



City of Colorado Springs

City Hall
107 N. Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO
80903

Meeting Minutes Council Work Session

City Council meetings are broadcast live on Channel 18.

Monday, February 9, 2015

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Present 9 - Councilmember Larry Bagley, President Pro Tem Merv Bennett, Councilmember Helen Collins, Councilmember Jill Gaebler, President Keith King, Councilmember Don Knight, Councilmember Jan Martin, Councilmember Andy Pico, and Councilmember Val Snider

2. Changes to Agenda

Eileen Gonzalez, City Council Administrator, noted the following changes to the agenda for the regular City Council meeting tomorrow; it will be requested that agenda item 12.A. listed on the February 10, 2015 meeting agenda be postponed to the February 24, 2015 regular City Council meeting, request item 11.B. be included in the Consent Calendar, and item 12.D. was added to the agenda late last week.

3. Regular Meeting Comments

Council President King commended Councilmember Martin on an article on the front page of the Gazette newspaper today concerning her years of service on City Council.

4. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

4.A. [15-00123](#) City Council Work Session January 26, 2015

The Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

5. Executive Session

A) Open

There was not an Open Executive Session.

B) Closed

There was not a Closed Executive Session.

6. Staff and Appointee Reports

6.A. [14-0760](#) Agenda Planner Review

Ms. Gonzalez stated the Agenda Planner was included in the Council packets, there were no questions.

7. Presentations for General Information

7.A. [15-0055](#) Colorado Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) - Q4 2014 Performance Measures

Doug Price, President and CEO of the CVB reviewed the results of the financial report for the fourth quarter of 2014, including LART and CVB. Mr. Price explained how the CVB has made changes to the way social media results will be measured in 2015.

Councilmember Collins asked if there has been research done about the results of using brochures versus social media. Mr. Price stated they have reduced the number of brochures printed and added that social media has not met the amount of referrals provided by the brochures.

Councilmember Gaebler asked Mr. Price to provide additional information about the 2015 Vacation Planner produced by the CVB. Mr. Price stated the people pictured in the brochure represent actual people from the area, and described how the brochures are engineered to provide ideas for visiting the Pikes Peak region.

Councilmember Gaebler congratulated the CVB on being re-accredited through the Destination Marketing Accreditation Program, and invited Councilmembers to attend the Go West Summit, being hosted by Colorado Springs, with her later this week.

Councilmember Knight brought up the decrease in partner revenue, which does not meet the CVB goals, and asked what is being done to increase the partner revenue. Mr. Price stated they allow businesses to sample the program before they become revenue contributing partners.

Councilmember Knight asked if CVB funds are based on performance. Mr. Price stated the CVB is required to do their best to meet the performance metrics but funding is not based on performance.

Council President King asked how group leads work. Mr. Price stated group leads are provided to hotels and motels, but the CVB does not book the accommodations.

Mr. Price informed Council a follow-up report meeting will be held

Tuesday March 10, 2015, all Councilmembers will receive an invitation to this meeting.

8. Items for Introduction

- 8.A.** [15-00112](#) A Resolution Supporting a Paths to Parks Grant Application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Legacy Loop Paths to Parks Project

Res/Ord Number: 19-15

Jeff Webb, Senior Analyst, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, presented an overview of the improvements necessary to complete the trail. Mr. Webb explained that applying for a grant from Great Outdoors Colorado requires a resolution and \$250,000 in matching funds, the funds are available. Mr. Webb stated that the grant application last year was not approved and they have made changes to the application in hopes of successfully obtaining the grant this year.

Councilmember Bennett commented on the importance of this project to complete the trail and close the gaps.

Councilmember Knight requested the following changes to the grant application; in section 4, change the language to state City Council has appropriated the funds (through approving the 2015 budget), and change section 6 to authorize the Mayor or designee to sign documents. Mr. Webb agreed to make these changes.

Councilmember Gaebler commended the Parks Department on the community effort involved in making this happen.

- 8.B.** [15-0040](#) Ordinance No. 15-18 providing for the platting of Blocks 203, 212 and 213 in Evergreen Cemetery

Res/Ord Number: 15-18

Will Deboer, Cemetery Manager, presented an overview of this request to add to the inventory of burial plots.

There were no questions or comments on this agenda item.

- 8.C.** [14-0744](#) A Resolution Authorizing an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Colorado Springs and the Colorado Department of Transportation for the I-25/Cimarron Street Reconstruction Project

Res/Ord Number: 17-15

Kathleen Krager, Transportation Manager, explained how price increases have affected the previously approved amount of money necessary to complete this project and explained how she plans to fund this expenditure from the PPRTA budget.

Councilmember Knight requested an explanation of how all of the planned road projects are being funded. Ms. Krager stated she has moved funds around to cover all of the projects, adding she will return to a Council meeting in early March to provide details of the selected contractor and the design for this intersection.

Councilmember Martin asked if the PPRTA Board has approved the funds, Ms. Krager stated the PPRTA Board has approved the plan to fund this project, including the plan to use capital funds that could be used on city intersections for this project over the next four years, stating this project includes the intersection at 8th and Cimarron, an intersection that has significant safety concerns.

- 8.D.** [15-00128](#) A Resolution Authorizing the donation of real property for a public purpose to the Colorado Department of Transportation

Res/Ord Number: 18-15

Kathleen Krager, Transportation Manager, explained this property is needed to provide the required right of way for the new interchange.

Councilmember Knight asked why the City is donating property when CDOT is purchasing property from adjacent land owners. Ms. Krager stated the City will be able to have a portion of Powers Boulevard widened due to the donation of this property, adding this represents the smallest amount of local match and the value of the property being donated is approximately \$15,000.

Councilmember Bennett stated he does not believe the land being donated is useful for anything else.

- 8.E.** [15-0030](#) Ordinance No. 15-19 for a supplemental appropriation to the general fund in the amount of \$60,000 for the purpose of fulfilling an order to demolish a dangerous building

Res/Ord Number: 15-19

Travis Easton, Public Works Director, provided an overview of the plan to demolish a dangerous structure in the City in accord with the City's required process.

Councilmember Gaebler asked how long the property has been burned out. Mr. Easton estimated about 2 years.

Councilmember Collins asked how the cost to demolish the building was determined and suggested a competitive bid process take place. Mr. Easton assured Council a competitive bid process will take place.

Councilmember Gaebler asked if there is any way to get the property owners to pay for the demolition. Mr. Easton stated they have tried to work with the property owners, but they are not willing to do anything and the City is ultimately liable for the property, adding a lien will be placed against the property.

Councilmember Snider confirmed this is a request for appropriation of funds. Mr. Easton confirmed that is correct.

Council President King asked if the liens will be secondary to tax liens on the property. Mr. Easton stated he is not sure if there are tax liens on the property or how the liens would be ordered. David Andrews, Legislative Counsel stated he will provide that information to Council.

- 8.F. [15-0052](#) Ordinance No. 15-20 amending Ordinance No. 07-15 to redescribe the Colorado Springs Downtown Development Authority so as to include certain additional property.
(Legislative Matter)

Res/Ord Number: 15-20

Peter Wysocki, Director of Planning and Development, presented an overview of the request by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to include additional property in the defined DDA area.

Councilmember Knight asked about existing and potential TIF's on the property. Mr. Wysocki stated this property will be included in the existing DDA TIF which will continue for an additional 23 years and further explained how taxes on the property may potentially be structured as development proceeds.

Council President King asked how taxes on the property are distributed to School District 11. Susan Edmonds, CEO, Downtown Partnership and Executive Director of the DDA, explained they have an IGA with the school district and return the TIF funds to the schools. Council President

King asked what the projected property value increase will be with the completed development plan. Ms. Edmonds stated they have not calculated that yet because all of the property uses have not been determined yet.

Councilmember Collins asked about the response to a mailing that went out, Ms. Edmonds stated they did not receive any questions or concerns about the development.

Council President King asked about the appropriation of tax revenue received by the DDA. Ms. Edmonds explained tax revenue is received and distributed on a district wide basis. Ms. Edmonds went on to explain the DDA is excited about the opportunities this development provides.

Chris Jenkins with Nor'wood Development shared a historical overview of the property and the vision for this development.

Council President King asked if they have done financial projections on the TIF income for the property. Mr. Jenkins provided a comparison with the Wells Fargo Tower property. Mr. Jenkins also added that the TIF income should increase as the property value increases with the development.

Councilmember Bennett asked when the redevelopment might begin. Mr. Jenkins stated the first phase of the work could realistically start this year.

- 8.G.** [14-0398](#) Ordinance No. 15-17 amending Section 203 (Duties) and Section 204 (Emergency Operations Plan) of Part 2 (Office of Emergency Management) of Article 7 (Emergency Management) of Chapter 8 (Public Safety) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended pertaining to approval of the City's Emergency Operations Plan

Res/Ord Number: 15-17

Bret Waters, Emergency Management Director and Deputy Chief of Staff, thanked Councilmember Pico for his work on this project. Mr. Waters stated City Code currently requires City Council to approve changes to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), he is recommending that changes to the EOP be presented to City Council and approved by the Mayor.

Councilmember Collins asked how this compares to the El Paso County

EOP approval process. Mr. Waters stated he will follow-up on that question.

Councilmember Knight requested a change stating that City Council will receive a copy of the EOP within a defined time-frame of changes being made. Mr. Waters agreed to this requested change.

9. Items Under Study

[14-0720](#) An amended ordinance relating to carrying of concealed weapons by private security officers

Vincent Niski, Deputy Police Chief, CSPD, explained CSPD is opposed to licensed security officers carrying concealed weapons. Mr. Niski expressed frustration with the process arriving to this discussion and stated information provided in previous meeting was incorrect, both Denver and Pueblo prohibit licensed security guards from carrying concealed weapons. Mr. Niski also stated the private security firms licensed in Colorado Springs that he contacted said if this is allowed then extra training is crucial to allowing security officers to carry weapons. Mr. Niski requested this go back to a stake holder group to draft an ordinance for a Council vote.

Discussion ensued between Councilmembers about the action that has been taken regarding this issue and how to best move forward.

Spencer Stringham with Advanced Patrol Security stated he feels Council has had sufficient time to research and consider this issue and expressed his frustration with the delays.

Councilmember Knight stated Council made a commitment to re-address this issue in January and has failed to meet that commitment. He asked Mr. Stringham if he would like for Council to make a quick decision on this or allow time for a stakeholder review process to take place. Mr. Stringham stated he would prefer to wait for the stakeholder process to be completed. Council discussed the amount of time necessary to allow the stakeholder process to take place and an ordinance to be drafted to address this issue.

Sarah Johnson, City Clerk, stated the original Security Training Advisory Board (STAB) spent a year of collaboration with stakeholders to develop the original ordinance and emphasized the importance of her office continuing to being involved in the process.

City Police Chief, Peter Carey, agreed with the decision to allow time for stake holders to meet and discuss this issue.

Councilmember Bennett suggested Council move forward with creating a stake holders group and have a schedule presented in late March to see how this process is going to move forward.

City Police Chief Carey recommended a City Council champion be appointed to assure the process moves forward in a timely manner. Councilmember Pico volunteered to oversee this process with the assistance of Ms. Gonzalez. City Council agreed a stakeholder group will be formed, meetings will be scheduled to discuss this issue and a timeline will be established to assure this issue is brought to a vote.

10. Councilmember Reports and Open Discussion

Councilmembers Snider and Knight addressed the problems City Council has with following through with issues and suggested Council develop a better process to ensure follow through.

Councilmember Bennett thanked City Council and Staff for supporting the Keep Carson Strong initiative.

Council president King stated there will not be a Council Staff Work Plan Review meeting tomorrow.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before City Council, Council adjourned.

Sarah B. Johnson
City Clerk