

**CITY OF GREEN RIVER  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
February 16, 2010**

The Governing Body of the City of Green River met in regular session at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Castellon called the meeting to order and Daniel DeCecco led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Council Members were present: Pete Rust, Carl Morck, Tom McCullough, Jim Boan, and Lisa Maes. The following were present representing the City: City Administrator Barry Cook, Director of Finance Jeff Nieters, Director of Community Development Laura Hansen, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Director Mike Kennedy, Police Lt. Chris Steffen, Director of Human Resources Debbie Klein Robertson, Parks and Recreation Director Walt Bratton, Parks Supervisor Allan Wilson, City Attorney Ford Bussart, and Public Information Coordinator Stephen Pyles. Also present were City Planner John Dahlgren, and Parks and Recreation Supervisors Alyssa Krumholz, Sherry Schumacher, and Brenda Roosa.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Council Member Boan asked for the following items to be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under Council Action Items:

- Modifications to Administrative Procedure #89 – Reporting and Payment for Damages to City Property
- A contract with SW-WRAP (South West-Wyoming Recovery Access Program) to screen utility customers for the G.R.E.E.N. program.
- The contract with Avrio Group for the Citywide Wireless Project

Mayor Castellon added consideration to approve the redesign of the FMC Spur Road to the Council Action Items.

Council Member Boan moved to approve the agenda with the changes. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Military Recognition**

Harry Holler presented the state flag, city t-shirt and plaque to Levi Arguello. His mother and step-father Patsy and Scott Moody were also present.

**Chamber of Commerce Update**

Janet Hartford report on a Wyoming Game and Fish grant for the Visitor Center interpretive signs, asked for submission of community events for placement on the chamber's community calendar and weekly update, asked for nominations for Distinguished and Outstanding Citizens, thanked those who helped with the legislative reception on February 11<sup>th</sup>, invited the governing body to attend the Chamber retreat on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, reported on the Burbot Bash, and noted several upcoming events and activities.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

**Read Across America Day**

Maxine Davies, who heads Youth Services at the Sweetwater County Library, brought three young ladies forward to read the proclamation and present a poster to the governing body.

Julia Eaton as Cat and the Hat, Dakota Wanger as Thing 1, and Amber Nelson as Thing 2 read the proclamation, and Mayor Castellon declared March 2, 2010 as Read Across America Day.

**Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month**

The City Public Information Coordinator Stephen Pyles read the proclamation and Mayor Castellon declared February 2010 as Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month.

## **CITIZEN REQUESTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Harry Holler thanked the local newspapers for publishing the military recognition pictures. He noted the pictures go statewide and across the nation. He believes the young military people deserve that kind of recognition.

As Commander of the American Legion in Green River, he has started asking for contributions to send young men and women to Girls and Boys State. If anyone or any business would like to help out, please give him a call. He noted last year a Green River youth, Chris Andrews, went all the way to Washington, D.C. to be named Boys National President.

Suzanne Zutter asked the governing body to support the Child Development Center building as a 6<sup>th</sup> penny ballot project.

Mayor Castillon invited Ms. Zutter to attend the special council workshop on February 22, 2010, when the governing body will be making a decision on what projects to submit for the 6<sup>th</sup> penny.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **Tomahawk Building Grant Applications**

*2010 Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program Application for Business Ready Project and Community Development Block Grant*

Mayor Castillon opened the hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Paul Stephens, chairman for Green River Futures, noted the \$1.8 million in grant funding requests were being submitted to the Wyoming Business Council to be used for the Tomahawk renovation. Futures is the catalyst working on the renovation.

President Brad Sutherland noted they have already received about \$450,000 in grants, plus the city's \$100,000 towards the purchase of the building. The two new grants will help with the renovation of the top two floors. The \$1.8 million will create the opportunity for twenty new businesses and also generate approximately \$1.2 million in payrolls just from the renovation construction. In today's economy this is very important.

He noted people have stopped in and asked for jobs. This is a good project for the community just on the construction side. They have worked closely with Main Street, and they have been very helpful in helping Futures find tenants. Mr. Sutherland noted he and the board members have put in several volunteer hours on the renovation.

He asked for the governing body's support by their approval of the grant resolutions.

Randy Walker believes this is a great project for our town. When he traveled to Europe last year, one of the things he noticed was old buildings still being up and running. He stayed in one that was built in 1600 A.D. The Tomahawk is a potential treasure. The governing body can choose to help bring it back to its previous glory or designate the building as an eyesore and spend \$1.5 million to tear it down and leave a hole without the treasure. Mr. Walker urged the governing body to back the Tomahawk project.

Responding to a question from Council Member Morck, Mr. Sutherland stated Futures has spent over \$100,000 for plumbers and electricians. More extensive work has to follow grant regulations with contractors being selected through the city bid process so the lowest bid gets the work. So far, they have been very lucky with the bids being awarded to local contractors and subcontractors. There have been three subcontractors. The roofers were from Utah, the asbestos was removed by a company in Rock Springs, and the brick layer is from Green River. So, yes, the money is helping our local economy.

Mayor Castellon noted the receipt of a letter from Artis Kalivas expressing his concerns about the limited parking, and also his concern regarding the Tomahawk rental rates being lower than other building owners.

Responding to questions from the Mayor, Mr. Stephens stated Mr. Kalivas had raised some legitimate concerns about the parking. Mr. Stephens noted several years ago a parking study had been done by Main Street on behalf of the city. He asked that the study be entered into the public record as well as Mr. Kalivas' letter. In the grand scheme of things the problem transcends Futures and is probably a city issue that will need to be dealt with in the future. *(Recorder's note: What was actually done was a walk by count of public, private and handicapped parking for the Main Street District by a previous Main Street Manager Heather Hargrove. A copy is attached.)*

Mr. Stephens noted they had addressed the rental rates at the last council meeting. The rental rates at the Tomahawk will approach the market rental rates within the city. It is not Futures' objective to undermine, undercut, or steal tenants from any other source. If someone wants to rent space at the Tomahawk, Futures is willing to talk to them.

Gary Killpack stated he was having a hard time wrapping his brain around why the renovation project is a great deal for the taxpayers, but a rotten deal for a businessman. If a prudent businessman wouldn't take on the renovation project, why is the city spending whatever it is costing to renovate a building that will be valued at half the cost once it is done. It will be a nice building once it is done, but he can't understand why it is being done with tax dollars.

In response, Mr. Sutherland explained one of grants is for downtown development. The applicant is required to specify which national objective they are working towards. Futures is working towards the elimination of slum and blight, and the federal government has determined they want to put money towards the elimination of slum and blight. The Tomahawk was designated as blight, and the URA worked up an action plan that included Futures' purchase of the building and its renovation.

The other grant is to help provide infrastructure to grow businesses in Wyoming. It will help diversify the local economy, and create jobs. The issues are all for the public good, and the reason the grant money is made available.

The funding is only available to an applicant that is a local government and a non-profit organization, such as Futures, being allowed to own and operate the facility. They are also required to provide a plan for what will be done with the revenues generated by the grant projects. As stated in the "Revenue Re-Capture Plan" the revenues will be used for other economic development projects.

It's a great use of grant money, and a great deal for the taxpayers. As noted by Randy Walker, it is a great investment for the city to contribute \$100,000 to renovate the building rather than having to go through the process of tearing it down.

Downtown business owner, Mike Frink, believes once the project has been completed, it will be a cornerstone for the downtown area. The grants are very important. The project will help the new businesses going into the building and also the other businesses that are downtown. One of the governing body's big goals is to have an active downtown, and the way to do that is renovate the old buildings. He believes if they talked to the retail business owner's downtown, they will find out they want people coming to the downtown area to shop. This is a perfect opportunity for this council to authorize the submission of a grant that won't cost them a dime, and to get a renovated building that, in the end, will generate revenue for Green River.

Mr. Stephens added as part of the grant application process, they have to complete the Wyoming Business Council model to calculate a return on investment of public monies to the community. The return on investment study yielded and resulted in a positive return on investment. He is leaving a copy of the detailed calculation with the governing body when he leaves tonight. He will also get a copy of it to Mr. Killpack.

There were no other comments presented.

Mayor Castillon closed the hearing at 7:45 p.m.

### **Liquor License Renewals**

*To hear protests if any against the renewal of Retail, Limited Retail, and Restaurant Liquor License Applications*

Mayor Castillon opened the hearing at 7:45 p.m.

There were no comments presented.

Mayor Castillon closed the hearing at 7:46 p.m.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Budget Increase for Joint Powers Telecommunication Board Contribution**

**R10-19:** A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in expenditure authority in the General Fund for the receipt of a Joint Powers Telecom Board Reimbursement in the amount of \$25,000.

Council Member Morck moved to approve the resolution. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

#### **Finalization of the Disposition of Land from the City-School Joint Powers Recreation Board**

**R10-20:** A resolution authorizing the City of Green River, Wyoming, to accept a quitclaim deed from the Sweetwater County School District Number Two, State of Wyoming, to finalize the disposition of the tract of land upon which the Joint Recreation Facility is located and improvements located thereon.

Mr. Cook noted the land is on Upland Way. The land was previously jointly owned by the City-School District Recreation Board during the time the recreation center was built. The board was dissolved by resolution, at which time the land should have been deeded back to the City of Green River. In order to move forward with the water line improvements going down Upland and up Uinta, the land ownership needs to be clarified.

Council Member McCullough moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Morck seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

#### **Amend Schedule of Fees for Replacement of Lock/Key Fees**

**R10-21:** A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an amendment for resolution number R09-48 which amended the adopted schedule of fees charged for services, products, licenses, rentals, etc. for the City of Green River, Wyoming, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.

Ms. Roosa explained it really wasn't a fee. It is the actual time and material replacement cost to replace a \$45 lock cylinder and key on the new lockers. The city is just recouping the cost.

The \$15 covered replacement on the old lockers, but will not cover replacement on the new lockers. In the past, keys were lost on a regular basis. When the public signs up for the new lockers, they are being trained on how to use them and notified on the replacement cost of a new lock and key. If a key is reported lost, and it is found before the tumbler is replaced there will be no charge to the customer.

Council Member McCullough objected to the fee increase. He felt money should have been left in the project fund to compensate for this type of thing. He thinks the fee should be increased in phases and the city take the loss to do it.

Council Member Rust felt perhaps people should take on a little more personal responsibility for themselves and the city not subsidize for the loss.

Mr. Bratton noted this is the first time the lockers were changed in a quarter of a century. So looking at the consumer price index, fees are going to go up over that time. If it is the governing body's direction, to subsidize, they will subsidize, and subsidize, and subsidize. Staff is just trying to re-coup the costs and be pro-active in business. If the cost could be logically phased, staff would recommend that, but they can't.

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Morck seconded. Motion carried (5-1) with Council Member McCullough voting no.

### **Grant Applications for Tomahawk Building**

**R10-22:** A resolution authorizing and supporting submission of an application to the Business Ready Community Grant and Loan Program for a Community Readiness Project by the Governing Body of the City of Green River, Wyoming on behalf of Green River Futures, Inc.

**R10-23:** A resolution designating the Tomahawk Hotel Building located on Flaming Gorge Way and 98 N. 1<sup>st</sup> East Street a salvageable blighted area and to authorize a Downtown Community Development Block Grant Application in the amount of \$300,000 to be submitted to the Wyoming Business Council on behalf of Green River Futures, Inc. for its renovation.

Council Member Rust moved to approve the resolution in support of the Community Development Block Grant for \$300,000 to renovate the Tomahawk Building, **and** to approve the resolution in support of the Business Ready Community Grant for \$1.5 million to renovate the Tomahawk Building. Council Member McCullough seconded.

Council Member Boan spoke against the grant submission resolutions. He still hasn't received the list of contacts Futures has made to bring businesses to Green River. He feels instead of Mr. Sutherland doing his job of recruitment, he has spent most of his time being a carpenter down at the Tomahawk building.

Though the Tomahawk is a worthwhile project and will be an asset to the community, he believes it should be a Main Street Project. He also believes Futures is setting up competition against other businesses and other rental property owners. In his opinion, we are giving millions of dollars to a private organization with no control of what the money is used for.

Council Member McCullough felt if they were ever going to go ahead and get the renovation accomplished, it has to be through grants. Even though the grants are tax money in a round-about way, in order to save the building that no private person has been willing to do, he feels this is our only chance to do it. If the grants aren't awarded, then it will probably end up being one of those buildings that ends up being torn down. But this is their chance to apply for some money to restore the building with a whole list of potential things that can happen. He would like to see the building purchased by an individual later on. He would like to move forward even though there are concerns about rental rates and parking. He would love to have a major problem with downtown parking again, and then they could move forward and work on that. They need to go along step by step and try to get the grants for the building.

Council Member Maes believes we are on a roll with the Tomahawk. She has seen other building renovations in other cities, and they are beautiful once they are finished. She realizes there are some concerned citizens out there. But she believes if Green River doesn't apply for the funding, another community will, and then that community will receive the benefit instead of Green River. The money is there, and there are several buildings downtown that really need help. The Tomahawk renovation will bring more business downtown and benefit the other businesses along with the businesses located in the Tomahawk. The project is providing local jobs for Green River. She thinks it's a good thing, and she is going to support it.

Council Member Rust noted Futures was established by local business owners, and through the democratic process asked by the governing body to help promote the interests of the City of Green River. He believes they have been very successful in doing that and believes the council should continue to support them.

Mayor Castillon stated “*alea iacta est*, the die has been cast to a point of no return.” Since the previous governing body has supported the previous grant applications for the Tomahawk renovation he will also.

Motion carried (5-1) with Council Member Boan voting no.

## **COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

### **Appointment of a Student Representative to the Planning and Zoning Commission**

John Dahlgren introduced the two high school students, Daniel DeCecco and Trent Bennett, who applied for the position. He noted they have already excelled in their young careers. They both did an outstanding job of addressing interview questions from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Commission member, Adam Cappolo, stated it was very difficult to choose between the two candidates. It’s good to see kids like this wanting to be a part of the city, and its future development. He is very proud of both of them.

Council Member Rust noted Trent Bennett will serve as the youth representative on the Green River Futures Board.

Council Member Rust moved to approve the Mayor’s appointment of Daniel DeCecco as the Student Representative to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Safe Routes to Schools Travel Plan**

Council Member McCullough questioned whether the city would have to come up with extra money to complete the unfinished routes. If they need to be finished, how does Mr. Bratton propose to fund their completion?

Mr. Bratton stated if the city doesn’t receive the \$200,000 *Safe Routes to Schools* grant. He will submit the route completion as a capital project, which will have to be approved by the city administrator, and then submitted as part of the *Fiscal Year End 2011* draft budget to the governing body. With the current financial situation the project may be tabled until the following budget year.

Council Member Boan moved to adopt the Green River, Wyoming, Safe Routes to Schools Plan. Council Member Rust seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Contract for All American Road Designation for the Flaming Gorge Scenic By-Way**

Council Member Maes moved to approve the contract for services, in the amount of \$1,000, with the Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce to partner with the Scenic By-Way Committee to improve tourism and to apply for All American Road status for the Flaming Gorge Scenic By-Way. Council Member Morck seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Redesign of FMC Spur Road**

Mr. Cook explained they have been working with Inberg Miller to design a spur road coming off of Scott’s Bottom Road going over city property on the section line to the south east. Mr. Jackman has proposed the road be moved to his property. City staff and Inberg Miller met with Mr. Jackman twice, and agree with his proposal. The design of the new road will be done by a contract between Mr. Jackman and Inberg Miller. The road installation will remain on schedule, and staff hopes to award the bid for the road construction in May 2010. The road is being funded through a consensus grant the city received two years ago from the state of Wyoming. The spur road is the final phase of the Scott’s Bottom Road and Utility Improvement Project. The bid for the spur has to be awarded before June 30, 2010 or the state will recall the grant funding. The spur will also allow access to the Taliaferro land, currently outside of city limits to the south east.

Mr. Cook also noted Mr. Jackman has already submitted his plat sketch for the development of his property in the area, and the completion of the spur road will allow him to continue moving forward.

Council Member Boan felt it was a good idea, and he thanked Mr. Jackman for the land donation to complete the new spur road location.

Mayor Castillon also thanked Mr. Jackman for taking on the additional expense to re-design the road that will also provide straight access to the Taliaferro land and allow Taliaferro to tie into city water and sewer utilities.

Council Member McCullough moved to approve the request by Lynn Jackman to re-design the spur road onto Mr. Jackman's property at no additional cost to the city. Council Member Boan seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Modifications to Administration Procedure #89**

Responding to questions from Council Member Boan, Ms. Robertson noted the modification was to clarify how damages will be reported to the relevant department either verbally, by email, or phone call, in order to expedite reimbursement on damages to city property.

Council Member Boan moved to approve the modifications to Administrative Procedure #89 – Reporting and Payment for Damages to City Property. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **G.R.E.E.N. Program Screening**

Responding to questions from Council Member Boan, Katie Hughes, CEO of SW-WRAP, stated the G.R.E.E.N. program assists utility users who meet a specific criteria with the payment of their city utility bill. She will receive an administrative fee for screening the applicant to see if they qualify for the program.

She noted SW-WRAP had taken on several of the voucher programs throughout Sweetwater County and southwestern Wyoming. United Way decided the Food Bank was in the position of providing food, and SW-WRAP was better suited to provide the voucher programs the Food Bank had been doing previously. The Food Bank had contacted her about taking over the G.R.E.E.N. program, and she agreed to do it.

Jeff Nieters explained there is a box on the utility payment slip where citizens can donate a certain amount to the G.R.E.E.N. Fund. The money is not part of the city funds. It is donations from city customers to help qualifying individuals pay their utility bills. SW-WRAP is paid a 10% administration fee based on the amount of the bill. So for a \$100 bill they would get a \$10 administration fee for processing the applicant.

*(Recorder's note: the Sweetwater County Food Bank sent a letter to the city rescinding their agreement approved on January 5, 2010.)*

Council Member Boan moved to approve the contract with SW-WRAP (South West-Wyoming Recovery Access Program) to screen utility customers for the G.R.E.E.N. program. Council Member Rust seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Contract for Citywide Wireless Project**

Responding to questions from Council Member Boan, Mr. Nieters stated the Aviro Group is the project manager for the project and will oversee the project to make sure it is done right. They are providing the financing, the performance bond and all the required project documents for administering the contract. A subcontract is working with Aviro to perform all of the work. Mr. Nieters stated he would be working directly with Aviro to monitor the project and make sure all the deadlines were being met.

Council Member Boan moved to approve the contract with Avrio Group to authorize them to proceed on the Citywide Wireless Project for a total project cost of \$685,650. Council Member Maes seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

## CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Maes moved to approve the following consent agenda items. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

- Authorization for the Mayor to sign a letter to the Wyoming Association of Municipalities to decline the WAM-WCCA Energy Lease loan in the amount of \$100,000 for the Green River Recreation Center Boiler Replacement Project.
- The revised Interagency Agreement with the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation for Karl Bode to work on the Southwest Drug Task Force.
- A contract with Lamar Companies in the amount of \$1,150 to advertise Art on the Green on two billboards located in Evanston and Rawlins.
- To submit for and receive (if awarded) a Sweetwater County Travel & Tourism grant for the 2010 Powell Plunge Kayak Rodeo for an amount up to \$4,000.
- The ratification of a Wyoming State Historic Preservation Commission Certified Local Government Grant agreement for a “Best Use” Study for the historic church building on Flaming Gorge Way for an amount not to exceed \$2,700.
- A Wyoming State Historic Preservation Commission Certified Local Government Grant agreement for the historic information flyer for an amount not to exceed \$1,575.
- Authorization for Pat Newell to remove two (2) upright freezers from the landfill to use as side stream incubators by the Trout Unlimited Organization.
- The Minutes for: February 2, 2010, and February 9, 2010 Special Council
- Financial Reports and Payment of Bills:     ***Outstanding Invoices*** = \$238,756.13  
      ***Prepaid Invoices*** = \$107,969.40            ***Payroll Expenditures*** = \$383,500.87  
      ***Pre-authorization Payments*** = \$755,000.00

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Cook handed out a chart of the sixth penny projects that had been completed over the last four years (\$16 million). The chart shows the sixth penny amounts as approved by the ballot (\$10 million), and the amounts paid by the city’s fifth penny funding to make up the difference between the actual cost and what was approved on the ballot to fund each of the projects. The onetime state funding is also included on the chart. The funding was also used to make up the difference on ballot projects and to complete others.

He explained the one time money is gone, and the sixth penny is no longer on the ballot. Therefore, there is no revenue source to fund new capital projects unless a sixth penny ballot is formulated to come back on January 1, 2011.

Mr. Cook also handed out a chart completed by Mr. Nieters explaining the growth in city funds over the last seven years, starting in 2004. The General Fund is broken down into personnel services, operation and maintenance, and asset acquisitions. The amounts for FYE 2010 are not finalized, but will be updated as they work through the budget workshops. There has been growth in the General Fund, Water Fund, Solid Waste Fund, and Capital Projects Fund. The information points out that the highest percentages of revenues have gone for Capital Projects. So when the state wants to know what Green River has done with the money the state has given them, the answer is, it has been reinvested back into the community with capital improvements.

Mr. Cook stated staff is moving forward with the southeast water improvements with a new water line going up Uinta, a new substation at the corner of Uinta and Upland, and a large

transmission line down Upland to the intersection of Upland and Hitching Post. So, there will be a lot of work going on this summer on those three streets. Staff is also working with Castle Rock Medical Clinic on a new transmission line to them, and then over the hill to Evans Street. The funding is coming from a consensus grant the city received four years ago.

Mr. Cook is working with city staff on preparing a draft budget he hopes to give to the governing body by April 20, 2010. Five budget workshops have been set up during the month of May with one in the month of June.

Mr. Cook stated he would be attending the WAM Winter Workshop, in Cheyenne, Wednesday through Friday. He will also be continuing his lobbying work to try and get the legislators to give more money to cities and towns and not put as much into savings.

He announced a special council meeting on February 22, 2010 to discuss sixth penny projects. The City of Green River and Sweetwater County have been invited to attend a meeting at the City of Rock Springs on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Cook asked Allan Wilson to give a report on the cost analysis to correct the moisture issue at the recreation center pool area. Mr. Wilson stated there are basically two options. Option one is a \$160,000 "band aid" that will not correct the problem. Option two will take care of all the condensation problems for \$475,000. Staff is recommending the governing body approve option two, using money from the risk management fund. While there isn't currently any risk management issues, it is very apparent if the problem is not corrected there will be. Once they get the bid specs written up, staff will be submitting a budget resolution to transfer funds from the risk management fund to pay for project.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Responding to questions from the Mayor, Mr. Bussart stated he had sent out the draft proposal for the alternate road to the county and the City of Rock Springs attorneys two weeks ago. He has not heard back from them, but he will follow up with them tomorrow.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Castillon stated he would be attending the WAM Winter Workshop Wednesday through Friday, and will also continue to lobby at the state legislature.

He reported on the legislative reception held on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Mayor acknowledged the receipt of an email from the Corp of Engineers regarding the Million Water Diversion Project and stated there would be a meeting of the coalition on Monday in Rock Springs.

He announced a special council meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup> for the governing body to discuss and finalize their list of projects for submission to the county commissioners for the sixth penny ballot. A joint meeting of the Sweetwater County communities will meet on February 24<sup>th</sup> to prepare the final presentation of 6<sup>th</sup> penny ballot projects to the county commissioners on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Castillon asked for "good" numbers to be submitted for the city projects so the city wouldn't have to come up with money to cover any shortage of funding on a project. He asked Ms. Owen to do the same for Child Development Center.

The Mayor stated the old fire station at the corner of Uinta and Shoshone had been selected as the location for the combined dispatch center. The building is currently being used by the city Utility Department.

Council Member Morck noted attending the Citizen's Police Academy was well worth the time, and suggested people sign up for next year's class.

Council Member McCullough asked Ms. Owens how she is coming up with the estimated cost of the Child Development Center building, and whether she had used the state's public education building formula.

Ms. Owens stated they had two different verbal quotes. One was for \$9.5 million from Hogan Construction out of Layton, Utah. The other was for \$7.5 million from Alliance Construction out of Cheyenne.

Mr. Bussart pointed out using the state's Capital Schools Facility Commissions formula may not be the best source for estimates on the building cost. It has a concept called "enhancement" so if the design doesn't meet their cookie cutter configuration then you get into what Mr. Cook talked about earlier, the city having to come up with the money to make up the difference between the actual cost and the school's formula amount for what they consider enhancements. It's a question worth asking. He just wants the governing body to be aware that what the commission funds versus what they foist off on the local entity are two pretty different things.

Responding to a question from Council Member Boan regarding the old fire station being used for the dispatch center, Mr. Cook noted that would mean the city utility department would have to find a new location to store the equipment currently at the Shoshone and Uinta location. They could build a building similar to the one done in-house at Stratton Myers Park. Staff is looking at cost estimates.

Council Member Boan noted two businesses in Green River have closed since the first of January, and another one was trying to sell out. He would like to discuss what the governing body can do to turn things around.

Mr. Cook addressed questions from Council Member Maes regarding the state's capped funds. Ms. Maes asked the citizens to continue to contact their legislators about additional funding for cities and towns.

Council Member Maes thanked Alyssa Krumholz, the parks crews and Main Street for the great job they did with the Crystal Classic. She noted it is hard to gage participation since there is no admission charge to observe the activities or look at the structures. The carvings are there for people to look at as they drive by, or park their cars and walk around to get a closer look for at least a week after the event. She commended Stephen Pyles on his slide presentation of the event and the ice sculptures presented at the award banquet. She noted the Canadian carvers were on their way to Vancouver to participate in an Olympic event there.

Ms. Maes suggested the governing body go with staff recommendation to repair the moisture issue at the recreation center.

Council Member Rust stated he had also attended the Crystal Classic. The weather was perfect. He spoke with several people from out of town who enjoyed the event. There were a lot of people going into the local businesses.

Mr. Rust agreed that the state's school formula for new buildings should only be used as a point of reference and not a representation for the full cost of the building for the Child Development Center.

He thanked Lynn Jackman for volunteering to move the spur road at no cost to the city. The new location is a good deal for everyone.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Boan moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (6-0)

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H. Castillon, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jeffrey V. Nieters, City Clerk