



**MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**448 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Room 190**  
**City of Salida, Colorado**  
**Tuesday, September 16, 2014 6:00 p.m.**

**I. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Mayor Jim Dickson

**III. ROLL CALL**

Present at roll call were Mayor Jim Dickson and Council members Hal Brown, Keith Baker, Tom Yerkey, Eileen Rogers and Melodee Hallett. Also present were City Clerk Betty Schwitzer, City Administrator Dara MacDonald, City Attorney Karl Hanlon and Deputy City Clerk Christian Samora.

MacDonald reported that the cable feed to the local channel was going in and out, so the broadcast may not be consistent for those watching at home.

**IV. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** – 3 minute time limit. *Citizen participation is for items not on the agenda or for items that are not public hearings.*

Billy Carlisle of Salida apologized for being unable to attend the entire meeting because he had a prior engagement. Mr. Carlisle thanked Councilmember Brown for the Town Hall Meeting that was held for constituents. He said he was able to interact with elected an official in a relaxed setting and was a lot less stressful than a regular City Council meeting. He also thanked Eileen Rodgers for conducting similar meetings. Mr. Carlisle felt the time to speak in Council Meetings is short, orchestrated, and stressful for everyone. He continued to say that it is confusing as to whether someone could speak on a particular item and citizens have to be diligent to participate in a meeting. Mr. Carlisle concluded by thanking the City Council.

Nancy Dominick of Chaffee County thanked Hal and MacDonald for helping citizens understand the conversations at the Town Hall Meeting. Ms. Dominick stated that she never went to Councilmember Rogers' meeting, but felt that Rogers stopped holding the meetings when Dominick began attending. She continued to say that the Police officers need better pay because the Deputy City Clerk is making nearly 15k more than police officers. Ms. Dominick concluded by urging the Council to give the officers support and give them a pay raise.

Vern Davis of Salida thanked Councilmember Brown for the Town Hall Meeting on the Preceding Friday. Davis asked Mayor Dickson if he could make a comment to Councilmember Baker, Mayor Dickson said to keep any comments civil. Comment to Mr. Baker, Mayor-Keep it civil. Davis said that it was in regard to a complaint filed against a Council Member. Davis requested Baker hold off his public input until after the public has spoken. Davis continued by stating that he felt many false statements were made and there was not an opportunity to clarify them.

Baker said the City can discuss it and made some clarification.

Monica Griesenbeck of Salida said at the Town Hall Meeting the City Administrator said \$150k for the Dump-station was not being transferred from the general fund. Griesenbeck said it was alarming because in the 2014 Budget it clearly states that money transferred from the General fund will pay for a potable water station, grover station cleaner and the dump facility.

During last night's budget work session Jan was recommending an annual increase of 3-4% water/sewer. Griesenbeck wanted to know if that was a total of a 7-8% increase. Water and Sewer is operating at a deficit, why was the dump station debited from the General when it was known that it was operating at a deficit.

At the Town Hall Meeting Councilmembers Yerkey, Rogers and Baker severely chastised Councilmember Brown for conducting a Town Hall Meeting. Griesenbeck found it curious that the Council isn't congratulating Brown for reaching out to the citizens. Griesenbeck thanked Councilmember Brown and urged the other Councilmembers to support him.

Jim Sebastian of Salida thanked the City Council members that were in attendance at the Town Hall Meeting and hoped there would be another. Sebastian did not feel the fire and police department were well represented. He felt that people are hired into administration with no qualifications whatsoever when police and firemen have to go through extensive training and are not paid very well. Sebastian continued to say that he felt people in administration are underqualified and overpaid.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dickson referenced a letter submitted by Nancy Dominick.

**Yerkey motioned to add the letter as an item to the next agenda, Brown seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED**

## VI. SCHEDULED ITEMS

### 1. Consent Agenda (Christian Samora)

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes: September 2, 2014
- Property and Special Event Liquor Permit Requests : (1) Salida Elks Special Event Liquor License
- Chisholm Park Playground Bid Award
- Fee waiver request for 350 Central Colorado

Mayor Dickson said Councilmember Bowers would like to be present to when a decision is made on the CDOT MOU item. MacDonald suggested that the item could be left on the agenda for discussion.

**Brown motioned to move the Chisholm Park Award to 1a and 350 Central Colorado Fee Waiver Request to 1b on the agenda; and combine and approve the consent agenda. Yerkey seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **1a. Chisolm Park – Presented by Kevin Crowley, Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor**

Mr. Crowley reported that the City has made a commitment to overhaul city parks. The City has received unsatisfactory safety audit marks from CIRSA and the playground is not ADA compliant. A total of seven bids were received for the project.

Hallett would have liked to have seen the project benefit an older age group because she felt there is an older age group of kids at the park on a regular basis.

Brown thanked Crowley for the presentation. Brown stated there are three red flags: the wide spread between bids, being bid to budget, and if there was any constraint on choosing a higher bidder. Hanlon stated that it is in the best interest of the City to go with the higher bid. Hallett asked if the other bids have opportunity to adjust. MacDonal stated that no negotiations were made with any of the bidders. Hallett would have liked to have seen the other bidders to make a decision.

**Brown motioned to award the bid, Rogers seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **1. 1b 350 Central Colorado Funding Request**

Mel Strawn introduced himself and stated that he could answer any questions or concerns. Brown felt the request was a grant rather than a fee waiver and was concerned that it is an organization that advocates one particular side of climate change. Brown did not feel comfortable spending tax payer's money on an organization that is only on one side of the issue. Hallett agreed with Brown. Strawn stated that it is an issue that cannot be ignored and the City would be sponsoring as a public education event with global warming scientists providing information to the public. Hallett commended Strawn for doing this, but was not comfortable sponsoring the event. Baker was unclear as to whether it was a request from a Salida Citizen. Yerkey was in agreement with Hallett. Monika Griesenbeck of Salida stated that she would like to hear what will be discussed. She said to allow it because it's only \$200, otherwise she would fund it. Discussion continued.

**Rogers motioned to approve the funding request for 350 Central Colorado. The motion died for lack of second.**

**Brown motioned to deny the request by 350 Central Colorado. Yerkey seconded the motion. In a 4-1 vote, THE MOTION PASSED. Rogers was the dissenting vote.**

### **2. Amendment of Emergency Telephone Charges 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Public Hearing (Emily Katsimpalis/ Russ Johnson) Ordinance 2014-26 amending sections 5-2-10 and 5-2-20 of the Salida Municipal Code.**

Johnson introduced the Ordinance for second reading and requested the City Council to approve the change in municipal code. Mayor Dickson opened the Public Hearing. Mayor Dickson closed the public hearing from lack of participation of the public.

**Yerkey motioned to approve Ordinance 2014-26, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Salida, Colorado, Amending sections of the Municipal Code Section 5-2-10 & 5-2-20 Emergency Telephone Charges of the Municipal Code, setting a public hearing for September 16, 2014 and ordering the ordinance be published by title only. Baker seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **3. Colorado Department of Transportation Memorandum of Understanding (Dan Osborn) Resolution 2014-69 authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Colorado Department of Transportation concerning the restriping of US 50 through Salida.**

Osborn introduced the resolution and indicated that it was originally brought before council in June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Ken Barron felt the road is too narrow to begin with. He stated that he would rather drive behind a bicyclist than to have them in the bike lane. Barron described several different configurations that could be used to possibly improve traffic flow along HWY 50 in Salida.

Rogers was particularly impressed with the configuration in Del Norte, the traffic was very calm.

Rogers also noted that the configuration changes in Alamosa have made it safer. Calming the traffic will help regardless of the configuration. Everyone needs to be more careful.

Baker was told directly by CDOT that if the City did not do something, they would raise the speed limit.

MacDonald noted that a change in environment can help lower the speed limit.

Vern Davis asked if anyone has spoken to truckers in regard to the proposed change.

Discussion continued

**Yerkey motioned to continue the issue until the following City Council Meeting, Baker seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Water Treatment Plant Phase II Bid Award (Bob Salmi)**

Resolution 2014-70 approving the award of an agreement for water treatment plant improvements phase II and authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a construction services agreement between the City and Moltz Construction.

Salmi gave a brief overview of the request and the project background.

**Rogers motioned to approve Resolution 2014-70 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Salida, Colorado, Approving the award of an agreement for the Water Treatment Plant Improvements Phase II and authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a construction services agreement between the City and Moltz Construction. Baker seconded the motion.**

Brown asked if there was a current need for the capacity. Salmi replied that there is not currently a need, but there could be growth in the next 5-10 years.

**In a 4-1 vote, THE MOTION CARRIED. Brown had the dissenting vote.**

**5. Chaffee County Memorandum of Agreement Concerning Vital Records (Dara MacDonald)**

Resolution 2014-71 approving a Memorandum of Agreement by an between the City of Salida and the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County, Colorado regarding Vital Statistics.

Macdonald gave a brief overview and background of the agreement.

Hallett asked who was responsible for the records.

Macdonald stated that the Registrar is responsible for keeping and processing the records.

**Baker motioned to approve Resolution 2014-71 a resolution of the City Council of the City of Salida, Colorado, approving an updated memorandum of agreement designating the City as registrar of vital statistics for the County. Brown seconded the motion. With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**6. Budget Amendment to Agreement for Professional Services with Workshop Design for Wayfinding Signage (Dan Osborn)**

Resolution 2014-72 approving the amendment of the fabrication contract for wayfinding signs and authorizing the City Administrator to amend the professional service agreement between the City of Salida and Workshop Design, LLC.

Osborn gave an overview of the resolution and the proposed signs.

**Baker motioned to approve Resolution 2014-72 approving the amendment of the fabrication contract for wayfinding signs and authorizing the City Administrator to amend the professional services agreement between the City of Salida and Workshop Design, LLC. Yerkey seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **7. Administrator/City Attorney/Deputy City Clerk**

### **a. City Administrator Report – Dara MacDonald**

An application was submitted to the railroad to secure a safe path across the track at the north end of F Street. Following their approval, application will be made to the PUC. The total cost will be approximately \$9,200, which is mostly labor to cover the tracks in road base and constructing a fence on the 20-foot easement. Macdonald noted that the fence would be a short, wildlife-friendly fence rather than a tall chain link fence.

The CML Cities and Towns week is approaching and one of their videos features the SteamPlant Director, Michael Varnum. The video will be available on Channel 10 as well as on the website. Macdonald reported that the MOA with the Chaffee County Fire Protection District is coming up for renewal and discussions will need to be underway soon.

The Salida School District has received the District of Distinction Designation for the next three years. The accomplishment will be highlighted during halftime on October 3, 2014. Macdonald asked that the City Council consider contributing \$1,000 to help offset the cost of the fireworks during halftime on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Yerkey motioned to approve the expenditure of \$1,000 for fireworks during halftime on October 3, 2014. Rogers seconded the motion. With all in consensus, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The Sales Tax Fundamental Class will be on next Thursday.

The Waste Water Treatment Plant has once again completed a year without any accidents.

Khen offered to have a standing weekly half hour show if the Council would be interested in participating.

Request for qualifications for workforce housing has been something the NRC Board has been very interested in and felt it should be a joint effort with the City.

In response to Griesenbeck, Macdonald stated that payment for the RV Dump was a General fund transfer to the Water/Sewer Enterprise. The proposed cost of living increase is 2.9 for both water and sewer and was a recommendation of a previous rate study.

Macdonald reminded the Council that the City does have an adopted pay plan to look at equality among pay. Macdonald noted that there is a Police Officer position that has been open for a considerable amount of time, which is an indicator that the wages are not competitive.

Macdonald mentioned Employee Appreciation Barbeque is the upcoming Friday.

Macdonald reported that Sales Tax was up overall 3.5% and gave YTD as well as other comparisons and totals.

### **b. City Attorney Report – Karp, Neu, Hanlon, PC**

Hanlon stated that it has been a long time since there has been a land use hearing in front of City Council. Hanlon noted that the City Council will be conducting a different type of hearing and can only make a decision based on the information at the public hearing.

Hanlon reported that two cases on appeal, the Auxier case and the Budget case should be concluded in the first quarter of 2015.

A week ago Council delivered a confidential letter and Hanlon requested direction at the next meeting. Yerkey asked about the three retail marijuana licenses and the potential third applicant. Hanlon stated that it is an issue that will be before the Board for consideration and that care needs to be taken so that the applicant has fair consideration.

A letter was received back from Guthenburger stating that he was comfortable with the NRC losing the 6320 designation .

c. Deputy City Clerk Report – Christian Samora  
Mr. Samora did not have anything to report.

**8. Elected Official Reports**

- City Clerk – Betty Schwitzer

Ms. Schwitzer reported that the initiative petition was approved as to form and would require at least 209 valid signatures.

- Mayor – Jim Dickson
- City Council- Keith Baker, Michael Bowers, Melodee Hallett, Eileen Rogers, Hal Brown and Tom Yerkey.

Rogers noted that various members of the public have approached her to indicate that painted restrictions on the street are more noticeable than street signs.

Hallett stated that Brown did nothing to break any laws at the Town Hall Meeting.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

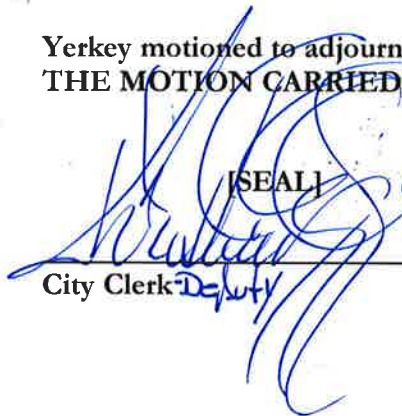
Rogers motioned to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4) (e) at 8:50 p.m. Brown seconded the motion. With all in consensus, **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**AND THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES: Mira Monte Annexation Agreement & Crestone Mesa RETA**

The Executive Session concluded at 9:07 p.m. and no action was taken.

**VIII. ADJOURN –**

Yerkey motioned to adjourn at 9:12 PM, Brown seconded the motion. With all in consensus, **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

  
[SEAL]  
City Clerk Deputy



  
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Mayor