

**CITY OF GREEN RIVER
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
May 3, 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 Harrison Elementary School students led the Pledge of Allegiance: Trysten Halter, Micha Crum, Genesis Anderson, Collin Poole, Alaina Maiers, Ashley Jensen, Kelby Pope, Brett Mckeehan, Espen Palmer, Emilee Mandros, and Mya Tollefson.

The following Council Members were present: Tom McCullough, Jim Boan, Lisa Maes, Adam Coppolo, Gene Smith, and Gary Killpack. The following were present representing the City: City Administrator Barry Cook, Director of Human Resources Debbie Klein Robertson, Director of Finance Jeff Nieters, Director of Community Development Laura Hansen, Community Development Planner Ladale Brinton, Police Lieutenant Chris Steffen, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Mike Kennedy, Interim Parks and Recreation Director Allan Wilson, Recreation Supervisor Sherry Schumacher, City Attorney Galen West, and Public Affairs Specialist Stephen Pyles.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Mayor noted the following:

- Addition of Item C to Presentations for a Special Presentation
- Addition of Item F to Proclamations for a Clean Up Week Proclamation
- Addition of an Executive Session to discuss personnel
- Removal of Council Action Item E: Consideration of Amendment Number 2 to the agreement with Inberg-Miller Engineers for Construction Engineering Services in the amount of \$69,525 for the FMC Road Spur Project.
- Removal of Council Action Item F: Consideration of Change Order #2 for the addition of 100 calendar days to the contract with Reiman Corp. For time related to rock break down and other work on the FMC Road Spur Project.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the agenda. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

PRESENTATIONS

Sweetwater County Event Complex – County Fair

Kandi Pendleton, the Event Coordinator for the Sweetwater County Events Complex, said the Sweetwater County Fair is coming up and the theme is Imagine That. They will have lots of events: the Rocky Mountain Horse Pull, Petting Zoo, a Watermelon Carver, the Carnival, bands, family fun contests, reptile adventures, and the Young Guns Wild West park just to name a few.

She said they do advertise in other counties such as Sublette, Uinta, Fremont, Carbon, and Lincoln, by radio, newspaper, television, billboards, magazines, brochures, point of purchase displays, button, and t-shirts. They also advertise in Colorado and in Utah.

The kick-off will be the first week in August with the Desert Round-Up Rodeo.

Ms. Pendleton said they will host the Mountain States Circuit Finals Rodeo on Thursday May 5, 2011, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, and everyone is welcome to come.

Council Member McCullough thanked Ms. Pendleton for doing such a good job.

The Mayor said he appreciates the invitation to the Mountain States Circuit Rodeo, but he will not be able to attend because the city is starting the budget meetings that night.

Ms. Pendleton said they have put in an application to host the National High School Rodeo Finals. This event has an eight to ten million dollar economic impact. They have 1,500 to 1,800

contestants and their families stay the whole two weeks, so it is a huge event. As soon as they know if they have been selected to host the rodeo, they will let the council know.

City Employee Relations Committee

Jeff Frink, an employee of the city and representative for the Employee Relations Committee, said all the departments have cut costs and sacrificed in order to maintain the services to the public. The stipends are appreciated but the fact is, the city employees are making less money now than five years ago. As health care costs rise the employees are being asked to pay more and more of these benefits. The employees would like to see their level of contributions go back to 10%. The employees are respectfully asking council to stop the yearly decrease in their take home pay.

He said about 20% of the city full-time employees are living in poverty. Many of these families are forced to take advantage of governmental benefits in order to survive. If employees are asked to absorb the 100% cost increase of health care it would be a pay cut of around 10%.

The Mayor said the council understands the situation the employees are in, but the employees need to understand that the revenues the city receives are severely decreased. The council has made a commitment that there would be no reduction in force and the council will try to help with the increase in health insurance.

Council Member Smith told Mr. Fink he was well spoken. He asked what the states definition was for poverty.

Mr. Fink said if you are a family of four, with a single income of less than \$42,000, it is considered poverty in Wyoming.

Council Member Boan said at the workshop the other night there were some comparisons between the city employees and the mine employees. The statement was made that the city employees are trying to make it in an economy that is based off of miner salaries. He decided to compare the city benefits and wages to his current job. He said this is not to undermine what the employees face, but he would like them to make comparisons between his employment and theirs.

He works at a trucking company for the oil and gas industry. He said out of a 123 employees at the city, 107 make more than he does an hour. In four years his insurance has risen 21%. His health benefits do not cover anywhere close to what the city's benefits do. He has not had a raise in four years, there are no stipends, and he had to take a 5% pay cut to keep his job. City employees have something that anyone would love to have, that is a guarantee that they have a job for the next year. The city employees are not the only people suffering.

Mr. Frink said he does realize that times are tough for everyone. He said the employees are not complaining about their jobs, they are just asking council to do whatever they can to help.

Council Member McCullough told Mr. Fink that he did a great job representing the employees and he thanked him.

Special Presentation

Community Development Director Laura Hansen said Friday, May 6, 2011 is Ladale Brinton's last day. She has seen many ups and downs in the city in the last ten years. Ms. Hansen presented her with a plaque for her years of dedicated service.

Mr. Cook thanked Ladale for her years of service. He said it has been a pleasure working with her and wishes her well.

PROCLAMATIONS

Arbor Day

Allan Wilson read the proclamation and the Mayor designated Saturday, May 7, 2011 as the day to celebrate Arbor Day in Green River, and he encouraged all citizens to actively support tree planting and protecting as a means to improve our community and the quality of our lives. He invited all citizens to participate in the City of Green River's Arbor Day celebration at Medicine Bow Park on Saturday, May 7, 2011 beginning at 10:00 am.

National Aquatic Safety Month

Sherry Schumacher read the proclamation and the Mayor declared the month of May 2011 as National Aquatic Safety Month and urged all citizens and visitors in Green River to support and promote this observance.

Physical Education – Sport Week

The Student Leadership Group from Monroe Intermediate School read the proclamation and the Mayor declared the week of May 1st through the 7th, 2011 as Physical Education Week in Green River, and urged all citizens to renew their commitment to make regular physical activity a part of their lives and to support quality physical education programs in our schools.

National Police Week

Stephen Pyles read the proclamation and the Mayor called upon citizens to observe the week of May 15th through May 21st, 2011 as Police Week by commemorating and thanking our police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in doing so, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens. He called upon all citizens to observe May 15, 2011 as Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

National Preservation Month

Molly Dahlgren read the proclamation and the Mayor proclaimed May National Preservation Month, and called upon the people of Green River to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

Clean Up Week

Allan Wilson read the proclamation and the Mayor proclaimed May 7th through May 14th as Clean Up Week in Green River, and encouraged all citizens to take this opportunity to clean up their property, dispose of hazardous waste, assist their neighbors, and join other volunteers in the effort to keep the community green and clean.

CITIZEN REQUESTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

Beth Whitman, from the Business Leadership Network, said the Rockin' River Chef's Challenge will be Friday, May 6, 2011, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. She congratulated the city for winning for the past two years. She said the public is also invited to attend and the tickets are available for \$25. There will be around twenty-six chefs with around fifty different food items.

Citizen of Green River Dan Eachner said he is concerned with the proposed parking amendment. He said he chooses to live here because of the many things they can do for entertainment. He is wondering when people can get their trailers ready to go if there is only a 24 hour time limit. He thinks the police officers can spend their time taking care of more important issues around the community.

He asked Council Member Killpack about his statement that people should not be able to park anything on the street for any amount of time. If this is the case how are they supposed to get ready for any trips.

Council Member Killpack clarified what he said was, in order to enforce the ordinance it should state no parking on the streets period. If that was the case the police officer could come and speak to the citizens and work out amongst themselves.

Mr. Eachner said that is the way a small community should work.

ORDINANCES

Combine the Planning and Zoning Commission with the Board of Adjustment

2nd Reading: An ordinance to amend the Green River Code of Ordinance to appoint the Planning and Zoning Commission as the Board of Adjustment.

Council Member McCullough moved to approve the ordinance on second reading. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Council Member Smith asked if this was ever brought before the Board of Adjustment for their input and what was their feeling.

Ms. Brinton said it was discussed at the Board of Adjustment meeting. There was some concern but then after explaining everything they were more comfortable with it.

Council Member Smith asked about the financial impact being at zero when the legal representation would be needed for both.

Ms. Brinton said there could be an increase, but they already have a legal representation on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Ms. Hansen said when the meeting agenda gets set they can decide if there is a need for legal representation, and if not, they would not have them there.

Motion carried. (7-0)

Vehicle Parking Law

2nd Reading: An ordinance amending Section 24-24 of the Green River Code of Ordinance, City of Green River, State of Wyoming, amending the vehicles parking law.

Council Member Boan moved to amend Section 24-24 of the Green River Code of Ordances, City of Green River, Wyoming to read as follows:

- A: It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any motor vehicle to park or allow the same vehicle to be parked on any street or ally within the city for a period of more than five consecutive days.
- B: It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any towed vehicle to park or allow the same vehicle to be parked on any street or alley within the city for a period of more than twenty-four consecutive hours.

Council Member Smith seconded.

Council Member Boan said he had several citizens asking him to vote no on this issue. He said their reasons are good, and because of that he will be voting no on this issue.

Council Member Killpack said he strongly believes the streets should not be a storage yard. He said the only way this can be enforced is to say they cannot park on the street at any time. He will be voting against this issue.

Council Member McCullough said he thought seventy-two hours was plenty of time. He said he will not support this.

Council Member Maes said she had an email from a concerned citizen on the vehicles blocking the view of people's driveways. She has almost been hit coming out of her driveway many times,

and she would like to know what can be done. She has turned them in and they just move it around the block and park it in the same spot.

Council Member Maes said people should be kind to their neighbors and use common sense. She said this is a safety issue.

Police Lieutenant Chris Steffen said there are ordinances for blocking of driveways and parking on the corners and they are enforceable. It is difficult to keep track of trailers and the times they are on the street. They only have a certain amount of officers on shift at a time to keep up with all of these issues. Ordinances have been put in place because there is a need for them, but all he asks is that the council consider doing something with what they have to make it easier to enforce.

Council Member Coppolo clarified that changing the ordinance it would make it easier for the officers to enforce, and he would imagine that they use their best judgment when they have an issue. He asked if changing the time to twenty-four hours would make their jobs easier.

Lieutenant Steffen said cleaning up the current language is what would be beneficial. As far as taking the time to contact people to see how long a trailer would be there, if they cannot be parked on the street at all, that will be a problem too. It becomes a safety issue for kids and other drivers when trailers are parked on the street.

Council Member Smith said he is in support of the ordinance. He has talked to many citizens that want it to stay the same. Citizens do not understand the ordinance as it is written now. The city needs to have ordinances and they need to be enforceable. He will support this ordinance and he said he appreciates the Police Department's efforts.

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

The Mayor said this needs to be looked into at a later time.

RESOLUTIONS

Green River Puzzles Sales

R11-18: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in the Capital Projects Fund for the sales of Dowdle Folk Art of the "Green River, Wyoming" puzzles and to accept a donation from Dowdle Folk Art/Americana Art Enterprise in the amount of \$1,905.

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

Sponsorships for the Green River Expedition Freestyle and Powell Plunge Kayak Competitions

R11-19: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in the General Fund for the Green River Expedition Freestyle and Powell Plunge Kayak Competitions and to accept donations in the amount of \$2,400.

Council Member McCullough moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Killpack seconded.

Council Member Boan thanked the companies that donated money to the event. He said he appreciates their support.

Council Member McCullough asked if Mr. Wilson sends thank you notes to the people who donate.

Mr. Wilson said yes.

Motion carried. (7-0)

Gas Pipeline Easement with Questar

R11-20: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to enter into a gas pipeline easement and right of way with Questar Gas Company, A Utah Corporation.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Coppolo seconded.

Council Member Boan asked, "Doesn't anyone know if there is a road there and if the city owns the property"?

Ms. Brinton said when they subdivided that property they did not take the lot property lines all the way out to the boundary line. This created small pieces of land that weren't assigned as an alley or roadway.

Council Member McCullough asked Questar if this project was going to take a week, if people who live in that area will be notified, and if everything will be put back in the same condition or better when they are done.

Tim Sheehan, Questar Gas Operation Supervisor, said yes.

Todd Cassidy, from Questar Gas Property and Right of Way Department, said he has prepared a letter to the seventeen residents on Hoover Drive and the five residents on Astle that front that area. He also sent it to Ms. Brinton for review, and as soon as it is approved by the city he will send them out.

Council Member Smith asked what will happen to the current easement.

Mr. Cassidy said it would be abandoned with no disturbance, and it will be quitclaimed back to the city.

Motion carried. (7-0)

Arbor Day Donations

R11-21: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in expenditures and income in the General Fund for the Arbor Day Celebration and to accept a donation from TATA Chemicals Partners in the amount of \$300.

Council Member Maes moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Killpack seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

Police Department Building

R11-22: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in expenditures in the Capital Projects Fund for the Police Department Building in the amount of \$3,450.

Council Member Coppolo moved to approve the resolution. Council Member McCullough seconded. Motion carried (7-0)

Police Department Radio Maintenance

R11-23: A resolution for the governing body of the City of Green River, Wyoming, to approve an increase in expenditures in the General Fund for Police Department radio maintenance in the amount of \$3,007.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the resolution. Council Member Boan seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

WEBT Health Insurance Program

Council Member McCullough moved to approve the City's continuing participation in the WEBT health insurance program and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Employer Plan Selection Form. Council Member Smith seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

Open Container Permit

Council Member Coppolo moved to approve the issuance of an Open Container Permit to the Wild Horse Saloon, for the Poker Run to raise funds for disabled American Veterans, to be held on the parking lot of the Wild Horse Saloon, on Saturday, June 18, 2011, from Noon to Midnight. Council Member Maes seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

Open Container Permit

Council Member Smith moved to approve the issuance of Open Container Permits to the Wild Horse Saloon for Friday, June 24, 2011, from 12 pm to 5 am, and Saturday, June 25, 2011, from 12 pm to 5 am, as part of the Flaming Gorge Days activities at the Wild Horse Saloon parking lot and permission to have live music playing outside. Council Member Killpack seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

Catering Permits

Council Member Maes moved to approve the issuance of Catering Permits to the Wild Horse Saloon to sell alcohol during the Overland Stage Stampede Rodeo on Friday, June 10, 2011 and Saturday, June 11, 2011, from 6:00 pm to Midnight, at the Rodeo Arena. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Boan moved to approve the following consent agenda items. Council Member McCullough seconded.

- Authorization for JR Rafferty to remove a broken 300 gallon trash container from the landfill and Ken King to remove a small gas motor from the landfill.
- Horse corral lease with Le Rayes for Corrals #93 & #94
- Contract with Chris Mulhal for the Parks and Recreation Adult Summer Golf Lessons for a minimum of \$270 (6 participants) and a maximum amount of \$540 (12 participants) per session. The maximum contract for both sessions is \$1,080.
- Contract with Chirs Mulhal for the Green Level Hook A Kid on Golf Program for \$30 per participant and maximum contract amount of \$1,500.
- Contract with Chris Mulhal for the Tee Level Hook A Kid on Golf Program for \$30 per participant and the maximum contract amount of \$720.
- Contract with the Green River High School Track Program (Head Coach Steve Boyd) to provide instruction and staffing for the Hershey Track and Field Program for the amount of \$350.
- Final Payment and Release of Retainage for the Visitor Center construction to Century Contractors pending Project Close Out and legal review.
- Interagency Agreement with the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation for a DCI Task Force Officer for JAG Program ARRA Grant for period from April 1, 2009 to February 28, 2013.
- Minutes: April 12, 2011 Workshop, April 19, 2011 Council
- Financial Reports and Payment of Bills:

Prepaid Invoices = \$134,675.00	Outstanding Invoices = \$404,723.41
Pre-authorization Payments = \$755,500.00	Payroll Expenditures = \$343,741.63

Motion carried. (7-0)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cook reported the first budget workshop will be Thursday, May 5, 2011, at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers. Mr. Nelson is in Cheyenne this week attending the Solid Waste Association meeting where they will discuss transfer stations.

He thanked the employees that participated in the Adopt-A-Highway clean up day.

He discussed the workshop agenda for next Tuesday.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. West had nothing to report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Killpack thanked the employees that participated in the clean up this week.

Council Member Boan said, at the end of June last year there was a comp-time payout of \$50,000 to the employees, and the overwhelming part of this was paid out to supervisors. He would like to see the supervisors take this time as vacation instead. He would like a report on the amount of comp-time that will be paid this year in June.

He asked Mr. Pyles to make an easier way for the citizens to get to the council members information off the website.

Council Member Maes had nothing to report.

Council Member Coppolo thanked the Employee Relations Committee for their presentation.

Council Member McCullough thanked the city employees for their work at the cleanup. He also encouraged everyone to participate in the cleanup day on Saturday.

Council Member Smith said he appreciated the employee's participating in the cleanup. He thanked Mr. Frink for a job well done on the presentation.

The Mayor said the Chef's Challenge is on Friday, May, 6, 2011. The Army Corp of Engineers sent a letter to inform him that Mr. Million has changed his plan for the water project. The Communities Protecting the Green will be meeting at Little America, at 12:00 pm on Wednesday May 4, 2011. The County Commissioners have said they would like the cities to take on the CDC projects. He asked for the issue to be placed on the next council agenda for a formal vote.

He said they will meet with the Union Pacific Railroad to discuss the Depot building on May 17, 2011 at 2:00 pm.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member McCullough moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel at 8:54 pm. Council Member Boan seconded. Motion carried (7-0)

RECONVENE

Council Member Boan moved to reconvene at 10:02 pm. Council Member Maes seconded. Motion carried (7-0)

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM

Council Member Boan moved to authorize the City Administrator to fill the vacant Planner position with a reclassified Zoning and Building Technician position at a grade 14, creating a cost saving of \$25,028.18. Council Member Coppolo seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Coppolo moved to adjourn at 10:03 pm. Council Member Maes seconded. Motion carried. (7-0)

H. Castillon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeffrey V. Nieters, City Clerk