

CITY OF GREEN RIVER
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
November 9, 2010

The Governing Body of the City of Green River met in special session at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Castillon called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present: Tom McCullough, Jim Boan, Carl Morck 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, Main Street/URA Manager John Dahlgren, Parks and Recreation Director Walt Bratton, Parks, Facility, and Projects Manager Allan Wilson, Sanitation Supervisor Linda Roosa, Animal Control Supervisor Tracy Wyant, Animal Control Officer Kim Wilkins, and Public Information Coordinator Stephen Pyles.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Mayor noted the addition of Council Action Item B: Consideration to approve the placement of temporary portable signs on City property for the Holiday Extravaganza.

Council Member Rust arrived at the meeting at this point.

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

Budget Update

Mr. Cook gave a brief overview of the budget.

RESOLUTIONS

Extension of the Recreation Center Hours

Resolution A: Consideration for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in expenditure authority in the General Fund to extend hours Monday through Saturday at the Recreation Center in the amount of \$19,200 (1,368 hours).

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Morck seconded.

Council Member Maes clarified she had only asked for extension of the hours during the week Monday through Friday. She wanted to know why the other hours were added.

Mr. Cook apologized; he thought this was what she had asked for.

Council Member Boan said they had spent a lot of hours balancing the budget, they knew they had to make changes and this would make some people unhappy. He does not understand why these have to be considered now because they are planning a six month review of the budget and they could look into it after that is done.

Council Member Rust said we always make decisions at any time. He feels this change would be a good thing and the city could afford it if they choose to.

Council Member McCullough asked if these changes were made, how many people would this effect, and which one are people asking for, the one hour extension Monday through Friday, or the re-opening of the Recreation Center on Sunday's.

Mr. Bratton said he does not have the exact numbers but in the suggestion box the patrons have said they would like to see the hours put back. He has had some ask for the hours to be extended on Sunday's and some have asked for hours to be extended Monday through Friday.

Council Member McCullough said he agrees they could make changes but he would not vote for both of them.

Mr. Bratton suggested that they come back on November 16, 2010 with different resolutions which will state a change for Monday through Friday hours to extend to 9:00 pm, no additional hours on Saturday, and one for a modified schedule for Sundays. Maybe this will help appease everyone. Then they could combine it all into one resolution if that was ok with council.

Council Member McCullough clarified they table both resolutions A and B until they get more information and he would be fine with that.

Council Member Boan moved to table resolutions A and B until November 16, 2010 Council Meeting. Council Member Rust seconded. Motion carried (7-0)

Re-opening of the Recreation Center on Sundays

Resolution B: Consideration of a budget resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to increase the expenditure authority in the General Fund for the re-opening of the Recreation Center hours (1,260) on Sundays in the amount of \$17,700.

Resolution was tabled per motion above.

Ice Crystal Classic Program

Consideration of a budget resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to increase the expenditure authority in the General Fund for the Ice Crystal Classic Program in the amount of \$32,450.

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Rust seconded.

Council Member McCullough said he has been to this event, but he is not in favor of funding it. He does not think it brings people in, and it does not give the city a return on their investment.

Council Member Boan asked if this is funded who is going to run it, and how many Main Street businesses are going to take part in this. He does not understand why the downtown businesses are not even open for special events like this. He asked if there was any other account that they could take the money out of instead of the Reserve Account.

Mr. Bratton said the Parks and Recreation Department will run the program.

Council Member Rust asked about the deductive change order that was done earlier on a construction project. This could present a positive balance.

Mr. Cook said he would have to check into this. He said all money has been allocated.

Council Member Rust said this is money that was returned because it was not spent.

Mr. Nieters said it would all depend on what project it came from. If it was the FMC Project then if it is not spent then it will go back to the state. The other project was the Water Expansion Project but they are only in phase one of the project, any money left will go towards the next phase. Again this is all one time funding. What is proposed is to increase our operational expenses by \$32,450 and that will be an ongoing expense every year.

Council Member Rust said it is only for this current year that it is being proposed.

Council Member Maes asked where the 140 hours for overtime came from. She briefly figured it up and for 6 full time people for 8 hours it would be 48 hours.

Mr. Wilson said it is an estimate for full time staff for eleven hours. He will not staff it with volunteers because of safety issues. It takes a lot of time to prepare for this event.

Council Member Maes asked if Monday was included.

Mr. Wilson said no, Monday is a regular scheduled work day but Sunday is not a work day and that is when they will have to set up.

Council Member Maes said she remembers from a while back they used part time staff from the Leisure Programs to help, so cost of over time would not be so much.

Mr. Wilson said the issue would be a liability for vehicle use. The city vehicles are standard and some do not know how to drive them. He does not want to put anyone into a city truck that is unfamiliar with it and have them pull ice blocks down the roads.

Council Member Maes said she thought the overtime was a little high. She also asked about the advertising cost.

Ms. Krumholz said the cost for the advertising was included in the grant from the Wyoming Travel and Tourism.

Council Member Maes asked if they have considered doing an event grant instead of an advertising grant in order to save money.

Ms. Krumholz said to her knowledge it would be more cost effective to use the advertising grant instead of the sponsorship grant (which is like an event grant).

Mr. Bratton said the grant is due tomorrow so they could not write another one tonight.

Jenissa Bartlett, Director of Sweetwater County Travel and Tourism, said both grants are for \$4,000 and they cannot receive both. The advertising grant can only be used for advertising with 30% for in state and 100% out of state paid. The sponsorship grant can be used for awards, judges, and event space.

Council Member Maes said when you do the advertising grant you only get 30% of local advertising paid and if you do the sponsorship grant then you cover the awards and everything else and you could drop down the advertising cost to \$4,000.

Council Member Boan asked what Main Street businesses think about this, and does Main Street feel like they will get the participation from the downtown businesses.

Mr. Dahlgren said they have not spoken to the businesses in the downtown area and he could not speak for them, but he thinks they would get support from downtown business owners.

Council Members Maes said the Crystal Classic all depends on weather, participation, and other things. After the event there will be people that will walk down the sidewalks looking at the artwork. If they would add this event then it could grow to multiple events later. You can never tell how many people come to this event because you do not charge admission.

Council Member McCullough asked how many years have the Crystal Classic been put on.

Mr. Wilson said fourteen years.

Council Member McCullough said this event has been going on for fourteen years, and it still has not caught on. He does not think it is worth \$32,000. The city does not get a return on their investment.

Council Member Maes said she had a lady call her today and tell her they had been going around getting signatures petitioning to get the Crystal Classic back, and they have had over 300 people sign it in a 24 hour period.

Council Member Boan said if we are going to do this it needs to expand. He asked if the Parks Department would be able to add any other events to the Crystal Classic.

Mr. Bratton said no, there would not be time and the cost would go up if anything was added.

Council Member McCullough called for the question.

Council Member York arrived at the meeting at this point.

The Mayor asked for the cost difference to open the recreation center compared to funding the Crystal Classic.

Mr. Bratton said the cost for resolution items A and B is \$36,900 but they are tabled, and the cost will go down. The cost for both would possibly be \$57,000 to \$58,000.

Council Member McCullough called for question.

Motion denied (3-4) with Council Members Morck, McCullough, Boan, and the Mayor voting no.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM

Sweetwater Travel and Tourism Grant for the Crystal Classic Program

Consideration to authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to apply for and receipt, if awarded, a 2011 Sweetwater County Travel and Tourism grant of the Crystal Classic Winter Festival to offset expenses up to \$4,000.

This item was removed from the agenda when council denied funding with previous action.

Temporary Signs for the Holiday Extravaganza

Consideration of approval of the placement of temporary signs on the City property at the intersection of Uinta Drive and Flaming Gorge and along Uinta Drive from November 10, 2010 through November 13, 2010 as long as the signs do not impede pedestrians or traffic per the written request of Mrs. Jenna Young of the Holiday Extravaganza.

Council Member McCullough moved to approve. Council Member Boan seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

ADJOURN TO COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Council Member Boan moved to adjourn to workshop at 6:53 pm. Council Member Morck seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

H. Castillon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeffrey V. Nieters, City Clerk