City and County elected officials so they are all a part of that board. It is a ten member board.

Resolution No. 30-13—A Resolution Appointing and Assigning City Councilmembers to Represent the City on Various Boards, Committees, Commissions, Authorities, and Organizations

Councilmember Brainard moved to adopt Resolution No. 30-13 with the appointments as voted upon. Councilmember Chazen seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Other Business

Councilmember Chazen said at the last City Council meeting the City Council voted 4 to 2 to withdraw from the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Chazen read a statement he prepared regarding this matter.

“Thank you Mayor,

At the last regular Council meeting, the City Council voted four to two to unilaterally withdraw its membership from the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce. This was surprising because the City of Grand Junction and the Chamber sustained a long-standing and important relationship. The Chamber has been a reliable partner with the City, GJEP, Business Incubator, and many other regional organizations in the struggle to maintain and attract businesses to our City. Clearly, the Chamber represents hundreds of businesses and these businesses employ thousands of our citizens. I view the Chamber as a valuable resource and vital economic development ally. In my estimation, the support and research the Chamber provides far outweighs the value of dues the City pays to the organization. Coupled with the fact that current year dues have already been paid, I believe we should revisit the withdrawal decision. Therefore, I move that this

Council instruct the City Manager to immediately contact the Chamber, clearly communicating the City of Grand Junction intends to continue its membership at the same level for which we have already paid. Thank you.”

Councilmember Chazen moved to direct the City Manager to immediately reinstate the City’s membership to the Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Brainard seconded the motion.

Councilmember Butler said the Chamber was previously not so political but now he feels they are political and so he will vote NO on reinstating the Chamber membership.

Councilmember Norris said the Chamber has always been involved in political activities and are big supporters of the City. The City needs to be able to listen to the 1,000 businesses and the employees they represent so she believes they should reinstate their membership.

Council President Susuras said withdrawing the City membership was a worst kind of example for cooperation and collaboration with the leading organizations in the community it could possibly set. Working with all the leading organizations to create jobs and a business friendly community should be City Council’s goal. He therefore supports City Council’s membership with the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce.

Motion carried to reinstate the City’s membership to the Chamber of Commerce by roll call vote 4 to 1 with Councilmember Butler voting NO.

Adjournment

Council President Susuras said there was no further business and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilmember Butler moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Chazen seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

The special meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk