

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 15th day of February, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Those present were Councilmembers Bennett Boeschstein, Chris Kennedy, Duncan McArthur, Rick Taggart, Barbara Traylor Smith, Martin Chazen, and Council President Phyllis Norris. Also present were City Manager Greg Caton, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Council President Norris called the meeting to order. Councilmember Chazen led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by an Invocation by Kevin Lewis, Elders Quorum President with Melody Lane Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Proclamation

Councilmember Taggart read the proclamation. Rafael Orozco, TRiO-Student Support Services (SSS) Advisor, Melissa Calhoon, TRiO-SSS Director, and student Taylor Bellhouse were present to receive the proclamation. TRiO-SSS was founded in 1964 and is a collection of federally funded programs designated to prepare low-income and first generation students (students from families whose parents do not have a four-year college degree) for college success. Ms. Taylor said she has been participating in TRiO-SSS for four years and it has positively changed her life. Mr. Orozco is also a recipient of TRiO-SSS and will graduate with a Master's Degree this year. He said he would not have achieved his academic goals without the TRiO-SSS.

Appointments

Forestry Board

Councilmember Kennedy moved to appoint Justin Drissel and reappoint Kamie Long to the Forestry Board for three year terms expiring November 2019 and appoint Josh Umberger as an alternate to the Forestry Board for a three year term expiring November 2019. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Historic Preservation

Councilmember Boeschstein moved to appoint Ronald Parron to the Historic Preservation Board for a four year term expiring December 2020. Councilmember Traylor Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Citizens Comments

Bruce Lohmiller, 3032 North 15th Street, #208, said he was hoping the Collective would attend the Council meeting. He mentioned speaking with City Manager Caton regarding the Downtown Event Center and watched a television interview of County District Attorney Rubenstein. Mr. Lohmiller suggested investments be made to law enforcement departments and schools. He mentioned encampments located within Whitman Park.

Mike Anton, 2111 Desert Hills Road, Chairperson for the Committee for the Event Center, addressed the upcoming ballot issue regarding the Event Center (2A). He said their committee has presented Downtown Event Center information at over thirty different events and listed a number of the service groups supporting the Event Center. Mr. Anton said this coming week will launch an ad campaign with handouts, posters, and door hangers. However, the Committee is still looking for additional volunteers. Mr. Anton said Landon Balding has been doing a fantastic job with the presentations and provided a website for this issue - www.gjeventcenter.com.

Council President Norris stated staff cannot get involved in ballot issues and she appreciates this Committee educating the community and getting citizens involved in City ballot issues.

Richard Swingle, 443 Mediterranean Way, presented an overview of the workshop that was held on Monday, February 13, 2017. He referred to a publication "The Next Generation Network Connectivity Handbook". He corrected some of the points that were made and disputed others. He encouraged Council to go forward to the next milestone. He pointed out that it appears the right-of-way acquisition is a big obstacle and encouraged Council to attend the Mountain Connect Conference.

Andrea Metz, 2430 Santa Rosa Lane, said she is concerned about some technologies that are being brought out and integrated without our knowledge. She described an ordinance for communities to adopt regulations on how the technologies are used. She recommended Council consider adopting a similar ordinance like the City of Santa Clara, California adopted called the Surveillance Technology Ordinance. She said these technologies can affect our livelihood and economic lives.

Council Reports

Councilmember McArthur said on February 3rd he attended the opening of a new downtown satellite office for Keller Williams Real Estate Company. He stated February 7th through February 10th he was in Denver where he participated in discussions regarding broadband and other issues with Colorado legislators, councilmembers, and mayors from other cities.

Councilmember Boeschenstein said on February 15th he attended the Horizon Drive Association Business Improvement District (HDABID) meeting, on February 13th he attended an Avalon Theatre marketing meeting and a Council Workshop, and on February 3rd he attended the Downtown Development Authority meeting. He announced on March 9th HDABID will be hosting a Council Candidate Forum at the Travelodge in Grand Junction. Lastly he read a list of the programs and services the Business Incubator Center (BIC) provides.

Councilmember Chazen said on February 13th he attended Council Workshop in which Charter Spectrum was one of the presenters and also on February 13th he attended the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) regional meeting.

Councilmember Kennedy attended events related to Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual, and Queer (LGTBQ) rights. He apologized to the community for possible confusion regarding the broadband issue and encouraged attendance at the February 23rd Club 20 Technology meeting.

Councilmember Traylor Smith attended the Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) meeting and is pleased with the new business growth coming to the community.

Councilmember Taggart said he had a busy two-week period attending several events.

Council President Norris said she attended the Council Candidate Orientation on February 6th and thanked staff for the presentation. She interviewed candidates for the Forestry Board, the Historic Preservation Board (HPB), and the Liquor License Authority, and attended the Visitor and Convention Bureau (VCB) Board meeting.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Traylor Smith moved to adopt Consent Agenda items #1 through #4. Councilmember Boeschenstein seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

1. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Summary of the January 16, 2017 Workshop
 - b. Minutes of the January 18, 2017 Regular Meeting
2. **Set public Hearing**
 - a. Legislative
 - i. Proposed Ordinance Amending the Grand Valley Circulation Plan, an Element of the Comprehensive Plan, specifically, to Revise the Street Classification of 23 ½ Road from Principal Arterial to a Minor Arterial with a Modified Arterial (aka D Road Section Design) Designation and Set a Hearing for March 1, 2017
3. **Resolutions**
 - a. Resolution No. 14-17 – A Resolution Approving the Election Notice the Regular Election April 4, 2017
 - b. Resolution No. 15-17 – A Resolution Amending the Purchasing Manual to Amend the Purchasing Threshold
4. **Other Action Item**
 - a. WITHDRAWN – Request Vacating Alley Public ROW in Block 84 City of Grand Junction, 310 N. 7th Street

Construction Contract for the 1st Street Reconstruction (Ouray Avenue to North Avenue)

This construction contract will reconstruct 1st Street from Ouray Avenue to North Avenue. The reconstruction will replace the existing four lane section with a three lane section complete with 8-foot wide detached sidewalks, 5-foot wide bike lanes, provide for on-street parking, medians, new light emitting diode (LED) street lighting, drainage, and landscaping. The proposed contract is with MA Concrete Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$2,102,074.60. Construction is scheduled from February 21 through July 14, 2017.

Trent Prall, Engineering Manager, presented this item. He stated the section of 1st Street from Ouray Avenue to North Avenue has a pavement condition index (PCI) between 24 and 39 and is too damaged for an overlay process; it will require a complete reconstruction.

He listed the goals and issues regarding the reconstruction of 1st Street: provide capacity for up to 14,000 vehicles per day as projected in the 2040 traffic model;

provide a safe transportation corridor for all modes including pedestrians, bicyclists, adhering to American with Disability Act (ADA) regulations, transit, vehicles, and trucks; address issues identified in the Comprehensive Plan and Greater Downtown Plan such as traffic growth, traffic calming, and intensified land uses in a neighborhood center; and accommodate existing businesses by providing safe access and allow for on-street parking.

Mr. Prall said the 1st Street Project will reconfigure the corridor from Ouray Avenue to North Avenue to a three-lane section with 8-foot wide detached sidewalks, 5-foot wide bike lanes, and on-street parking with medians. He said the additional upgrades include landscaping, drainage improvements, and street lighting LED conversion. Mr. Prall listed the details of the reconstruction and reconfiguration of 1st Street which includes safer access control with reduced left turn conflicts and rear end accidents. He showed the existing and proposed layouts of 1st Street and stated the proposed plan will accommodate future increased traffic levels. Mr. Prall said upon Council approval construction is scheduled to begin February 21st through July 14th and there are early completion incentives. He said the contractor is working closely with adjacent property owners to ensure business access.

Councilmember McArthur asked if 1st Street will be open during construction. Mr. Prall said yes. Councilmember McArthur asked if there are plans to restripe lanes on 1st Street from North Avenue to Orchard Avenue. Mr. Prall said not for this project, however, there are future plans to overlay or chip seal 1st Street from North Avenue to Orchard Avenue. Councilmember McArthur asked for an overview of the landscaping in medians. Mr. Prall provided the overview and said some medians will be used to protect crosswalks and slow traffic speeds. Councilmember McArthur thanked Mr. Prall and staff.

Councilmembers Boeschstein and Chazen said they are pleased with the improvements coming to 1st Street and are glad that it addresses pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

Councilmember Kennedy asked if conduit will be underground. Mr. Prall said there will be underground conduit on the east side with street and alley access points.

Councilmember Traylor Smith asked if there is any contingency. Mr. Prall said there is a contingency of \$100,000. Councilmember Traylor Smith asked if there was a solution to the car dealers unloading larger delivery trucks during the street repair. Mr. Prall said a solution has been worked out for the car dealers to unload car carriers using side streets and parallel parking areas. Councilmember Traylor Smith reminded the public that these companies are still open for business and not to be discouraged from frequenting them during the street repair.

Councilmember Taggart thanked staff for their hard work on this project. He asked about the restriping of the next mile north on 1st Street. Mr. Prall said the 1st Street

project is scheduled to be finished in July and staff will then coordinate the overlay and chip seal program that will impact 1st Street north of North Avenue.

City Manager Caton said he attended the Urban Trails Committee (UTC) meeting and explained that all overlay projects go to the UTC for input.

Council President Norris stated this project will take the existing four lanes on 1st Street and reduce them to three lanes. She stated, due to the poor condition of 1st Street, the repair cost is high and she stressed the importance of proper street maintenance as a cost effective measure.

Councilmember Boeschenstein moved to authorize the City Purchasing Division to enter into a contract with MA Concrete Construction from Grand Junction, CO for the 1st Street Reconstruction Project (Ouray Avenue to North Avenue) in the amount of \$2,102,074.60. Councilmember Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Non-Scheduled Citizens & Visitors

There were none.

Other Business

There was none.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk