

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SUMMARY
December 4, 2017 – Noticed Agenda Attached

Meeting Convened: 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium

Meeting Adjourned: 7:08 p.m.

City Council Members present: Councilmembers Boeschstein, Kennedy, McArthur, Norris, Wortmann, and President of the Council Taggart.

Staff present: Caton, Shaver, LeBlanc, Romero, Prall, Watkins, Nordine, Allen, Portner, and Winkelmann.

President of the Council Taggart called the meeting to order.

City Manager Greg Caton distributed a memo in preparation for the budget discussion on Wednesday's Council meeting. The City received information last week from the City's current Workers Compensation excess insurance carrier, Safety National, stating it will no longer insure the City's Wildland Fire Fighting program under the current terms and the proposed new terms increased the City's exposure significantly as well as the cost of insurance. The City is currently self-insuring its Workers Compensation; Mr. Caton explained that fully insured policies are more common with smaller municipalities and Safety National (starting in 2018) will only cover excess insurance over \$1 million and the City would be responsible for any incidents between \$500,000 and \$1M. There are three options to address this situation:

1. Not deploy wildland firefighting.
2. Remain in the self-insurance model and carry the risk.
3. Switch to a fully-insured model with CIRSA to reduce the City's risk (the City would still cover incidents below \$250K). CIRSA is the agency who carries the City's general liability coverage.

Discussion ensued about the reasons the City is sending firefighters to events outside the City limits, such as the community benefit of having highly trained and experienced firefighting personnel. Mr. Caton noted that there is always personnel and equipment available for Grand Junction events and the City is reimbursed for the services rendered and equipment utilized.

The Council expressed support for option 3 above. Mr. Caton noted \$261,000 for the insurance premium will be reflected in the 2018 budget. An additional \$200,000 of contingency is recommended to provide flexibility in managing actual claims experience under the new model.

The second budget item is regarding Persigo. A 5.2% overhead charge is being included in the budget (which is higher than the current 2.9% charge and lower than the proposed 7.5% discussed at a recent Persigo Workshop).

City Manager Caton stated that the applicants for the Weeminuche subdivision have withdrawn their application, which was scheduled for Council discussion at the December 6 meeting. A press release will be issued to inform those interested in this project.

Agenda Topic 1. Discussion Topics

Update on the Circulation Plan.

Tamra Allen, Community Development Director, reported that Council met with the Planning Commission earlier this year regarding the Circulation Plan. It is appropriate to review the plan every five years or so. The Urban Trails Master Plan needs to be updated as well.

Ms. Allen noted staff has been engaged in 1:1 meetings and focus groups to discuss the plan and receive feedback.

Kathy Portner, Community Services Manager, stated that the Circulation Plan was amended in 2010 and adopted as an element of the Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan. The Urban Trails Master Plan was adopted by City Council in 2001. It needs to be updated to reflect the transportation planning found with the 2010 Comprehensive Plan. Together with the Circulation Plan a comprehensive transportation Master Plan will be created.

The Comprehensive Circulation Plan consists of four sections: network map, street functional classification map, active transportation map, and strategies and policies.

The draft Circulation Plan contains six policies and strategies:

1. Adopt a complete street policy for Grand Junction and develop and adopt a Compete Streets Policy for Mesa County.
2. Develop and revise policies for support of an integrated transportation system.
3. Create and update sub-area maps.
4. Improve inter connectivity between Grand Valley Transit centers, neighborhoods and community attractions.
5. Improve Urban Trails system.
6. Maintain or improve circulation of vehicles on road system.

Ms. Portner reviewed the public outreach for this process that has occurred or will occur in the future: technical team meetings, workshops, stakeholder 1:1's, focus group meetings, public open houses, and public hearings.

Staff requested feedback about additional stakeholders and groups to involve in this process.

Discussion ensued about the need to prioritize these items in future budgets. Councilmembers offered their assistance in future discussions with stakeholders.

Agenda Topic 2. Next Workshop Topic

For December 18: Presentation by the Fire and Police Protection Association (FPPA) on their defined benefit plan. Mr. Caton stated in the past FPPA required 100% enrollment in this plan. Changes to the plan now permit voluntary enrollment.

Other Business

Councilmember McArthur requested a future discussion on Vacation Rentals by Owners (VRBOs) as it is estimated there are close to 100 in existence. Ms. Allen stated this discussion will occur at the next joint City Council - Planning Commission Workshop in March.

Mayor Taggart reported a special meeting of the Airport Authority Board will be held tomorrow evening to finalize the agreement for the new Executive Director.

Councilmember Kennedy reported Robin Brown has been named as the next Executive Director of Grand Junction Economic Partners (GJEP).

Councilmember Boeschstein noted the Commission on Arts and Culture has been meeting and working towards official designation.

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017**

**PRE-MEETING (DINNER) 5:00 P.M. ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM
WORKSHOP, 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET**

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

1. Discussion Topics

- a. Update on Circulation Plan

2. Next Workshop Topics

- a. December 18: Fire and Police Pension Association of Colorado
Presentation on Defined Benefit Plan

3. Other Business