

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 26, 2016
MINUTES

Mayor Ray Beck brought to order at 7:30 p.m. the second regular meeting of the Craig City Council for the month of July 2016. In addition to Mayor Beck, those present were Councilmembers Derek Duran, John Ponikvar, Tony Bohrer, W. Kent Nielson and Councilman Jarrod Ogden. Councilman Joe Bird was absent. Staff present were Interim City Manager/Finance Director Bruce Nelson, City Attorney Sherman Romney, Water/Wastewater Director Mark Sollenberger, Chief of Police Walt Vanatta, Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Director Randy Call and City Clerk Kathy Larson.

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

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

Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Duran to approve the Consent Agenda tabling approval of a 3.2% beer license for Pizza Hut until representation is present and approving a special events liquor permit for Grand Olde West Days for a beer garden at the Moffat County Fair on August 12, 2016. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

At this time, Council offered various reports on items of interest, events and upcoming meetings.

Dave Grabowski, a military veteran, appeared before Council to make a presentation concerning the Veterans' Charity Ride that will be in town on Thursday, August 4th. After the presentation, Mr. Grabowski asked Mayor Beck to read a proclamation. Then, Councilman Ponikvar moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to declare August 4, 2016, as Veterans' Charity Ride Day in Craig, Colorado. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Mayor Beck opened a public hearing concerning Ordinance 1052 (2016) which is a cable franchise agreement between the City of Craig and Charter Communications. Wendy Moser, representing Charter Communications and City Attorney Romney spoke in favor of the agreement. No one opposed it. Mayor Beck then closed the public hearing. Following a brief discussion between Council and City Attorney Romney, Councilman Nielson moved with a second by Councilman Ogden to approve Ordinance 1052 (2016) on second reading which is a cable franchise agreement between the City of Craig and Charter Communications. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

City Attorney Romney, Executive Asst. Gayle Zimmerman and Building Inspector Marlon Eckhoff appeared before Council to introduce Ordinance 1053 (2016). This is an ordinance amending the contractors' licensing ordinance contained in Chapter 15.24 of the Craig Municipal Code. Both Gayle and Marlon answered questions from Council regarding this ordinance.

Council recently reviewed several proposals regarding an executive search firm for a new city manager search. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Ogden moved with a second by Councilman Bohrer to contract with Strategic Government Resources (SGR) for the search process for a new city manager. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Mayor Beck opened a conversation about Amendment 69 which will appear on the November ballot. Amendment 69 is a proposed taxpayer funded health care system which could cover every resident in the state of Colorado. Mayor Beck mentioned that the following organizations/people opposed this amendment: Colorado Municipal League (CML), Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC), Club 20, Governor Hickenlooper, among others. Following a discussion, Council came to a consensus to have City Attorney Romney write a resolution opposing Amendment 69 and presenting the resolution for approval at the August 9th meeting.

Luke Tucker, board chairman for the Craig Moffat Economic Development Partnership CMEDP), appeared before Council to give an update on CMEDP. He specifically wanted to inform Council of the Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) initiative. This is a federal economic and workforce development resources program to help communities that have been negatively impacted by changes in their coal economies. Luke also discussed the concept of a manufacturing incubator and what would be needed to make that happen.

Water/Wastewater Director Sollenberger gave his monthly reports and answered Council questions.

Building Inspector Eckhoff gave a progress report for open commercial building permits. He specifically spoke about three current projects in town.

Interim City Manager/Finance Director Nelson reported on the financials for the month of June. He also informed Council of a meeting with CDOT on August 2nd at 1:30pm at the county regarding future transportation issues in Northwest Colorado.

City Attorney Romney let Council know that the deadline for the marijuana initiative petitions is July 27th. The petitions have not yet been received. Attorney Romney also explained the legal perspective of choosing a board for the Local Marketing District (LMD). Council asked him for specific recommendations for that.

Neil Folks, President of the Fuller Center for Housing, gave Council an update on their current project.

Mayor Beck reminded Council of the upcoming pre-budget hearing meeting on August 25th at 6:30 p.m.

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