



**MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
City Council Chambers
448 East 1st Street, Room 190
City of Salida, Colorado
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 6:00 p.m.**

The City Council may take action on any of the following agenda items as presented or modified prior to or during the meeting, and items necessary or convenient to effectuate the agenda items.

Special Presentation by Jim Preston with the #64 Veterans Post

Preston explained that they have a very small budget, water, electricity amounts to one third of their budget.

They requested that the water and sewer rate be reviewed and adjusted to help with their budget so that they can better serve the community.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Jim Dickson

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (6:00 p.m.)

Baker motioned to enter into executive session for a conference with the City/Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b);

For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e). Rogers seconded the motion. In a 5-1 voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED. Hallett had the dissenting vote.

AND THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES: Attorney Review and Case Update.

IV. REPORT/ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Hanlon stated that there were case updates on the two pending appeals on the Auxier matters. Hanlon also stated that there was a discussion about legal services.

He continued to state that some of the changes would be having hearings only on the second meeting of the month, routing questions through the mayor and questions from staff through Dara.

Hallett stated that an RFP for a local attorney should be considered. Bowers stated that he would be interested in a local attorney as well.

V. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – (7:15 p.m.)

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

Pete Cordova of Salida asked the Council to seriously reconsider the H Street project, more specifically the width of H Street. He felt it was more dangerous today than it was before it was completed. He felt it was too narrow for safe travel with all of the bicycles and children in the area.

Louise Fish of Salida stated that she has had no problems on H Street because it is not any narrower than G Street. She stated that she is a resident of H Street. She wanted to make it clear that she likes the fact that the traffic has slowed down considerably. She continued to state that people do not stop at the H Street intersections with 7th and 8th Streets.

Robert Loew of Salida stated that it's easy to see the direction that three of the City Council members are going. He stated that in the bicycle lanes discussion, many citizens spoke of increased safety, yet after Council heard the presentations three council members voted against bike lanes. He stated that these Council Members vote no on anything that goes against their accusations that City Administration does not tell the truth and cannot be trusted. He was concerned that the close-mindedness could result in it taking over the city council.

Vern Davis of Salida stated that Y&K and SGM have been at the Dominick property for several days and they feel they may be on track now. He passed out a photo of the river bottom.

Shawn Gillis of Salida stated that the Council should not change attorneys while there is litigation. He stated that he would be worried about a local attorney representing matters with how the attorney is being treated. He stated that there is a group that is voting well. He felt that if there is an agenda or if members are voting no just for disruption, then the public should know.

Jeff Auxier of Salida stated that about 6 weeks ago he was listening to a lawyer with the FCC. He stated that they needed the voices to speak up in the FCC because they were in bed with banks on Wall Street. He stated that he was thankful to have the Council members vote no instead of rubberstamping everything.

Monika Griesenbeck of Salida felt that the level of civic engagement in the meetings is wonderful.

Billie Carlisle of Salida stated that he brought copies of a list of questions that he has not received answers for. He read through his questions.

Chris Tracey of Salida stated that he is the owner of Currents. He continued to state that Dara will be providing information about patio seating and encouraged the City Council to consider doing so. He encouraged the city to work together and put issues aside to push the City forward.

VII. PRESENTATION

1. 2014 Audit Report (Lyman Hamblin)

Schmidt introduced the item and explained the role that staff and the independent auditor play in the City's financial reporting.

Lyman gave an introduction and explained further about the purpose of the audited financial statements and the auditor's role in the process.

Baker asked if there was any indication that money was going to the NRCDC. Lyman said that there is only money being paid from the NRCDC to the City.

Lyman stated that the NRCDC is only required to do audits because the bylaws state that they do. Otherwise a non-profit is not required to have an audit.

Baker asked if there were any red flags that there is something that is not right. Lyman stated that the staff is well trained and he did not see any red flags anywhere.

VIII. SCHEDULED ITEMS

1. **Consent Agenda** (Christian Samora)

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes: March 17, 2015
- American Cancer Society Cancer Climb

Yerkey motioned to combine and approve the items on the consent agenda, Bowers seconded the motion. With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. **2nd 2015 Budget Amendment and Public Hearing** (Jan Schmidt)

Resolution 2015-30 amending amounts budgeted for the 2015 Budget Year and amending the Budget as to its form

Schmidt gave an introduction to the second budget amendment for 2015.

Mayor Dickson opened the public hearing.

Jeff Auxier of Salida stated that the administrator and staff have come to the council with a problem stating that they need to solve it. He felt that Administration needs to be the one to solve the problem and bring a solution to council. There felt there has not been a table of organization since 2009. He felt that the omission is deliberate to allow a lot of spending on operations. He stated that he felt the employee benefits were about 60% of the wage costs. He felt that the operation spending needs to be broken down before the Council can look at what the solution is.

Louise Fish of Salida did not feel that Auxier made correct statements about the budget process. She stated that workman's comp is not a benefit, it is a requirement. She felt it was fiscally irresponsible to use excess reserves for operating. She stated that the Council has a responsibility to not use reserves because it does not make sense. She stated that the SteamPlant and the Pool are large income generators, and cutting them would affect revenue streams. She suggested a potential real estate tax for the voters to consider.

Monika Griesenbeck of Salida agreed with Ms. Fish that the legislative body does make adjustments. She felt that the Council needs more information to make good decisions on behalf of the City. She felt that everything should be on the table. She takes issue with the statement that the swimming pool takes in a lot of tax revenues. She felt that cuts could be made in the art and recreation department.

Shawn Gillis of Salida stated that a lot of things are going on in Salida; they were just presented an audit that was outstanding.

Chris Tracey of Salida wanted to hear what plan Hallett had for solving the budget shortfall.

Billie Carlisle of Salida reminded the Council that a group of citizens drafted the language and had over of 400 signatures. Carlisle complimented the citizens for digging into the information; he felt he was working for the working people and the senior citizens.

Forrest Whitman of Salida felt the City Council should be the ones to consider the cuts.

The public hearing was closed.

Hanlon felt that the changes in accounting needed to be implemented to be in compliance with the new Ordinance.

Brown motioned to approve Resolution 2015-30 amending amounts budgeted for the 2015 Budget Year and amending the Budget as to its form with the exception of Section “C” in the resolution, direction will be given for staff to schedule work sessions before the first City Council Meeting in May. Yerkey seconded the motion.

Rogers asked if there would be work sessions established.

With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED.

Rogers suggested having the first work session on the 22nd of April. MacDonald suggested having the work session on the 29th of April at 6:00 p.m. And asked what information staff will need to prepare in advance of the work session.

Hallett and Brown stated they would send staff a list of what they would like to see.

Rogers stated that she would like to hear from Carlisle and Farney about how they thought the cuts should be made.

3. Verizon Tower Lease, 1st Reading (Dara MacDonald)

Ordinance 2015-05 approving Tenderfoot Communication site option and lease Sangre De Cristo Cellular, INC d/b/a Verizon Wireless

MacDonald introduced the agenda item.

Kelly Harrison stated that the tower would provide better coverage to Salida.

Yerkey moved to approve Ordinance 2015-05, and ordinance of the City Council, City of Salida, approving Tenderfoot Communication site option and lease Sangre De Cristo Cellular, INC d/b/a Verizon Wireless the ordinance and to set a public hearing for April 21, 2015. Rogers seconded the motion. With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED. Hallett had the dissenting vote.

4. Amendment of Airport Board MOU between the City of Salida and Chaffee County (Dara MacDonald)

Resolution 2015-31 approving the amendment to the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Salida and Chaffee County for the operation and management of Harriet Alexander Field

Macdonald introduced the agenda item.

Rogers motioned to approve Resolution 2015-31, a resolution of the City Council, City of Salida, approving the amendment to the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Salida and Chaffee County for the operation and management of Harriet Alexander Field. Baker seconded the motion. With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area/SteamPlant Shared Use Agreement (Dara MacDonald)

Resolution 2015-32 authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a cooperative facilities use agreement with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife

MacDonald introduced the agenda item.

Baker motioned to approve Resolution 2015-32, a resolution of the City Council, City of Salida, authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a cooperative facilities use agreement with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife. Bowers seconded the motion.

6. Administrator/City Attorney/Deputy City Clerk

- City Administrator Report – Dara MacDonald

MacDonald presented information in regard to platforms in the downtown area to

accommodate additional seating.

Brown would like to see the business owner's reaction to the idea. Hallett would like to see the citizen's reaction to the idea.

Chris Tracey stated that he would be more than willing to show the public support.

- MacDonal reported that the Madison House Presents Bridge will go to Bid on April 13th and will be an estimated \$60,000 including the trail construction. Madison House Presents is pledging \$40,000 and another business is pledging \$5,000. MacDonal requested direction to be given on two community fund requests that have been received.

Brown motioned to have a moratorium on any new community funding requests made. Yerkey seconded the motion. With all in favor, THE MOTION CARRIED

- City Attorney Report – Karp, Neu, Hanlon, PC
- Deputy City Clerk Report – Christian Samora

7. Elected Official Reports

- City Treasurer – Cheryl Brown-Kovacic
- City Clerk – Betty Schwitzer
- Mayor – Jim Dickson
- City Council- Keith Baker, Michael Bowers, Melodee Hallett, Eileen Rogers, Hal Brown and Tom Yerkey.

Bowers felt there could be a consideration for the parking in the downtown area and the 200 block of F Street.

Mayor Dickson provided his updates in regard to the Finance Director and a Council Member contacting CIRSA.

Rogers found an article for a professional parliamentarian.

IX. ADJOURN –

Baker motioned to adjourn, Yerkey seconded the motion.

[SEAL]

Deputy City Clerk

Mayor



