

September 16, 2014

The City Council of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado, met this day in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The Honorable Mayor Terry L. McAlister called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Present: Honorable Mayor Terry L. McAlister  
Councilmember Christine Castoe  
Councilmember Kevin Lindell  
Councilmember Damon Mussman  
Councilmember Lisa Northrup  
Councilmember Joe Segura Jr.  
Councilmember Ronald Shaver

The meeting was also attended by City Manager Jeff Wells, Police Chief Darin Sagel, City Treasurer Jean Kinney, Engineering/Public Works Director Brad Curtis, Water Resources/Utilities Director Brent Nation, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Michael Boyer, Assistant City Attorney Jason Meyers, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent John Turner, Library/Museum Director Jody Hungenberg, Parks Superintendent Doak Duke, Golf Professional/General Manager Ty Hamer, Streets Superintendent Jim Willis, Fire Chief Erik Christensen and City Clerk/PIO John Brennan.

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#### **RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CITY EMPLOYEE JOHN TURNER**

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Water Resources/Utilities Director Brent Nation spoke about Water Treatment Plant Superintendent John Turner's long and distinguished service to the city, noting that Turner started working for the city at the time the water treatment plant was being built and had overseen the treatment of every single drop of Colorado-Big Thompson water the city had treated since it started receiving that water in 1999. City Manager Jeff Wells talked about Turner's dedication and loyalty, and presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his service.

Councilmember Ron Shaver said he had the pleasure of working with Turner when Shaver was a city employee, and he was a true professional and an asset to the city. Turner thanked the council and said his career with the city had been extremely rewarding.

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#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2014/2015 COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO THE FORT MORGAN POLICE DEPARTMENT OLD HIRE PENSION PLAN**

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Wells explained that the old hire pension plan was different from the city's current retirement plan for police officers, and the city adjusted its contribution to the plan based on actuarial studies that were updated every two years. He said the Police Pension Board had unanimously voted to recommend a 2 percent cost of living increase for 2014 and 2015, and staff was recommending council approval of that proposal.

Shaver offered a resolution authorizing the additional funding for the 2 percent increase for 2014 and 2015 for the Fort Morgan Police Department Old Hire Pension Plan, which was seconded by Councilmember Kevin Lindell and approved unanimously.

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**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LINDA STREET**

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Engineering/Public Works Director Brad Curtis said this agreement would formalize the cost-sharing percentages of the three parties involved in the construction of Linda Street, which included the city, the Community Resources and Housing Development Corp. and Centennial Mental Health.

Councilmember Lisa Northrup offered a resolution to approve the Resolution authorizing the mayor to sign an MOU for the construction of Linda Street, which was seconded by Councilmember Christine Castoe and approved unanimously.

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**BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LINDA STREET**

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Curtis reviewed the bid process for this project, for which two bids were received. Staff was recommending acceptance of the bid from Mountain Constructors Inc. of Platteville in the amount of \$551,174 and authorization for total expenditure on the project not to exceed \$580,000.

Shaver offered a resolution to accept the bid of \$551,174 from Mountain Constructors with the total expenditure on the project not to exceed \$580,000. That resolution was seconded by Castoe and approved unanimously.

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**SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 1156, ESTABLISHING ZONING FOR THE FORT MORGAN FARMS II ANNEXATION**

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Mayor McAlister reviewed the format to be followed during the public hearing, and City Clerk/PIO John Brennan confirmed that proper legal notice of the hearing had been published. Curtis said there were no changes since the first reading of the ordinance. No comments were received from the public at the hearing or in advance, and no comments were made by the council.

Castoe made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Shaver and approved unanimously.

Wells then explained the council's options to either approve or disapprove the zoning of the property, based on the evidence contained in the meeting packet. Northrup offered a resolution to approve the final reading of Ordinance No. 1156, establishing a zoning district in and upon lands of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado, and for said purpose revising and supplementing the zoning district map, and to authorize publication of the ordinance by title only. That resolution was seconded by Castoe and approved unanimously.

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**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN ANNEXATION PETITION AND MAP FOR THE PEIF ANNEXATION**

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Curtis said this resolution stated that the council found the annexation petition to be in substantial compliance with the requirements for annexation and would schedule a public hearing on the petition and an ordinance to annex the property into the city. Curtis and Wells said this process would also clean up boundary issues with the plat of the property so the property could be sold.

Northrup offered a resolution to approve the Resolution accepting the annexation petition for the Peif Annexation and setting a public hearing for Oct. 21. That resolution was seconded by Shaver and approved unanimously.

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**DISCUSSION AND COUNCIL DIRECTION REGARDING PROPOSED REVISIONS TO REGULATIONS FOR DRIVEWAYS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Curtis reviewed the proposed changes to the Municipal Code that were prompted by requests from residents to place additional concrete parking areas in areas like side yards, which currently require a variance. Because of the wide variations in lot sizes and configurations there were many non-complying properties in the city now, and staff and the city Planning Commission felt the revisions to the rules were reasonable and justified. Curtis said the revisions would likely result in less on-street parking by allowing vehicles to park in these new areas adjacent to regular driveways.

Councilmember Northrup asked if the changes would result in a large percentage of residents being in violation of the code, and Curtis said the opposite was likely true and more residents would be in compliance as a result of the revisions.

Curtis and Wells said the staff was not looking for action at this time but wanted to brief the council on the proposed changes and receive input on whether the proposed revisions were on the right track. The council consensus was to move forward with the proposal as presented, and Wells said an ordinance would be brought to the council at the next meeting for first reading. No formal action was taken.

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**2015 BUDGET CALENDAR – CONCLUSION OF PRESENTATION OF 2015 BUDGETS FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS**

City staff members reviewed the proposed budgets for these departments and funds, including Fire Chief Erik Christensen (Fire Department), Streets Superintendent Jim Willis (Streets), Parks Superintendent Doak Duke (Parks/Cemetery), Library/Museum Director Jody Hungenberg (Library/Museum), Golf Professional/General Manager Ty Hamer (Golf) and Wells (Fiber Network Fund, Perpetual Care Fund, Riverview Commons General Improvement District).

The staff highlighted any significant changes in the budgets from the prior year and answered council questions. Wells then said this concluded the department presentations of the budget, and the council had options as far as the timing of the formal presentation of the full draft budget and first reading of the budget ordinance. After some discussion the council consensus was to move ahead with formal presentation of the budget and first reading of the budget ordinance at the Oct. 7 council meeting.

No formal action was taken

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**CONSENT AGENDA BY RESOLUTION**

Brennan presented the Consent Agenda for Council consideration, as follows:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the disbursements and payroll for August
- B. Approval of the minutes of the Sept. 2, 2014 City Council regular meeting

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine business by the Council and will be enacted with a single motion and a single vote by roll call. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is deemed necessary, that item should be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

Shaver offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which was seconded by Lindell and approved unanimously.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

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None.

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**REPORTS BY OFFICIALS AND STAFF**

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Wells reported on a very busy weekend coming up in the city, with the annual Fall Harvest Car Show and the Pedal the Plains bicycle tour scheduled, and complimented the city parks department for the great condition of city parks. Wells also warned residents about a telephone scam in which callers claimed to be from the city utility department and demanded credit card numbers from the residents. Wells said the city did not do such things and anyone receiving such calls should notify the city police.

Curtis announced that the city had just been notified that its quiet zone project had won an award from the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

Police Chief Darin Sagel told the council of a sexually violent predator who had been released on parole and would be returning to live in Fort Morgan, and said anyone requiring more information could call the FMPD.

Mayor McAlister related his experience speaking as a presenter on economic development at a recent Mayor's Summit at the Colorado Municipal League, and said he found that Fort Morgan was well respected and admired among other municipalities for getting things done. He said it was rewarding for him to have a city and employees who achieved things, and he also learned that many cities did not have councils that got along like Fort Morgan's council had for the past few years.

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**BIDS, MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Brennan announced current bids and upcoming meetings, and encouraged residents to apply for a new opening on the city's planning commission, as well as several vacancies on other city advisory boards and commissions.

Mayor McAlister adjourned the September 16, 2014 regular meeting at 7:44 p.m.

/s/ Terry McAlister  
Mayor

/s/ John Brennan  
City Clerk