

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2017**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present: Mayor Di An Putnam, Councilmen Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Vince Mendiola, and Paige Brooks. Absent: Councilman Jim Billingsley. Staff present: City Attorney Kent Maher, City Manager Steve West and City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT - PERSONAL COMMUNICATION - CORRESPONDENCE:

There were no public comments, personal communication or correspondence.

MINUTES:

The August 8, 2017 regular City Council meeting minutes were reviewed and Councilman Brooks moved to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

WARRANTS:

The warrants were reviewed and Councilman Mavity moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATION-AWARDS:

Police Chief Silva read a letter of resignation. Mayor Putnam commented that October 4 will be a very sad day for her, having to say good-bye to two of her favorite people, Chief Silva and City Manager West, both of whom have played a large part in the growth and advancement of the City. West commented that Silva has been the most professional police chief he has dealt with in his years with the City, and it's been a pleasure working with him. Putnam is hosting a retirement party for Silva and West on October 3 at the Boys and Girls Club.

BUSINESS ITEMS - 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 and Councilman Owens 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.

VARIANCE REQUEST / FENCE HEIGHT INCREASE / GABICA

Betty Lawrence presented a variance request submitted by Frank Gabica to allow: an 8' fence within the 20' front yard setback, to increase the allowed fence height from 3'; and, the 8' fence to continue to the rear of the property, to increase to allowed fence height from 6'. Lawrence commented the Planning Department received no objections and the proposed fence will not obstruct any views. The site is located at 253 Summit Avenue, APN 15-0045-10. Councilman Mavity moved to approve the variance request based on staff findings and recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

VARIANCE REQUEST / FENCE HEIGHT INCREASE / NV ENERGY

Betty Lawrence presented a variance request submitted by RCM Construction as agent for NV Energy to allow a 7' security fence topped with three strands of barbed wire along approximately 360' of the east side property line at 460 and 500 W. McArthur Avenue, APNs 16-0192-15 and 16-0192-07. Lawrence said no objections were received. Bob Meyer, representing RCM Construction, commented that since 9-11 the Federal government has increased security requirements and NV Energy has done several security improvements at their sites to protect the infrastructure of the electrical grid. Councilman Owens moved to approve the variance request based on staff findings and recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

STREET CLOSURE REQUEST / MIZPAH STREET / MAGA TRUCKING

Norm Maga from Maga Trucking requested the temporary closure of Mizpah Street from Haskell to the Skate Park on August 23, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to allow a crane to assist in the installation of HVAC units at the Humboldt General Hospital construction project. Councilman Owens moved to approve the temporary closure of Mizpah Street from Haskell to the Skate Park from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

VETERANS PROPOSAL / FORMER YOUTH CENTER BUILDING USE

City Manager West said there is nothing new to report since the last information was submitted by the Veterans organizations. This will be an on-going agenda item as updates become available.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROPOSAL / POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Putnam said the school district is proposing to enter into an agreement with the City to provide school resource officer services. The position has historically been staffed with a school district employee. The school district believes the services will be better provided by the police department. Bill Dalley, Deputy Police Chief, said this agenda item required no action; a recommended agreement will be presented to the Council when it is completed. Dave Jensen, Humboldt County School District Superintendent, commented he has been in discussion with Chief Silva and Deputy Chief Dalley concerning the replacement of the school resource officer with a police department employee. A draft agreement is currently being reviewed by City Attorney Maher and School District Attorney John Doyle. There are still issues to be resolved, but the intent is to enhance the services for both the district and the City. There is only one resource officer for the entire school district and the district is often reliant on the WPD and the HCSO for assistance. Jensen said that through the proposed arrangement, more coverage will be provided at schools and, when school is not in session, the additional officer will be available to the police department for overtime, evenings and weekends. The proposal contemplates a five year contract with the district paying a fixed annual sum to the City to cover the cost of the position. The district is also looking at providing funding for the officer's vehicle. Currently, the officer is housed at the high school, but is responsible for all eleven schools. Dalley stated the transition will probably take a year. No action was taken.

NV ENERGY EASEMENT GRANT / CITY

City Manager West presented a draft easement document provided by NV Energy for an existing overhead power line that crosses the newly acquired City sewer plant property near Cyanco Road. The City previously agreed to provide easements for all existing utility lines on the two sections of BLM property purchased for the new sewage treatment plant. Councilman

Brooks moved to approve the grant of an easement to NV Energy for their existing power line as presented by staff. Motion carried unanimously.

SEWER PLANT PROJECT CHANGE ORDER

City Manager West explained the proposed change order is in the amount of \$363,790.46 and it includes asphalt paving, a retaining wall, ground slope stabilization, grading changes and concrete curbing items that were eliminated from the original project scope in order to fit the budget restrictions. During the course of the project, the sewer fund balance has increased and monies are now available for this additional work. West said the engineering costs also increased as a result of certain project design revisions and permit requirements. Fortunately, there was no additional time required to complete the change orders. The timeline for the sewage treatment plant is: August 28 through September 5 – clean water run through at plant; September 6 - tentative date to start the pump station and send sewage into plant; September 6 through October 21 – 45 day operating period where contractor is responsible for running the plant; October 21 – City takes over full operation of the plant; and, October 22 through Dec. 20 – 60 day project closeout period. Councilman Owens moved to approve the change order as presented by staff in the amount of \$363,790.46. Motion carried unanimously.

ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER POSITION REINSTATEMENT

Mayor Putnam stated the City at one time had an Assistant City Engineer position and staff intends to reinstate the position. After substantial advertising, the City received only a few applicants for the soon to be vacant City Manager/Engineer position and the committee has determined that none of the applicants meet the City needs. An assistant city engineer position appears to be the best way to meet some of the City needs in the near future and a salary range of \$86,000 to \$92,000 is recommended. The timeframe to fill the position will be decided by staff. Councilman Mendiola said that timing was important in order to maximize the overlap with retiring City Manager West. The Council concurred with the decision to reinstate the Assistant City Engineer position. No action was taken.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager West gave a project update report as follows: (i) the details on the property easement on the east end of town for the Well #8 test hole project are still being worked out; (ii) the upper Kluncy Canyon Road pavement project has been completed; (iii) the intersection project is approximately 50% completed; (iv) the cemetery and parking lot projects have been awarded to Hunewill Construction and notices to proceed issued; (v) the test hole to determine the water level for the First Street sewer project will be completed next week; (vi) the notice to proceed was issued for the storm drain and water main project; (vii) the survey work for the sewer flood plain project is scheduled for next week; (viii) the Airport wind cone project is completed and the close out of the grant paperwork is underway; and, (ix) the notice to proceed was issued for the Airport runway paving project.

Councilman Mavity reported the Centennial Committee will meet tomorrow.

Councilman Mendiola reported on the HDA, NNRDA, Paradise Sonoma Conservation District and Humboldt River Water Basin Authority meetings.

Police Chief Silva reported that the academy cadet did not successfully complete his training and has resigned. The department will now begin the search to fill the opening. Silva reported that the generator donated by the Elko Police Department is ready to be disconnected and

