

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF WORLAND, WYOMING

January 16, 2007

A regular meeting of the City Council of Worland, Wyoming convened in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on January 16, 2007. Mayor Sonny Shearer presided and the Councilmembers in attendance were: Loyd Worley, Jerry Alexander George Hazen, Bud Callaham, Vasca Gilmore, Curt Christoffersen and Justin Pfeiffer. Also present were: Community Development Director, Dale Ellsworth; Airport Manager, Gary Thompson; City Attorney, Kent Richins; Police Chief, Bob Richardson; Superintendent of Public Works, Gene Cliame and Clerk-Treasurer, Tracy Glanz. Councilmembers Bob Nelsen and Shane Anderson were absent.

There were 3 visitors present for this meeting of the City Council.

Lowell Peterson led the Council and Visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 2, 2007.

By: Councilmember Hazen.

Second by: Councilmember Worley.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: to approve the payroll for the period ending January 1, 2007; PAYROLL – 1/1/07 - \$53,028.26.

By: Councilmember Hazen.

Second by: Councilmember Callaham.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Shearer changed the Order of Business and asked for reports on Commission meetings.

Motion: to ratify and approve the actions of the boards and commissions of the City of Worland.

By: Councilmember Worley.

Second by: Councilmember Alexander.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz reported on action at the Legislature in the Joint Appropriations Committee. The Committee reduced funding to local governments to \$35 million, compared to the \$150 million proposed by Governor Freudenthal. Clerk/Treasurer Glanz encouraged everyone to contact Rep. Debbie Hammons and Senator Jerry Geis as well as the members of the Joint Appropriations Committee.

Mayor Shearer asked for discussion on the Building Permit waiver issued at the last Council meeting to the Worland Community Center. The School District has asked for the same waiver for construction at South Side School. Councilmember Gilmore thought the circumstances were completely different as the City is considered a joint owner of the Center and the Joint Powers Board considered the transaction an exchange of funds or an investment for taxpayers. Community Development Director Dale Ellsworth asked for clarification on the waiver of fees; he has had several questions and isn't sure how to respond since his understanding is that the City does not really own the Center until the Board is dissolved. City Attorney Kent Richins argued that we own 1/3 of the Center and it is considered a City asset. However, he did understand how we did not want to set a precedent in waiving building permit fees. Discussion followed.

Motion: to rescind the motion to waive the Building Permit fee for renovation at the Worland Community Center.

By: Councilmember Pfeiffer.

Second by: Councilmember Christoffersen.

Vote: Councilmembers voting AYE: Hazen, Alexander, Worley, Christoffersen and Pfeiffer; Councilmembers voting NAY: Gilmore and Callaham. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 2.

Mayor Shearer opened discussion on the Community Hall. The Council needs to decide if they want to re-build and if so, where. The amount of the insurance settlement offered also needs to be discussed as the amount offered isn't enough to re-build. Discussion followed. Councilmembers reported on the views of their constituents.

Motion: to not re-build the Community Hall.

By: Councilmember Alexander.

Second by: Councilmember Gilmore.

Vote: Councilmembers voting AYE: Gilmore, Alexander, Callaham and Christoffersen; Councilmembers voting NAY: Hazen, Worley and Pfeiffer. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 3.

Clerk/Treasurer Glanz asked for authorization for the Mayor to sign a letter to LGLP (Local Government Liability Pool) in response to a letter dated December 5, 2006 on Sewer Back-up Claims.

Motion: to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter to LGLP (Local Government Liability Pool) regarding Sewer Back-up Claims.

By: Councilmember Christoffersen.

Second by: Councilmember Alexander.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Police Chief Bob Richardson informed the Council that he had offered a job to Bill Clark and he has accepted the position. He will start on January 29, 2007. Police Chief Richardson has also given two (2) conditional offers of employment. If accepted, the department will be fully staffed. He cautioned that although he will have a full staff, two of the officers will have to complete training at the academy and will not be fully functional until mid-August.

Community Development Director Dale Ellsworth reported that the Board of Adjustment and Planning approved a variance request by Lowell Peterson to install a cell tower on his property located at 413 Big Horn Avenue (Worland True Value).

Motion: to approve the variance to install a cell tower at 413 Big Horn Avenue (Worland True Value).

By: Councilmember Worley.

Second by: Councilmember Alexander.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Director Dale Ellsworth reported that the Board of Adjustment and Planning approved Wal-Mart's site plan contingent upon receiving and approving the landscaping plan.

Motion: to approve the Wal-Mart site plan contingent upon receipt of the landscaping plan.

By: Councilmember Hazen.

Second by: Councilmember Callahan.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Sonny Shearer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracy A. Glanz, Clerk-Treasurer