

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 22, 2013**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Mike Owens, Doug Cain, Ken Tipton, and Paige Brooks. Absent: Councilman 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. Putnam, on behalf of the City of Winnemucca, recognized the City of Sparks and the tragedy (a school shooting) they recently suffered.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the October 3, 2013 special City Council meeting were presented for review and Councilman Brooks moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the October 8, 2013 regular City Council meeting 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 Brooks 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**

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 Cain 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.

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**PLANNING-ZONING / VARIANCE VW-13-08 / LOT SIZE REDUCTION / YEAGER-BEYER**

John Milton, Desert Mountain Surveying, presented a request from property owners Edward Yeager and Andrew Beyer to reduce the required 7,500 square foot lot size in the R-3 zoning district to approximately 3,500 square feet to allow the existing house at 311 E. Second Street to be divided from the remainder of the property. There will be a continuation of the existing 25 feet in width alley from Baud Street through the subject property to permit access to the created parcel. A parcel map will be prepared and recorded after variance approval, and it will contain the planned easement. Councilman Cain moved to approve the variance request based on staff findings, conditioned upon creation of a legal 25 feet in width easement for access when the parcel map is created. Motion carried unanimously.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT LEASE / PLEASANT SENIOR CENTER**

Pleasant Senior Center Director Patricia Tindall presented a request from the Senior Center to the City, as property owner of the Senior Center, for consent to an agreement with UpStar Energy to construct and maintain a solar power array on land owned by the City and leased to the Senior Citizens of Humboldt County, Inc. The solar array will provide the Senior Center with power credits. UpStar will install and own the panels, and maintain them for the first six years. The Senior Center will get energy credits which will be a credit on their power bill. The Senior Center will get half the credits and UpStar will get the other half for the first six years. There is no cost to the Senior Center, the City or the taxpayers. All maintenance and repairs for the first six years is the responsibility of UpStar. The program is under the Nevada Energy Renewable Generation Program. After six years elapse, the solar array becomes the Senior Center's responsibility and they will receive 100% of the energy credits. The energy credits never go away and if any credits are produced and not used, they are carried forward. The Senior Center is hoping to be self sustaining and not have to pay such high energy bills. City Manager West recommended approval. Councilman Cain moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the property owner approval document subject to any corrections or revisions of the City Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

**VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION NO. 47 / PUBLIC HEARING-ORDINANCE ADOPTION / MORRISSEY**

John Milton, Desert Mountain Surveying, provided a plat map showing the location of the Morrissey 80 acres proposed for annexation. Mayor Putnam asked for public comment. There was no public comment. Councilman Owens moved to adopt ordinance 794 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**SPEED LIMIT / WATER CANYON ROAD AND GREAT BASIN AVENUE**

Mayor Putnam said it is proposed to increase the speed limit on portions of Water Canyon Road and Great Basin Avenue from 25 mph to 35 mph. Putnam asked Police Captain Dalley if he had heard any comments, if he had the opportunity to drive the two proposed streets, and his opinion of the proposal. Dalley stated he had driven Great Basin Avenue and it meets the parameters for the 35 mph speed limit. Councilman Brooks questioned if the proposed 35 mph speed limit included all of Great Basin Avenue. City Manager West stated the proposed speed limit increase is only from the north corner of the Lowry High School property to East Winnemucca Boulevard. Brooks also asked if Water Canyon will be posted 35 mph for its entire

length. West responded that the proposed 35 mph section is from the cattle guard (at the City limits) to Two Rock Drive. The upper housing section of Water Canyon Road is proposed to be 35 mph because the houses are all set back from the street and, with most driveways, the drivers do not have to back directly onto Water Canyon Road, which is now 30 feet wide with a pedestrian walkway on one side. West said the road is definitely wide enough to support the proposed 35 mph speed limit. Brooks said she has heard concerns from the public about speed enforcement on the roadway, and she believes that making just a portion of the two roadways 35 mph will be confusing to the public. Councilman Tipton asked what the reasoning was for varying the speed limit on Great Basin Avenue. West said it was because the high school and middle school were next to Great Basin Avenue and Highland Park is located across Water Canyon Road; typically a 35 mph speed zone through school or park areas is not desirable, but the schools already have 15 mph speed zones during certain hours. After some discussion, Brooks said she believes the varied speed limits will be confusing and hard to enforce and she felt that consistent speed limits were advisable. Councilman Owens agreed that all of Water Canyon Road should be 35 mph. Councilman Cain questioned the 35 mph speed limit near the park. Putnam suggested the City could place yellow strobe lights in the park area alerting drivers to possible pedestrian hazards. City Attorney Maher stated if there are problems the matter could always be re-addressed and changed if necessary. Councilman Owens moved to implement a 35 mph speed zone on Water Canyon Road from the cattle guard at the City limits to the intersection of Highland Drive and Hansen Street. Motion carried unanimously. Councilman Tipton moved to implement a 35 mph speed zone for the entire length of Great Basin Drive and to leave the existing 15 mph school zones in effect during the posted hours. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **CITY POTENTIAL PROJECTS / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Mayor Putnam said this is the time scheduled for citizen participation and discussion of potential Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects. The City was successful in sponsoring the Pleasant Senior Center (Phase I) kitchen expansion project for a 2013 Community Development Block Grant. City Manager West said the City anticipates sponsoring Phase II of the Senior Center project in the 2014 CDBG cycle. Putnam asked for public input or comment. None was given.

#### **BID REVIEW-CONTRACT AWARD / DOWNTOWN SEWER INTERCEPTOR PROJECT**

Mayor Putnam reported the city received a single bid from Hunewill Construction for the sewer interceptor project in the amount of \$1,094,833.28. Councilman Brooks noted the engineer's project cost estimate was one million dollars. City Manager West stated this is a very unique project and it was difficult to estimate the construction costs due to the depth of the work in existing streets, the use of trench boxes and trench plating, and there are a lot of unknowns such as the location of utilities. West believes the bid is very fair and recommended acceptance. Councilman Tipton asked about the anticipated time frame for the project. West stated it is anticipated the project will be completed this winter, subject to the weather. The water table may be an issue on Second Street, even though the problems should be minimized due to winter construction. Tipton asked if they will be doing the project in segments or the whole thing at once. West said he expects they will only be able to do 40 to 50 feet per day on the deep part of the project. Entire blocks may be closed for several days. The three boring areas will be disturbed for at least a month each. West stated this is a nightmare project, but the benefits will be great when completed. Councilman Owens asked if the public notice (included in the

meeting packets) will be given to all residents and businesses affected by the project. West said that Public Works Supervisor Sutton has already talked with most business owners that will be impacted, and the written notices will be distributed to everyone else. Councilman Brooks moved to award the bid for the downtown sewer interceptor project to Hunewill Construction in the amount of \$1,094,833.28. Motion carried unanimously.

### **STAFF / COUNCIL REPORTS**

City Manager West reported that he and the Mayor met with Golf Pro Rick Longhurst for a follow up discussion regarding his resignation. West said they are hopeful that they will have a recommendation to retain Longhurst in a different role. Staff and the Mayor have been working with the Boys and Girls Club; a committee has been established which includes County Commissioner Bell; and, a lot of options are being explored. When all the research is completed, the options will be presented to the County Commission, City Council and the WCVA. Water Canyon Road is being paved tomorrow and Thursday. It appears that project consultant Don Smit will recommend acceptance of a modified bid for construction of the proposed Fire Station at the November 5 City Council meeting. The auditors will present the audit report at the November 5 meeting. NDOT is expected to issue the permit for the Winnemucca Blvd. intersection project next week, but there are still some handicap ramp issues which will have to be worked out during the construction. The East Winnemucca Blvd. survey work has been completed for the sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and West will be working on the design of the project so it can go out to bid this spring.

Councilman Cain reported a drive through flu shot clinic will be held at the Indoor Event Center on October 26.

Councilman Tipton, along with the City Manager and the Mayor, attended the wastewater summit held last week by the County. Tipton said this is something to stay aware of, especially the concern with the presence of high nitrates.

Councilman Brooks reported the yurt in Water Canyon is up. There is a donation box at the site and the donated funds will be used to cover insurance and maintenance. Brooks attended the Landfill Committee meeting and the Frontier Coalition meeting.

City Attorney Maher said the Landfill Committee agreed to recommend to the city and county to accept solid waste from the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation effective January 1, 2014. The landfill fee charged will be based on the number of households on the reservation plus a 20% differential which will be paid by the Tribal office. The contract will be on a yearly basis and the tribe will provide a garbage hauling truck.

Mayor Putnam reported she is working with the Boys and Girls Club committee and will be attending another meeting tonight. Plans are coming along good. She and the City Manager attended a luncheon with Newmont Gold, and Newmont reported everything is going good and they are retaining their Midas operation. Halloween will be October 31 with trick or treating from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

### **PUBLIC / PERSONAL COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:**

There were no public or personal communications or correspondence.

**NOT APPROVED**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Haaglund  
City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED:** November 5, 2013

**VOTE OF COUNCIL:**

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

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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Di An Putnam  
Mayor

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Lorrie Haaglund  
City Clerk