

CITY OF GREEN RIVER
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS
October 12, 2010

The Governing Body of the City of Green River met in workshop session at 6:04 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Castillon called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present: Pete Rust, Ted York, Tom McCullough, Jim Boan, Carl Morck and Lisa Maes. The following were present representing the City: City Administrator Barry Cook, Director of Public Works Mike Nelson, Director of Finance Jeff Nieters, Director of Community Development Laura Hansen, Director of Human Resources Debbie Klein Robertson, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Mike Kennedy, Parks and Recreation Director Walt Bratton, City Attorney Galen West, and Public Information Coordinator Stephen Pyles.

Council candidates Gene Smith, and Gary Killpack were also present.

Quarterly Report for July through September Financial Status

Jeff Nieters, Director of Finance, reported on revenue and expenditures for July, August, and September.

Actual Revenues:

- Local Sales Tax = (\$1,401,573)
- State One-Time Funding = (\$820,506)
- Fuel, Auto & Minor Taxes = (\$169,848)
- Mineral Royalty/Severance = (\$0)
- Intergovernmental = (\$128,497)
- Franchise Tax = (\$65,741)
- Property Tax = (\$13,953)
- Services/Interest = (\$92,371)
- State Sales Tax = (\$1,694,962)

Actual Expenditures:

- Parks and Recreation = (\$1,152,222)
- Police = (\$1,174,465)
- General Government = (\$764,998)
- Public Works = (\$602,371)
- Community Development = (\$166,400)
- Fire Department = (\$119,969)

Council Member York asked if the mineral severance amount will change.

Mr. Nieters said they are going to be the same as last year.

Council Member York asked if the formula has been changed for the distribution of mineral severance to municipalities. He does not feel the way it is done is correct or fair. He received a report from Joseph Meyer, State Treasurer, stating the state has a lot of money.

Mr. Cook said there is a hardship component to the distribution that has been added. It can help a population that is revenue challenged.

Council Member Maes said these revenue items are running a little higher than what was estimated.

Mr. Nieters said he is estimating the revenues will go down after the census.

Council Member Boan asked why the amount per capita will go down.

Mr. Nieters said there is estimated to be more people in the city with the same amount of revenue.

Council Member Rust asked if the 6th Penny Tax monies have been included in the estimates.

Mr. Nieters said no. He reminded everyone these are only estimates and they could change.

WYDOT Aeronautics Update on Air Service to Salt Lake City

Amber Schlabs, Aviation Business & Marketing Manager for the DOT Aeronautics Division, discussed the Wyoming Air Service Goals and Initiatives.

- Decrease leakage (people going out of state to fly) state-wide.
- Selectively support air service growth.
- Work with our carriers to fix pricing relative to competitive airports.
- Create online communication portals for growing our customer base, booking tickets, and creating offers to their passengers.
- Balance capacity with demand and price to increase overall passenger load factors through state-initiated programs.
- Communicate between both the airports and airlines to create strong partnerships.
- Work with the airlines to create partnerships to help the airlines meet their goals and to help them meet our state-wide goals.
- Focused, opportunistic approach to growing passenger enplanements at Wyoming's commercial air service markets.
- Operational performance, reliability, and on-time performance.

She said the Wyoming flights are currently up 13.9%. She would like everyone to look into the total cost of their trip before they plan to fly outside of Wyoming; this includes gas and travel.

Council Member York said he just recently checked for pricing on a flight and the difference was \$60.00 to \$70.00 to fly out of Rock Springs.

Council Member McCullough asked if the subsidy from the city is going to go up or remain the same.

Mrs. Schlabs said right now the cost has doubled. They were able to talk SkyWest into a six month contract so they can see where the cost is going. Their goal is to have airlines be self sustaining.

Dennis Byrne, Aeronautics Administrator, said if the numbers of people flying in Wyoming continues to look strong, then they would fully expect the subsidy to go down. Of course this can go either way but if it continues like it is now, they could see it decreasing.

Council Member McCullough asked if the connection flights are going well, are people waiting for long periods of time between flights, do they have to jump from plane to plane to get where they are going.

Mrs. Schlabs said the bank times are not an issue.

Water Issue to the West - Working with Rio Vista Water and Sewer District

Kael Jaspersen, Jamestown Rio Vista Water District Vice Chairman, said he was at the meeting to hopefully bring everyone together on the project. They need to move forward.

Evan Simpson, Senior Vice President of Sunrise Engineering Inc. said a few years ago, the Rio Vista Water District noticed the plant was ageing and would ultimately need upgrades. It was recommended they abandon the current plant and go directly to a new plant and upgraded lines. Jamestown needs an eight inch line. They want to know what the City's needs are. If a larger line is needed, is the City interested in working together to accomplish the needs of both.

Ben Bracken, Joint Powers Water Board General Manager, said the Water Development Commission has made it clear to all parties the State of Wyoming would like to address this issue once. The request for a study was to clarify the demand, and interests in the west area of Green River.

Council Member McCullough said he believes this needs to be a joint effort. The Rio Vista Water District needs the line to go all the way out to the end of their District. The City may need to go out further to the west.

Council Member Maes asked about the outstanding loan of \$1.1 million that is on the books.

Mr. Jasperson said the origination of the loan was not the making of the Board. It was the default of a developer that failed to perform. The only way to open the account is to get water to the west.

Council Member Maes asked for the District to keep them updated on the project.

Mr. Jasperson said he knows this issue has to move quickly, and he was asking for participation from the City.

Council Member Rust asked about the one year delay for the project and the affect it will have on the citizens of Jamestown.

Mr. Jasperson said it should not affect them. He knows getting water out to the west is important, but the development will not happen until water is available.

Council Member Boan asked for clarification on level two and level three on the studies.

Mr. Jasperson said level one is the study of what needs to be done, and level three is the digging to install the line.

Council Member York said the City has a lot of items to consider before they can make a decision on the property that is not owned by the City.

Mr. Jasperson said they do understand the needs and concerns of the City. The City's needs are speculative for the future, and the needs for the Rio Vista Water District are immediate.

The Mayor asked what the cost has been so far.

Mr. Jasperson said level two studies were paid for by the Water Development Commission.

Mr. Simpson said the cost for what they need is \$1.1 million.

Mr. Cook said the City has been looking for quality growth which is listed in the Strategic Plan.

Council Member Boan asked if the City has put out the word about possible development to the west, which could create some interest. Bringing water to the land might bring the developers to this area. It is beneficial to Green River even if the City does not end up owning the property.

Mr. Jasperson said having water there is what could bring the developers in.

The Mayor asked if they have planned for sewer.

Mr. Jasperson said as of right now they have not planned anything for sewer. There is no problem right now.

The Mayor extended support from the governing body for the project.

EMT Project Recommendations for the 6th Penny Overpayment Funds

Mr. Cook asked the Executive Management Team to come up with the list of recommendations they would like the council to consider. Each department submitted one recommendation.

1. Stipend City-wide for full time and part time employees (\$274,000)
2. Energy efficiency improvements (\$125,000)
3. Southeast water expansion-phase two (\$1 million)
4. New police cars (\$100,000)

5. New software for City Finance (\$650,000)
6. Fire truck replacement (\$350,000 to \$500,000)
7. Parks and Recreation vehicle replacement (\$200,000)

Council Member Boan asked if the council could have a workshop to discuss what the council would like to do with the 6th Penny money.

Council Members McCullough, Maes, and the Mayor agreed to have a workshop on November 30, 2010.

Secondary Service Road Status

Mr. Cook updated the council on the service road project. The Cooperative Agreement for the project had been signed by the City of Rock Springs, and then was forwarded to the County. The County looked over the agreement and decided to make changes. They have asked the City to take the lead on getting proposals for the survey work. The county said they do not have the staff or the expertise to do so. The City has done so, and the RFP's will be sent out next week. The RFP will go to various engineering firms to give a cost estimate for various alternatives, i.e. rights-of-way, utilities, preliminary engineering, construction engineering, and construction. Since the Cities and the County do not have a joint agreement that has been signed by all three parties, it is going to require a re-draft of some agreement or the approval of the current agreement. The City has set aside \$100,000 to do the initial work set in the RFP.

Council Member Maes said the City would be doing over half of the project. She does not believe the project will happen if the City does not take the lead.

The Mayor said it has taken a long time to get to this point. All three parties need to work together, make an agreement, and move forward.

City Administrator's Report

Mr. Cook reminded council about the Consolidated Solid Waste Study presentation by Linda Roosa, Sanitation Supervisor, October 13, 2010, at 1:00 pm, in the Council Chambers.

He said a redrafted Purchasing Policy and Procedures Manual was presented to the governing body at a recent workshop, he will be forwarding council updated information on that this week.

He said the City will be receiving their \$40,000 back from monitoring well payments.

Mr. Cook complimented the Main Street Program and all the volunteers on the Trunk or Treat event that took place this past weekend. They had around 800 children come.

Mayor and Council Reports

Council Member Morck had nothing to report.

Council Member McCullough had nothing to report.

Council Member Boan asked for a progress report on the Development Agreement between the City and Futures.

Mr. Cook said Futures is going to take a look at the agreement, and vote on it, Tuesday, October 19, 2010. He is hoping to have it back signed sometime Wednesday morning.

Council Member Boan said he was upset over the ad that was put in the newspaper slamming the Mayor. He said the decisions made, are made by the whole council, and not just the Mayor.

Council Members Maes, Rust, and the Mayor had nothing to report.

Adjournment

Council Member Boan moved to adjourn at 7:56 pm. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

H. Castillon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeffrey V. Nieters, City Clerk