

COUNCIL WORK SESSION – October 28, 2014

Mayor Meyer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with all members present except Councilman Hedquist.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Liz Becher, Community Development Director, and Joy Clark, Community Development Technician, regarding a proposed contract for management of Life Steps Campus. The current contractor is Community Action Partnership and their contract expires October 31, 2014. A Request for Proposals resulted in two proposals for future management of the campus – one from the Casper Housing Authority and one from Community Action Partnership. A staff committee consisting of Ms. Becher, Ms. Clark, Linda Witko, Assistant City Manager and V.H. McDonald, Administrative Services Director met and evaluated the proposals as well as conducting interviews with each agency. The recommendation from this committee was to enter into a five-year contract with the Casper Housing Authority for the management of Life Steps Campus. The Casper Housing Authority proposal includes on-site property management and maintenance for 24 hours/day. Ms. Clark will be working with CAP and CHA during the month of November to assure a smooth transition from one organization to the other. All of the current tenants will be offered an opportunity to continue their existing lease agreements under the new management contract. Council agreed to allow staff to continue to negotiate a contract for the property management services with CHA and to bring the final document to the November 18th City Council Meeting for formal approval.

The second item on the agenda was a report from Fleur Tremel, Deputy Assistant City Manager, on the final voting results for the first round of Community Promotions Funding. Some minor changes were made by Council during the discussion but the request from the Casper Civic Chorale for reconsideration was not approved. The total amount of cash funding allocated to the 16 applicants who requested cash was \$51,008.45. The amount of in-kind and facility funding from Council Goals was \$85,096.37 which represents 50% of the requests with the remaining 50% to be funded by the applicants. The balance in the cash line item for Community Promotions is \$63,991.55 which will be available for the next round of applications in March 2015. The final list will be brought to the next Regular Council Meeting for formal approval.

City Manager Patterson asked Linda Witko, Assistant City Manager, to discuss the Proposed Update to the 2008 Senior Citizen Study. Ms. Witko reviewed the history of the Senior Study Project and outlined the recommendations that were made and the progress which has occurred in response to the Study. Council asked questions about the growing senior population and how the study may need to be updated to account for the changes in the needs of this group. Council indicated support for moving forward with a plan to update the study with funding to be included in the requests for the FY2016 Budget to be considered in May of 2015.

The City Manager asked Jolene Martinez, Special Projects Coordinator, to present an update on the River Revival Project. Jolene provided a report on the National Public Lands Day project which involved over 600 volunteers removing litter and debris from the Platte River through the City and the removal of Russian Olive trees along with the wire wrapping of protected trees along the river bank. She also updated Council on the in-river construction project and bank re-vegetation which is part of the overall River Restoration. The first section of the construction

project was bid this fall but with only one conditional response the staff recommended rejection of the bid. The project will be rebid in January in hopes that additional contractors may be encouraged to get on board with this project. Council was asked to continue their financial support of the Volunteer Day in 2015 and the construction project as a public/private partnership as it goes forward. Council thanked Jolene for all her work and indicated their continued support for this project.

Fire Chief Ken King reported to the Council on the RESPECT Our River Project. He noted that the committee of 31 interested members has been meeting to move forward with projects. The focus is on Education in the Schools during the winter months and volunteers have already begun meeting with middle school students. The McMurry Foundation has provided funding for throw rings and rope stations. A local business is designing life jacket stations and the committee has ordered additional life jackets to be given away. Twenty-two "Danger" signs have been installed along the river from Robertson Road to Lake McKensie. Additional programs have been planned for installation in the spring when traffic on the river picks up again and the white water park becomes a local attraction. The Council thanked Chief King for his work and the committee for all that they have done and indicated their ongoing support for this program.

City Manager Patterson reviewed the draft agenda for the upcoming Council Meeting on November 4th. Councilman Sandoval asked if there would be a request for reconsideration of the vote on the Elevations Liquor License. The City Attorney indicated that he would draft a motion that could be introduced by one of the Councilmembers who voted to deny the request for transfer. It will not be a specific agenda item but will be in the proposed script if a Councilmember wishes to introduce a motion to reconsider.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting to be adjourned at 6:25 p.m.