

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
July 5, 2017

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 5th day of July, 2017 at 6:09 p.m. Those present were Councilmembers Chris Kennedy, Phyllis Norris, Duncan McArthur, Barbara Traylor Smith, Duke Wortmann, and Council President Pro Tem Bennett Boeschstein. Council President Taggart was absent. Also present were City Manager Greg Caton, City Attorney John Shaver, and Interim City Clerk Debbie Kemp.

Council President Taggart called the meeting to order. Council President Boeschstein introduced Boy Scout Troop 323 who led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

Proclaiming the Month of July, 2017 as "Parks and Recreation Month" in the City of Grand Junction

Councilmember Barbara Traylor Smith read the proclamation. Parks and Recreation Director Rob Schoeber was present to receive the proclamation. He talked about what the Parks and Recreation staff do for the community. They do everything for anyone and everyone to support their slogan "We Make It Better". He thanked Council for the proclamation and their support throughout the year. He also recognized the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and appreciates the members being liaisons for the City. He invited everyone out for the ribbon cutting and grand opening at the Las Colonias Park Amphitheater on July 6th.

Riverfront Commission Appointments

Councilmember Wortman moved to re-appoint Karen Jefferson and appoint Laura Tyre Hannam, Rondo Buechler, and Fred Barbero to the Riverfront Commission for three year terms expiring July 2020. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority Appointment

Councilmember Kennedy moved to appoint Erling Brabaek to the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority for a partial term expiring May 2019. Councilmember Norris seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Certificates of Appointment to the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority

Thaddeus Shrader was present to receive his certificate of appointment. Mr. Shrader thanked Council for the appointment.

Certificates of Appointment to the Downtown Development Authority/Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District

Duncan Rowley was present to receive his certificate of re-appointment and Doug Simons, Jr. was present to receive his certificate of appointment to the Downtown Development Authority/Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District for four year terms expiring June 2021. Mr Simons and Mr. Rowley thanked Council for the opportunity to serve.

Citizens Comments

Cory Tomps, Assistant Scout Master for Troop 323, was present and thanked City Council for allowing the three Boy Scouts from Troop 323 (Fruita) who were present to attend the City Council Meeting and explained this was one of the requirements of earning a Merit Badge for Citizenship in the Community.

Councilmember McArthur stated that Mr. Tomps works for the Grand Junction Police Department and he had the pleasure of doing a ride along with Officer Tomps and he thanked Mr. Tomps for his service to the community and what he does every day.

Bruce Lohmiller, 3032 N. 15th Street, spoke on "The Tower Chimes" by Reverend J. Dodson. He told City Attorney Shaver that his church Pastor would be willing to explain the Israel Museum to him. He spoke of the newsletter his church puts out and he feels does a better job than the City's local media.

Ricki Howie, 1003 Chipeta Avenue, spoke on the new improved 1st Street and how pleasant it is to drive on it and likes the center median and the trees. She showed her shirt regarding "The Lofts". She said with the property at 10th and Grand being sold, it will become another "Lofts" and she will have to stencil another name on her shirt she wears that currently has a logo on it for "No Lofts". She read a comment that was made by a Senior Planner two weeks before the approval of "The Lofts" and she feels that the density for that location is not fair for the neighborhood. She asked for 1) a crosswalk on the corner of 10th and Grand to make it safe for the children to cross, and 2) for Council and especially Councilmember McArthur (because he is in her District) to have an open dialogue to discuss a way to revamp the administrative review in the Planning Department. It is not fair for the citizens who are affected to only have a very limited input on projects such as "The Lofts".

Councilmember McArthur stated, even though he is a representative of that District, they are elected “At Large”. He is more than happy to meet with people but the City Charter prohibits members of Council being active in day to day activities of the City. He referred Ms. Howie to the City Manager.

Council Reports

Councilmember Norris had no report.

Councilmember Traylor Smith had no report.

Councilmember Kennedy said he hoped everyone enjoyed the 4th of July parade.

Councilmember McArthur reported that he attended Colorado Municipal League (CML) Annual Conference and it was an excellent conference. He was appointed to the Energy and Environmental Natural Resources Committee who adopted a proclamation which included support for climate change conditioned on any policies that are adopted by the Federal Government include assistance for communities that are impacted by the policies. This was a result of his pleas to that committee. Department of Local Affairs are hiring someone on the Western Slope to help the communities that have been impacted by climate change regulations.

Councilmember Wortmann also attended CML’s conference for the first time and pointed out that many towns and cities face the same issues as Grand Junction does.

Councilmember Boeschstein was also in attendance at the CML conference and the National Civic League awards which the City has won in the past.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Norris moved to adopt the Consent Agenda items #1 - #3.

Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Summary of the June 5, 2017 Workshop
 - b. Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Regular Meeting
 - c. Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Regular Meeting
2. Set Public Hearings
 - a. Quasi-judicial
 - i. Resolution Referring a Petition to the City Council for the Annexation of Lands to the City of Grand Junction, Colorado,

Setting a Hearing on Such Annexation, and Exercising Land Use Control, and Introducing Proposed Annexation Ordinance for the Weeminuche Annexation, Approximately 4.516 Acres of Portions of Public Rights-of-Way for 26 Road, 26 1/2 Road, H 3/4 Road and Summer Hill Way, Located North of H Road.

- ii. Ordinance Zoning the Hill Business Complex Annexation, Located at 2905 Hill Avenue, and Set a Hearing for July 19, 2017.
- iii. 2017 Second Supplemental Appropriation

3. Contracts

- a. Change Order for Elam Construction on the 2017 Contract Street Maintenance/Overlay Contract

Contract for Bonsai Design Incentive Agreement

Bonsai Design Incentive Agreement – Authorization of the City Manager to Execute an Economic Development Incentive Agreement to Retain and Expand an Existing Business

Councilmember Kennedy moved to table the contract for Bonsai Design Incentive Agreement until the next meeting as identified by the City Manager. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Hearing Adopting the 2017 Program Year Action Plan

A Resolution Adopting the 2017 Program Year Action Plan as a Part of the Grand Junction Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The public hearing was opened at 6:36 p.m.

Kristen Ashbeck, CDBG Administrator/Senior Planner, presented this item. She described the purpose of this item, recapped the CDBG program, and said the City has received funding since 1996 to meet the program's objectives. The City also has \$14,938 in funds remaining from the 2015 Program Year to be allocated with the 2017 estimated appropriation funds of 375,000. The City just received the formal 2017 allocation from HUD which was \$400,521. This leaves a remaining \$25,521 that the City can look at using in 2017 or wait until 2018. She went on to describe the 2017 Action Plan which includes 11 projects and how they relate to the Plan's goals and objectives.

Councilmember Kennedy asked if the remaining \$25,521 is held until 2018, would it impact next year's appropriation. Ms. Ashbeck said it would not. Councilmember Kennedy asked Ms. Ashbeck if she had any idea what the allocation might be in 2018. Ms. Ashbeck said she did not. Councilmember Kennedy felt that the excess should be held until 2018.

Councilmembers Traylor Smith and Norris felt that it should be reviewed to help the community this year.

Councilmember McArthur asked about what improvement plans are planned for the Senior Center. Ms. Ashbeck described the improvements that are currently being made to the Senior Center and funded by CDBG. There are also some cosmetic improvements being done that cannot be funded by CDBG. Councilmember McArthur said that the Trump Administration is proposing to cut the CDBG funding from the budget, however, Senator Gardner and Congressman Tipton do not feel that will happen.

Council President Pro Tem Boeschstein stated he was glad to see more safe routes to schools project, Riverside Park, and Las Colonias Park in the Action Plan. He asked about Whitman Park. Ms. Ashbeck said that the Parks Department presented projects that they felt were their highest priority and Whitman Park was not included.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing closed at 7:47 p.m.

Councilmember Traylor Smith moved to adopt Resolution No. 35-17 – A Resolution to Adopt the 2017 Program Year Action Plan as a part of the Grand Junction Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Councilmember Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Non-Scheduled Citizens & Visitors

There were none.

Other Business

There was none.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Debbie Kemp, MMC
Interim City Clerk