

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

January 28, 2019

Call to Order. Pledge of Allegiance. Moment of Silence

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into special session on the 28th day of January 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Those present were Councilmembers Bennett Boeschstein, Chris Kennedy, Phyllis Norris, Rick Taggart, Duke Wortmann and Council President Barbara Traylor Smith. Councilmember Duncan McArthur was absent. Also present were City Manager Greg Caton, City Attorney John Shaver, City Clerk Wanda Winkelmann and Deputy City Clerk Janet Harrell.

Council President Barbara Traylor Smith called the meeting to order. Councilmember Boeschstein led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Resolutions

- a. A Resolution Authorizing a Ballot Question Regarding a Sales Tax Increase for First Responders

The City Council is considering placing a question on the April ballot asking the City electors to approve a 0.50% sales and use tax rate increase for police, fire, and emergency medical services. Passage of the ballot measure will benefit the community by improving staffing and facilities to meet national standards and to address current and future growth.

City Manager Caton reviewed the history and some details regarding the proposed ballot question and City Attorney Shaver reviewed the proposed resolution.

Discussion included the City's current sales and use tax rate compared to other communities noting the City is a full service municipality and does not have a special district for fire services, if it is equitable for non-residents to pay sales tax, locations of future fire stations and that locations are based on response times, what percentage of Mesa County tax local municipalities collect, uses of the 1989 .75% sales tax referred question, ballot question wording and why the resolution is not project specific or limits station numbers, challenges of working within the Gallagher and TABOR (Tax Payer Bill of Rights) measures, City needs and the importance of staying ahead of demand.

Public comment opened at 6:12 p.m.

Tom (undecipherable last name) and Dennis Simpson spoke against the item and Mary-Jo Coleman commented on the fact the resolution is not project specific.

Public comment closed at 6:20 p.m.

Councilmember Wortmann moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-19, a resolution setting the title for and submitting to the electorate on April 2, 2019 a measure to authorize an additional City sales and use tax of 0.50% and to retain and spend revenues as a voter approved revenue change as defined by Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and expend the revenue for Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services, Employees, Stations, and First Responder Services with the amendment to change "including" to "and" in the first paragraph of the ballot question.

Councilmember Boeschstein seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- b. A Resolution Authorizing a Ballot Question Regarding a Sales Tax Increase for Transportation

The City Council is considering placing a question on the April ballot asking the City electors to approve a 0.25% sales and use tax rate increase for improvements to the transportation network. Passage of the ballot measure will benefit the community by having an improved transportation network to address current and future growth, provide for efficient movement of people, goods and services, and improve safety for all users.

City Manager Caton reviewed the background and details of the proposed ballot question.

Discussion included the importance of "complete streets" and staying ahead of demand with needed transportation expansion projects and how well staff was able to propose multiple solutions.

Public comment opened at 6:54 p.m.

Dennis Simpson spoke against the item.

Public comment closed at 6:57 p.m.

Councilmember Kennedy moved to adopt Resolution No. 08-19, a resolution setting

the title for and submitting to the electorate on April 2, 2019 a measure to authorize an additional City sales and use tax of .25% and to retain and spend revenues as a voter approved revenue change as defined by Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and expend the revenue for transportation network improvements. Councilmember Boeschstein seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Wanda Winkelmann, MMC
City Clerk