

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SUMMARY**  
**January 4, 2016 – Noticed Agenda Attached**

Meeting Convened: 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium

Meeting Adjourned: 7:18 p.m.

City Council Members present: All, Councilmember Traylor Smith arrived at 5:06 p.m.

Staff present: Moore, Shaver, Hazelhurst, Rainguet, Kovalik, Portner, Camper, Schoeber, Rusche (HomewardBound of the Grand Valley (HB) Boardmember), and Tuin

Also: Bill Wade (HB Vice Chairman), Richard Swingle, Chris Steen (HB Chairman), Karen Hartman (HB Boardmember), and Jade Joyce (HB Executive Director)

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Interim City Manager (ICM) Tim Moore opened the meeting.

Agenda Topic 1. HomewardBound Request

ICM Moore referred to the correspondence in the packet regarding HB's \$44,000 financial request for the North Avenue shelter and introduced Bill Wade, HB Vice Chairman. Mr. Wade introduced the HB Board members present and Executive Director Joyce. He referenced additional materials provided that detailed the increased use of the HB Facilities and its decreased funding since 2010. HB has used most of their reserve funds for operating expenses and is seeking funds from the City in order to continue operations until grant funds and revenue from the Pathways Village (which is a separate project from the shelter) are realized in the spring and summer of 2016.

Mr. Wade said he would like the City to annually contribute about 10% of HB's operating budget; this commitment would also help them qualify for and leverage other grants. He stated shelters typically receive 5-14% of their annual budget from the municipalities they serve and foundations, in part, base their grant awards on how much local government entities contribute to the shelters; they would like a minimum \$50,000 contribution to the annual operating budget.

Discussion commenced regarding the use of vouchers (only for permanent housing), if the facility could be staffed with volunteers (25% of paid staff could be replaced with volunteers), why a minimum of trained staff is necessary (specific training is required to supervise overnight stays), if revenue from Pathways Village will be enough to replenish the reserve fund (yes, it is estimated to be around \$125,000), if private revenue sources had been explored (they have and those funds have been used to maintain HB operations through the holidays), what would the actual impact be if HB was not able to provide overnight services (Chief Camper said shelter bed space has a direct correlation to enforcement ability and allows programs like the camp cleanup to be successful), how many people the shelter serves nightly (180-200 overnight stays and over 200 meals), why was there a large jump in the number of veterans using the shelter (recent wars and the local Veteran's Administration Hospital provides a greater level of service than most), has there been a return on marketing funds (no, marketing efforts have been curtailed), what is the cost of homelessness on the community (about \$758,000 annually).

It was also noted the homeless population in Colorado increased since the legalization of marijuana, but the statewide increase shifted to individual municipalities' that legalized its sale.

Councilmember Chazen suggested offering a bridge loan and then include the annual funding request to the 2017 budget discussions.

Councilmember Boeschstein expressed concern City contributions to HB's operating budget would set a precedent for the City to contribute other organizations operating budgets; to date City contributions have gone toward capital projects.

ICM Moore said Engineering Staff is reviewing capital projects to see if any would be eligible for Community Development Block Grants to allow budgeted funds to be available for other projects.

Council agreed they would like to support this request and directed Staff to see if they could find \$44,000 in funds for a one time request, a bridge loan, or a combination. They also asked Mr. Wade to find out if the HB Board would be willing to consider a bridge loan and have HB research how other like sized communities and agencies handle funding and capacity issues.

#### Agenda Topic 2. Follow-up USA Pro Cycling

Council President Norris introduced this topic and said funding for this event had been passed at the December 2, 2015 Council Meeting, but the item had been passed with an amendment by Councilmember Traylor Smith. She then asked Councilmember Traylor Smith to clarify her amendment.

Councilmember Traylor Smith explained since the Organizing Committee (OC) has been successful raising funds through community support, if they continued, the City's \$50,000 cash obligation limit should be decreased by the additional amount raised by the OC after the Event's expenses are paid. The City would still provide up to \$35,000 of approved in-kind services.

Councilmember Taggart noted the OC cannot collect any pledged funds until it has been established there will be a USA Pro Cycling Challenge and the details of the race start are confirmed in order to determine actual costs.

Council agreed a letter of agreement, similar to Epic Rides, is needed.

#### Agenda Topic 3. Council Communications

Council President Norris asked Council, going forward and prior to a new City Manager being hired, to operate as a unit. She gave the example of a Councilmember speaking to a group or writing an individual letter, that they need to make it clear they are expressing their personal opinion and not that of the full Council. She then explained decisions cannot be made at workshops, only at regular meetings and noted a list of Principals for City Council is posted in the Administration Conference Room; she asked for copies to be sent to all Councilmembers.

Councilmember Kennedy asked for specific examples of the conflicts she is referring to as he does make it clear it is his personal opinion whenever he pens an article.

Councilmember Boeschstein mentioned their Council Board assignments and individual memberships create an inherent conflict in Council's structure and asked what their role should be. The difference between serving on boards for legal entities (e.g. 521 Drainage Authority) and those that are volunteer (e.g. Forestry Board) were noted.

The role of a councilmember serving on a board depends on their assigned position for each board; some positions are ex-officio and others have privileges up to and including voting.

City Attorney Shaver pointed out information regarding each board and Council's responsibilities are provided in the Volunteer Board Handbook and Staff is always available for additional assistance and clarification.

Council President Norris said she would like all of Council to understand their roles in regard to the City Charter and how Council can move forward. She reviewed the procedure for Council regarding meeting with Staff; it was stressed the initial contact should be through the City Manager and Staff should remain neutral and not be encumbered with a councilmember's personal opinion. It was agreed the City Manager position also has specific responsibilities to enforce Council and Staff roles.

Councilmember Taggart asked for consistency regarding what topics are included on Workshop Agenda's (discussion ensued regarding the best process) and that all councilmembers be contacted if an informal vote is required for topic inclusion, meeting cancellations, etc. It was agreed to review this at the upcoming retreat.

It was agreed Council would review board assignment roles to see if any adjustments should to be made and conduct meetings according to the City Charter and the posted Principals.

#### Agenda Topic 4. Other Business

Councilmember Taggart said the Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority Board is making progress on a variety of issues including hiring a consulting company to evaluate all Airport facilities. He reported that there is an outline of a settlement with Shaw Construction.

Councilmember Boeschstein suggested issuing a State of the City address to relay positive information about the City, its progress, and goals. All agreed this is a good idea; event ideas and topics should be sent to ICM Moore.

Councilmember Chazen will attend the Grand Junction Downtown Development Authority meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> when they will continue discussions on the desired skill set for an executive director.

Councilmember McArthur said he will participate in a Colorado Water Congress (CWC) webinar on January 5<sup>th</sup> and attend their annual meeting in Denver, January 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>; while in Denver he will also attend a Colorado Municipal League seminar. Also, through the CWC he has been assigned to the State and the Federal Affairs Committees.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016**

**WORKSHOP, 5:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM  
250 N. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

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

1. **HomewardBound Request:** Request for financial support for the shelter.

[\*\*Attachment\*\*](#)  
[Supplemental Documents](#)

2. **Follow-up USA Pro Cycling**

3. **Council Communications**

4. **Other Business**

5. **Board Report**