

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CITY COUNCIL AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSION
MAY 21, 2018**

The Winnemucca City Council met in a special joint meeting with the Humboldt County Commission on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Humboldt County Courthouse meeting room at 25 West Fifth Street. City Officials-Staff present: Mayor Di An Putnam; Councilmen Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Vince Mendiola, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks; and, City Manager Alicia Heiser, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund. County Officials-Staff present: Commission Chairman Ron Cerri; Commissioners Mike Bell, Marlene Brissenden, Jim French and Ken Tipton; and, County Manager Dave Mendiola, County Deputy Clerk Elisha Formby, District Attorney Mike Macdonald and County Comptroller Gina Rackley.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Putnam called the City Council portion of the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

After review and consideration of the effect each item could potentially have on a "business," as the term is defined by statute, the Council agreed and Councilman Owens moved to make a finding that no item on the agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or appears to directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a business. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY-COUNTY SHARED COST AGREEMENT / FY 2018-2019

City Manager Heiser reviewed the proposed City-County cost sharing agreement for fiscal year 2018-2019, which provides for shared costs calculated with the standard formulas on a net operating cost basis using the following percentages for the City: Planning Department 25%; Building Inspector 35%; Dispatch Center 30%; Airport Operations 50% (including capital costs); Cemetery 75%; Parks 60%; Golf Course 60%; Pools 60%; Recreation 60%; Animal Control 50%; Spay/Neuter Program 50%; Airport Construction Program 50%; and, Shooting Park Program 50%. The County share is \$477,518 and the City share is \$347,282. Expenditures associated with the Insect Control program, the Airport Construction program and the Shooting Park program are billed as they occur throughout the year, not as part of the agreement. County Comptroller Rackley commented that the amounts represent an increase from FY 17/18 to the County of \$41,300 and to the City of \$21,000. Councilman Owens moved to approve the City-County Cost Share Agreement for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner French made the same motion for the County. Motion carried unanimously.

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2018 PROPOSED RECREATION TAX

Spring Higley, Humboldt County resident, requested the County Commission support bringing back the recreation tax to the November 2018 ballot. Mayor Putnam recapped that the recreation tax was not passed by voters in 2016. Due to maintenance costs and repairs, the City is closing Sage Heights pool this year and the Bode Howard pool is not far behind; it needs to be resurfaced and the cost of maintenance for the aging pool is substantial. Both County and City are under tight budget constraints and there are no means for the construction of a new swimming pool. The recreation tax will improve the quality of life for area residents. Humboldt County has the lowest sales tax rate in the State at 6.85%. There are three additional counties in Nevada that have a 6.85% sales tax rate, but they are heavily supported by the net proceeds of mine taxes and Humboldt County is not. The recreation tax proposal will, if approved, increase the Humboldt County sales tax rate from 6.85% to 7.1%. It is not a property tax, it is a sales and use tax. The tax will benefit only the City and County, no other entities are involved in seeking the tax increase. Higley mentioned that Winnemucca is a major hub for US 95 and I-80 and anyone who spends money in town helps contribute. The last time the tax initiative was voted on, there was a perception in the public that it was an increase to property taxes. It is crucial to make sure the public realizes this is an increase to the sales tax which can be used for a new pool. Higley commented on the need for a pool and noted for some seniors it is their only form of exercise. A new pool will bring more events into town such as swim meets. Commissioner Bell said the question should be put on the November ballot and see what happens. Commissioner French stated he supported the increase last time and he supports it this time. Councilman Brooks said the public needs to be educated about the issue. Councilman Owens moved to place a recreation tax question on the November 2018 ballot to increase the county-wide sales tax rate to generate revenue for various purposes including recreational programs and facilities. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Bell made the same motion for the County. Motion carried unanimously.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY REGIONAL LANDFILL OPERATOR CONTRACT / REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

County Manager Mendiola explained that the current contract to operate the Humboldt County Regional Landfill will end in September 2018. It is proposed that the City-County solicit proposals for operators to maintain the landfill. Mendiola commented that current operator has had the contract for fourteen years and they've done a good job. Commissioner French made a motion to authorize solicitation of Requests for Proposals to operate the Humboldt County Regional Landfill. Motion carried unanimously. Councilman Owens made the same motion for the City. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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