

December 1, 2015

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 Clint Anderson  
Councilmember Christine Castoe  
Councilmember Kevin Lindell  
Councilmember Lisa Northrup  
Councilmember Joe Segura Jr.  
Councilmember Ronald Shaver

The meeting was also attended by City Manager Jeff Wells, Police Lt. Brian Cantin, City Treasurer Jean Kinney, Community Services Director Josh Miller, Water Resources/Utilities Director Brent Nation, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Michael Boyer, Management Intern Chelsea Gondeck, City Attorney Jason Meyers, Municipal Judge Dennis Brandenburg, Fire Chief Erik Christensen and City Clerk/PIO John Brennan.

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#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 17, 2015 REGULAR MEETING**

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Councilmember Christine Castoe offered a resolution to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2015 City Council regular meeting as presented, which was seconded by Councilmember Ron Shaver and approved unanimously.

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#### **CREATION OF NEW HEALTH CARE BANK ACCOUNT**

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City Treasurer Jean Kinney explained that the city was changing to a new health insurance third-party administrator for 2016, and needed to set up a new account for that company so claims could be paid out starting at the first of the new year. The existing checking account for the current administrator would remain in place until that account was closed out for the old company's claims. The new account would include two executives of the new third-party administrator as signatories, Kinney said.

Councilmember Lisa Northrup offered a resolution to approve setting up the new health care checking account, which was seconded by Shaver and approved unanimously.

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#### **BIDS FOR AIR COMPRESSOR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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Fire Chief Erik Christensen explained that the department's current compressor was failing and needed to be replaced, and funding had been budgeted for its replacement in 2016. This item was being brought forward at this time because there was a build time required for the new equipment and the expense would come from the 2016 budget.

Two bids were received and Christensen recommended that the council accept the bid from Advanced Breathing Air Systems LLC. He said that bid was \$882 higher than the other bid but the company's equipment was compatible with the department's current fill station, the equipment had an additional 5<sup>th</sup> stage cylinder that was desirable and the company was located in Colorado in the event of needed repairs or maintenance.

Northrup offered a resolution to accept the bid of \$36,462 from Advanced Breathing Air Systems LLC, which was seconded by Councilmember Joe Segura Jr. and approved unanimously.

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**PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE BENCHES AND BIKE RACKS FOR THE DOWNTOWN AREA WITH COSTS TO BE REIMBURSED BY THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

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City Manager Jeff Wells said the Downtown Business Association had agreed to donate about \$6,000 toward the cost of several new benches and bike racks for the downtown area, and staff was asking that council approve accepting this donation and spending the money for that purpose. He also said it was determined that a small additional expenditure of about \$50 would allow the city to purchase five benches and three bike racks instead of only two bike racks, so he was also asking for approval of that additional expense to the city.

Mayor Terry McAlister said he thought it was great that the DBA was doing this and it showed that the local businesses wanted to attract people to downtown. He said he hoped city staff was doing anything possible to assist the businesses in these efforts.

Castoe offered a resolution to approve the purchase of benches and bike racks for downtown, with the cost to be reimbursed by the Downtown Business Association and any additional cost to be covered by the city. That resolution was seconded by Shaver and approved unanimously.

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**UPDATE AND REVIEW OF CUSTOMER SERVICE PLAN**

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Wells explained that exceptional customer service was one of the goals that defines the culture of the city organization, and noted that the council had directed staff to focus and work on improving customer service in 2015. He reviewed what had been done, including two separate training sessions for every employee and customer service improvement plans developed by every individual department.

Wells reviewed some of these plans as well as anecdotes about cases of city employees going above and beyond to provide exceptional service to the residents of the city.

Councilmember Kevin Lindell said he enjoyed reading the anecdotes and was glad to see the city was a government that tried to serve the people. Mayor McAlister said the city can't be perfect but he knew the employees tried to get things done and help the city. Wells also pointed out that city employees were involved in the community on many levels, including extensive volunteer work and community organizations. No action was taken.

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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 said the Christmas Capital of the Plains events were under way and the campaign was bringing out families for fun events and drawing sponsors from as far away as Burlington, so the event was successful and the city's reputation was growing.

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**BIDS, MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Brennan announced current bids and upcoming meetings, and highlighted the Fort Morgan Police Department's annual Blue Santa drive and the launch of the new Connect Fort Morgan website as part of the development of the city's new Comprehensive Plan.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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The regular portion of the meeting ended at 6:36 p.m., and Mayor McAlister announced that the next item on the agenda was the first of two scheduled executive sessions. Shaver made a motion to convene the first executive session, which was seconded by Castoe and approved unanimously. This executive session had been published as follows:

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees; AND THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES: Employment issue.

This executive session began at 6:58 p.m. and ended at 7:56 p.m., and was attended by the mayor and council along with City Manager Jeff Wells, City Attorney Jason Meyers and Municipal Judge Dennis Brandenburg. At the conclusion of the executive session the council returned to the regular open meeting, where Councilmember Castoe reported that the council had met in executive session for the purpose stated on the agenda, and council requested that staff provide additional information on the issues raised in executive session. No motion was made.

Councilmember Kevin Lindell then made a motion to convene the second scheduled executive session, which was seconded by Castoe and approved unanimously. This executive session had been published as follows:

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** for a conference with the City Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); AND THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES: Revision to the bylaws of the Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department.

This executive session began at 8:03 p.m. and ended at 8:31 p.m., and was attended by the mayor and council along with Wells, Meyers, Fire Chief Erik Christensen and Human Resources/Risk Management Director Michael Boyer. On the advice of the City Attorney, the recording of this executive session was turned off at 8:05 p.m. because the subject of the discussion constituted a privileged attorney-client communication. The recording was turned back on at 8:30 p.m.

At the conclusion of the executive session the council returned to the regular open meeting, where Castoe reported that the council had met in executive session for the purpose stated on the agenda. Castoe then made a motion to deny the proposed change to the fire department bylaws, which was seconded by Councilmember Northrup and approved on a vote of 6-1, with Councilmember Kevin Lindell voting against.

Mayor McAlister adjourned the Dec. 1, 2015 regular meeting at 8:33 p.m.

/s/ Terry McAlister  
Mayor

/s/ John Brennan  
City Clerk