

**CITY OF GREEN RIVER  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
March 15, 2011**

The Governing Body of the City of Green River met in regular session at 7 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Castillon called the meeting to order and Washington Elementary School students led the Pledge of Allegiance: Peyton Shadrick, Maddy Shadrick, Braxton Cordova, Branson Barton, Ramsay Taliaferro, and Jack Mitchell.

The following Council Members were present: Tom McCullough, Lisa Maes, Adam Coppolo, and Gene Smith. The following were present representing the City: City Administrator Barry Cook, Director of Public Works Mike Nelson, Director of Human Resources Debbie Klein Robertson, Director of Finance Jeff Nieters, Director of Community Development Laura Hansen, Urban Renewal/Main Street Administrator John Dahlgren, Chief of Police John Love, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Mike Kennedy, Interim Parks and Recreation Director Allan Wilson, Recreation Supervisor Sherry Schumacher, City Attorney Galen West, and Public Information Coordinator Stephen Pyles.

Council Members Gary Killpack and Jim Boan were not present.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Mayor noted the addition of Item K to the Consent Agenda: authorization for the Solid Waste Division to submit a grant application for a Coca-Cola Company Keep America Beautiful Bin Grant.

Council Member Coppolo motioned to change Consent Agenda items to Council Action Items:

- Consent Agenda Item B to Council Action item E: approval to waive the rental fee of \$810 for the 2011 Green River High School Senior Class Party at the Recreation Center on June 4, 2011.
- Consent Agenda item G to Council Action item F: approval to waive the reduced rental fee of \$1960 for the Extreme Country Event on July 9 through July 10, 2011.
- Consent Agenda item I to Council Action item G: approval of amendments to the City Horse Corral Lease Agreement.
- Consent Agenda item J to Council Action item H: approval to approve the Main Street Three-Year Plan.

Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

Council Member Smith moved to approve the amended agenda. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Golden Generation Advisory Board Update**

Virginia Edwards, Chairperson of the Golden Generation Advisory Board, said the Golden Generation Advisory Board is a committee appointed by the Mayor and City Council to work on issues affecting senior citizen in our community.

One of the needs identified as a benefit to seniors and other citizens is to place more benches along Uinta Drive. They propose to have these benches placed near the art sculptures so people have a place to sit and rest and take in the beauty of Green River. GGAB is seeking donations to purchase these benches. They are asking the businesses and private citizens to donate funds for this project. A bench could serve as a memorial to a loved one or as a way to show pride in your community and your generosity. Benches cost \$903 each which includes shipping. Donations of any amount will be appreciated and will be acknowledge on a plaque set into the cement pad on which the bench will be mounted. Tax-deductible donations, made payable to the Green River Greenbelt Task Force (designated to Uinta Senior Bench Project) can be mailed to City Hall at 50 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> North.

They have a pledge for a bench from Mr. Paul Wyant from P.W. Hot Shot Services. GGAB has received support of several city departments already and would appreciate the support of the council.

Ms. Edwards said there is still one vacancy left on the GGAB board, and they encourage anyone fifty-five years of age or older who is interested in being a volunteer on the board to apply for appointment through the Mayor's office.

### **Sweetwater Count Joint Travel and Tourism Annual Report**

Jenissa Barlett, Executive Director of the Sweetwater County Joint Travel and Tourism, said every year she puts a report together to show all parties involved how the Lodging Tax has been administered for the year.

The Lodging Tax collections are currently flat; it is not any higher than last year at this time. The average room rate in 2009 was over \$100 a night and now they are around \$80 a night.

The Joint Travel and Tourism Board budgeted 45% for marketing, 25% for event grants, 2% for board projects, 6% for chamber block grants, 8% for SEC block grant, and 14% for administration.

She said thirteen out of the thirty-nine grants awarded in 2010 were for Green River. For every \$1 spent on advertising, there is a \$6 return of investment to Sweetwater County. The economic impact for 2010 from Green River events is \$2,190,175

Ms. Bartlett has been trying to recruit events in large capacity for this area. This has not been able to happen before due to lodging issues but now they have plenty of lodging available. They have been awarded the Wyoming High School Speech and Debate State Tournament for 2012 through 2014. All will take place at Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs.

Council Member McCullough thanked the Joint Travel and Tourism Board and there volunteers for an outstanding job promoting Sweetwater County.

Council Member Maes echoed Council Member McCullough's comments. She feels they do a great job.

The Mayor said it was an excellent presentation. He thanked her and the board for doing a great job.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Citywide Comprehensive Planning Project**

**R11-10: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in the Capital Projects Fund for the Citywide Comprehensive Planning Project in the amount of \$75,000.**

Council Member McCullough moved to approve a resolution in the amount of \$75,000 from the General Fund to provide funding to write the 2012 Comprehensive Plan. Council Member Maes seconded.

Council Member Coppolo asked why they were putting money aside for the plan when staff does not know how much it will cost.

Mr. Nieters said the state statutes say that you cannot have any expenditure unless you have money allocated for that particular use.

Motion carried. (5-0)

#### **Service Road Project**

**R11-11: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in the Capital Projects Fund for the North I-80 Service Road Project in the amount of \$56,100 and to enter into an agreement with Inberg-Miller Engineers to complete the work required for the selection of the preferred route for the project.**

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution for the governing body of the City for Green River, Wyoming, to increase in the Capital Projects Fund for the North I-80 Service Road Project in the amount of \$56,100 and to enter into an agreement with Inberg-Miller Engineers to complete the work require for selection of the preferred route for the project for the city's share of \$73,986.67. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Mr. Cook said the City of Green River will be entering into an agreement with Inberg-Miller to do the survey work for an alternate route between Green River and Rock Springs. The project will be divided up into two work zones. The City of Green River will pay 100% of work zone one totaling \$32,930. Work zone two will be split into thirds the City of Rock Springs total at \$41,056.66, Sweetwater County total at \$41,056.67 and the City of Green River total at \$41,056.67. The projects total is \$156,100. The reason for adding money to this is because the city will be fronting the cost up front. The city of Green River will be reimbursed, totaling \$80,000 during the project.

Council Member Coppolo asked how much of the Road FCH Study will be incorporated in the project; could it save money on the project.

Mr. Cook said he believes that Inberg-Miller is planning to use the information from the study. He is hoping that it does save the city money.

Council Member Smith asked for a time-line for surveying.

Mr. Cook said it should be completed by October 1, 2011.

Motion carried. (5-0)

#### **Utility Account Deposit Increase**

**R11-12: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an amendment for resolution number R10-55 which amended the adopted schedule of fees charged for services, products, licenses, rentals, ect. for the City of Green River, Wyoming, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011.**

Council Member McCullough moved to approve a resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an amendment for resolution number R10-55 which amended the adopted schedule of fees charged for services, products, licenses, rentals, ect. for the City of Green River, Wyoming, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Mr. Cook said there has been an increase in the number of tenants that are leaving without paying their balances. The city has not increased the deposit amount since 2005. With the increase of water rates over the last five years the \$100 deposit is not enough to cover the typical unpaid balance. The city makes every attempt to collect from the tenant but ultimately if the balance is unpaid it is reverted back to the property owner for payment.

Motion carried. (5-0)

#### **COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Restaurant Liquor License for High Plains Pizza**

Council Member Coppolo moved to approve the liquor license to Pizza Hut at 220 Uinta upon surrendering the liquor license at 615 E Flaming Gorge through March 31, 2012. Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

##### **Tree Advisory Board Appointment**

Council Member Maes moved to confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Clarissa Kelly to the Tree Advisory Board for a three year term. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

### **JABG Direct Subgrant Award**

Council Member McCullough moved to waive the 2010 JABG direct subgrant award in the amount of \$3,442 to combine it with Sweetwater County, agree to the 10% grant match of \$382 in the FY12 budget, and authorize the Mayor to sign the Waiver of Direct Subgrant Award agreement pending legal review. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

### **Household Hazardous Waste Day Agreement for 2011 and 2012**

Council Member Smith moved to enter into an Agreement with Sweetwater Solid Waste District #1 for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event in 2011 and 2012. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

### **Green River High School Senior Class Party**

Council Member Coppolo moved to waive the reduced rental fee of \$810 for the 2011 Green River High School senior class party at the Recreation Center on June 4, 2011. Council Member Maes seconded.

Council Member Coppolo asked about the school district not wanting to participate in this event and the city seems to be bearing the cost to have these events.

Mr. Wilson said the school district and the city do trade off during the school year. The school district lets the city have some of their events in the schools. The soccer practices are done within the schools gyms in the winter and they do not charge us for the use of the facilities. The trade off is not seen but they do work with the city.

Council Member Smith thanked Mr. Wilson on the information about the tradeoff between the school and the city. He was not aware of anything like that. He asked Mr. Wilson if he feels it is a fair trade.

Mr. Wilson said yes.

The Mayor said these events have been going on for quite a few years and it keeps the kids off the streets.

Motion carried. (5-0)

### **Extreme Country Event**

Council Member McCullough moved to waive the reduced rental fee of \$1960 for the Extreme Country Event on July 9-10, 2011. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Council Member Coppolo asked Ms. Brandjord to see if she could give back to local city entities that are charitable if the event goes well.

Cindy Brandjord, event coordinator, said the overall goal is to give back to the City of Green River and continue to make it grow.

Council Member Smith asked why the waiving of fees for the in-kind services were not included in the fees that they are waiving.

Mr. Wilson said the fees for this will be absorbed into his operation budget. He is hoping that Ms. Brandjord comes up with volunteers to help so they won't have to have as many personnel at the event to save on the cost.

Ms. Brandjord said she has been contacted from many people wanting to offer their services. She thinks there will be a good amount of volunteers.

Council Member McCullough thanked Ms. Brandjord for her time and for setting this event up.

Council Member Maes said there is another event going on at the same time.

Ms. Brandjord said yes there is another event going on July 9, 2011. She has met with the organization that will be hosting the other event and they are going to help each other out. They will promote her event and she will promote their event. She said the event is the Biker Rally (Rally in the Alley), it is not for kids and her event is geared for families.

The Mayor said thank you to Ms. Brandjord for her efforts.

Motion carried (5-0)

### **City Horse Corral Lease**

Council Member Maes moved to accept the amendment to the lease between the City of Green River and the Horse Corral Lessees as proposed. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Council Member Coppolo asked legal counsel if they could review the Horse Corral Lease Agreement at this time.

Mr. West said council can review the lease agreement at any time. The legal issue is all the corral agreements are individual agreements with individual occupants. The amendment to the agreement can be implemented for those who lease terms are expiring or new leases. You cannot unilaterally impose changes to a lease until the lease itself expires.

Council Member McCullough asked when the agreement expires.

Mr. Wilson said the lease expires April 14, 2022. He also said staff needs time to review the water cost since the water salesman will be going in.

Council Member Coppolo said one of the problems he has with the agreement is the rental fee they are paying for a year seems very low compared to the cost the city pays for maintenance and the amount of water that is being used. He would like to know when they could negotiate this agreement again with the Horse Corral Committee.

Mr. West said those who have an existing lease cannot be altered unless the land will be used for something other than horse corrals. There could be consensual changes if all parties agreed.

Mr. Wilson said the city has not fulfilled some of the terms that were agreed upon in the agreement. The city said they would install an eight inch water line on the west end of the horse corrals and it has not been done.

Council Member Coppolo said all he is trying to do is get a fair and equitable exchange with the corral renters.

Mr. Wilson said \$13.25 a month is not a lot, for what the city is providing.

Motion carried (5-0)

### **Main Street Three-Year Plan**

Council Member Smith moved to approve the Green River Main Street Three-Year Plan. Council Member McCullough seconded.

Council Member Smith said he supports this and he thinks this is an excellent plan. He said it does need an action plan.

John Dahlgren, URA/Main Street Administrator, said the reason these came to council separate is because the state mandated that they complete a plan before April 1, 2011. The committee's are working hard to come up with the action plans. Each year the main street board of directors

will review the action plan to see if they are accomplishing their goals. He said he has the greatest volunteers and board members helping him and he could not have done it without them.

Council Member Coppolo said he thinks it is a great plan. He suggests having quarterly reviews instead of yearly reviews.

Council Member Smith said they have his support.

Council Member Maes said she will support them also.

The Mayor said he will support the plan. He thanked the volunteers that have taken time to complete the plan.

Motion carried. (5-0)

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Maes moved to approve the following consent agenda items. Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

- Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Green River and the Quilting on the Green Committee.
- Approval of the Maintenance Agreements between the City of Green River and the Sweetwater County Airport Board for the placement of the art piece “Aviator”
- Approval of the 2011 American Red Cross/Green River Recreation Center Authorized Provider Agreement.
- Approval the Lease Agreement between the City of Green River and Darren Gregory for horse corral #13.
- Authorize Mike Newcomb to remove old wood, and Cathy Hughes to remove two tables, from the Landfill.
- Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the 2011 Overland Stage Stampede Planning Committee.
- Authorize the Solid Waste Division to submit a grant application for a Coca-Cola Company Keep America Beautiful Bin Grant for 50 bins.
- Approval of the Minutes for: March 1, 2011.
- Financial Reports and Payment of Bills:

Prepaid Invoices = \$111,476.42	Outstanding Invoices = \$396,061.49
Pre-authorization Payments = \$755,000.00	Payroll Expenditures = \$345,717.93

## **CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Cook said the last ten years the percentage that the city receives in sales tax revenue is 31.3%. With the census numbers in, it shows the new percentage will be 28.5% a loss of 3%. This is due to Rock Spring growing faster than Green River. The loss will be around \$1.1 million annually. He will be taken this into consideration in planning the next year’s budget.

He received, from the State Land and Investment Board, their calculations of the revenue sharing. This is money that the State of Wyoming shares with local governments. They allocated money to each municipality and the city is subject to get \$764,993.00 which will continue for another year. They allocated an additional \$10 million dollars so the city will get an additional \$160,000 on August 15, 2011. That brings the total to \$924,788.97.

The consensus block grants are also divided up between twenty-three counties for capital projects. Sweetwater County will be receiving \$2,317,324. All counties will have to meet to decide how to divide this up.

Mr. Cook said at council’s request he has information on street improvements. If \$500,000 is budgeted, three streets could be improved, \$1 million budgeted five streets improved, and \$1.5 million budgeted eight streets can be improved.

Council Member McCullough asked what the improvements would encompass.

Mr. Cook said it would mostly be reconstruction with concrete.

He said the Community Development Department and the Police Department have been working together on a procedure for nuisances. Staff intends to be very aggressive with enforcing these ordinances. They will issue citations and process them through court. He has spoken with the Police Department on redrafting the parking ordinance. They will be coming to council with suggested improvements on the ordinance at a workshop in April. This will make it clearer, easier to enforce, and also inform the citizens that they will be enforcing the ordinance.

He said the Landfill hours have changed effective on Monday, March 14, 2011. Hours are 8:00 am to 5:30 pm for the summer.

He said there are three cost options for the proposed ice skating rink. The first is \$49,500, seconded is \$100,024, and third is \$94,269.

He has talked to the DEQ in Lander, Wyoming for an update on the Brown's Field site at the old water treatment site. She is in the process of looking into this and will have a report ready at the end of March.

Mr. Cook said on the Horse Corrals, when it was proposed to make changes to the horse corrals there was a huge uproar. The city required them to make changes to their corrals at a cost to them so Horse Corral Committee said they want a 25 year lease.

Council Member Coppolo asked if Mr. Wilson could get an estimate on the cost for the maintenance on the ice rink.

Mr. Wilson said the manufacture said staff is going to have to put easy glide down every couple of weeks but for everything else he can only estimate the cost. He said if they covered the ice rink it could eliminate some problems.

Council Member Coppolo asked if Mr. Wilson to provide cost estimates to cover it.

Mr. Wilson said staff is looking into an event tent to put over the rink.

Council Member McCullough asked if anyone knows how many people are going to use the rink.

Mr. Wilson said he does not know how many people would use it. Currently at Stratton Myers Park they have a few inquiries about it a year.

Council Member McCullough asked Mr. Wilson to do a ballot to ask people at the Recreation Center what they think about it.

Council Member Maes said there are not a lot of winter activities. The current ice skating pond is on a dirt road and out of the way where people do not know it is there. She thinks it would be used if available. She said there is not a lot of maintenance that will be required on the artificial ice. She thanked Mr. Wilson for doing the research on this.

The Mayor asked what happened to the ice skating rink at the Recreation Center.

Mr. Wilson said the water was causing problems with the foundation of the Recreation Center so they stopped it. They tried many things to fix the issue but they were not able to.

Mr. Wilson presented council with a thank you card, t-shirt, and cup from Crookston, Minnesota students. They came here to do some clean-up projects and all they asked for was a place to stay. They did some painting, and they cleaned along the pathway. They were a great group of students and he welcomed them back anytime.

The Mayor suggested sending them a thank you card.

Mr. Wilson said they were planning to send one to them.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. West had nothing to report.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council Member Maes said she knows Main Street had the ice rink in their Three-Year Plan. This will bring more activity to the downtown area with no costs. If this is a free ice skating rink it might bring people from Rock Springs since they have to pay for the use of the one in Rock Springs.

Council Member Coppolo thanked Main Street volunteers for their hard work. He does like the idea of the ice rink but he does not think it should be free.

Council Member McCullough had nothing to report.

Council Member Smith thanked Main Street volunteers also. He is pleased with Ms. Brandjord's presentation and the fact that she is trying to bring new events into Green River. He thanked Mr. Wilson on the information of the partnership with the school district.

The Mayor said the county commissioners met today and supported the service road project. He said there was a presentation from the Board of Health and they are going to be asking for more money.

Carl Neu will be presenting The Foundation for Excellence in Government on March 31, 2011. There will be two sessions.

He has been invited to Kemmerer for their Chili Cook off on April 2, 2011. If anyone is interested let him know he will forward the information.

He also was invited to General Chemical for an open house in honor of their name change to Tah Tah Chemical Soda Ash Partners, on April 1, 2011 from 11:30 to 3:30. He said if anyone is interested let him know and he will give them the information.

## **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council Member McCullough moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss litigation and property acquisition at 8:42 pm. Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried. (5-0)

## **RECONVENE**

Council Member Coppolo moved to reconvene at 9:20 pm. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried (5-0)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Coppolo motioned to adjourn at 9:21 pm. Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried (5-0)

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H. Castillon, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jeffrey V. Nieters, City Clerk

