

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 5, 2020**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday May 5, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room. Present (at the meeting room): Mayor Richard Stone; Council members Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity and Vince Mendiola; and, City Manager/Engineer Alicia Heiser, City Clerk Lorrie Haaglund and City Attorney Kent Maher. Present (via teleconference): Council members Jim Billingsley and Paige Brooks.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no public comment, personal communication, or correspondence.

MINUTES:

The April 7, 2020 City Council regular meeting minutes were reviewed and Council member Mavity moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

WARRANTS-EXPENSES:

The reports for payments of warrants and expenses were reviewed and Council member Mavity moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS-PRESENTATIONS:

There were no proclamations, awards, or presentations.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

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 Council member Owens 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.

DONATION REQUEST / LOWRY HIGH SCHOOL SOBER GRADUATION PARTY

City Manager Heiser commented that the 2020 Lowry Sober Graduation Party Committee contacted the City and advised that the committee is still planning on using donations to buy prizes and make some sort of celebration for this year's seniors. The committee questioned if the City wants to opt out this year since it will not be the typical sober graduation party. Council member Mavity said the committee has always done a great job to cycle funds back into the community through the purchase of prizes. Mavity, who is a member of the committee, said they plan on issuing Chamber checks to each graduate with a significant part of the donated funds and using the remainder of the funds for prize drawings. Council members Owens and Mendiola said they support the event. Mendiola suggested the committee keep the City

donation and do with it as they see fit. Council member Brooks moved to recommend the 2020 Lowry Sober Graduation Party Committee keep the \$2,500 donation from the City. Motion carried unanimously with Council member Mavity abstaining from voting because she is a member of the Sober Graduation Committee.

CITY EMPLOYEE INSURANCE PROPOSALS / A & H INSURANCE

City Manager Heiser reported that the quoted premiums from Hometown Health and Kansas City Life for the 2021 fiscal year health, dental, vision and life insurance are identical to the 2020 fiscal year premiums. Heiser commented that Hometown Health has been good to work with the past three years and, in general, customer service has been good. The City will be participating in a minimal open enrollment this year. A & H Insurance suggested an additional higher deductible plan with a less costly premium, but the insurance committee felt the deductible was too high and recommends offering the same PPO and HSA plans as in the past. The combined City and County annual total premium is \$2.2M. The City portion is \$637,000. Council member Owens moved to accept the Hometown Health renewal and premium proposals with the premium the same as last year. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BODY-VEHICLE CAMERA SERVICES / MEDIUM TERM OBLIGATION RESOLUTION

Police Chief Garrison explained that the police department has some funds awarded through the 911 Surcharge Commission which will be used towards the funding needed for the state law mandated body camera and vehicle camera services. Garrison commented on the existing body camera services and explained that the proposed services will be much more efficient, versatile and user friendly and the equipment is included with the services at no additional charge. Since the agreement for obtaining the services is for a period of five (5) years, the City auditor recommended that the City use the medium-term financing process to ensure there is no audit violation. City Attorney Maher explained that the procurement of the services does not, in his opinion, require medium-term financing because there will be no repayment of borrowed money and there is no purchase of property by installment or lease; however, the auditor recommendation is to use the medium term financing process, which is as follows: 1) adopt the proposed resolution (in the meeting packet); 2) obtain approval from the Department of Taxation for the medium term financing; and, 3) enter into the contract to proceed with obtaining the services to satisfy the state law mandated body camera and vehicle camera services. There were no comments from the public. Council member Owens moved to make the findings therein and adopt the resolution for medium term financing to obtain safety services for law enforcement at a cost not to exceed \$220,000 for a five-year period as presented and per staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

K-9 PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Police Chief Garrison explained the past three police department K-9 dogs were dual purpose animals, that is, they were used for patrol purposes and narcotics detection. Issues with dual purpose dogs arose because they were trained to detect marijuana. When recreational marijuana became legal (during the tenure of the last dog), the dog could not be used and was retired. Officer Santos has been working on finding a funding source for a K-9 program and the current collective bargaining agreement (CBA) addresses payments for the care and maintenance of a service animal, which is not as much of an economic burden to the City as in the past. Santos found a local funding source for the program; about seventy-five percent

(75%) of the needed funding has been obtained and it is reasonably certain full funding will be attained. Care and maintenance of the animal includes an annual health exam and vaccinations at approximately \$945 annually. Dog food is approximately \$50 per month and Santos is looking at grant funding to cover the food costs. The department currently has a vehicle they can put into service for the program. Garrison does not for see any major unforeseen costs. Lieutenant Rangel said the initial cost of training for Officer Santos will be \$300. A single purpose dog can go to another officer and is not specific to one handler (dual purpose dogs are handler specific). The dog is trained to alert on methamphetamines, cocaine and heroin and is certified to not alert on marijuana. The dog alerting on a vehicle gives the officer probable cause to search the vehicle. A trained dog is a single best tool a patrol officer can use to establish probable cause for enforcement efforts against street level narcotics. Council member Owens moved to approve the request by the Police Department for a K-9 program with the condition that a report of the program usage be provided a year after certification. Motion carried unanimously.

PLAN-TIMELINE-RESTRICTIONS FOR RE-OPENING CITY FACILITIES, GOLF COURSE, PARKS, SWIMMING POOL AND SPORTS FIELDS TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Stone commented that Governor Sisolak recommends that playgrounds stay closed. The Golf Course is open for play only; the club house remains closed. The Council suggested guidelines for services at the cemetery should have a limit of ten people or less in attendance and a recommendation of masks being worn and social distancing being maintained. Chad Peters (representative of Winnemucca Boys & Girls Club as the City Recreation Director) discussed some options for use of the pool. Peters feels the pool could be made available for the early morning groups, such as lap walk/swim and aqua size, which usually have about five (5) people in attendance. Swim lessons could resume with a limited number of swimmers; however, any adult that attends the swim lessons with their child will need to be included in the count. Peters said they discussed using reservations for open swim, such as one family at a time for a thirty to forty-five-minute time slot. On Thursday, Peters will participate in a discussion with other pool facilitators in northern Nevada to consider safety protocols for pool use. Peters said he is not aware of any pools that are open to the public. Stone said for the time being the pool will remain closed. Stone commented that most sports which are played on fields attract more than ten spectators. The sports fields will remain closed. City Manager Heiser said the Winnemucca Balloon Festival has been cancelled, but a couple of balloon pilots still want to use the field. The Council members felt this activity should be allowed since the event will not be advertised and there will be no spectators on site. The splash pad will remain closed since there is no way to control safe social distancing.

GUIDELINES-RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SAFE RE-OPENING OF NONESSENTIAL BUSINESSES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

Mayor Stone reported that the County has mailed questionnaires-guidelines to all local businesses in Humboldt County and the City of Winnemucca. Businesses can express their plans for following a safety protocol for conducting their business. The forms are to be returned to the County Manager who will compile and forward the information to the Governor's Office with recommended guidelines for business re-opening in Humboldt County. Stone said the City will wait and see what the Governor has to say about re-opening.

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BODE HOWARD MEMORIAL POOL

City Manager Heiser reported on the kick-off meeting with GreenPlay and the establishment of a project team consisting of the Mayor, City Manager, two Council members, the County Manager, a County Commissioner, Jan Morrison (NNRDA) and Chad Peters (City Recreation Director representative). The project team will have direct and frequent contact with GreenPlay for providing information. There is going to be four focus group meetings, one of which will be with the project team. The other three will be with various members of the public. All gatherings will take place via Zoom virtual meetings. GreenPlay would like to have 10 to 20 people in each of the focus group meetings. A larger public meeting will take place after the focus group meetings where all the public is invited, and they will present the results they have compiled from the focus group meetings. The focus group meetings will be June 15 and 16, 2020 and the public meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on June 24, 2020. GreenPlay will have a person come and inspect the pool and the community.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager Heiser reported: (i) Julie McKinnon from the BLM is working on the DNA document for the Railroad Springs project and there are resource specialists doing survey work on the pipeline; (ii) the Well 8 project conductor casing is scheduled for installation on May 1, 2020 and drilling of the production well is slated to begin on May 26, 2020; (iii) the Second Street storm drain project will be completed when Hunewill has a crew and not later than June 30, 2020; (iv) the Alleyways sewer project will be completed when Hunewill has a crew and not later than June 30, 2020; (v) staff is working with the County to determine the anticipated schedule for the Kluncy Canyon chip seal project; (vi) there will be funds remaining in the RTC budget after the Kluncy Canyon chip seal project which are available for other street improvements and Heiser is working on the contract documents for the project; (vii) discussions are continuing with the party interested in constructing a transloading facility at the Airport Industrial Park; (viii) Armstrong Consultants has updated the airport layout plan; and, (ix) the State probably will not treat aerially this year for Mormon crickets. The City has submitted a pesticide use proposal to BLM that will allow the City-County to treat crickets using bait on BLM lands and approvals were received from several private property owners within the treatment area to apply bait.

Council member Mavity reported that the employee and police department negotiations are continuing. Mavity thanked the City Manager for the COVID-19 pandemic graphs she has put out and commented that the Mayor Stone's public service announcement was good.

Council member Billingsley reported that the WCVA revenues are down and several scheduled events have cancelled.

Police Chief Garrison reported that the public safety office will reopen on Monday. The Police Department is working with the school district on the graduation activities.

Chad Peters, Executive Director of the Winnemucca Boys and Girls Club (WBGC), reported WBGC will be doing the summer food program at several locations starting on June 8, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED: May 19, 2020

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

AYES: Owens, Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley, Brooks _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Richard Stone
Mayor

Lorrie Haaglund
City Clerk