

Gunnison City Council Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 7:00 PM
Gunnison City Hall, 38 West Center
Gunnison, UT 84634

Present: Mayor Lori Nay; Councilmembers Robert Andersen, Shawn Crane, Stella Hill, and Rod Taylor; City Recorder Steven Jensen; and Citizen Casey Peterson

Presiding: Mayor Lori Nay
Invocation: Mayor Lori Nay

Public Comment

Casey Peterson was in attendance to discuss the City's master plan, specifically high density housing. Councilmember Rod Taylor said there are some places in the city that are zoned for this (R&C). Taylor said there are also places in the City zoned for condominium ownership. If the area where Peterson wants to build isn't zoned for what he needs, then he will have to see about having it rezoned. Peterson said he tried to do that but it didn't work. He said the Council needs to decide if they want high density building and if so, then where. Councilmember Hill agreed that there is a need for this kind of housing in the City. She said growth is coming and the City needs to plan and prepare for it. The Mayor said that the City needs to come up with a plan for this and it will take combined effort with the Planning and Zoning. Councilmember Hill said the Planning and Zoning committee wants Peterson to come up with a plan. Peterson said he doesn't want to invest \$20,000 into a plan until he knows the City is willing to approve high density housing. Councilmember Crane said that because Peterson is asking for a zone change, the Council needs to see a plan to back up the change, it doesn't need to be a \$20,000 plan. The Mayor said that high density housing is something the City needs to address. She said they also need to do a little more study to understand what R&C means and what the City would like it to mean. She suggested a work meeting to do this. She said she will give him a call in 30 days and let him know where they are at with it.

Discussion and proposed approval the action of granting the Gunnison Valley Police Department with Gunnison City CARES Act Funds to not exceed \$275,000, which is the estimated value of almost 10 months of eligible wages – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay said the Police Board met and determined they would accept the grant from the City and in return the City would not have to pay the amount that would normally come out of the budget. It will be around \$266,000 but City Accountant Gary Keddington asked that \$275,000 be put in there so the City is inclusive. This amount covers the wages of the Police Officers, not the help in the office. The other \$50,000 from the CARES Act has been used at the swimming pool, the 4th of July, and the City Hall equipment under the CARES Act protocol. This will take care of the \$310,000 the City will receive from CARES.

The Mayor asked the Council to look at each of their departments and see if there is something they would like to use the money for. Councilmember Taylor suggested that some of the money be used to improve the pressurized irrigation. He also suggested they look at the first responders and see if they have a need for new equipment.

The Police Department has invested in a K-9 with part of the money.

Councilmember Crane asked for clarification on the Police Department's financial split with Centerfield. The Mayor reported that it is 33% for Centerfield and 67% for Gunnison.

Councilmember Hill made the motion to approve the action of granting the Gunnison Valley Police Department with Gunnison City CARES Act Funds, not to exceed \$275,000. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Discussion of possible safety issue at the park with playground equipment – Councilmember Stella Hill

Councilmember Hill said she noticed last week that the lining under the swings have been rubbed away by kids dragging their feet. She went by again yesterday to take pictures and someone has put heavy rugs down, trying to fix the problem. She said she thinks this is a safety issue. People can trip and fall where the lining is gone. Also, the monkey bars aren't turning like they should. She suggests some kind of monthly playground check to help with the safety issues. The Mayor suggested they meet with Donald Childs this week and get a list put together.

Councilmember Hill said she talked with the prison and asked if when the officers are in the tower could keep an eye on the cemetery. They said they could do this.

Discuss "Welcome to Gunnison" signage and possible timeline and process for development – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay said The "Welcome to Gunnison" sign is on the budget for this year. The designer she would like to work with has six weeks available now or time in six months to work on this. She asked the Council if they want to deal with it now or in the spring.

Discuss “Welcome to Gunnison” signage and possible timeline and process for development – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay said The “Welcome to Gunnison” sign is on the budget for this year. The designer she would like to work with has six weeks available now or time in six months to work on this. She asked the Council if they want to deal with it now or in the spring. Councilmember Andersen said he thinks it would be nice to work on it now and unveil it in the spring. He said it’s hard to tell what’s on the current sign.

Mayor Nay said she would get it going and asked if anyone would like to work on this committee. Councilmembers Hill and Andersen said they would do it.

Discuss with proposed approval the continued sidewalk replacement and development projects and timeline goals – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay reported that in July of 2021 the City will do the Safe to School sidewalk with the \$200,000 grant they received. This is for 200 East. She said they will have to have some work meetings and do some planning so come July they can get it done.

Right now the sidewalk is being done by the hospital. The hospital paid the city \$25,000, half the cost of the project. It was put off due to bad weather but is getting done now.

The other sidewalks that the City is replacing will be done by Donald Childs and the City Crew. They didn’t do the one at the hospital because it was more difficult with gutters. Some of the areas that are being looked at are: Center Street between 100 East and 200 East; the sidewalk by Sally Neal’s going toward the Post Office and down past the Ashton house. The Mayor asked about using some of the \$265,000 for sidewalks.

Proposed Approval of Bills and Adjustments

Councilmember Hill asked why the City pays \$24,000 for PHP (health insurance). She asked how many people are covered on the insurance and was told eight people. Recorder Jenson told her the City pays \$8,000 each month for insurance. Mayor Nay said open enrollment is going on right now and she is trying to get Bill, the City’s Insurance Broker, to come to the City work meeting in two weeks to discuss the options. Councilmember Crane said the City pays \$12,000 per each employee per year for insurance. Councilmember Hill said the employees need to look at that as part of their salary when they feel like they are not making a very high wage. Councilmember Crane asked Jenson to send him a copy of the current insurance information. The Mayor asked for it also.

The Mayor asked what the bill for Ensign Engineering was for. Jenson said it is for the ball fields for \$10,000.

Councilmember Andersen made the motion to approve the bills and adjustments. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Proposed Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Councilmember Hill made the motion to approve Minutes for City Council for September 2, 2020. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

City Business and Future Items

RIO West Properties – Mayor Nay said she received a letter from Utah Housing. It was a tax credit application saying they will allow the City to have input regarding the RIO West Properties. She asked Councilmember Taylor to look at it so they can have a reply.

Dynamic Integrations – Mayor Nay reported that Dynamic Integrations put together a list of everything the City needs for their upgrades to the council room. The original bid they gave the City was \$11,500. The City then talked about some additional things they wanted, it went up to \$14,600. This will come out of the money the City got from the CARES Act. The Mayor said she would like to have them get started on this project right away and it can be approved during next Council Meeting. The Council agreed they would go forward.

City Clean-up – Councilmember Hill said the City clean up, that was supposed to be held next week has been postponed.

Code Enforcement – The Mayor reported that she and Councilmember Hill met with City Attorney Mandy Larsen and the ordinances don’t quite jive. Larsen is working on it and plans to meet with the Mayor and Hill next week. Councilmember Taylor suggested they look at the ordinances with pressurized irrigation and see what they can do there. Larsen told the Mayor about a retired Code

Enforcement Officer who is looking for part-time work. The Mayor asked the Council if they have any objections to her talking to him.

Street Lights – Councilmember Taylor requested a copy of the bills from the new street lights when they come in.

Adjourn

Council-member Crane made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Andersen seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.



Steven Jenson, City Recorder



Lori Nay, Mayor

February 18, 2021

Approval Date