

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2021**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present (at the meeting room): Mayor Richard Stone; Council members Theresa Mavity, Vince Mendiola, Jim Billingsley and Pam Coats; City Manager/Engineer Alicia Heiser, City Clerk John Millard, City Attorney Kent Maher and Police Chief Dave Garrison. Absent: Council member Mike Owens. The meeting was accessible via teleconference and videoconference.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no public comment, personal communication or correspondence.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the December 15, 2020 City Council regular meeting were not available.

WARRANTS-EXPENSES:

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

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS-PRESENTATIONS:

There were no proclamations or awards.

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.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER APPOINTMENT / JOHN MILLARD

Mayor Stone explained that John Millard was appointed the City Clerk/Treasurer after interviewing the applicants for the position. Council member Mendiola moved to confirm the Mayor appointment of John Millard as Winnemucca City Clerk/Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

AIRPORT / FAA GRANT AUTHORIZATION

City Manager Heiser explained the City has no snow removal equipment at the airport and relies on Hunewill Construction for snow removal when they are available. An FAA grant is proposed to

purchase snow removal equipment. The Hunewill loaders tend to be harder on the runways than the removal equipment under consideration and the ability to control the use of equipment will ensure snow removal can occur when needed. The proposed grant is \$175,000 with the City responsible for one-half (which is in the FY21 budget) of County-City \$10,937 match. Council member Mendiola moved to authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the grant application as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

HARDGRAVE LANE ENGINEERING PROPOSAL / HIGH DESERT ENGINEERING

City Manager Heiser explained that High Desert Engineering submitted a proposal to provide professional services for surveying, design and preparation of site construction drawings for the proposed Hardgrave Lane south of the Trails End Mobile Home Park from the Recreation Complex to Highland Drive. The proposal includes work necessary to define the right-of-way for Hardgrave Lane which property owner representative Mike Sheppard indicated will be granted to the City in exchange for development of the City portion of the road. Council member Mavity moved to accept the proposal as presented at a cost not to exceed \$15,765. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING / CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE ORDINANCE ADOPTION

Proposed Ordinance 836 memorializes the current practice of holding City Council meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of months with four Tuesdays, and on the second and fourth Tuesdays of months with five Tuesdays, excepting the months of July and December, when only a single meeting is held on either the second or third Tuesday. There were no comments from the public. Council member Billingsley moved to adopt the ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD-COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS / MAYOR-COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Stone reviewed the board and committee assignments, noting the only proposed changes are that Council member Billingsley will serve as the Mayor Pro Tempore and Council member Coats will handle the assignments previously undertaken by former Council member Brooks. Council member Billingsley moved to approve the board and committee assignments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

EMERGENCY SERVICES-PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY PROPOSAL / POLICE DEPARTMENT-HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Police Chief Garrison and Humboldt County Hospital District CEO Tim Powers explained the proposal to establish a new EMS facility adjacent to the existing Police Department buildings on City property which contemplates a long term, low cost lease of the property to the District and additional police vehicles and equipment storage, joint use of a wellness facility/fitness center and fifty person training room and high speed internet service. The consensus of the Council was that more detailed information about the proposal is needed. No action was taken.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

City Manager Heiser explained that the State of Nevada has not provided any guidance for the extension or close-out of the current allotment of Coronavirus Relief Funds. There is approximately \$300,000 remaining of the City \$1.4 million allocation. It is anticipated some City funds will be transferred to Humboldt County to cover the County shortfall and the School District,

Boys & Girls Club and other qualifying agencies will be contacted in an attempt to expend all available funds. The final reports are due February 18, 2021. The unused funds may have to be returned to the state if qualifying expenses from qualifying agencies are not identified. No action was taken.

MAINTAINING, REHABILITATING, RECONSTRUCTING, OR ABANDONING THE BODE HOWARD MEMORIAL POOL / FUNDING AND DEVELOPING A NEW AQUATICS CENTER

No new information has been received from Greenplay Aquatic Design Group. No action was taken.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager Heiser reported: 1) the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) first review comments for the Railroad Springs pipeline project were received and the NDEP required minor adjustments will be made; 2) the NV Energy permit to cross the Railroad Springs pipeline project right-of-way is still pending; 3) the final report from Farr West on the Well 8 project is still pending; 4) Hunewill will have a crew available to start the Alleys sewer project in the coming weeks; 5) the notice to proceed for the West-side curb and gutter project was issued and Hunewill has not started the project; 6) discussions with the party interested in constructing the transloading facility at the Airport Industrial Park are ongoing; 7) Loon indicated, without explanation, they are holding up the airport balloon launch facility expansion; and, 8) BLM is working on a new comprehensive lease agreement for the BLM expansion at the airport.

Council member Mendiola reported the December meeting of the Sonoma Conservation District was cancelled and the January meeting is scheduled for Thursday; the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority meets January 22; and, the Humboldt Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will meet later in January.

Council member Billingsley reported the Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority lost about \$100K in 2020 revenue due to cancellations, which was not too bad considering the pandemic situation. Some Convention Center-WEC 2021 events will be cancelled and event planning continues with the possibility of cancellations due to the pandemic.

Police Chief Garrison reported that since K-9 Officer Polly has been active on the force, seizures of methamphetamine and heroin increased 648% and 151%, respectively, over the prior year. The dramatic increases resulted from not having to obtain a search warrant when the dog alerts to the presence of narcotics; such alert provides the probable cause to conduct a search without a warrant. Community raised funds were used to buy, train and equip the dog, resulting in minimal City cost (approximately ½ hour of overtime per week). Garrison believes the increase to public safety and the favorable results justify the minimal additional expense. Lieutenant Farstveet and Officer Santos gave a demonstration of the dog detecting the presence of narcotics.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

John Millard
City Clerk/Treasurer

PASSED AND ADOPTED: January 19, 2021

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

AYES: Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley, Coats
NAYS: _____
ABSTAIN: Owens
ABSENT: _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Richard Stone
Mayor

John Millard
City Clerk