

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SUMMARY
December 1, 2014 – Noticed Agenda Attached

Meeting Convened: 5:10 p.m. in the City Auditorium

Meeting Adjourned: 7:29 p.m.

Council Members present: All Council except Susuras. Staff present: Englehart, Shaver, Moore, Tice, Valentine, Lanning, Kovalik, Dackonish, and Tuin.

Agenda Topics 1 and 2. Meet with State Legislators and Municipal Legislative Issues

In attendance were State Representative Elect for District 54 Yeulin Willett and State Representative Elect for District 55 Dan Thurlow. Council President Phyllis Norris thanked the legislators for coming and introduced Management and Legislative Liaison Elizabeth Tice.

Ms. Tice distributed a summary of legislative topics that the City Council watches and a legislative policy document from the Colorado Municipal League (CML). She explained the City's reliance on lobbying efforts of CML as well as the information they provide. Topics included severance tax, local control, and broadband. Specific issues discussed were the Construction Defects bill, unionization of police and fire departments, worker's compensation mandates, regulations on homeowners associations, State grant funding (specifically for parks), affordable housing, job creation (and the need for \$16+/hour jobs), unfunded mandates, biogas/CNG, stormwater management rights, and economic development. The underlying themes for the City Council were local control, differentiating the issues here from those in the metro area, the lack of familiarity front range has with the western slope and particularly Grand Junction, and the need for assistance in improving the economic picture on the western slope as it still has not really come out of the recession yet.

Ms. Tice also distributed a report on the Action Items and Information and Discussion Items being taken up by CML. Some of those were briefly discussed and explained.

Councilmember McArthur asked about the remote testimony option being available this next session. Representative Elect Thurlow said the infrastructure is not complete but they are working on it.

Agenda Topic 3. David Ludlam, Western Colorado Oil and Gas Association

The topic on which Mr. Ludlam was going to report on has been settled (Roan Plateau settlement) so this item has been removed from the agenda. City Manager Englehart advised that the Oil and Gas Task Force is meeting in Rifle on December 10th and 11th.

Agenda Topic 4. 2015 Persigo Budget Calendar

Based on a letter received from Mesa County Commission Chair John Justman, a resolution has been drafted that outlines the expectations for next year in reviewing policy and budget for the Persigo Waste Water System. It is written as a joint resolution and there are no concerns that the County will not accept the resolution as written. The City Council agreed to place the resolution on the December 3rd City Council agenda under the Consent Calendar.

There was a discussion regarding a review of the Persigo Agreement as it has been in place since 1998 and many things have changed.

Councilmember Boeschstein raised concerns about allowing any new individual sewer treatment systems noting that all new development should be required to hook onto sewer.

Agenda Topic 5. Economic Development Marketing Update

Ms. Tice provided an update to the Economic Development Marketing Plan contract work laying out the proposed timeline. The contractor, North Star, will be working with the Economic Development (ED) Partners in order to become familiar with current plans and information that is available. The next step is a Vision Survey and the contractor is asking the ED Partners to provide names and email addresses for business and community leaders to participate in the survey. They are looking for about 400-plus names total. Councilmember Traylor Smith suggested that some of the names need to be for people that are outside this current effort so that fresh ideas and comments can be captured.

The time frame for the plan is no more than 36 weeks. In the meantime the City and the other ED Partners will continue to work on things already in the works like improvements to wireless and broadband, the North Avenue Catalyst project, the new website, Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) projects, and Incubator projects.

Councilmember Chazen said that all the Partners should be discussing how to implement the Plan so that once the Plan is received they can begin implementation right away.

Councilmember Traylor Smith suggested that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the marketing implementation plan should be sent out early so that can also get off the ground as soon as the Plan is received.

Agenda Topic 7. Other Business

City Manager Englehart asked the City Council to review the CML Action Items and to get him any comments. He noted Ms. Tice will be traveling over to Denver to share the City's comments and concerns.

Agenda Topic 6. Board Reports

Councilmember McArthur said the 521 Drainage Authority will not be meeting again this year but will be finalizing the end of year business with an electronic meeting and electronic voting.

Councilmember Chazen said the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) will be hiring a new Executive Director now that their current director was elected into office. The Downtown Development Authority Board (DDA) has been discussing the use of a line of credit for their TIF funding rather than using bond issues. A line of credit will provide more flexibility.

Councilmember Traylor Smith attended the National League of Cities (NLC) Conference in Austin, Texas and said she thought the Conference provided a wealth of information. She noted that NLC does a lot of legislative work on behalf of municipalities at the national level and encouraged Councilmembers to consider attending the legislative visit to Washington D.C. in March. Two items she mentioned she learned about was forming a "Millennial Board" in order to get input from that age group on what is needed in this community and the use of a service called opengov.com that opens up financials for public viewing.

Councilmember Boeschstein advised that the Riverfront Commission wrote a letter protesting the Yellow Bill Cuckoo habitat designation. He attended the Horizon Drive Association Business Improvement District's unveiling of artwork for the new roundabout. He mentioned the Incubator's upcoming Holiday Open House. He attended the Museum's focus group which put forth a lot of ideas. Regarding the Vagrancy and Homeless Committee, they haven't met recently but he attended the gathering at Grand Valley Catholic Outreach.

Councilmember Traylor Smith advised she has been asked and has accepted an appointment to the Workforce Center Board.

Councilmember Doody advised that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board continues to brainstorm about Whitman Park.

Councilmember McArthur said he went on an assisted housing tour.

Council President Norris said the Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee (GVRTC) is working on the 2040 vision. There is not a lot of change from the 2035 Vision. The City's contribution to GVRTC will remain the same for next year.

Councilmember Traylor Smith mentioned that the Golf Division is hosting an open house on December 8th at 4:00 p.m. to possibly look at changes to Lincoln Park.

City Manager Englehart said that and other possibilities can be discussed at the next workshop under the topic of visioning.

Agenda Topic 7. Other Business continued

There was no other business.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014**

**WORKSHOP, 5:00 P.M.
CITY AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET**

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

- 1. Meet with State Legislators**
- 2. Municipal Legislative Issues**
- 3. David Ludlam, Western Colorado Oil and Gas Association**
- 4. 2015 Persigo Budget Calendar**
- 5. Economic Development Marketing Update**
- 6. Board Reports**
- 7. Other Business**