

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 21, 2015**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Ken Tipton, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks. Staff present: City Manager Steve West, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the April 7, 2015 regular City Council meeting were reviewed and Councilman Brooks moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

The warrants were reviewed and Councilman Brooks moved for approval as submitted. Councilman Billingsley abstained from voting on warrants for Jim Dandy Productions as he is the owner of the business. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS / EMPLOYEE AWARDS:

There were no proclamations or employee awards.

PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor Putnam read a note from Kathi Wolfsteller of Operation Easter thanking the City for the use of the Sports Complex for the annual Easter egg hunt.

Mayor Putnam read a letter from Vitality Unlimited thanking the Mayor and Council for their continued donation of \$6,000 in support of Silver Sage Counseling.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:

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 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 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.

TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURE REQUEST / WINNEMUCCA BASQUE CLUB

Louis Mendiola, President Winnemucca Basque Club, requested approval to sponsor a 5K run utilizing various City Streets between Haskell and Highland on Saturday June 13, 2015 from

7:00 a.m. to the end of the race. Mendiola commented that this is the third year the run is being held in conjunction with Basque Festival. The Winnemucca Basque Club has the required insurance and they will provide the police department a map of the route. Mendiola said the streets do not need to be closed and they have a safety plan in place. Councilman Mavity moved to approve the request made by the Winnemucca Basque Club to hold the Basque Festival 5K run on various streets between Haskell and Highland on Saturday June 13, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. to the end of the race. Motion carried unanimously with Councilman Brooks abstaining as she is a member of the Basque Club.

VARIANCE REQUEST VW-15-04 / INCREASE FRONT FENCE HEIGHT / CASTENADA-ROMERO

Mayor Putnam presented a variance request submitted by Uriel Castaneda-Romero to increase the allowed fence height in the front yard setback from three (3) feet to six (6) feet for the construction of a fence at 531 Nixon Street, APN #3638-30-290-001. Putnam stated no comments were received by the Planning Department. Councilman Owens moved to approve, based on staff findings and recommendations, variance VW-15-04 to increase the allowed fence height in the front yard setback from three (3) feet to six (6) feet for the construction of a fence at 531 Nixon Street. Motion carried unanimously.

VARIANCE REQUEST VW-15-05 / DECREASE SIDE YARD SETBACK / SNYDER

Mayor Putnam presented a variance request submitted by Tony Snyder to reduce the NE side yard setback from twenty (20) feet to five (5) feet in order to construct an addition to the residence at 49 Pacific Avenue, APN #3638-19-431-005. Putnam stated no comments were received by the Planning Department. Councilman Owens moved to approve, based on staff findings and recommendations, variance VW-15-05 to reduce the NE side yard setback from twenty (20) feet to five (5) feet for the construction of an addition to the residence at 49 Pacific Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

VARIANCE REQUEST VW-15-06 / DECREASE FRONT YARD SETBACK / SILVA

Mayor Putnam presented a variance request submitted by Ismail Silva to reduce the front yard setback from twenty (20) feet to sixteen (16) feet for an addition to the residence at 642 Monroe Street, APN #3638-30-434-02. Putnam stated no comments were received by the Planning Department. Councilman Brooks moved to approve, based on staff findings and recommendations, variance VW-15-06 to reduce the front yard setback from twenty (20) feet to sixteen (16) feet for the construction of an addition to the residence at 642 Monroe Street. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO FUND THE WEST RAILROAD STREET LIGHTING PROJECT / STAFF

City Manager West stated the estimated cost of adding sixteen street lights on West Railroad Street has increased substantially since the Council initially authorized the project nearly two years ago. The project has experienced lengthy delays in order to allow time to resolve power line easement issues with the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). The UPRR has agreed to reduce its standard easement fee from \$24,000 to \$1,000, but the total project costs have increased from \$12,500 to about \$30,500 (\$1,906 / light). The dramatic increase in the NV Energy fees is a direct result of NV Energy being acquired by Berkshire Hathaway and increases in the

applicable taxes placed on energy projects. If the project is cancelled, the City is still responsible for the NV Energy design fees which are between \$5,000 and \$7,000. West stated it is staff's recommendation to move forward on the long planned public safety project. Councilman Tipton asked if the street lights will be LED. West stated no. The standard 100W lights will be increased to 200W because the existing light poles are set back farther; this will increase the illumination. Councilman Billingsley asked if there was something more efficient. West replied the lights are the standard NV Energy lights; the City pays to have them installed and NV Energy maintains them. Currently, NV Energy does not have an LED light that is affordable. Councilman Billingsley moved to authorize the West Railroad Street lighting project with the increase in the price to \$30,500. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager West reported the water valve replacement project planned for last night went well. The Public Works crew finished about 3:30 this morning with very little inconvenience to the public. The installation of the valves allows isolation by blocks, from the railroad tracks to the river, instead of having to shut down major areas for leaks or scheduled repairs. There will be a sewer project design meeting tomorrow with the City, the engineer and the contractor; the wastewater facility design is 30% complete. West reminded that \$50,000 is budgeted for a test well on the east end of town. A quote of \$4,700 was received from Hydro Resources to use new geothermal technology to identify potential ground aquifers, which may allow going directly to a production well instead of first doing a test well. The water from the new well will be pumped directly into the system and stored in the lower tank. The Winnemucca Blvd. project is making good progress. The final revisions to the plans are complete; 100% design plans are ready to be submitted to NDOT. Once the plans are approved, the project will be bid. This is a \$300,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant from NDOT and the City match will be \$50-60,000. The repair work on last year's street chip seal project will begin as soon as the weather permits; the company plans to use a micro seal. The paint and block filler has been received for the animal control shelter and the kennels will be here next week.

Councilman Owens attended a RTC meeting.

Councilman Mavity attended the Landfill Committee meeting yesterday and the Global Youth Service Day–Arbor Day–Earth Day celebration held at the Community Garden, and will attend another Arbor Day Celebration the first week of May. Mayor Putnam stated there will be a “tree walk” May 6, 2015 which Councilman Brooks will attend in her absence.

Councilman Tipton attended the Paradise Valley Sonoma Conservation District meeting via telephone.

Councilman Billingsley attended a Downtown Business Association (DBA) meeting along with Councilman Brooks, Mayor Putnam and City Manager West.

Councilman Brooks attended a Denio Community Hall barbeque.

Mayor Putnam attended a Newmont meeting with City Manager West. Putnam presented the State of the City address at the Chamber luncheon. Putnam met with Mike Worm, Executive Director of the Truckee Meadows Boys and Girls Club, and reported the Winnemucca Boys and Girls Club will be under Worm's direction through a management agreement with the Truckee

