

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SUMMARY
April 25, 2016 – Noticed Agenda Attached

Meeting Convened: 3:00 p.m. in the Fire Department Training Room

Meeting Adjourned: 5:07 p.m.

City Council Members present: All except Councilmember Traylor Smith

Staff present: Moore, Shaver, Valentine, Romero, Lanning, Schoeber, Watkins, Camper, Hazelhurst, Kovalik, Ranguet, and Tuin

Also: Richard Swingle, Debra Feeley, Ed Miller, and Amy Hamilton

Agenda Topic 1. Capital Spending Priorities

Interim City Manager (ICM) Moore introduced the topic and a list of Capital Spending Priorities was handed out to City Council along with a summary statement. ICM Moore reviewed the list.

Before reviewing the spreadsheets, Council discussed long term funding for the E 911 Regional Communications Center and the need for additional communication towers. Police Chief John Camper advised that his department has been researching options and meeting with other public safety agencies in the valley to determine if the recommendation should be to change the governance model (an Authority or a public/private model) or the funding model. Chief Camper informed City Council that they will be putting a final document together and will get it to Council.

The idea of a regional solution for fire protection was also brought up. Fire Chief Watkins said that, at first, the Fire Chiefs throughout the valley were hesitant to consider consolidation but that is changing over time. Chief Watkins said that such a partnership could free up dollars for smaller fire departments as well as General Fund dollars for the City.

ICM Moore then referred the City Council to the spreadsheets distributed. He explained that the first page showed funding sources, committed uses, and then ongoing uses. The second page listed one time projects with the lower part showing one time projects that had a grant as a funding source.

Transportation projects were discussed in more detail as well as the current pavement condition index (PCI) and what it would take to improve the PCI.

Councilmembers were then asked to identify their top (5) priorities.

Councilmember McArthur: #1 – Fire Station 6 (North) (Line 39) and #2 – Street Maintenance (Line 27).

Councilmember Kennedy: #1 – Fire Station 6 (North) (Line 39), #2 – Public Safety Training Campus (Line 40), #3 – Las Colonias Park Development (Line 46), and #4 – Riverside Parkway Overlay (Line 26) noting it should be combined with the other overlays.

Councilmember Taggart: #1 – Contract Street Maintenance (Line 27) noting it should be \$17.5 million over the five years (\$2 million additional per year from page 1 and \$1.5 million annually for five years), #2 – Riverside Parkway Overlay (Line 26), #3 – 24 Road and Riverside Parkway Interchange (Line 30), plus widening 24 Road, #4 – Fire Station 6 (North)(Line 39), and #5 – Facilities (Line 47).

Councilmember Boeschstein said his top five (not prioritized) were Contract Street Maintenance (Line 27), G Road Improvements (Line 31), Fire Station 6 (Line 39), Community Center (Line 43), and Las Colonias Development (Line 46).

Councilmember Chazen: #1 – Contract Street Maintenance (Line 27) at \$17.5 million plus Riverside Parkway Overlay (Line 26) for a total of \$21 million, #2 – Fire Station 6 (Line 39), #3 – Facilities (Line 47), #4 – North Avenue Complete Streets (Line 51) and 22 Road/River Road Crossing (Line 52), and #5 – Public Safety Training Campus (Line 40).

Council President Norris: #1 – Contract Street Maintenance (Line 27) and the Riverside Parkway Overlay (Line 26), noting they will have to go to the voters to fund these, #2 – Fire Station #6 (Line 39), #3 – the 24 Road/Riverside Parkway Interchange (Line 30) plus widening 24 Road, #4 – Community Center (Line 43) and Events Center (Line 45), noting the citizens should work on these but she would support ballot issues, and #5 – Las Colonias Development (Line 48) and Facilities needs (Line 47).

Summarizing, ICM Moore noted that Street Maintenance, Fire Station #6, the 24 Road portion of the highway, and Las Colonias seem to be the top four. It was noted that those four projects add up to \$62.4 million.

There was discussion regarding Broadband and where it would be on the list. Since studies are continuing and there may be revenue streams, the costs aren't known.

Parks and Recreation Director Rob Schoeber advised that there is a planning grant with matching dollars already budgeted for a feasibility study for a Community Center. Citizens ask about a Community Center almost daily. It appeared that a majority of Council were supportive.

Lodging Tax was discussed and Convention and Visitor Services Director Debbie Kovalik said that a bi-annual survey is conducted to compare check out rates (which includes sales tax and lodging tax). She said that Denver is at 17%, the average across the State is 10.5%, and Grand Junction is at 10.75%.

There was additional discussion including funding for Fire Station North, noting there is capital expense plus ongoing operations, the beltway, overlays (street maintenance), and putting a question on the ballot. Staff was directed to take these top priorities and bring back funding options.

Agenda Topic 2. Other Business

ICM Moore said that on May 12th, Economic Development will be discussed with the County and the other municipalities. He also said the Parks and Recreation Staff has been working hard on the Las Colonias amphitheater and have identified a couple of grants that are due this week that require no matching. They should know within a month if those grants were awarded. If awarded, the project may not have to be trimmed down. Councilmember Boeschstein said that the local Department of Energy is also trying to provide some funding for Las Colonias Park.

Agenda Topic 3. Board and Committee Reports

Councilmember Taggart said there was an Airport Authority meeting on Friday, April 22nd to discuss making a contract offer to Kip Turner for the Director's position at the Airport.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

REVISED

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016**

**WORKSHOP, 3:00 P.M.
FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING ROOM
625 UTE AVENUE**

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

- 1. Capital Spending Priorities**
- 2. Other Business**
- 3. Board and Committee Reports**