

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

March 1, 2006

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 1st day of March 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Auditorium. Those present were Councilmembers Bonnie Beckstein, Teresa Coons, Jim Doody, Gregg Palmer, Jim Spehar, Doug Thomason, and President of the Council Bruce Hill. Also present were City Manager Kelly Arnold, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Council President Hill called the meeting to order. Councilmember Doody led in the pledge of allegiance. The audience remained standing for the invocation by Reverend Michael Torphy, Religious Science Spiritual Center.

PRESENTATIONS

Council President Hill called Mike Wiggins, Daily Sentinel Reporter, to the podium. The following day was his birthday and it was recognized by Council and each had a small gift for Mr. Wiggins.

Ned Williams, President of the American Public Works Association (APWA) Colorado Chapter (and Public Works Director for the City of Boulder) presented Doug Cline, Streets Superintendent, with the 2005 William E. Korbitz Award.

Mr. Williams then presented an APWA 2005 Certificate of Achievement to the City of Grand Junction for the Combined Sewer Elimination Project.

PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS

PROCLAIMING MARCH 5TH – 11TH “WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION WEEK” IN THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Alan Moore, 2315 Logos, addressed Council regarding a roundabout at 23 and G Roads. He noted that roundabouts can be efficient and effective if designed correctly. He collected 360 signatures on a letter that he read into the record (see attached) and described various design elements that the signers would like to see taken into consideration.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Council President Pro Tem Palmer, seconded by Councilmember Spehar and carried by roll call vote to approve Consent Calendar items #1 through #12.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Action: Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting on February 9, 2006, the Summary of the February 13, 2006 Workshop and the Minutes of the February 15, 2006 Regular Meeting

2. **Funding Recommendations for Arts and Cultural Events and Projects**

Arts Commission recommendations to the City Council for grants to support 18 arts and cultural events, projects, and programs in Grand Junction for local citizens.

Action: Approve Recommendations from the Commission on Arts and Culture for Grant Funding

3. **Continue Annexation Public Hearing for the Bookcliff Veterinary Hospital Annexation** [File #ANX-2005-076]

Request to continue the Annexation Public Hearing for the Bookcliff Veterinary Hospital Annexation as previously rescheduled and published for the March 1, 2006 City Council Meeting. The request to continue is due to further research required of the existing legal description and associated land ownership issues regarding the area of the adjacent Grand Valley Canal. City staff is requesting the Annexation Public Hearing be continued until the May 17, 2006 City Council Meeting.

Action: Continue Annexation Public Hearing Regarding Approval of the Resolution Accepting a Petition for Annexation and Final Passage of the Annexation Ordinance until the May 17, 2006 City Council Meeting

4. **Continue Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments to the Zoning and Development Code** [File #TAC-2004-231]

Request to continue the Public Hearing to adopt proposed text amendments to the Zoning and Development Code. The proposed amendments reflect changes proposed by City staff. City staff is requesting the continuation until March 15, 2006 City Council Meeting.

Action: Continue Public Hearing to March 15, 2006 City Council Meeting

5. **Setting a Hearing Zoning the Autumn Glenn II Annexation, Located at 428 30 Road** [File #ANX-2005-303]

Introduction of a proposed zoning ordinance to zone the Autumn Glenn II Annexation RMF-8, located at 428 30 Road.

Proposed Ordinance Zoning the Autumn Glenn II Annexation RMF-8, Located at 428 30 Road.

Action: Introduction of a Proposed Ordinance and Set a Hearing for March 15, 2006

6. **PVC Pipe for Lincoln Park Golf Course Irrigation System**

This request is for the purchase of PVC pipe as part of a larger project to repair and upgrade the irrigation system at Lincoln Park Golf Course.

Action: Authorize the City Purchasing Manager to Purchase PVC Pipe for Lincoln Park Golf Course from Grand Junction Pipe and Supply, Grand Junction, Colorado, in the Amount of \$72,538

7. **Pictometry Oblique Air Photos and Ortho Photos**

Contract with Pictometry International, Corp., a Delaware company with offices at 100 Town Center Drive, Suite A, Rochester, NY 14623, to update the City's air photos and provide oblique photo capabilities. The contract recommended is a six year contract allowing the City to take advantage of additional discounts during the second and third flight years of the contract.

Action: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Six Year Contract with Pictometry International, Corporation, a Delaware Company, for Oblique Air Photos in the Amount of \$188,897.60

8. **Infrared Spectrometer and Microscope**

Request is being made by the Police Department to purchase a Nicolet 380 Fourier Transformer Infrared (FTIR) Spectrometer and Centaurus Microscope for the Crime Lab from Thermo Electron North America LLC.

Action: Authorize the Purchasing Division to Purchase the Nicolet 380 Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectrometer and Centaurus Microscope for the Crime Lab from Thermo Electron North America LLC in the Amount of \$69,499

9. **TacNet System Manager**

Request is being made by the Police Department to purchase TacNet equipment for use in 13 patrol cars. TacNet is developed and manufactured by Visteon Corporation and is sold only by PCS (Portable Computer Systems) of Golden, Colorado. PCS is the authorized dealer for the western United States.

Action: Authorize the Purchasing Division to Purchase the TacNet Equipment in the Amount of \$137,500 from Portable Computer Systems of Golden, Colorado

10. **2006 Backhoe Loader**

This purchase is for the replacement of one (1) 1998 John Deere backhoe-loader combination for the Pipeline Maintenance Division. The unit is currently scheduled for replacement in 2006 as identified by the annual review of the fleet replacement committee.

Action: Authorize the City Purchasing Manager to Purchase One 2006 410G John Deere Backhoe Loader from Honnen Equipment Company, Grand Junction, CO in the Amount of \$75,824

11. **Construction Contract for 2006 Concrete Repair for Street Overlays**

The 2006 Concrete Repair for Street Overlays consists of removal and replacement of miscellaneous sections of concrete curb, gutter, sidewalks, drainage pans, fillets and asphalt patching along the street sections to be overlaid later this year.

Action: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Construction Contract in the Amount of \$239,870.20 with Vista Paving for the 2006 Concrete Repair for Street Overlays

12. **Construction Contract for 2006 Asphalt Overlay Project**

The 2006 Asphalt Overlay project consists of asphalt resurfacing on 10 streets selected throughout the City and Mesa County.

Action: Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Construction Contract for the 2006 Asphalt Overlay Project to Elam Construction in the Amount of \$1,837,251.15

ITEMS NEEDING INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**Purchase of Chevy Silverado 1500 Pick-ups**

This purchase is for a total of eleven (11) 2006 Chevy Silverado 1500 pickups. Nine (9) of these pickups are currently scheduled for replacement in 2006 as identified by the annual review of the fleet replacement committee. Two (2) units are additions to the Fleet; one for Fire Code Enforcement and one for Public Works Development Inspector.

Ronald Watkins, Purchasing Manager, and Mark Relph, Public Works and Utilities Director, reviewed this item. Mr. Watkins reviewed the process on this purchase thus far and said the new price from Dellenbach Chevrolet was less on the shipping costs.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer asked for further explanation on the reduced delivery costs. Mr. Watkins explained how the delivery costs are computed and said that it is the dealer's discretion to reduce those delivery costs.

Councilmember Coons inquired if the vehicles will be serviced locally. Mr. Watkins responded the General Motors authorized dealers will service the vehicles, so service will be local.

Councilmember Coons inquired about the thirty day difference in the delivery dates, with Dellenbach stating 60 days and Fuoco quoting a 90 day delivery date. Mr. Watkins said it is only an estimate, the true date will not be known until the trucks are in production.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer thanked the Purchasing Division for its work on the project, but other than price, he noted that buying local has additional benefits. He is not supporting a preferred purchasing policy but would rather look at purchases on a case by case basis. He said with the difference being \$2,500, more than that amount will be returned to the community by buying local.

Administrative Services and Finance Director Ron Lappi advised that the City Purchasing Policy is such that Staff always brings a recommendation to the City Council for the lowest bid. It is the best practice and the best policy for the taxpayers and the local businesses. Adopting a local preference policy might preclude the local businesses from having opportunities in other communities.

Councilmember Spehar said it is unwise to expect Staff to determine what bids are close enough to buy local even though higher. The policy has been in place for some time and has been a good practice. He said looking at bids on a case by case basis might do long-term harm and it could also harm local businesses if reciprocal policies

were to be put into place in other communities. He concluded by saying it is the City Council's responsibility to get the best possible price.

Councilmember Coons noted that service on the vehicles will take place locally and although she sees the benefit of buying locally she was concerned about protectionists policies. She compared the possibility of placing such restrictions on local businesses that they were required to buy locally. She said the Dellenbach bid was lower despite the delivery charge. She was opposed to going against the policy on a case by case basis.

Councilmember Thomason supported purchasing the vehicles from the low bidder.

Councilmember Doody agreed with Council President Pro Tem Palmer based on the benefit of the money staying local.

Councilmember Beckstein agreed with adhering to the current policy and said if Council wants to change the method, the policy should be changed first. She supports local business but she would support the current policy until such time as it is changed.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer said he is not in support of a local preference policy but feels in this case it is worth paying the additional to support the businesses that support the community.

Council President Hill said his business does business regionally. The local bid does not put the purchase over the budget, so he would support the purchase local.

Councilmember Spehar noted that the Chamber of Commerce does not support local preference. If local preference is implemented, it will affect the number of future competitive bids the City will receive.

Councilmember Spehar moved to authorize the City Purchasing Manager to purchase eleven (11) Chevy Silverado 1500 pickup trucks from Dellenbach Chevrolet for the amount of \$165,986.00. Councilmember Beckstein seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council President Hill, Pro Tem Palmer and Councilmember Doody voting NO.

7th Street Corridor Project

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has requested that the 7th Street Corridor Project be expanded to reconstruct 7th Street from Grand Avenue to Ute Avenue. DDA has agreed to provide an additional \$2,000,000 in funding because of the City funding limitations.

Mark Relph, Public Works and Utilities Director, reviewed this item. He identified the two phases planned and said the intersection of 7th and Grand is not included. He said the construction is planned for the construction season in 2007. The resolution includes adoption of the 7th Street Project Plan dated October 3, 2005, the elimination of the 7th and Grand intersection from the project, the inclusion of the financial contribution from DDA, that the City and DDA will begin to design improvements to Colorado Avenue, that the City Council will consider prioritizing construction in the 2008-2009 capital improvement plan, and lastly, no later than 2008, the City and the DDA will plan for the renovation of Main Street with target completion to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Project Foresight (year 2012).

City Manager Arnold advised that if the resolution is not approved, the City is still prepared to move forward with Phases 1 and 2 in the 2006 construction season and said Phase 3 (the intersection at 7th and Grand) will be designed and built in 2007.

Councilmember Coons appreciated DDA for offering the additional funds as it allows the project to be completed sooner. She supports the resolution.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer inquired about the original scope of work including the DDA funds. Administrative Services and Finance Director Ron Lappi advised that DDA was going to contribute \$700,000 to the project. Public Works and Utilities Director Mark Relph advised that the other funding is coming from the City and an enhancement grant.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer asked about the effect on the TIF funding for the DDA to contribute the additional funding. Councilmember Spehar echoed such concerns. Mr. Lappi explained the capacity for bonding of the TIF funds and the projections. He said it appeared that the TIF has sufficient capacity.

Council President Hill asked if the growth estimates were conservative. Mr. Lappi said they are somewhat; in recent years there has been some large increases but whether that will be maintained cannot be predicted with certainty.

It was noted that the current TIF districts will expire in 2011 (still collecting revenues through 2012) and any new TIF district(s) will have to be approved by the voters.

Councilmember Spehar reviewed a number of projects where City funds will be needed in the out years. Public Works and Utilities Director Relph added the I-70B and 29 Road interchange which is a joint project with the County and said it is also a future project that may need additional City funding.

Councilmember Coons inquired if completion within a shorter time frame is an advantage due to the increase in construction costs. Mr. Relph said yes, as with the Riverside

Parkway. Councilmember Spehar pointed out that it also means more funds might be needed for ongoing projects, such as the Riverside Parkway.

Councilmember Doody favored doing the construction in one swoop. He commended the DDA board members that were present for their work including 7th Street, the parking garage, and the new breezeway. He mentioned the commitment to improve Colorado Avenue. He supports the resolution.

Karen Vogel, DDA Board President, addressed the City Council. Councilmember Spehar asked if the downtown merchants contacted the DDA about their proposal. Ms. Vogel said they have not. She gave an overview of the planning that has taken place during her term. Council President Hill recalled some of the discussions during his terms on the DDA regarding the location of the parking structure. Council President Pro Tem Palmer noted that there have been discussions for a number of years for improvements on Colorado Avenue. Ms. Vogel said it would be their preference to bond all of the TIF money now and do all the projects right away. Councilmember Coons noted that Mr. Lappi did a good job of explaining on how the money is there as long as planning and phasing is done properly. Councilmember Spehar asked if the DDA board is comfortable with no definite commitment for funding for those future projects. Ms. Vogel said the DDA board is comfortable with the wording in the resolution. Councilmember Spehar encouraged the DDA board to do a better job reaching out to the other merchants and downtown business people, especially those on Colorado Avenue.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer favored moving the 7th Street project forward.

Councilmember Spehar agreed that it is beneficial to accelerate the project but he is concerned with revenues in the out years. He asked for a couple of amendments/clarifications in the resolution.

Council President Hill agreed with Ms. Vogel's comfort in the wording because he supports the cooperative effort as does the DDA board members.

Councilmember Spehar did not disagree; he is concerned with the City's uncertainty in their future revenues and funding availability. Councilmember Coons noted that it is not a question of whether they will do this project; it is a matter of timing.

Resolution No. 15-06 – A Joint Resolution of the City Council and the Downtown Development Authority Concerning 7th Street Construction and the Funding of Other Downtown Improvements

Councilmember Spehar moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-06 amending the resolution by a deletion of verbiage in section 4 and noting there is no attachment to the resolution.

Councilmember Thomason seconded the motion. Motion failed with Council President Hill, Pro Tem Palmer and Councilmembers Beckstein and Coons voting NO.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-06 as presented. Councilmember Coons seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Downtown Parking Structure

Joint resolution between the Downtown Development Authority and the City of Grand Junction regarding the construction of a four level parking structure between 4th and 5th Streets, south of Rood Ave.

Mark Relph, Public Works and Utilities Director, reviewed this item. He explained the change to the original proposal and said an additional deck is proposed to maximize the construction costs. Mr. Relph said it will bring the estimated cost to \$7.38 million without the land and said the resolution outlines the understanding with the DDA that is summarized as follows: the top deck will be uncovered but a roof could be added at a later time, the structure shall contain 437 spaces using cast-in-place construction. He said the majority of the spaces will be sold and said there will be some flexibility for the DDA's 60 spaces, some to be on the top deck and some to be on the second floor. He said the design and aesthetic of the front is to be storefront in character (stated in general terms to keep costs in mind). He said the common ownership of the property is to be platted as one lot. He said an amendment to the existing MOA is so that the DDA is able to realize the proceeds from the development of the balance of the property, and lastly the target budget. Mr. Relph deferred the financial explanation to Administrative Services and Finance Director Ron Lappi.

Council President Hill asked City Attorney John Shaver about the platting under joint ownership. City Attorney Shaver advised that paragraph 5 allows the DDA to realize the revenues. Council President Hill asked if the ownership was given exclusively to the DDA, what would be the downside, that is, if the DDA were to dissolve, would the assets become the City's. Mr. Shaver said that is true.

Councilmember Spehar asked if there is a down side to joint ownership. Mr. Shaver said with the single lot, there really aren't any issues either way.

Resolution No. 16-06 – A Joint Resolution of the City Council and the Downtown Development Authority Concerning the Downtown Parking Structure and Amending the Parking System Management Memorandum of Agreement

Councilmember Coons moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-06. Councilmember Spehar seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Petition for Exclusion from the Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District

On December 16, 2005, Mr. Paul Parker filed a petition and the required deposit to initiate consideration of the exclusion of his property from the Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District at 741 Main Street and the adjacent parking lots. On January 18, 2006, City Council referred the matter to the Downtown Grand Junction business Improvement District (DGJBID) board. DGJBID heard the request on January 26, 2006 and denied the request.

John Shaver, City Attorney, reviewed this item. He explained the matter is consideration of the record of the first hearing held by the DGJBID board and Mr. Paul Parker appeared before the board. He said the board considered his request to be excluded from the BID district. The purpose is for the City Council to review the record, i.e., the transcript. The City Council's position is to determine if the BID board's decision was arbitrary and capricious, not to take new testimony. Rather to determine if the evidentiary standard was met.

Council President Hill asked Council for comments.

Councilmember Coons said she sees nothing about the hearing being arbitrary or capricious and said she sees no reason to overturn the decision.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer moved to uphold the decision of the DGJBID board. Councilmember Coons seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council President Hill called a recess at 9:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:11 p.m.

Public Hearing – Amending the Municipal Election Code Concerning the Circulation of Nomination Petitions

The City of Grand Junction, under the Municipal Election Code had, until recently, the authority to allow candidates for City Council to circulate nomination petitions beginning on the 91st day prior to the election and returning them to the City Clerk by the 71st day prior to the election. HB 04-1430 changed the law so that those time periods may be used only in a coordinated election. The proposed ordinance amending the Election Code will allow nomination petitions to be circulated for municipal elections starting the 91st day and ending on the 71st day before the election, as allowed under the Uniform Election Code.

The public hearing was opened at 9:12 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, City Clerk, reviewed this item. She explained the purpose of the request and presented three reasons for the Council to consider the ordinance favorably. First, in a mail ballot election, ballots are sent out between the 25th and 15th day prior to election. Under the Municipal Election Code, nomination petitions can be circulated up until the 30th day before the election; the proposal allows nomination petition circulation from the 91st day to the 71st day prior to the election. The current time frame does not allow enough time to print the ballots. Secondly, the additional time gives candidates a chance to campaign. Thirdly, it allows the City to meet the requirement of the County Clerk to certify the ballot contents 60 days prior to the election. Otherwise, the County would not agree to run the City's mail ballot election.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:16 p.m.

Ordinance No. 3869 – An Ordinance Amending the Colorado Municipal Election Code of 1965, in the City of Grand Junction Concerning the Circulation of Nomination Petitions

Council President Pro Tem Palmer moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3869 on Second Reading and ordered it published. Councilmember Coons seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Public Hearing – Mims Annexation and Zoning, Located at 492 30 Road [File #ANX-2005-293]

Acceptance of a petition to annex and consider the annexation and zoning for the Mims Annexation. The Mims Annexation is located at 492 30 Road and consists of 1 parcel on 5.88 acres. The zoning being requested is B-1.

The public hearing was opened at 9:17 p.m.

Bob Blanchard, Community Development Director, reviewed this item. He explained the reason for the annexation request and stated City Staff finds that the annexation does meet the statutory requirements. The proposal also meets the zoning criteria. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Councilmembers asked for clarification on the location and the surrounding zoning.

Stacy Mascarenas, Mesa County Real Estate Division, noted the County purchased this property and would now like to sell the remaining property that is not needed by the County. She encouraged approval of the annexation and zoning.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:22 p.m.

Councilmember Spehar concurred with the recommendation.

a. Accepting Petition

Resolution No. 17-06 – A Resolution Accepting a Petition for Annexation, Making Certain Findings, Determining the Property Known as the Mims Annexation, Located at 492 30 Road is Eligible for Annexation

b. Annexation Ordinance

Ordinance No. 3870 – An Ordinance Annexing Territory to the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, Mims Annexation, Approximately 5.88 Acres, Located at 492 30 Road

c. Zoning Ordinance

Ordinance No. 3871 – An Ordinance Zoning the Mims Annexation to B-1, Located at 492 30 Road

Council President Pro Tem Palmer moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-06 and Ordinance No. 3870 and Ordinance No. 3871 on Second Reading and ordered them published. Councilmember Spehar seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Public Hearing – Zoning the Arbors Subdivision, Located at 2910 Orchard Avenue

[File #PP-2005-105]

Consideration of a proposed ordinance zoning the Arbors Subdivision to PD, Planned Development, located at 2910 Orchard Avenue.

The public hearing was opened at 9:24 p.m.

Bob Blanchard, Community Development Director, reviewed this item. He described the location, surrounding uses, future land use designation, and the existing zoning. In working with the developer, Staff recommended a zoning change to Planned Development as the project lends itself to the design features allowed under Planned

Development zoning. He said this site plan uses a mixture of street sections. The different size streets being proposed must be reviewed by the TED's committee and approved. He said the design slows traffic and encourages pedestrian access as well as improves the streetscape. Mr. Blanchard said there will be a mixture of housing types and said the plan includes additional sub units over the garages but the Code specifically excludes that from the density calculation. He said easements are provided for a trail and said the criteria reviewed included consistency with the Growth Plan, review criteria for Outline Development Plans and for Planned Development as well as the rezone criteria. The applicant is requesting a deviation to the front yard setback for the houses, however the garages will meet the standard setback. He said another variation is a request to reduce the multipurpose easement from 14 feet to 9 feet. Staff finds that all of the reviewed criteria have been met and the Planning Commission recommended approval unanimously. The applicant is present for comments.

Councilmember Coons noted that the design is very much like old downtown and said that she favors this type of development. She dubbed it as retro-urbanism.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer commended Mr. Blanchard for the job he has done for the City as this is his last meeting.

Ron Abeloe, the developer, commended Staff for their support of this innovative design. He said this area needs renovation and the project can be considered infill. He said the homes will be moderately priced and he agreed that although called "new urbanism" he agreed with Councilmember Coons' characterization.

Council President Hill agreed that it will change that area and be welcomed by the surrounding property owners.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:41 p.m.

Council President Pro Tem Palmer agreed that this is an infill project.

Ordinance No. 3872 – An Ordinance Rezoning the Arbors Subdivision Located at 2910 Orchard Avenue to PD (Planned Development)

Councilmember Coons moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3872 on Second Reading and ordered it published. Councilmember Thomason seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Councilmember Thomason thanked Mr. Blanchard for his service to this community.

Council President Hill expressed his appreciation, as well did Councilmembers Spehar and Coons.

Public Hearing – Amending Ordinance No. 2725 Concerning the Bluffs West Annexation

In January of 1994 the City Council annexed land to the City by Ordinance No. 2725. That ordinance described an area known as the Bluffs West Annexation. In February 2006 the City exercised land use jurisdiction for the annexation of the proposed Bellhouse Subdivision. During the course of preparing the Bellhouse Annexation, an error in the description of the Bluffs West Annexation was discovered. Specifically Lot 1, Block 1 of the Rio Vista Subdivision was erroneously described as part of the Bluffs West Annexation.

This ordinance amends the description contained in Ordinance No. 2725 and by adoption thereof serves to exclude from the Bluffs West Annexation the area described in the ordinance.

The public hearing was opened at 9:44 p.m.

John Shaver, City Attorney, reviewed this item. He explained the reason for the amendment. He said there was a discrepancy brought to his attention by the City Surveyor during the processing of the Bellhouse Annexation. He said the change does not affect the Bellhouse Annexation, but it is important to correct the discrepancy.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:46 p.m.

Ordinance No. 3873 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2725 Annexing Territory to the City of Grand Junction, Colorado – Bluffs West Annexation Located East of 23 Road and North of E Road

Council President Pro Tem Palmer moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3873 on Second Reading and ordered it published. Councilmember Coons seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Public Hearing – Establishing the City Manager’s Salary for 2006

Article VII, Section 57 of the Charter states the City Manager’s salary is to be fixed by the Council by ordinance. The City Council has determined the salary for the Grand Junction City Manager to be \$125,000.

The public hearing was opened at 9:48 p.m.

Bruce Hill, Mayor, reviewed this item.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:49 p.m.

Ordinance No. 3874 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3854, Adding Section 3, Setting the Salary of the City Manager

Councilmember Spehar moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3874 on Second Reading and ordered it published. Councilmember Beckstein seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote with Councilmember Doody voting NO.

Public Hearing – Amending Chapter 36 (Traffic) of the Code of Ordinances Concerning Towing Abandoned Vehicles

Amendment to Chapter 36 (Traffic) of the Code of Ordinances making it unlawful to abandon vehicles on private property within the City and authorizing private towing of vehicles abandoned on private property.

The public hearing was opened at 9:50 p.m.

John Shaver, City Attorney, reviewed this item. He noted the ordinance will reconcile the Municipal Code with the State Law. The Code allowed for the towing of abandoned vehicles from private property but did not make the abandonment of the vehicle on private property illegal.

Councilmember Coons noted it makes it illegal to abandon a vehicle on someone else's property. Mr. Shaver answered that is correct. He identified the section that addresses abandoning vehicles on one's own property.

Councilmember Doody inquired what happens to the towed vehicle. City Attorney Shaver said first it would be investigated to ensure it is not a stolen vehicle, then once in the tow operator's possession, he may dispose of it as allowed by law.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 9:54 p.m.

Ordinance No. 3875 – An Ordinance Amending Part of Chapter 36 of the City of Grand Junction Code of Ordinances Relating to Abandoned Vehicles

Councilmember Beckstein moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3875 on Second Reading and ordered it published. Councilmember Coons seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

NON-SCHEDULED CITIZENS & VISITORS

There were none.

Council President Hill noted the presence of a representative from the League of Women's Voters.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk

Jan. 16, 2006

Mayor Bruce Hill:
City Manager Kelly Arnold
Members of the
Grand Junction City Council

We, the undersigned, are concerned about the proposed new intersection at G and 23 Roads. We are not opposed to the construction of a roundabout at that intersection. However, because 23 Road is an important route to a heavily industrialized part of the city, serving a number of businesses that must utilize large trucks as part of their operations, we want to be sure that the new interchange is designed in a manner that adequately addresses the clearance and safety needs of these trucks and the traveling public.

Beyond the immediate issue, we want to be certain that as Grand Junction continues to make much-needed improvements to intersections throughout the city, appropriate thought will be given to the needs of large trucks, both to facilitate commerce and to improve safety.

Specifically, loads in excess of 160 feet in length and widths in excess of 18 feet, with as little as 3 inches of ground clearance, may sometimes be required to move equipment or inventories from industrialized or developing areas of the city. To accommodate such loads, approaches and curbs in roundabouts should be gently sloping and free of abrupt or sharp edges that can damage tires, cause blowouts and damage city infrastructure as well. Additionally, signs and light posts should be strategically positioned to avoid damage.

We do not represent a specific group or organization, but all of us are involved directly in or are dependent upon, commercial trucking. We would like to be notified and given the opportunity to comment as the design process moves forward. Through such input, we hope that we might be able to help the city avoid design problems that could cause conflicts in the future.