

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

August 6, 2014

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 6th day of August, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Auditorium. Those present were Councilmembers Bennett Boeschstein, Martin Chazen, Jim Doody, Duncan McArthur, Sam Susuras, Barbara Traylor Smith, and Council President Phyllis Norris. Also present were City Manager Rich Englehart, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Council President Norris called the meeting to order. Councilmember McArthur led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an Invocation by Pastor Joe Gross, Redlands Community Church.

Appointments

Commission on Arts and Culture

Councilmember Chazen moved to appoint Marjorie Haun to the Commission on Arts and Culture for a three year term expiring February 2017. Councilmember Doody seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Riverfront Commission

Councilmember Boeschstein moved to reappoint Brad Taylor, Clifton Sprinkle, Frank Watt, and Karen Jefferson to the Riverfront Commission for three years terms expiring July 2017. Councilmember McArthur seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Council Comments

Councilmember McArthur did not have any comments.

Councilmember Boeschstein said he attended the first meeting of the Western Slope Foreign Affairs Council on August 5th. This is a new organization that was formed to educate people on international events. The speaker was from the State Department and talked about Ukraine. About 150 people attended; it was a wonderful event and it is hoped that the meetings will continue on a monthly basis. He also attended the Business Incubator and Riverview Technology Corporation meeting where they had a number of presentations. One of the main presentations was by the Department of Energy (DOE) about what they have been doing at the old Atomic Energy Compound. Currently, there

are three employers based at the site and it is hoped that more improvements will be made to the property in the future.

Councilmember Chazen went to the Associated Governments in Northwest Colorado (AGNC) meeting in Hayden on July 24th. There were a couple of interesting presentations; one by Jeff Eskelson, Rio Blanco County Commissioner, and Blake Mobley, Rio Blanco Information Technology Director. They spoke on broadband technology and how it was mainly definitional in how different types of broadband are used and how Rio Blanco is using it to solve problems in their small communities. Another discussion was about Roan Plateau; Scott McInnis provided history on the issue going back to the time when he sponsored legislation on the area as a Congressman. AGNC continues to raise awareness at the state and federal level of a potential claw back of funds, with a goal to hold counties and municipalities harmless from any leases returned to the federal government. On July 30th, he attended the Latino Chamber of Commerce; there was a presentation by the Small Business Association on lending and growing small businesses followed by a discussion on economic development. Also, on August 1st, he attended the Forestry Board meeting. They have a very active program of licensing compliance and are continuing to update their policies, training, and plan for their Tree Care workshop.

Councilmember Doody attended the Fire Department's barbeque that celebrated their 125th Anniversary. He also met with Council President Norris and Fire Chief Ken Watkins to discuss the Fire Authority study; progress is being made.

Councilmember Traylor Smith also went to the Fire Department's celebration on August 1st, as well as the Police Department's Badge Pinning and Service Award ceremony on July 22nd. She also attended the volunteer appreciation lunch for St. Mary's Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs.

Councilmember Susuras represented the City Council on the Colorado Water Congress Board; they held their regular meeting last week in Denver. Those at the meeting were happy Initiative 89 has been withdrawn from the ballot, as it would have upset 150 years of water law in Colorado.

Council President Norris went to both the Police Department's Badge Pinning and Service Award ceremony and the Fire Department's 125th Anniversary Barbeque. She mentioned how fortunate the City is to have members of those departments make such a positive difference. She also attended the Grand Valley Rural Transit meeting, where the Committee reviewed two grants. One grant would help design a trail from Fruita to Moab; this trail would also connect to Grand Junction. The other grant would help fund bike paths across Highway 50, which is needed to give school children better access to Orchard Mesa schools.

Citizen Comments

Dennis Simpson, 2306 E. Piazza Place, attended the August 4th City Council Workshop and observed behavior he couldn't believe. Deputy City Manager Tim Moore made a presentation on the areas and functions of the City for which he is responsible. Councilmember Chazen asked Deputy City Manager Moore some questions regarding his presentation. Soon after, Councilmember Susuras jumped into the discussion and stated unequivocally that the City Charter states Council is only able to set policy and he felt Councilmember Chazen's questions were inappropriate. Mr. Simpson admonished Councilmember Susuras, disagreed with Councilmember Susuras's reading of the City Charter, and encouraged the rest of the City Council to ask question during department presentations. He suggested that Councilmember Susuras should issue a public apology.

Bruce Lohmiller, 445 Chipeta Avenue, #25, talked about the statute of limitations in the State of California. He also asked Council to continue to consider his suggestion of allowing camping in Whitman Park.

Consent Calendar

Councilmember Doody read Consent Calendar items #1, #2, and #3 and then moved to adopt the Consent Calendar as read. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

1. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Action: Approve the Summaries of the June 30, 2014, July 14, 2014, and July 21, 2014 Workshops and the Minutes of the July 16, 2014 Regular Meeting

2. Resolution Authorizing the Receipt and Disbursement of Trust Assets form the Heywood Jones Trust

The Heywood Jones Trust named the City as a contingent beneficiary. Recently the Trustee contacted the City in order to disburse the assets in accordance with Mr. Jones' wishes, for museum and library purposes. In order for the City to receive the distribution the Trustee requires written authorization of the City Council.

Resolution No. 24-14 – A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Sign Documents to Receive and Disburse Trust Assets

Action: Adopt Resolution No. 24-14

3. 2014 Proposed Rates and Fees for the Avalon Theatre

This request is to review the proposed 2014 rates and fees for the Avalon Theatre and consider them for presentation at a future formal Council meeting. The newly renovated Avalon Theatre is scheduled to reopen in mid-September 2014. This is the first time these rates have been recommended to Council.

Resolution No. 25-14 – A Resolution Adopting Fees and Charges for Avalon Theatre

Action: Adopt Resolution No. 25-14

Design/Build Interior Lighting Project for Two Rivers Convention Center

The Visitor and Convention Bureau/Two Rivers Convention Center is seeking approval to update and retrofit the existing lighting system for the Colorado River I, Colorado River II, and Gunnison River Ballroom located at Two Rivers Convention Center.

Debbie Kovalik, Visitor and Convention Bureau Director, introduced this item. This is a retrofit and includes Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights. This is a proposal that will significantly decrease energy costs as well as reduce the labor it takes to regularly replace the light bulbs. An LED bulb has a life span of 7 to 10 years. An LED light retrofit was discussed a few years ago, but was not done; a retrofit will now cost less since the cost of LED lights has gone down considerably.

Jay Valentine, Internal Services Manager, addressed the three bids received for this Request for Proposal (RFP). He explained that the recommended bidder did include a 10% contingency which was requested, the other two did not. If a contingency had been included in the other two bids, they would have been higher. If the contingency is not needed, it will not be paid. Once the recommended vendor was selected, the chandeliers were selected and included in the proposal.

Councilmember Traylor Smith asked Mr. Valentine if the others bids included the approved style of chandeliers.

Mr. Valentine explained one bid included a flat bid without the chandeliers specified, they would be able to choose whatever style they wanted. Ms. Kovalik noted the other one bid included a style that did not meet the style specifications in the RFP. She also mentioned the original design used 12 chandeliers at 60 inches wide to adequately light the space, but they were able to reconfigure the design in order to use 45 inch chandeliers that would produce the same amount of light for the area.

Councilmember Boeschstein asked if the cost savings of converting to LED lights had been calculated.

Ms. Kovalik referenced the project report and quoted the annual savings at \$11,805 and the Xcel Energy rebate at \$25,249. She also noted LED lights run cooler, so they anticipate reduced HVAC system costs.

Councilmember Traylor Smith asked about the quality of light emitted from LED lights and how it might affect by those with vision issues.

Stuart Taylor, Two Rivers Convention Center Manager, said LED lights have the same light quality as the sun. These lights will be able to be dimmed, which is usually what event promoters prefer. The dimming is what people with vision issues notice.

Councilmember Chazen asked if the Xcel rebate would be credited in a lump sum. Ms. Kovalik confirmed it would and said they anticipate Xcel to process the credit in 2014.

Councilmember Chazen referred to the listed kilowatt energy savings of 10.5 cents per hour. He then asked if this is an energy savings calculation contracted from the meter on the solar garden. Mr. Valentine stated Two Rivers Convention Center has their own solar system in place and is not on the solar garden.

Councilmember Doody asked Mr. Valentine to explain what a contingency is and why the bid with the contingency was seen as the bid of greatest value for the project. Mr. Valentine defined contingency as an amount, usually a percentage of the projects total cost, that would only be used if the project encountered unforeseen or unexpected circumstances. If the contingency is not needed, it will not be paid to the vendor.

Councilmember Susuras congratulated Ms. Kovalik, Mr. Valentine, and Mr. Taylor for the fine job they did in selecting the best bidder out of the three. He mentioned that this project is an update and retrofit for the north side of Two Rivers Convention Center and asked Ms. Kovalik to explain. Ms. Kovalik explained the configuration and age of the different areas within Two Rivers Convention Center and why the project is only for Exposition Hall, which is the big room in the original 40 year old part of the building. The newer portion, which includes the smaller breakout rooms, called the Creek Rooms, was constructed in 2004 and still has very efficient lighting that works well.

Councilmember Traylor Smith asked City Attorney John Shaver if there would be a cost savings in the City's Workers Compensation rates since the Two Rivers Convention Center Staff will not have to change the lights as much after the upgrade.

City Attorney Shaver said changes like this all factor into the workers compensation experience modifier and this procedure update will be noted in Two River Convention Center next audit.

Councilmember Susuras moved to authorize the City Purchasing Division to enter into a contract with R & A Enterprises of Glenwood Springs, CO to provide new and retrofit interior lighting for the north half of Two Rivers Convention Center Rooms for the bid

amount of \$109,996.80. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Non-Scheduled Citizens & Visitors

There were none.

Other Business

Councilmember McArthur noted the Council appoints various boards and commissions; they are to act autonomously with Council's oversight and support of their efforts. However, the Airport Authority's selection process for the Airport Manager has raised some concerns. Councilmember McArthur asked if the Council would like to look into this further by either questioning or stating a concern to the Airport Authority Board. He also commended Councilmember Susuras on his efforts as the Council representative to this board.

Councilmember Susuras thanked Councilmember McArthur and agreed with his concerns regarding the selection process. Councilmember Susuras asked City Manager Englehart and City Attorney Shaver if this issue should be addressed in an executive session.

City Attorney Shaver answered that the type of action needed would depend on how Council would like to address the issue. Council may contact the Board, either directly or through a representative, and pose the questions to the Board regarding the selection process or, if more detail is required, they may ask the Board to attend an executive session in order to fully discuss the issue. City Attorney Shaver suggested Council discuss how they would like to proceed and then notify City Manager Englehart and himself of their decision.

Councilmember McArthur wanted to clarify he did not want to second guess a board's decisions, he just wanted to express his concerns regarding the Airport Authority's selection process and felt he would be remiss if they were not addressed.

Council President Norris asked when the Council has scheduled their next meeting with the Airport Authority Board.

City Attorney Shaver said the Board does not have a meeting scheduled at this time.

Council President Norris asked Councilmember Susuras, as Council representative for the Airport Authority Board, what preference he had on the type of meeting to be called.

Councilmember Susuras said he had expressed his displeasure to the Board regarding the selected finalist. He felt it would be good to meet with the other two City

representatives and Tom Frishe, the At-Large member, and ask them why they choose this individual.

Council President Norris asked City Manager Englehart if it would be possible to set up a meeting soon.

City Manager Englehart said it would be arranged.

Councilmember Susuras mentioned the finalist name is required to be posted for 14 days before the final Board vote, so a meeting would need to be scheduled soon.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk