

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

July 16, 2001

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met on Monday, July 16, 2001 at 7:09 in the City Hall Auditorium to discuss workshop items. Those present were Harry Butler, Dennis Kirtland, Bill McCurry, Jim Spehar, Reford Theobald, Janet Terry and President of the Council Cindy Enos-Martinez.

Summaries and action on the following topics:

1. **NEW STATUTES REGARDING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS :** Staff updated Council on this new law. Assistant City Attorney John Shaver asked for Council direction on how they would like to proceed. He then reviewed the recommended procedures.

Action Summary: Council directed that the proposed procedures be placed on Wednesday's agenda for adoption.

2. **DOWNTOWN PARKING :** The Downtown Development Authority will present their recommendations for increased parking fees and fines in the downtown area. DDA chair P.J. McGovern presented Council with an informal petition of the downtown business owners supporting the increase. He then reviewed the memo that outlined the five requests for change.

Action Summary: The Council directed Staff to place this item on the Wednesday agenda, such increases to be for a trial period of one year. It was suggested that patrons be given a one month warning before instituting the increase.

3. **STORM EVENTS AND DAMAGES CLAIMED:** Council reviewed a memo dated July 12 from Greg Trainor, Utilities Manager. City Manager Kelly Arnold then detailed the current policy and the legal obligations of Council. He indicated that Council has no obligation to go over the \$150 reimbursement allowed for in the policy but certainly has the option of participating in a greater amount.

Action Summary: Council directed Staff to survey the neighborhood to determine the number of houses with basements to determine if a backflow preventor incentive program might be appropriate and also determined that this problem will be studied during the CIP budgeting. Quick staff response time to these events was also directed. A compilation of the total damages was requested for Wednesday's meeting. Contacting the County Commissioners was also requested. The City Manager asked that this matter be scheduled as a regular agenda item on Wednesday.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS AUDIT:** Consultant Jim Beaver presented the results of the recently completed communications audit. Information was presented to Council as well as recommendations for both internal and external communications.

Action Summary: The City Manager will review the audit and evaluate the recommendations. He will then bring his recommendation to Council based on what he believes the Council will support. Many of the principals in the report have been on his agenda, two of which being communication and trust. Some of the strategies will be incorporated into the budget this year and in future years.