

**COUNCIL PRE-MEETING**  
Tuesday, October 19, 2021 5:30 p.m.  
Casper City Hall - Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. 2020 Census-Ward Boundaries
2. Agenda Review

Mayor Freel began the pre-meeting session at 5:35 p.m. with Councilmembers Cathey, Engebretsen, Gamroth, Johnson, Pacheco, Pollock, Quest and Mayor Freel in attendance. Absent: Knell.

City Manager Napier introduced the topic of the adjustment of the current ward boundaries based on the most recent census data. He said that these boundaries would be discussed at a meeting on Friday at 7 am. He explained that the wards should have similar populations within them, and based on the recent census data that is not currently the case. He also said that City information technology and geographic information system (GIS) staff have created proposed balanced boundaries for the wards, which will be discussed at the meeting on Friday, in addition to other local redistricting shifts. He then shared that the ward boundaries have not been amended since 2002. He asked staff to share an overview of the proposed ward boundary changes.

Denyse Wyskup, Regional GIS Administrator, stated that there were two main factors in balancing the wards. The first factor is population apportionment and the second is easy to understand geographical barriers. She shared that there currently is a 14% imbalance between wards one and three, but the variance should be less than 5%. She then explained that the current legal descriptions of the wards is complicated and they hoped to be able to use South Poplar and South Beverly Streets for the majority of the boundaries. She stated that using those boundaries alone would not work because under that scenario, the population balances would be off.

Councilmember Cathey asked about the vicinity of the cemetery and Ms. Wyskup shared that there are residents of the Life Steps campus that are in close proximity to the cemetery area on the map. Councilmember Cathey asked how the population balance is using the new/proposed wards. Ms. Wyskup said that ward two stays balanced when South Poplar Street is used for that ward. She shared that they worked with three different scenarios for the boundaries and using South Poplar Street consistently kept ward two in balance. She shared that using the proposed boundaries the difference between ward one and two is 1.4% and the difference between ward two and three is 1.9%. She invited Council to attend the redistricting meeting on Friday morning, which is to be held in the Natrona County Commissioners meeting room, and will include presentations of the proposed City ward boundaries as well as district and senate boundaries.

Mayor Freel asked if the City Manager had further comments. City Manager Napier thanked staff for their work on the project and stated that this is a really solid proposal with appropriate adjustments.

Mayor Freel moved on to agenda review. City Manager Napier said that the executive session this evening will not include the topic of land acquisition.

Mayor Freel adjourned the pre-meeting at 5:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING  
A Municipal Corporation

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Fleur Tremel  
City Clerk

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Steven K. Freel  
Mayor