

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, January 18, 2016
4:30 p.m.

2015 CITY COUNCIL GOALS

Downtown - The City of Casper will foster growth and prosperity of the City’s core through infrastructure development, creating public spaces and supportive facilities.

Infrastructure - The City of Casper will create the conditions for economic development by expanding and maintaining its physical assets and equipment, including streets, water lines, parking garages, fire stations, buildings and parks.

Recreation - The City of Casper will support, maintain and upgrade its current recreational facilities and programs and develop recreational opportunities that provide citizens and visitors with a variety of affordable activities for all ages that serve to enhance quality of life.

Council Goals Scorecard <i>Actions to Date</i>
17
83
43

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. WARD I COUNCILMEMBER APPLICANT INTERVIEWS

	Time	Candidate
1	4:30-4:40	Reginald Kokes
2	4:40-4:50	Jason Magnuson
3	4:50-5:00	Tim Monroe
4	5:00-5:10	Rita Walsh
5	5:10-5:20	Erich Frankland
6	5:20-5:30	Wayne Heili – Skype or phone interview
7	5:30-5:40	David Dewald – Skype or phone interview
8	5:40-5:50	Barbara LeMaitre
9	5:50-6:00	Brian Scott Gamroth

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION
5. APPOINTMENT OF WARD I COUNCILMAN

6. RESOLUTION

- A. Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Formal Letter of Protest to the **Bureau of Land Management** Requesting the **Removal of Certain Parcels from Inclusion in the February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale.**

7. ADJOURNMENT

January 15, 2016

MEMO TO: V.H. McDonald, City Manager

FROM: Liz Becher, Community Development Director 

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Formal Letter of Protest to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting the removal of certain parcels from inclusion in the February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Recommendation:

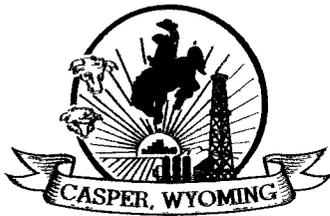
That Council, by resolution, authorize the Mayor to sign a Formal Letter of Protest to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting removal of certain parcels from inclusion in the February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale.

Summary:

Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC is the property owner of approximately 6,500 acres of land located generally north of the Casper City limits. Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC has been working with the City for over a year to perform studies required prior to the submittal of a formal application for annexation. Prior to the commencement of an annexation of this massive scale there is much analysis that must occur, such as transportation studies, emergency response needs, drainage studies, water and sewer availability studies, utility analysis and school district needs. State Statute provides a 180-day maximum time limitation for the processing of an annexation, beginning once a formal application has been submitted to the City. For this reason, the City conducts its analysis in the preceding months, prior to the submittal of the formal annexation application, that there is adequate time to process the annexation in compliance with State law. The applicant has, over the past year, expended time and money performing engineering and analysis, in preparation of their formal submittal for annexation into the City of Casper.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is holding an Oil and Gas Lease Sale on February 2, 2016. Two of the parcels that are being offered for sale conflict with the land that is slated for possible annexation. The property owner has asked the City to formally protest the sale of two lease parcels on their behalf. Were the property already annexed into the City of Casper, the BLM would not be offering any oil and gas leases for sale in the area. Similarly, the Casper Municipal Code has a prohibition on drilling within the City limits. In anticipation of receiving a formal request for annexation of the property encompassing BLM Parcel Number WY-1602-043 and BLM Parcel Number WY-1602-046, staff has drafted a formal letter of protest requesting that those parcels be withdrawn from the lease sale based on the pending annexation of the area. The deadline for submitting a formal protest is Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 4:00 P.M.

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the letter of protest has been prepared for Council's consideration.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CASPER

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January 18, 2016

Ms. Mary Jo Rugwell, State Director for BLM Wyoming
P.O. Box 1828
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003

RE: Formal Protest of February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale of certain parcels proposed for annexation to the City of Casper, Wyoming

Dear Ms. Rugwell:

Pursuant to 43 CFR 3120.1-3, the City of Casper is formally protesting the inclusion of BLM **Parcel Number WY-1602-043 and Parcel Number WY-1602-046** in the upcoming February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale.

The City of Casper is anticipating receiving application for the annexation of approximately 6,500 acres of property located generally north of the current City limits, portions of which conflict with the two BLM Parcels identified above. The property is owned by Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners I, LLC, who has been working with the City for over a year to perform the studies required prior to submittal of a formal application for annexation. Prior to the commencement of an annexation of this massive scale, there is much analysis that must occur, such as, but not limited to, transportation studies, emergency response needs, drainage studies, water and sewer availability studies, utility analysis, and school district needs. Wyoming State Statute 15-1-402 provides a 180-day maximum time limitation for the processing of an annexation, beginning once a formal application has been submitted to the City. For this reason, the City conducts engineering and analysis in the preceding months, prior to the submittal of a formal annexation application, so that there is adequate time to process the annexation in compliance with State law. The applicant has, over the past year, expended a time and money performing engineering and analysis, in preparation of their formal submittal for annexation into the City of Casper. It is anticipated that formal application for annexation of the property will occur sometime in the next 2-3 months, which starts the statutory 180-day time clock to complete the annexation. Notwithstanding a formal annexation application, the City also has a one (1) mile extra-territorial jurisdiction over plats in the area pursuant to Wyoming State Statute 34-12-103.

The City understands that if the property were already incorporated within the City limits, the BLM parcels in question would not be offered as a part of the Oil and Gas Lease Sale. Similarly, the City of

Casper has a prohibition on drilling within the City limits. In anticipation of receiving a formal request for annexation of the property encompassing **Parcel Number WY-1602-043 and Parcel Number WY-1602-046**, the City of Casper respectfully requests that the BLM either withdraw said parcels from the February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale, or in the alternative, defer the sale at this time to allow the City the necessary time to process the annexation. A deferment would afford the City the additional time necessary to process the annexation, and if something were to occur whereby the annexation were not approved, or the applicant withdrew their request, then the BLM could still proceed at a later date with the sale of the Oil and Gas Leases in that area.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you need additional information or details, please feel free to contact the City Manager, V.H. McDonald, at (307)-235-8224, or by E-mail at vhmcdonald@casperwy.gov.

Sincerely,

Daniel Sandoval
Mayor

RESOLUTION NO.16-15

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A FORMAL LETTER OF PROTEST TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) REQUESTING THE REMOVAL OF CERTAIN PARCELS FROM INCLUSION IN THE FEBRUARY 2, 2016 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE.

WHEREAS, Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC is the property owner of approximately 6,500 acres of land located generally north of the Casper City limits; and,

WHEREAS, Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC desires to annex said property to the City of Casper; and,

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is conducting an Oil and Gas Lease Sale on February 2, 2016, portions of which conflict with the 6,500-acre area proposed for annexation; and,

WHEREAS, Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC has been working with the City over the last year to perform the studies required prior to the formal submittal of an application for annexation; and,

WHEREAS, Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC has expended time and money in performing the necessary analysis for annexation to the City of Casper; and,

WHEREAS, Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC has asked the City of Casper to file a formal protest with the BLM requesting that two (2) parcels involved in the Oil and Gas Lease Sale be withdrawn from the sale to prevent drilling activities on the property on which they wish to develop as a part of the City of Casper; and,

WHEREAS, the deadline to file a formal protest with the BLM requesting the withdrawal of parcels from the Oil and Gas Lease Sale is Tuesday, January 19th, 2016, at 4:00 PM; and,

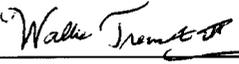
WHEREAS, the City desires to accommodate the request of Wyoming Land Acquisition Partners, I, LLC to file a formal protest requesting the BLM to withdraw two (2) parcels from the Oil and Gas Lease Sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING: That the Mayor is hereby authorized, and directed to sign a formal letter of protest requesting the withdrawal of two (2) parcels, WY-1602-043 and WY-1602-046, from the February 2, 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That City staff is authorized to submit the signed letter of protest to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2016.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



ATTEST:

Tracey L. Belser
City Clerk

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

Daniel Sandoval
Mayor