

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 14, 2016
MINUTES

Mayor Ray Beck brought to order at 6:30 p.m. the first regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of June 2016. In addition to Mayor Beck, those present were Councilmembers Jarrod Ogden, Derek Duran, John Ponikvar, Tony Bohrer, W. Kent Nielson and Joe Bird. Staff present were City Manager Jim Ferree, Finance Director Bruce Nelson, City Attorney Sherman Romney, Road and Bridge Director Randy Call, Chief of Police Walt Vanatta, Parks/Recreation Director Dave Pike, Wastewater Manager/IT Specialist Carl Ray and City Clerk Kathy Larson.

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

Councilman Bohrer moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve, as presented, the minutes from the May 24th and May 31st 2016, meetings. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Bird to approve the May 2016 bills in the amount of \$409,637.64. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve the agenda as amended adding item 9 I – a discussion about the Lariat Lift Station project. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Councilman Duran moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to table, until the June 24th meeting, item 6A on the consent agenda which is the renewal of the tavern liquor license for Mathers' Bar. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The mayor and councilmembers reported on various meetings and recent and upcoming events in the community. Council was reminded that there will be a "Meet and Greet" with Rep. Bob Rankin and his wife Joyce on June 22nd from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the council chambers. Also, there will be a presentation by the Better Cities group on June 15th in the council chambers at 6:00 pm regarding their final recommendations. Finally, the Local Marketing District will have their next meeting on Monday, June 27th at the Moffat County courthouse at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Beck read a proclamation concerning aviation awareness month. Councilman Ogden then moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to proclaim the month of June 2016 as General Aviation Awareness Month. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Dan Cudahay of McMahan and Associates presented the 2015 audit to the Council. He indicated that the audit went well and there were just two issues that arose and those have been addressed by staff. He also reported that the reserves are in pretty good shape but that the city's net position has decreased by \$415,000 from 2014. A brief discussion followed his presentation.

Moffat County Commissioner Frank Moe gave a presentation of some concepts based on the book 13 Ways to Kill Your Community by Doug Griffiths. These ideas can be used for problem solving by a community acting in a cohesive group. Commissioner Moe informed Council and the citizens

that there will be a free barbecue on June 30th at the high school at 5:00 pm and a presentation by Doug Griffiths at 6:30 p.m. Individual council members agreed to donate funds toward this community building event.

City Manager Ferree presented a consulting agreement between the City of Craig and NEO Fiber, Inc., which provides general consulting services for community broadband planning services. Ferree mentioned that it will be a 6 – 7 month process and that several stakeholders in the community have contributed matching funds toward a DOLA grant totaling \$50,000. After a brief discussion, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve the consulting agreement between the City of Craig and NEO Fiber, Inc., for broadband consulting services. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Director Call presented his recommendation for a bid award for curb and gutter improvements. He indicated that RCD Construction, low bidder, had withdrawn their bid for consideration. Call recommended awarding the bid to Steamboat Asphalt. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Bird to award the bid for 2016 curb and gutter improvements to Steamboat Asphalt for \$114,575.00. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

After reviewing a letter to the U. S. Department of Interior regarding the federal coal program, Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Duran to approve a letter to the U. S. Dept. of Interior supporting the current federal coal program of 12.5% royalty rates paid on coal leased from federal lands. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Councilman Nielson will take this letter to Grand Junction to a meeting regarding the federal coal program.

Ordinance 1050 (2016) ~ an ordinance amending Chapter 9 of the Craig Municipal Code was presented for second reading. City Attorney Romney reviewed with Council the changes that had been added since first reading. Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve, on second reading, Ordinance 1050 (2016) amending Chapter 9 of the Craig Municipal Code entitled “Public Peace, Morals and Welfare” by adding certain provisions to amend and add to the criminal charges that can be filed in municipal court. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 1051 (2016) ~ an ordinance amending the discharge of firearms was presented for first reading. City Attorney Romney discussed the changes to this ordinance since its introduction. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to approve, on first reading, Ordinance No. 1051 (2016) ~ an ordinance amending the discharge of firearms as contained in Section 9.68.090 of the Craig Municipal Code to allow for appropriate shooting sports activities within city limits. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Council held a lengthy discussion on possibly putting a sales tax issue or a sales/use tax issue on either the November 2016 ballot or the April 2017 municipal election ballot. Following a lengthy discussion, Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Bird to have a sales/use tax issue placed on the ballot for the April 2017 municipal election. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Mayor Beck mentioned that Councilmen Bird and Duran will be leading the process for this sales/use tax ballot issue.

City Attorney Romney presented the separation agreement for City Manager Jim Ferree for approval. After Romney reviewed the terms of the agreement, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve, as presented, the separation agreement for City Manager Ferree. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Attorney Romney and Councilman Nielson met with finance director Bruce Nelson and asked if he would accept the position of interim city manager. Nelson did accept the position on a temporary basis pending Council approval. Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to appoint city finance manager Bruce Nelson as interim city manager effective June 14, 2016. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Manager Ferree and Wastewater Manager Carl Ray presented a contract for approval between the city of Craig and Anson Excavating for completion of the Lariat Lift Station project. Manager Ray indicated that Mueller Construction was released from the project and Anson Excavating has stepped in to finish the project. Following a lengthy discussion, Councilman Bird moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve a contract with Anson Excavating and Pipe, Inc., in the amount of \$224,703.73 to complete the Lariat Lift Station project. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried. This contract does include a bond.

Chief of Police Vanatta answered questions regarding the monthly department report.

City Attorney Romney indicated he will have a draft of a new cable franchise agreement with Charter Communications to present at the June 28th meeting.

Andrea Camp appeared before council to support the idea of a sales/use tax ballot issue.

There being no further business, Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Bird to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.