

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JOINT CITY COUNCIL - HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
April 19, 2010

The Winnemucca City Council met in a special joint meeting with the Humboldt County Commission on Monday, April 19, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Humboldt County Courthouse meeting room at 25 West Fifth Street. City Officials present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Richard Stone, Doug Cain, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks. Absent: Councilman Joyce Sheen. City Staff present: City Manager Steve West, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Eddy Davis. County Officials present: Commission Chairman Chuck Giordano and Commissioners Tom Fransway, Garley Amos, Dan Cassinelli and Mike Bell. County Staff present: County Administrator Bill Deist, District Attorney Russell Smith and County Clerk Tami Spero.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Putnam called the City Council portion of the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:

Sixth Judicial District Court Judge Michael Montero administered the official State of Nevada Oath of Office to newly-appointed Councilman Jim Billingsley, appointed to fill the vacant Council Seat 4. Mayor Putnam welcomed Billingsley to the City Council.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

The Council agreed that no item on this 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. Councilman Stone moved to find that no item on this 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.

WINNEMUCCA FUTURES PROJECT / HUMBOLDT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

An overview of the Winnemucca Futures Project was presented by Patrick Gray and Bill Sims of the Humboldt Development Authority (HDA). Gray submitted that this project would be a significant step forward for Humboldt County and the City of Winnemucca. A brief history was presented on visioning and planning that has already taken place by various groups and agencies in our area. Gray outlined trends that are developed by threats and opportunities to our community. Gray said important aspects of this project are the development of scenario planning to identify relevant circumstances to create a hypothesis for future scenarios and innovative leadership. Project processes include: scenario development; identification of community capitals (resources); scenario reporting function; defining a vision that leads to action; project phase development; and, outlining project costs. The consulting firm Innovative Leadership-Australia-USA submitted a proposal to facilitate this project for \$30,000 plus \$10,000 in travel and expenses, for an estimated \$40,000 total cost. A breakdown of proposed sponsor partnerships include \$10,000 in Nevada CBDG grant funding; \$9,500 from HDA; \$3,500 each from Humboldt County, the City of Winnemucca, the Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Authority (WCVA), Newmont Mining, and Barrick Mining; and, \$3,000 from the Chamber of Commerce.

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Sims said that after gaining an understanding of how scenario planning works, he has gained an appreciation of how decisions that are made today can impact the community 30 years down the road. This proposal provides a long term picture of where to go as a community. The difference between this type of proposal and plans that have been made in the past is that alternatives are presented which helps to understand how decisions made today can positively or adversely affect the future. This proposal also enhances leadership training through a broader range of involvement from the community. Gray noted that though he is fiscally conservative, he feels this program offers an opportunity for more detailed planning and ideas on how to execute those plans. Mayor Putnam said this proposal involves more than just area businesses, and includes other groups such as senior citizens, religious groups, and private citizens' groups. Gray agreed the process would generate more community awareness and participation, and believes now is the right time to implement this project into the community. Sims added he believes the idea of discussing the community's future will draw interest from the public, and he is excited about the idea of having an outside facilitator (Innovative Leadership) to head up the project development and implementation. Councilman Stone asked about the project timetable. Sims replied the project would take between 6 to 9 months, and hopes to begin the first phase of the project in May.

Commissioner Tom Fransway said he questions why if the City and County already provide \$35,000 in funding each fiscal year to the HDA are the entities now being asked for a commitment of \$3,500 each to this project. Fransway suggested that the history of economic development has been solid through the development of Phase I of the Airport Industrial Park and the purchase of 177+ acres from the Bureau of Land Management (intended to allow for the development of a railroad spur that would service the airport park). Fransway said there is a need to recruit industries worthy of the community. Stone said the HDA could cover the funding for this project, but they were looking for support from the City and County. Sims added this proposal seeks funding sources through other sectors of the community. Putnam said she likes the concept of scenario planning future outcomes with decisions made today. Gray noted it is important to develop a plan, or scenario, that deals with the end of the mining presence in the area. Councilman Cain said he believes the timing of this proposal is good and the community is ripe for involvement. Putnam suggested that a vocal commitment to the project could be made today and a vote on providing financial support will have to be at the next meeting (the agenda did not contemplate funding). District Attorney Smith advised that support for the project could be voted for today, but separate consideration of financial support must occur a future meeting. Councilman Stone moved to support the Scenario Planning and Community Engagement Proposal submitted today by Humboldt Development Authority, and to consider financial support for the project at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Bell made the same motion for the County Commission, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Putnam adjourned the City Council portion of the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy D. Davis
City Clerk

