

July 19, 2011

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 7:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Present: Honorable Mayor Terry L. McAlister
Councilmember Scott Bryan
Councilmember Sharol Lyn Deal
Councilmember Debra J. Forstedt
Councilmember Brent M. Nation
Councilmember James A. Powers
Councilmember Ronald Shaver

The meeting was also attended by Acting City Manager/City Attorney Jeffrey Wells, Police Chief Keith Kuretich, Municipal Engineer Brad Curtis, Community Development Director David Callahan, Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection Superintendent Mitch Church and City Clerk John Brennan.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BID FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT MAIN LINE INSTA-VALVES

Municipal Engineer Brad Curtis explained the purpose and use of the valves, which allow water valve replacement without having to shut down large areas of water service. Curtis asked for council approval of the unit pricing from Hydra-Stop of Alsip, Ill., at a cost of \$2,530 for a 6-inch Insta-valve and \$2,860 for an 8-inch Insta-valve. Funding for the purchase would come from the water main line replacement budget line item.

Councilmember Debra Forstedt offered a resolution to approve acceptance of the bid prices, which was seconded by Councilmember Ron Shaver and approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR SALARY SURVEY

City Attorney/Acting City Manager Jeff Wells reviewed the discussion from the previous week's work session, at which the council members asked for more information on the total cost of the survey including travel expenses, and also for feedback from other cities that have used the proposed consultant, the Mountain States Employers Council, to perform compensation surveys.

Wells said the city staff had determined that a cap not to exceed \$20,000 would be sufficient to cover additional expenses for travel as well as the \$18,000 cost of the study, and that city staff would do everything possible to hold those costs down, including going to Denver to meet with MSEC personnel.

Wells also reviewed responses from three of the seven references listed on the MSEC proposal, which was the number city staff was able to reach in the past week. All of them had positive experiences and said the MSEC studies were well worth the cost, Wells said.

Wells said he believed the study could be completed by late September or early October, in time to use the data from the study in budgeting for salaries and benefits in the 2012 budget. He also noted that the council had indicated that it would prefer to wait to undertake the study until a new human resources manager was on board, and said that Michael Boyer had accepted the

position and would begin work the following Monday. Wells introduced Boyer, who was in the audience for the meeting.

Councilmember James Powers offered a resolution to approve acceptance of the bid from Mountain States Employers Council not to exceed \$20,000, which was seconded by Forstedt and approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA BY RESOLUTION AND ACTING AS THE LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY

City Clerk John Brennan presented the Consent Agenda for Council consideration, said Consent Agenda being in words, letters and figures as follows, to wit:

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Second reading of Ordinance No. 1116, Amending the Existing Article 4 and 6, Chapter 20, "Land Use Code," Fort Morgan Municipal Code (2010), and authorization to publish by title only
- B. Approval of the disbursements and payroll for June
- C. Approval of the minutes of the July 5 regular meeting
- D. Approval of bid for Utility Truck-Mounted Crane
- E. Approval of IGA and contract with Fort Morgan Re-3 School District for a School Resource Officer
- F. Approval of MOU between Fort Morgan Police Department and Colorado Information Sharing Consortium
- G. Approval of terms for new Planning Commission members
- H. Approval of an application for renewal of a Tavern Liquor License for the Harold DeHaan American Legion Post 19 at 121 Nelson Road

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.

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

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of July 2011, the vote upon roll call being as follows: Ayes: Mayor McAlister; Councilmembers Bryan, Deal, Forstedt, Nation, Powers and Shaver. Nays: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

REPORTS BY OFFICIALS AND STAFF

Wells welcomed Boyer to the city staff, noting that Boyer had worked in both human resources and risk management capacities over the years, and was a resident of Morgan County.

Wells also announced that he had conducted oral arguments before the Colorado Court of Appeals in a case brought against the city involving the use of ballots in filling vacancies on the

council. He said he expected that a decision could be forthcoming in the case in two to three months.

Community Development Director David Callahan informed the council of a lightning strike at the airport on the previous Saturday evening, which temporarily knocked out the airport's beacon. He said the beacon was now working but staff was still investigating the extent of the damage to the airport equipment.

Police Chief Keith Kuretich briefed the council on a recent series of e-mails that had been circulating with false information about alleged incidents involving Somali residents of the city, and discouraging people from visiting or shopping in Fort Morgan. He said the e-mails amounted to malicious gossip and were unfounded, noting that his department had investigated all of the alleged incidents and found they were not substantiated and all were completely erroneous.

Kuretich added that he had contacted the sender of the original e-mail and spoken to her, and that she had told him she would send e-mails to those who received the original message explaining that the incidents it described and the perception they gave of Fort Morgan were not true.

BIDS, MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brennan announced upcoming bids and meetings, and informed the council of an upcoming software upgrade at the city utility department that would prevent accepting payment for several days, and that the new bills would be more user-friendly and easier to read.

Councilmember Lyn Deal commented on the beautiful new building opened in Fort Morgan recently by Salud Family Health Centers.

Forstedt thanked Mayor Terry McAlister, Wells, Powers and Deal for their participation in a recent Smart Girls Camp tour of City Hall.

Mayor McAlister adjourned the July 19, 2011 regular meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk