

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 7, 2020**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday January 7, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Richard Stone; Council members Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Vice Mendiola, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks; and, City Manager/Engineer Alicia Heiser, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Stone called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE:**

There were no public comments, personal communication or correspondence.

**MINUTES:**

There were no minutes.

**WARRANTS-EXPENSES:**

The payments for warrants and expense reports were reviewed and Council member Brooks moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously with Council member Billingsley abstaining from voting on the Jim Dandy Productions warrants as he is the owner of the business.

**PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS-PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Stone read a proclamation for National Radon Action Month.

**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 Council member Mavity 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.

**DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS WAIVER REQUEST / 4602 GRASS VALLEY ROAD / MILLER TRUST**

John Milton, Desert Mountain Surveying, as agent for the Paul D. Miller Family Trust, requested a waiver of the improvement standards which require curbs, gutters and sidewalks at 4602 Grass Valley Road because there are no other comparable improvements on the adjoining properties in the area of the property. City Manager Heiser commented that staff recommends approval of the waiver request; however, a separate water service for each new parcel created by the parcel map will be required. Council member Owens moved to waive the improvement standards for curbs, gutters and sidewalks at 4602 Grass Valley Road as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CEMETERY MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT REQUEST / VETERANS GROUPS**

Lewis Trout and Charles Evans, representing the American Legion and Veterans groups, submitted a proposal on behalf of the Winnemucca area Veterans groups to place a 10x10 concrete patio with a flagpole and granite bench at the Winnemucca Cemetery. The project will require two plots and is estimated to cost \$8,000. The Veterans will purchase one plot and request donation of the other plot by the City. It will be funded with private donations, but they are requesting assistance from the City for use of equipment to construct the memorial. Council member Mendiola moved to approve the donation of one plot by the City and the amendment to Winnemucca Cemetery master plan to allow placement of a Veterans memorial patio bench and flagpole as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **WATER RATES INCREASE PROPOSAL / STAFF**

City Manager Heiser commented that based on the water rate analysis presented by Michael Boney with the Nevada Rural Water Association and an analysis of the City water fund balance over the last several years it is suggested there be an increase in the water rates based on meter size. The water fund ending balance has decreased steadily since 2006. Heiser explained the various projects that are needed in the near future, including the Western Village Subdivision and Well #8. There are not enough funds available for all the projects. City resident Brian Belanger voiced concern over the potential doubling or tripling of monthly utility bills and questioned if the City has looked into short term financing for some of the projects. Heiser noted that there will be additional projects besides those just mentioned. Historically, the City has paid cash for the projects as they are constructed. City Attorney Maher commented a rate increase will be a challenge for the customers on fixed incomes. There was additional discussion on a fee structure based on meter size, use factors, and a flat fee up to a certain usage threshold. Council member Owens commented that the last time fees were raised, it was done over a period of years. Mayor Stone commented there was some negative criticism every year even when the increase was spread over several years. Belanger said looking at meter fees just doesn't make sense; look at the expenditure side and move projects out a few years. Heiser said the meter fee is basically a down payment to use the system which requires regular maintenance. Council member Mavity said this is a good reminder going forward to periodically look at fee schedules. Stone said maybe the City needs to look at projecting fee increases a little further out. Stone directed staff to refine the proposed fee increase schedule (projected revenues and expenditures) and bring it back to the Council to discuss again.

### **CITY FACILITIES USE-RESERVATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL REQUEST / USE-RESERVATION REQUEST FORM PROPOSAL**

City Manager Heiser reminded that at a previous Council meeting there was a discussion about discontinuing the park reservation process and implementing a facility reservation form that can be approved administratively for parades, tournaments, runs/races, etc. Currently, City ordinances require that street closure requests be brought to City Council for approval. Allowing street closures through an administrative process will require an ordinance change. City Attorney Maher said the criteria can be set up in the ordinance for whether it is Council or administration approved. Council member Brooks said a deposit should not be refundable. Maher said the fee could be termed a use fee, not a deposit. Council member Billingsley commented the charge should be enough to cover City personnel overtime for the event. Heiser said the usage fees are well defined in the current ordinance; the cleaning fee is not. Council member Billingsley moved to approve the proposal to eliminate the requirement for

Council approval of public use and reservation of City facilities and parks and to adopt a use-reservation request form to provide for administrative approval of public use and reservation of City facilities and parks. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD-COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS-ASSIGNMENTS**

Mayor Stone asked the Council if they were agreeable with keeping their current appointments and assignments. Hearing no objections, Stone said he will keep the board and committee appointments, reappointments and assignments the same except for Mayor Pro Tem will be Council member Owens (per City ordinance). Council member Billingsley moved to confirm the current appointments, reappointments and assignments of the Mayor and City Council members to the boards and committees as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**BODE HOWARD MEMORIAL POOL**

There was no report.

**STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS:**

City Manager Heiser reported: (i) Debbie Dunham retired from the BLM and the new City contact for the Railroad Springs project is Julie McKinnon; (ii) all three NDEP permits have been approved for Well #8; (iii) there are no updates on the Airport property acquisition; (iv) Hunewill has resumed work on the Second Street storm drain project; (v) the Potato Road/Fountain Way/Railroad Street mill and overlay project is complete; (vi) Armstrong Consultants met with the FAA at the Phoenix ADO office on December 11, 2019 to discuss the proposed changes to the ALP to accommodate the company interested in the property at the Industrial Park; and, (vii) City and County staff have been working with Dick Rowe to implement a Mormon cricket control program which will require significant coordination with USDA APHIS as well as the BLM.

Council member Mendiola reminded that Winnemucca Futures will be held the end of January.

Mayor Stone commented that the Grocery Outlet grand opening will be January 16, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Officer Fowler was administered the Oath of Office on January 13, 2020.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Haaglund  
City Clerk

/////////  
/////////

**PASSED AND ADOPTED:** January 21, 2020

**VOTE OF COUNCIL:**

**AYES:** Owens, Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley, Brooks \_\_\_\_\_  
**NAYS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ABSTAIN:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Stone  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorrie Haaglund  
City Clerk