

COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.
Council Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. Council Meeting Follow-up
2. CATC Funding Request
3. Food Trucks
4. Community Promotions
5. Legislative Review – WAM Resolutions
6. Sidewalk Cafés
7. Capital Budget Discussion (Part Two)
8. Annexation Recommendation
9. Park Fees Resolution
10. Grassy Park – Off Leash Zones
11. Agenda Setting
12. Council Around the Table

Mayor Powell called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Freel, Huber, Pacheco, Hopkins, Walsh, Lutz, Bates and Mayor Powell. Councilmember Johnson was absent.

Mayor Powell explained that the added agenda item regarding Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) resolutions was required due to an upcoming WAM Board Meeting. Council also decided to add the cell phone discussion item to the next pre-meeting agenda.

Next, Council discussed the request from CATC (Casper Area Transportation Coalition) to pay for a portion of the director's wages during the hiring process for a new director. The money would go to the foundation to replenish funds that have been used to pay for this. Council gave their thumbs up to contribute \$18K towards their request. They also discussed putting CATC on a work session agenda so that Council can better understand how it is run and how the funding works.

Next, Council discussed an amendment to the MVPP (Mobile Vendor Parking Permit) ordinance to allow the public to be notified of reserved parking spots further in advance. City Manager Napier explained that this has been an issue on weekends, because there is no time limit for parking on Saturdays and Sundays. Council gave their thumbs up to amend the ordinance to allow signage notifying the public of reserved spots further in advance and to leave specifics up to the discretion of the City Manager and staff. Fire Department staff also discussed requiring inspections for trailers and food carts that produce grease-laden vapors, as is addressed in the 2018 International Fire Code.

Next, Council reviewed potential Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) Resolutions for the 2019 Legislative Session. Mayor Powell explained that there was a WAM Board meeting this week, so he wanted to know Council's consensus on each potential issue. He then reviewed each of the resolutions and asked for discussion and consensus on each. Council expressed support for the resolutions concerning lien authority, municipal authority to implement local option sales tax, clarifying the lien and assessment process, state health fund eligibility for municipal workers, payment in lieu of taxes for state-owned properties, financial independence and authority for municipalities, stormwater utilities, equal and accessible state-to-municipal funding to sustain services for municipal residents, appropriation of state funding for all municipalities, removal of limits on indebtedness for sewage disposal systems, and sharing responsibility of tax revenue errors with vendors and the Wyoming Department of Revenue. Council gave provisional support for anti-discrimination legislation, but asked that this be discussed at a future work session to limit the scope of their support. They also provisionally supported a resolution that would decentralize tax collection and allow municipalities to collect their own taxes, but stated that they would like a cost-benefit analysis of this option and would withdraw support if it does not save money. Council came to a consensus not to move forward on the extraterritorial jurisdiction resolution, because there is not support in the legislature for this issue at this time. Council decided not to take a position on standardized air service. Council also decided not to take a position on the cap increase on property taxes but asked to discuss it further at a later time. Council did not support the resolution regarding a tax on food. Mayor Powell then reviewed the WAM Resolution process, and Council designated Mayor Powell as the Casper City Council representative for WAM.

Next, Council discussed their compiled preferences for community promotions allocations. Council came to a consensus to accept the compiled allocations with a few changes. They decided to allocate the Juneteenth request \$500, to give \$5K to the Hockey Club towards their facilities request, and to give the balance up to the \$25K budget for the County Fair for security costs.

Next, Council discussed sidewalk cafés. City Manager Napier explained that Council had previously shown interest in expanding the sidewalks to allow for restaurant service outdoors. City Attorney Henley explained that doing this could lead to issues with local, state and federal laws. Specifically it would conflict with the local beverage laws in the Casper Municipal Code, with the state constitutional requirements that the City cannot make a donation to a private entity, and with the federal requirement of five foot sidewalk to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. City Attorney Henley explained that it may be possible to do this by requiring businesses to pay for a permit for use of the property on a temporary basis so long as there was still five feet of sidewalk. Council discussed their positions on utilizing the sidewalks for this purpose and came to consensus that they did not want to pursue options to allow sidewalk cafés. They did ask that staff do more research to see how other communities have worked around these laws and asked that Councilmember Johnson bring the issue up with the Casper Area

Convention and Visitor's Bureau board. City Manager Napier stated that in Gillette, the Main Street was completely redesigned with large sidewalks in order to accommodate sidewalk cafés, and this would be difficult to do with Casper's narrow downtown streets.

Next, Council discussed the capital projects. They discussed the Hogadon air conditioning and parking lot at Hogadon, and gave their thumbs up to include these projects in the budget. They gave their support for concrete improvements at Fire Station 6 and the purchase of Ford 350's. They directed staff to provide more information on the chair lift improvements. City Manager Napier asked that funding for Events Center projects be retained for future discussion, and Council agreed that they would like more information on these projects. Councilmember Bates asked further questions about the following budget items: Zoll AutoPulse, Marion Kreiner pool liner project, John Deere tractor replacement, ice arena table/chair replacement, and the mobile traffic message board units. Staff addressed each of the questions and provided further information on these projects to Council.

Council decided to defer the following work session agenda items to the next work session due to time constraints. They decided to let staff set the next work session agenda for more capital project explanation and asked that the Platte River Trails Trust request be discussed at the work session on April 23rd.

Next, Council went around the table to discuss their respective board and committee meetings and share ideas and concerns related to public matters of interest.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING

A Municipal Corporation

ATTEST:

Fleur D. Tremel

City Clerk

Charles Powell

Mayor