

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

The Winnemucca City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room, which was also accessible via teleconference and videoconference. Present (in the meeting room): Mayor Richard Stone; Council members Mike Owens, Theresa Mavity, Vince Mendiola, Jim Billingsley and Pam Coats; City Manager Alicia Heiser, City Clerk Ruth Fitzpatrick, City Attorney Kent Maher, Police Chief Dave Garrison and Paul Schlehr of the American Legion Post 5.

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 minutes of the August 24, 2021 City Council regular meeting were reviewed and Council member Owens moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

WARRANTS-EXPENSES:

The reports for payments of warrants and expenses were reviewed and Council member Mendiola moved for approval as submitted. Motion carried unanimously with Council member Billingsley abstaining from voting on the Jim Dandy Productions warrant(s) because he is the owner of the business.

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS-PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Stone proclaimed Saturday, September 11, 2021 as the 20th anniversary in observance of September 11, 2001 and called upon residents of Winnemucca and surrounding areas to display the American flag at half-mast or with a black ribbon from sunrise to sunset on Saturday, September 11, 2021 and to participate in memorial observances conducted on that day.

Mayor Stone proclaimed Friday September 17, 2021 as POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Paul Schlehr, American Legion Post 5 representative, accepted both proclamations and noted that the radio station will play podcasts on September 11 and September 17, and there will be a service held at the Veterans section of the cemetery on September 11, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

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 Mavity 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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WEBSITE AND APP DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

City Manager Heiser presented a proposal from OCV, LLC to provide professional development services for a City app and website which will be integrated, so that updates made in one location will appear on both platforms. The cost is an eligible expense for CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds because it improves virtual communication with the public. Council member Mavity asked who will be responsible for maintaining the site. Police Chief Garrison responded that the police department and city hall will have designated website staff. Mavity also asked if the new site will allow for other changes that have been discussed in the past such as online business license forms, etc. Heiser said yes, the OCV website is more user friendly than the current provider and more information will be included. Council member Billingsley asked if OCV will mirror the information and layout of the current City website. Heiser said that the new site will be complete prior to shutting down the existing site. Council member Owens asked about the cost and Heiser explained that the cost for the initial build of the site and app and one year of support and maintenance is \$24,475, and if two (2) additional years of support and maintenance are included, the cost is \$38,678.26.

Council member Owens moved to accept the proposal from OCV, LLC to provide professional services for the development of a City app and website at a cost of \$38,678.26 for development and three years of support and maintenance. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGN AND MODELING SERVICES AGREEMENT

City Manager Heiser explained that the arsenic levels in water samples collected from Well 6 this spring were nearing the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.010 mg/L (10 ppb). The arsenic concentration in the well never reached the MCL and has recently dropped back down to normal levels for Well 6 (~7 ppb). The temporary increase prompted staff to contact Shaw Engineering to discuss options for blending or treatment if the arsenic levels ever rise above the MCL. Blending the groundwater pumped from Wells 6 and 7 is one of the more cost-effective options for diluting the arsenic concentration of Well 6. The other more costly and more maintenance intensive option is to install an arsenic treatment plant at the Well 6 site.

Heiser presented a proposal from Shaw Engineering that includes a feasibility study and preliminary engineering report to compare arsenic treatment and a potential blending facility, as well as a proposal to create a hydraulic model for the entire City water system. The proposed model will include all components of the system (wells, booster pumps, tanks, mains, meters, etc.). NDEP and other agencies are increasingly requiring models to examine the demand and capacity of municipal water systems. The model will allow the City Engineer to analyze various scenarios including proposed developments, design fire events, or the loss of a critical component. The total cost for the Shaw Engineering proposal is an eligible expense for ARPA funding.

Council member Owens moved to approve the proposal from Shaw Engineering to provide professional services to conduct a feasibility study and preliminary engineering report for reduction of arsenic levels at Well 6 and development of a hydraulic model of the City water system for a total cost of \$38,750. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Mayor Stone appointed current Deputy City Clerk Ruth Fitzpatrick as City Clerk-Treasurer and established the terms and conditions of the appointment, noting the position is appointed by the Mayor by and with the consent of the City Council.

Council member Owens moved to consent to the Mayor appointment of Ruth Fitzpatrick as City Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND (CRF) USE

City Manager Heiser stated that the report for the August CRF expenditures, which were approximately \$7,500, was submitted. The total expenditures through the end of August are \$1,180,842 leaving a remaining balance of approximately \$235,000, of which \$25,000 is allocated for wastewater testing through the end of the year and \$60,000 for PPE and disinfection expenses. \$71,000 was recently provided to the Boys and Girls Club for their meal delivery truck, and \$38,000 was approved earlier today for the website and app development project. Heiser estimated the remaining balance of the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds is \$38,000 which must be spent prior to December 31, 2021.

City Manager Heiser said the City requested guidance on using American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) funds for the aquatic center from the National League of Cities. There has been no response yet.

No action was taken.

BODE HOWARD MEMORIAL POOL- NEW AQUATICS CENTER

City Manager Heiser reported no major updates. The 2019 condition report and the 2020 feasibility study were forwarded to the National League of Cities.

No action was taken.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS

City Manager Heiser reported: 1) the Well 8 pump selection and construction discussion is continuing, and ARPA funds will be used for the project; 2) the West-Side curb and gutter project is nearly done with only the Hanson Street sections and sidewalk replacement at the swimming pool remaining; 3) the East-Side curb and gutter project will be advertised for bids when the West-Side project is complete; 4) discussions are continuing with the party interested in constructing a transloading facility at the Airport Industrial Park, and a Section 163 review has been requested from the FAA; 5) the Airport Industrial Park Committee has been formed by HDA and marketing of the former Loon site is expected to begin soon; 6) there are no updates from the BLM regarding their proposed airport presence expansion or the updated lease agreements; 7) the design of Hardgrave Lane is nearly finished and the project will be put out to bid soon; 8) design has started on the Ada Vista water and sewer project, and staff expects it to go out to bid this fall; 9) if the Aquatic Center is not approved as an eligible ARPA expense, the City could use ARPA funding to finish the development of the Recreation Complex; 10) the AARP grant agreement for the Community Garden has been approved and the funds came through this morning; 11) the Public Works Department along with Humboldt County now has a proposed method for draining Tank 1C for the upcoming painting project, bid documents have been developed, and the project will be advertised in the near future; and, 12) work will begin soon with Shaw Engineering on the Well 6 blending project and hydraulic modeling.

Council member Owens reported: 1) attending the NV League of Cities conference, and expressed gratitude that the City prepared a general plan for the proposed spending of the ARPA funds; 2) the fire department, hospital ambulance and the police department are to be

commended on their response to a car fire at the movie theater; and, 3) the use of revenue received from cannabis establishments should be discussed.

Council member Mavity reported: 1) attending the Nevada League of Cities conference and receiving information about ARPA funding; 2) she received a comment/question regarding the canopy at Koreana restaurant which is still not repaired and, she believes, an eyesore and a safety issue; and, 3) an updated City organizational chart for reference is requested.

Council member Mendiola reported: 1) the Nevada League of Cities conference was informative; 2) attending the Paradise Sonoma Conservation District meeting and there will be a working group training on October 7, 2021; and, 3) a Humboldt River Water Basin Authority meeting is scheduled for Friday September 9, 2021.

Council member Billingsley reported attending the State of Nevada listening tour for ARPA funds and noted the City was again complemented on their preparedness and planning for potential ARPA fund projects.

Council member Coats reported having a good experience at the Nevada League of Cities conference.

Police Chief Garrison reported an officer was hospitalized with Covid19 and is now recovering.

Mayor Stone reported: 1) receiving a thank you card from Tom Fransway commending Randy Pinkston at the Cemetery for being very helpful and professional; 2) attending the Nevada Gold Mines third quarter breakfast; and, 3) handing out 4-H youth awards at the Labor Day Fair last Saturday and riding in the parade with Chief Garrison. Stone commended Garrison for his quick response and efforts to assist a child choking at the fair and reported that the child is okay.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council member Owens stated he spoke with County Health Officer Dr. Stringham and would like to explore the idea of sending a flyer to the residents of Humboldt County, with the support of the county, school district and hospital, explaining the value of getting the Covid19 vaccine.

Ashley Maden, Humboldt Sun, said that I-80 Gold acquired the Lone Tree processing facility from Nevada Gold Mines.

Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy Grimm
Administrative Assistant

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PASSED AND ADOPTED: September 21, 2021

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

AYES: Owens, Mavity, Mendiola, Billingsley, Coats

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Richard Stone
Mayor

Ruth Fitzpatrick
City Clerk