

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2016
MINUTES**

Mayor Ray Beck brought to order at 6:30 p.m. the second regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of January 2016. In addition to Mayor Beck, those present were Councilmembers Joe Bird, Derek Duran, John Ponikvar, Tony Bohrer and Councilman W. Kent Nielson. Councilman Jarrod Ogden was absent. Staff present were City Manager Jim Ferree, City Attorney Sherman Romney, Water/Wastewater Director Mark Sollenberger, Parks & Recreation Director Dave Pike, Police Commander Jerry Delong and City Clerk Kathy Larson.

All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Nielson to approve, as presented, the minutes from the January 12, 2016, meeting. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Ponikvar to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve the consent agenda appointing Mike Anson to the Craig-Moffat Airport Advisory Board. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Various Council reports were given at this time. Councilman Bohrer will be hosting a “Coffee with Council” at the Hampton Inn some time in February. He encouraged other council members to attend, if possible. All council members encouraged everyone to attend a coal rally to be held at the high school from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm on Wednesday, January 27th. The rally is being held in support of present and future mining operations at both Colowyo Coal and Trapper Mine.

Trish Snyder and Betsy Overton representing Connections 4 Kids appeared before Council to present a new program that will be offered by Connections 4 Kids in the near future. This new program is called the Parent Education Center and will offer a welcoming atmosphere to young families to ask questions, get answers and find support and resources for the families. Trish and Betsy invited Council to the kickoff for this program which will be held on February 11th from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Center of Craig.

Jennifer Riley, Director of Development and Marketing for The Memorial Hospital (TMH), introduced John Nickens who is acting as interim CEO until the hospital hires someone permanent for this position. Both Jennifer and John reviewed the many successes of TMH during 2015 and answered questions from Council.

City Manager Ferree presented two letters of support for approval regarding the Collum Expansion Project at Colowyo Coal and for the ongoing environmental assessment at Trapper Mine. After a brief discussion, Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve the letters of support for Colowyo Coal and Trapper Mine as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Water/Wastewater Director Sollenberger appeared before Council to discuss the 2016 bid for chemicals. After a brief discussion, Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Bird to award the chemical bid as recommended by Staff. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Director Sollenberger then reviewed both the November and December water and wastewater reports with Council. He then answered some questions from Council.

Councilman Ponikvar asked two boy scouts from Troop 1150 to come to the podium to introduce themselves. The two boys attended the council meeting because they are working on their communication and citizenship in the community Boy Scout badges.

Paul Boyd introduced himself to Council as the manager at the Bank of the San Juans.

During the additional Council/Staff reports, everyone agreed that the focus needs to be on what to do about the continuing decline of revenues. Councilman Nielson asked for some clarification on some of the mineral rights at the Craig/Moffat airport. City Attorney Romney has researched these rights and feels that the next step is to meet with Dan Davidson, Curator of the Museum of Northwest Colorado.

There being no further business, Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.