

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 21, 2013**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Doug Cain, Ken Tipton and Paige Brooks. Absent: Councilmen Mike Owens and Jim Billingsley. 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 May 7, 2013 minutes of the regular City Council meeting were presented for review and Councilman Cain moved for approval as submitted. Councilman Tipton abstained from voting since he was absent from the May 7 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

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

PROCLAMATIONS / EMPLOYEE AWARDS:

Mayor Putnam presented a 5-year employee service award to Animal Control Officer Connie Patterson. Putnam thanked Patterson for her dedication and the outstanding job she does protecting animals. Police Chief Silva added his gratitude and stated that Patterson does a great job.

PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:

Diane Rice, representing the Lowry High School cheerleaders, explained their planned fund raising at this year's Run-A-Mucca event. Rice reported they will again be sponsoring a bike wash at Sonoma Cycle, and will be selling water and having a bake sale on the Nixon Lawn because it is accessible to people attending the events scheduled at the Winner's.

Mayor Putnam issued the oaths of office to Jessie Lindsey, City Treasurer, and Lorrie Haaglund, City Clerk.

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 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. 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.

STREET CLOSURE REQUEST / NNRA GOOD TIMES STREET DRAGS

Melissa Murphy, NNRA member, made the annual street closure request for the Northern Nevada Racing Association (NNRA) Good Times Street Drags to be held August 2-3. Mayor Putnam stated that the street closure requests included extra days for set-up and take down. Murphy said the streets will not be completely closed on August 1 and August 4. The NNRA will be doing traffic control and working in and around traffic to allow traffic movement and to reduce the impact to surrounding businesses. Putnam asked if they proposed to provide insurance certificates to the same two property owners as in the past and for the City. Murphy stated they will provide the required insurance certificates. Putnam said the event brings in large groups to Winnemucca which is good for the motels, restaurants and the economy in general. Councilman Cain moved to approve the request as presented subject to the required certificates of insurances being provided ahead of time. Motion carried unanimously.

REZONE RW-13-03 / PUBLIC HEARING-ORDINANCE ADOPTION / LAMBERT

Mayor Putnam read the rezone request summary. Betty Lawrence, Humboldt County Planning Department, said the Humboldt County Regional Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezone at their meeting held May 9. Councilman Cain asked if any correspondence had been received. Lawrence stated they had received none. John Milton, Desert Mountain Surveying, was present on behalf of property owners Blake and Dawneen Lambert. Milton stated that there were no objections voiced at the Regional Planning Commission meeting, and that of the existing 28 parcels on Hanson Street, the majority are zoned commercial or public facility. Milton explained the proposed rezoning will make the property fit in with the pattern of development and the usage of Hanson Street. Councilman Tipton asked what the plan is for the lot. Milton stated the owners are improving the lot and the equipment that is there will continue to be stored on the property. Lawrence added she spoke with the Lamberts and they plan to fence and landscape the property. Putnam asked for public comment. There was no public comment. Councilman Cain moved to approve the rezone per staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously. Ordinance No. 791.

REZONE RW-13-05 / PUBLIC HEARING-ORDINANCE ADOPTION / CITY OF WINNEMUCCA

Mayor Putnam read the rezone request summary and stated this is the planned location for the new City fire station facility. Betty Lawrence, Humboldt County Planning Department, stated no one was present to object to this rezone at the Planning Commission meeting held May 9. The Regional Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezone. Putnam asked for public comment. There was no public comment. Councilman Brooks moved to approve the rezone per staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously. Ordinance No. 792.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION RATE / FY 2013-14

Mayor Putnam said she and City Manager West met with John Carlson, the insurance broker, several times on the health insurance renewal proposals. Putnam said the City employees and the Humboldt County employees are in a "pool" but the premiums will still increase. If the City stayed with St. Mary's, there would have been a 25% premium increase. The pool elected to go with Anthem and the premiums will go up about 8.5%. West said the rates reflect the high loss ratio that the City and County have experienced over the past few years and the increase of health insurance rates nationwide. West said the Health Reform Act will have further adverse consequences. In the future, the City will be forced to go with higher deductibles or less

benefits in order to continue to provide coverage for its employees. The County accepted the Anthem proposal and City staff recommends approval. Staff also recommends the City contribution be increased to \$725 per month per employee for roughly the same insurance coverage presently available. Putnam stated this is an increase of approximately \$70 per employee, and a total cost increase in City insurance benefits of approximately \$40,000. Councilman Brooks moved to accept the Anthem health insurance proposal, and to authorize the higher City employee contribution amount for FY 2013-14. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING / 2013-14 TENTATIVE BUDGET / 2013-14 FINAL BUDGET

Mayor Putnam stated this is the required public hearing for the tentative budget for fiscal year 2013-14. City Manager West explained there are two actions to be taken: (1) holding the required public hearing on the tentative budget, and (2) approving the final budget with minor modifications as recommended by staff. Putnam asked for public comment. There was no public comment. Councilman Tipton asked if the increase in the health insurance cost will raise the budget by \$40,000. West stated the budget included an anticipated increase in health insurance costs, but it was slightly less than the total cost of the insurance. West explained the proposed modifications for the final budget. Councilman Cain moved to approve the recommended revisions to the tentative budget and accept the revised budget as the final fiscal year 2013-14 City budget. Motion carried unanimously.

CEMETERY / CREMAINS NICHE BUILDING PROJECT

Mayor Putnam stated that the FY 2013-14 budget included \$50,000 for a columbarium for placement of cremains at the cemetery. City staff received one proposal (from the Christy Vault Co.) to construct the structure and place the vaults. City Attorney Maher stated that the law requires two proposals from persons capable of doing this type of work for a project costing between \$25,000 and \$50,000. City Manager West said that staff had searched the internet and other resources, but was unable to find any other company that provides the vaults with installation included. West noted cremations are becoming more popular and this is a good way to extend the life of the cemetery. The proposal is for 96 medium vaults in the niche. Putnam stated the proposal is for \$45,889, which includes the complete installation. Councilman Tipton moved to determine that the niche building and vault installation is apparently available only from one source, and that the City award the project to Christy Vault Co. for the sum of \$45,889. Motion carried unanimously.

WINNEMUCCA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 AGREEMENT

City Manager West reviewed the proposed changes in the Winnemucca Police Officers' Association bargaining unit agreement as follows: the PERS contribution will increase 0.75% to 40.5% on July 1, 2013; the City health insurance contribution will be increased to \$725.69 per month for each employee; the City will provide a 2.5% COLA effective July 1, 2013; the agreement language will reflect three month shift periods instead of six month shift periods; the soft body armor contribution will increase from \$700 to \$800; and, the City will provide a stipend for any officer who maintains an EMS paramedic certification at \$200 per ear. The 2.5% step increases will remain. The term of the agreement is proposed for one year from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Councilman Cain moved to approve the agreement as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

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WINNEMUCCA EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 AGREEMENT

City Manager West reviewed the proposed changes in the Winnemucca Employees' Association bargaining unit agreement as follows: the PERS contribution will increase 2% from 23.75% to 25.75% on July 1, 2013; the City health insurance contribution will be increased to \$725.69 per month for each employee; the City will provide a 2.5% COLA effective July 1, 2013; the City will provide a 2.5% merit raise; and, there will be a 50% reduction in the golf course green fees stipend. The term of the agreement is proposed for one year from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Councilman Brooks moved to approve the agreement as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF / COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager West summarized the recent series of e-mails regarding water sample testing and the state requirements on failed testing. The State requires ten (10) monthly samples, taken from different sites, be submitted for testing. If a sample does not meet preliminary standards, three additional tests must be taken in the failed area. If the additional test results meet standards, then no notice is required to water customers. If two (2) samples don't meet standards, the City must immediately retest and submit those samples to the State health lab. Regardless of whether the retests meet standards or not, the City must notify all affected users. The May samples did not meet standards, and the City is in the process of sending out notifications to everyone in zones 2, 3 and 4. Positive coliform tests are an indicator of a possible problem, but they can occur with poor testing practices or environmental issues at the time the test is taken and a positive test is not necessarily an indication of poor water quality. Under the new guidelines, anytime the City has a portion of the water system shut down, whether caused by a main break or a planned shutdown, the City has to notify every customer that is affected by the shutdown with a boil water notice. When the system is back online water samples must be submitted, and when there is clearance from the submitted tests, another notice must be sent stating the boil water order is rescinded.

City Manager West reported Water Foreman Alan Smith (a D3 operator) resigned this week. The City is required to have a D3 operator on staff to operate the municipal water system. West said it is his understanding that the City has six (6) months to hire a D3 operator. Currently, there are several employees working towards the D3 certification, but if the position is not filled by then, there are consultants in the Reno area who can be hired to maintain compliance with state regulations. The Water Canyon Road project plans are complete, and the project should be bid in a couple of weeks. The sewer interceptor project plans are currently being drafted by Desert Mountain Surveying; the prints will be submitted to the railroad and NDOT for permitting. The chip seal project bid opening is tomorrow. Staff submitted the East Winnemucca Boulevard transportation alternatives grant application to NDOT for curbs, gutters and sidewalks between Haskell Street and the New Frontier project. The Great Basin Drive final plans were received today; the project should be completed by late summer.

Councilman Brooks reported NNRC had their last meeting for the summer and that the Yurt was taken down last Saturday. The guest book showed over 400 people had visited.

Mayor Putnam reported she has been attending many meetings. She and City Manager West will be meeting with Warren Woods tomorrow for an update on the Hycroft mine project. Putnam noted it has been a busy year, and all projects are moving forward. She thanked the City staff for their hard work.

NOT APPROVED

PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:

There were no public or personal communications or correspondence.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED: June 4, 2013

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

AYES:	Councilmen	<u>Cain, Tipton, Brooks</u>
NAYS:	Councilmen	_____
NOT VOTING:	Councilman	<u>Owens, Billingsley</u>
ABSENT:	Councilman	_____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Di An Putnam
Mayor

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk