

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 17, 2012**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Richard Stone, Doug Cain, Joyce Sheen, Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks. Staff present: City Manager Steve West, City Attorney Kent Maher and City Clerk Eddy Davis.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The City Council April 3, 2012 regular meeting minutes were presented for review and Councilman Cain moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:**

The warrants were presented for review and Councilman Sheen moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROCLAMATIONS / EMPLOYEE AWARDS:**

There were no proclamations or employee awards.

**PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:**

There were no public or personal communications or correspondence.

**DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:**

**BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION**

City Attorney Maher and 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 Sheen 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.

**VARIANCE REQUEST / INCREASE FENCE HEIGHT / RAILROAD STREET BETWEEN ANDERSON AND McSHEE STREETS / RUEDEBUSCH DEVELOPMENT**

Betty Lawrence, Humboldt County Planning Department, said no comments had been received as of this date. The property owner, Ruedebusch Development, is requesting an increase in the allowed fence height on property located between Anderson Street and McShee Street, adjacent to Railroad Street. The increase in the fence height will allow the anticipated user of the property, Federal Express, to meet their internal security requirements. City Manager West said staff recommends approval. Councilman Cain moved to approve, based upon staff findings and recommendation, variance request VW-12-08 to increase the allowable fence height from six (6) feet to eight (8) feet in an L-M (Limited Manufacturing) zoning district on property located between Anderson and McShee Street adjacent to Railroad Street, APNs 015-

385-09 and 015-385-10, on behalf of Ruedebusch Development. Motion carried unanimously. Resolution Number 2012-11.

**OVERHEAD POWER SERVICE REQUEST / 227 GARRISON STREET (REAR OF 451 W. SECOND STREET) / WEST WIND LLC-FRANSWAY**

Mayor Putnam pointed out that overhead power lines already serve this property. City Manager West clarified that this request involves two properties, and one property already has an overhead power service. The applicant wants to add a new service for the second parcel, which requires the approval of the Council. Staff recommends approval of this request. Councilman Cain moved to approve, based upon staff recommendation, the request for overhead power service to property located at 227 Garrison Street (rear of 451 W. Second Street), on behalf of West Wind LLC-Tom Fransway. Motion carried unanimously.

**STREET CLOSURE REQUEST / MAPLE AVENUE BETWEEN MUSEUM LANE AND MODOC DRIVE / 1ST ANNUAL COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**

Nancy Farrell, Tumbleweed Promotions, presented the request for a temporary street closure on Maple Avenue for the 1st Annual Country and Bluegrass Festival. Farrell said six musical bands are booked to provide entertainment, as are 20-25 local residents who will play instruments and sing. Up to 50 booths will be on site offering local arts, crafts and food products, as well as alcohol. The event is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, June 9 and 10 between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. each day, which will require the temporary closure of Maple Avenue between the top of Museum Lane and Modoc Drive. The event is free to the public, but donations will be solicited for the local food bank and the Humboldt County Museum. The "Best Seat in the House" will be raffled off with proceeds going to the Senior Center. Local art will be displayed and auctioned by live auction, with the proceeds distributed to local charities. The goal of the event is to promote and support the community. Councilman Billingsley asked if there was adequate parking available. Farrell replied there will be additional parking across Highway 95 at the dental office parking lot, and the Model T Casino has tentatively offered a shuttle service to and from their parking lot to the event. In answer to Mayor Putnam's question, Farrell said she believes there will be at least 1,000 people in attendance, but she is hopeful for 2,000-3,000. The event has been advertised in Utah and Idaho. Councilman Sheen said coordination for the event was very well organized and the support for local charities is great for the community. Councilman Cain moved to approve the temporary street closure request for Maple Avenue between Museum Lane and Modoc Drive on Saturday June 9 and Sunday June 10, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. each day to accommodate the 1st Annual Country and Bluegrass Festival. Motion carried unanimously.

**STREET CLOSURE REQUEST / KLUNCY CANYON ROAD FROM SHERWOOD DRIVE TO LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT / WINNEMUCCA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Captain Bill Dalley of the Winnemucca Police Department said the "Every Fifteen Minute Youth Drinking & Driving Awareness Program" drill is sponsored by Humboldt General Hospital and consists of various scenarios related to the effects of drunk driving. A temporary closure of a portion of Kluncy Canyon Road is requested for the event. Mock accidents caused by drunk driving will be acted out, filmed and critiqued. Various agencies participating include Albertson's Funeral Home, Humboldt General Hospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department, judges, doctors, nurses, Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, Winnemucca Police Department, parents, students and teachers. Councilman Brooks said it has taken five years to get this drill together. Mayor Putnam added it is a good project and the City should support education against drunk driving. Councilman Cain asked if everything had been coordinated with the school bus schedules at the end of the day. Dalley replied yes. Councilman Sheen

moved to approve the temporary closure of a portion of Kluncy Canyon Road from Sherwood Street to the horseshoe parking lot in front of Lowry High School on Monday April 30, 2012 from 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. to accommodate the "Every Fifteen Minute Youth Drinking & Driving Awareness Program" drill. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VESCO CITY PARK USE REQUEST / JULY 4th CELEBRATION / LIONS CLUB**

Mayor Putnam noted this was an annual request without any changes from last year. Councilman Billingsley moved to approve the request to schedule the use of Vesco City Park all day Wednesday July 4, 2012 for the annual Fourth of July activities and fireworks celebration hosted by the Winnemucca Host Lions Club. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **SPORTS COMPLEX USE FEES WAIVER REQUEST / WINNEMUCCA YOUTH BASEBALL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

Mayor Putnam said this request has come before the Council in the past. Councilman Stone added in the past several years the request has been granted as a donation rather than a waiver to cover the fees to use the Softball Complex. Staff recommends approval of this request. Gina Rackley, Winnemucca Youth Baseball Tournament Committee member, said the event will be held on Mother's Day weekend, May 12 and 13. Teams from Fallon, Yerington, Battle Mountain, Spring Creek, Elko and Reno are expected. The age limit for players is 14 years of age. Assisting with the fees helps to keep the tournament entry costs low, which encourages participation from the neighboring communities. The City benefits through the use of lodging facilities, restaurants, and fuel purchases. Councilman Sheen moved to approve, based upon staff recommendation, a donation of the sports complex use fees for the use of the softball complex for the Winnemucca Youth Baseball Tournament to be held on May 12-13, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **NIXON LAWN USE REQUEST / WINNEMUCCA BASQUE CLUB**

Mayor Putnam said this was a new outdoor event proposed by the local Basque Club for the Nixon Lawn. Councilman Brooks disclosed that she is a member of the local Basque Club and will abstain from the discussion and action on this item. Councilman Cain moved to approve the request to use the Nixon Lawn (located on the corner of Winnemucca Blvd. and Melarkey Street) on Saturday June 9, 2012 from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Sunday June 10, 2012 for a Basque outdoor dance hosted by the Winnemucca Basque Club. Motion carried unanimously with Councilman Brooks abstaining.

#### **DETERMINATION THAT VEHICLE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR PUBLIC USE / POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Putnam asked if there were any comments concerning this request. City Manager West and Police Chief Silva recommend approval of this request. Councilman Stone moved to approve, based upon staff recommendation, the determination that one (1) 2002 Dodge Intrepid sedan is no longer required for public use by the police department, and to approve the sale of the vehicle at public auction. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **STAFF / COUNCIL REPORTS**

City Manager West reported a letter was received from NDOT regarding the Haskell Street/Bridge Street intersection traffic control. West said no progress has been made during many years of work with NDOT on the proposed traffic signal project. West recommended that the issue be placed on the next agenda for the Council to consider a response to the letter.

Mayor Putnam questioned if NDOT recognizes the problems and issues with the intersection. Even after the City offered to pay for a traffic signal, NDOT is apparently still leaning towards the round-a-bout solution. The last point in the letter suggests the City should take over responsibility of Haskell Street, which will allow the City to do whatever it wants with the street. West added there are no potential (street) trade options available that will allow the City to take over Haskell Street. The previously completed Haskell Street reconstruction project was substantially funded with local RTC funds and City matching funds were used for the associated landscaping. NDOT apparently wants to relinquish Haskell Street to the City, which may be why they are not cooperating with the City request. The traffic signal is an affordable option. The City has only asked NDOT to contribute in-house design and construction inspection services. Staff was directed to extend NDOT an invitation to attend the next City Council meeting. The WPD completed a revised draft policy manual. It is a sizeable document, which should be approved by the City Council as soon as possible, since many portions of the current policy manual are outdated. Police Chief Silva said personnel will be tested on the policies on a regular basis. City Attorney Maher is also reviewing the manual. Water Canyon Road will be the largest street project this year. A portion of the site survey has been obtained and the design work is just beginning. Conceptual drawings and a budget have been provided for the Winnemucca Blvd./Melarkey Street intersection improvement project and they will be discussed by the WCVA at their meeting tonight. A joint City/County meeting will address the issue at a later date.

Councilman Stone said it is difficult for users to locate the beginning point of the new Winnemucca Mountain bike trail, as there are no signs or directions at the trailhead. Councilman Sheen suggested former Councilman Patty Herzog may be a good source to answer any questions.

Councilman Cain attended the recent RTC and Airport board meetings. The LEPC meeting was cancelled.

Councilman Sheen will attend the WCVA meeting later today. A call was received from Humboldt Development Services (HDS) questioning why the County and City discussed stopgap budget measures for Sonoma Industries (SI). HDS feels they should be given the same consideration as SI because they offer the same services and receive funding from the same sources as SI. Further questions need to be answered by SI. Mayor Putnam said the City must always be mindful of the purposes of local government, that is, public safety, utilities, etc. (the "police powers"). Care must be taken to spend taxpayer dollars responsibly. A discussion took place at the Landfill Committee meeting concerning a scale system that will allow charging for commercial waste taken to the landfill. Both commercial haulers believe a second scale will be required.

Councilman Brooks attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the acute care expansion at the hospital. The NNRC and an Eagle Scout candidate are working together on the YURT project. The Police Officer's Banquet is tonight. The Golf Course clubhouse looks nice and offers a good lunch and merchandise inventory. There is a notable difference in the facility.

Mayor Putnam and City Manager West attend the Newmont breakfast. The meeting was positive and it was noted that mining projects have extended their longevity in the area, which benefits the County and City through the collection of sales tax revenues associated with large mining equipment purchases. Exploration has increased over the past decade which signifies their continued presence in this area. West added the future will include both open pit and underground mining expansion. Condolences have been sent to Buster High's widow, Carol. Employee negotiations are going well and moving forward. Income tax closing day is today.

**PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:**

Dee Holzel, Silver Pinyon Journal, requested a copy of the letter received from NDOT regarding the Haskell Street/Bridge Street intersection. A resident inquired of Holzel why the City doesn't establish another railroad crossing connecting Railroad Street (near Walmart) with Grass Valley Road. City Manager West said that due to liability issues, the railroad will no longer allow for crossings over railroad tracks at ground level, causing the need for the construction of an overpass similar to the one located on Hanson Street. The cost is prohibitive; however, another overpass is included as part of the street master plan for the area.

Mayor Putnam adjourned the meeting at 2:57 p.m. until the next meeting on May 1, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy D. Davis  
City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED:** May 1, 2012

**VOTE OF COUNCIL:**

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Councilmen</b>	<u>Stone, Cain, Sheen, Billingsley, Brooks</u>
<b>NAYS:</b>	<b>Councilmen</b>	_____
<b>NOT VOTING:</b>	<b>Councilman</b>	_____
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>Councilman</b>	_____

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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Di An Putnam  
Mayor

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Eddy D. Davis  
City Clerk