

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CITY COUNCIL / HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMISSION /
WINNEMUCCA CONVENTION AND VISITOR'S AUTHORITY
JUNE 16, 2014**

The Winnemucca City Council met in a special joint meeting with the Humboldt County Commission and Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Authority on Monday, June 16, 2014 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 Doug Cain, Ken Tipton, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks. Absent: Councilman Mike Owens. City Staff present: City Manager Steve West, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund. County Officials present: Commission Chairman Dan Cassinelli, Commissioners Jim French, Mike Bell, Garley Amos, and Marlene Brissenden. County Staff present: County Administrator Bill Deist, County Clerk Tami Spero and District Attorney Mike Macdonald. Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Authority Officials present: WCVA Board Chairman Terry Boyle, WCVA Board members Don Stoker, Jim Billingsley and Dan Cassinelli.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Putnam called the City Council portion of the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

There were no public or personal communications.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION

The Council reviewed and discussed briefly the agenda items and the effect each item could potentially have on a "business" as the term is defined by statute. 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 Tipton moved to make a finding 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 REGIONAL RECREATION COMPLEX PROJECT / PHASE ONE FUNDING COMMITMENTS

Mayor Putnam stated this meeting is to consider funding commitments from Humboldt County and the Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Authority for Phase 1 of the proposed Winnemucca Regional Recreation Complex project. Phase 1, which includes soccer fields and infrastructure, will cost approximately three million dollars. The City has already obligated \$1,620,000 for project. Putnam stated she has received verification from New Vision that the full 43 acres will be deeded to the City upon going forward with the proposal and getting the monies to proceed. The City has also paid \$451,000 for improvements on Great Basin Drive adjacent to the High School. WCVA Chairman Boyle asked if the 1/4% recreation tax question will be on the November ballot. Commission Chairman Cassinelli affirmed it will be. WCVA member Stoker questioned the reimbursement cost and the fact the acreage will not be

dedicated immediately, but dedicated on December 31, 2014. Putnam stated that as soon as the option for purchase of the property is exercised prior to October of this year, the property will be deeded to the City. It is not possible to proceed with Phase 1 unless the property is deeded to the City. Stoker asked if that condition will be written into the agreement. Putnam said yes. County Administrator Deist expanded on a memo the County Commission received which gave a breakdown of the County public building fund and the anticipated expenditures from the account. Commissioner French stated the County did not have this information last time they met. French said we are not often presented with an opportunity that is significant, and this is one of them; this project should be placed as a high priority. Commissioner Bell stated this is a good investment in the community. Commissioner Amos said this is a great project; however, he wants to see the community back it and would like to wait and see how the community votes on the recreation tax. Amos wants to proceed with caution, and he has a few concerns such as who will be in charge of the funds. Winnemucca Community Improvement Group consultant Rusty Bahr stated the monies for the construction of Phase 1 will be administered by the City. Future phases will be set up with a non-profit entity, and will be administered by committee. Commissioner Brissenden agreed with Amos and stated she would like to wait until after the election to see what the outcome of the recreation tax will be. Putnam explained that New Vision has until October 15 to exercise the option for the land purchase. It can be purchased at any time, but New Vision does not want to proceed with the purchase unless this project is a go. Regardless of the ballot question, it is necessary to take care of the youth and for the quality of life of the community. The last improvement put in for the community was the four-plex softball field and prior to that it was Vesco Park. This is not just for the youth, as adults can also utilize all of the recreation areas.

Stoker stated that this project should not be contingent on the recreation tax passing and questioned if the tax does not pass, will the City and County be able to maintain the facilities. Putnam said the City has reviewed Phase I and is confident in being able to maintain the soccer fields with assistance from the School District. As far as the additional phases go, that will depend on getting out and getting donations to build and maintain them. Commissioner Cassinelli said the funding request comes at a bad time, but if we don't take advantage of the opportunity now and lose the project, it will be devastating. Commissioner French said he hopes the funding (by the governing entities) will spill over into the community and they will see that one quarter of 1% tax is not that much and it will benefit this community greatly. French said it will also benefit the community financially as it has the potential to bring tourism into town. Councilman Billingsley stated the WCVA Board has decided to allocate \$500,000. Everyone needs to be ambassadors for the recreation tax; it is essential to get out and talk to the community about what it is and what it will do; and, if that effort is made, the tax will pass. County Administrator Deist stated he supports the project, but questions the impact of the \$1,000,000 commitment and what it will do for the County. Commissioner French moved to commit \$1,000,000 of the County building reserve to fund the County portion of the Recreation Complex project. Motion carried unanimously. WCVA member Don Stoker moved to contribute \$500,000 to the project from the WCVA payable in sum of \$250,000 now and \$125,000 for each of the following two years. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

There were no public or personal communications.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

