

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

November 19, 2012

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into regular session on the 19th day of November, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Auditorium. Those present were Councilmembers Bennett Boeschstein, Teresa Coons, Jim Doody, Tom Kenyon, Laura Luke, and Council President Bill Pitts. Councilmember Sam Susuras was absent. Also present were City Manager Rich Englehart, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Council President Pitts called the meeting to order. Councilmember Luke then led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation by Pastor Randy David, Pear Park Baptist Church.

Council Comments

There were no Council comments.

Citizen Comments

There were none.

City Manager's Budget Presentation

Rich Englehart, City Manager, presented the City Manager's 2013 Proposed Budget. He expressed his appreciation for the Staff and City Council participation in the development of the budget.

City Manager Englehart began by stating that the budget was built with cautious optimism. Mr. Englehart listed the Staff members that contributed to tracking the signs of recovery. He listed the number of new businesses that have opened in the last year as well as those anticipated to be built or opened in the coming year. The business indexes are showing growth and local and State employers are increasing wages. The proposed budget includes a large percentage of funding for capital improvements.

Mr. Englehart reviewed the process which also included many hours spent by City Council. The total spending budget is proposed at \$145.8 million. He highlighted the cost increases and the labor expense changes. Under operating expenses changes there are new facilities to maintain, Xcel has indicated there is infrastructure report, and there is the municipal election. Under labor expenses, he identified a partial market adjustment, thirteen new positions and health insurance cost increases.

There is significant capital expense in the proposed budget. He listed the areas that will be affected by capital expenditures.

City Manager Englehart then reviewed revenues and showing only a slight increase in revenues at 1.3% which represents a very conservative approach.

He then reviewed spending first by type and then by departments. With the restructuring, the departments will be a little different next year.

The Capital Projects were then highlighted including Fire Administration and Fire Station #2, the truck stop infrastructure, parks pools, and playgrounds including Las Colonias, Matchett Park, Lincoln Park Renovation, Orchard Mesa and Lincoln Park Pools, Pomona Elementary and Washington Park playgrounds, Streets Overlay, Avalon Theatre, and water and sewer infrastructure. Other allocations were made for economic development partnerships, including Colorado Mesa University (CMU), Grand Valley Transit (GVT), Grand Junction Housing Authority (GJHA), Special Events, Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) and the Incubator. Then there is community investment including affordable housing, Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Education, infrastructure, parks pools, and playgrounds, special events and sponsorships, public safety, transportations, streets, and bridges.

The next step for budget adoption is the public hearing on December 5, 2012. The 2012 budget was \$154.3 million and this year it is \$145.8 million.

Councilmember Kenyon thanked City Manager Englehart and all of Staff for all the work on the budget and noted that this year was the best year as far as communication and information. He thought the result was good.

Councilmember Coons agreed it was a good process. She is proud of the work the City is doing.

Councilmember Luke said she and Councilmember Susuras have sat through many budget reviews throughout the year and she complimented Staff and all the work they do to make the dollars go as far as they can. She complimented City Manager Englehart's work and his efforts in making sure there was transparency.

Councilmember Doody also expressed compliments and was pleased with the partnerships with both Colorado Mesa University and the Housing Authority. He thinks the renovation of the Avalon Theater will be a great thing for Main Street.

Councilmember Boeschstein agreed the process has been transparent. He highlighted some things that were not in previous budgets: Las Colonias, Lincoln Park improvements, Matchett Park, the separator project with the Land Trust, the housing

elements, transportation projects, economic development including the Avalon Theatre, working with GJEP, Village Centers like North Avenue, Horizon Drive, and Downtown, the energy conservation projects, and support for Grand Valley Transit.

Council President Pitts was pleased with the introduction of the Readiness meetings that informed the City Council on all the different departments and their needs. He also mentioned a distillery conference and noted that the best gin comes from Western Colorado. He thanked City Manager Englehart and the Council.

City Manager Englehart expressed appreciation for the City Council and the time they invested in the process and he thanked all of Staff.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Coons read the Consent Calendar items #1-5 and then moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Doody seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Action: Approve the Minutes of the November 7, 2012, Regular Meeting

2. **Setting a Hearing on Vacating a Portion of Right-Of-Way that Traverses the Property Owned by Weigh Station, LLC at 2195 Hwy 6 & 50** [File # VAC-2012-484]

Request to vacate a portion of right-of-way that traverses the property owned by Weigh Station, LLC at 2195 Hwy 6 & 50. The City does not intend to use this right-of-way; subsequent road development and/or realignment make the right-of-way surplus.

Proposed Ordinance Vacating Right-of-Way Received Through Mesa County Road Petitions on Property Located at 2195 Highway 6 & 50

Action: Introduction of a Proposed Ordinance and Set a Hearing for December 5, 2012

3. **Setting a Hearing on an Amendment to Title 6, Animals, of the Grand Junction Municipal Code Adopting Changes to the Rules and Regulations Regarding Animals within the City**

The proposed ordinance amends Title 6 of the Grand Junction Municipal Code. The amendments more effectively deal with concerns regarding public safety and public nuisances created because of animals.

Proposed Ordinance Amending Parts of Title 6 of the City of Grand Junction Code of Ordinances Relating to Public Safety Risks Regarding Animals

Action: Introduction of a Proposed Ordinance and Set a Hearing for December 5, 2012

4. **Setting a Hearing on the 2012 Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance and the 2013 Budget Appropriation Ordinance**

This request is to appropriate certain sums of money to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the accounting funds of the City of Grand Junction based on the 2012 amended and 2013 proposed budgets.

Proposed Ordinance Making Supplemental Appropriations to the 2012 Budget of the City of Grand Junction

Proposed Ordinance Appropriating Certain Sums of Money to Defray the Necessary Expenses and Liabilities of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, the Downtown Development Authority, and the Ridges Metropolitan District for the Year Beginning January 1, 2013, and Ending December 31, 2013

Action: Introduction of Proposed Ordinances and Set a Hearing for December 5, 2012

5. **Rates and Fees Effective January 1, 2013**

Proposed 2013 rate/fee increases for Water, Irrigation, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Ambulance Transport, and Two Rivers Convention Center, and Parks and Recreation as presented and discussed during City Council budget workshops.

Resolution No. 43-12—A Resolution Adopting Fees and Charges for Water, Irrigation, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Ambulance Transport, Two Rivers Convention Center, and Parks and Recreation

Action: Adopt Resolution No. 43-12

ITEMS NEEDING INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

North Avenue Streetscape Grant Request

This is a request to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for \$60,000 to partially fund the consultant services required for the North Avenue Complete Streets design.

Resolution No. 44-12—A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Grant Request for the North Avenue Streetscape Project

Kathy Portner, Neighborhood Services Manager, presented this item. She said she is pleased to be able to apply for Energy Impact Assistance Funding. It has been a few years since the program has been funded. The City received a federal grant for the streetscape of a portion of North Avenue. There is some design work that needs to be done for that project and award of this grant could partially fund that design work.

Councilmember Boeschstein moved to adopt Resolution No. 44-12. Councilmember Coons seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Non-Scheduled Citizens & Visitors

There were none.

Other Business

Councilmember Kenyon announced that June 20, 2012, is opening day for the Grand Junction Rockies and tickets would make good Christmas gifts.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk