

September 6, 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 7:00 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 Kurelich, Director of Water Resources Gary Dreessen, Municipal Engineer Brad Curtis, Community Development Director David Callahan, Community Services Director Patti Evans, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Michael Boyer, Golf Professional Tyler Tarpley, Water Distribution/Wastewater Collection Superintendent Mitch Church, Interim Treasurer Christina Bostron, Municipal Judge Stuart Crespin, IT Administrator Nelson McCoy and City Clerk/PIO John Brennan.

Also attending were Ward 3 Councilmember-elect Lisa Northrup and Bard Odor of the Golf Course Advisory Board.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A PROPOSAL TO CHANGE TO TWO SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETINGS PER MONTH

Acting City Manager Jeff Wells said this proposal had been discussed at two council retreats in the past year, and noted that the city charter requires only two council meetings per month. He said city staff proposed to hold two regular meetings at which action could be taken on any agenda item. The council also could choose a different meeting format or stay with the current schedule, which calls for regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays and work sessions on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month.

Some discussion ensued about the format of the proposed two regular meetings, with general agreement that the council could defer action on any agenda item if more information or opportunity for public input was considered necessary. It was noted that the meetings would likely be longer, and the option of scheduling work sessions, retreats or special meetings on the remaining Tuesdays was always available if needed. It was also noted that if the new schedule did not meet the council's expectations it could always be changed back to the current setup.

Councilmember James Powers made a motion to change the meeting schedule to two regular meetings per month for a trial period ending with the last meeting of December. That motion was seconded by Councilmember Deb Forstedt and approved unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE STORM WATER AD HOC COMMITTEE

Mayor Terry McAlister explained that he had appointed the three council members whose terms were not set to expire in 2012 – Scott Bryan, Deb Forstedt and Brent Nation – to the committee and asked each of them to recommend a citizen from their wards. Based on those

recommendations, McAlister appointed Coby Shurtleff from Ward 1, Jack Odor from Ward 2 and Rick Kreigh from Ward 3 to serve on this committee.

Wells said that with the committee members appointed the city staff would determine a date and an agenda for the first meeting.

RATIFICATION OF EMERGENCY REPAIR TO THE ALFA LAVAL ROTATING ASSEMBLY AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Water Resources Director Gary Dreessen explained that the council had approved the original bid of \$12,574 for repair of this equipment, but the need for more work was discovered after the equipment was shipped to the vendor. Mayor McAlister had signed an authorization for the additional repairs on Aug. 11, at a cost of \$18,035, and this action was to ratify that emergency approval by the mayor. Dreessen expressed displeasure with this situation and recommended that when the overhaul of this equipment is needed again after 3,000 more hours of operation, the city should not send it back to the same company but instead buy a new and different piece of equipment.

Powers made a motion to authorize the additional repairs and the emergency expense, which was seconded by Councilmember Ron Shaver and approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BIDS FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION WORK

Community Services Director Patti Evans reviewed the process of requesting proposals for the design of the irrigation system, which drew two bids – from Larry Rodgers Design for \$24,120 and from Irrigation Technologies for \$29,757. Evans said that although the difference between the two bids was \$5,637, she was recommending acceptance of the higher bid because of the city's background and relationship with Irrigation Technologies and her belief that this company was the best choice for the job.

McAlister pointed out that because Irrigation Technologies had done some assessment, master planning and other work on the golf course irrigation system he expected that company's bid to be lower, and wondered why it was higher. Evans said this bid was higher in some areas and lower in other aspects. McAlister said his primary concern was that the city did not run short of money to complete the construction phase of the project, and Evans said she believed she could make the project work under this proposal.

Wells asked whether the golf course staff felt that accepting the lower bid would present any problems, and Evans said no. McAlister said he would prefer to go with the lower bid to save money that might be needed later to complete the project.

Wells asked Evans if she thought Irrigation Technologies might lower its bid to match the lower bid, and Evans said she could negotiate that. Wells then pointed out that action was needed on this agenda item now to stay on the projected timeline for the construction phase, and suggested that the council could approve the bid from Irrigation Technologies as long as the company was willing to match the lower bid, and if it was not the city would accept the lower bid. Forstedt then offered a resolution to accept the bid from Irrigation Technologies to the extent that the company could reduce its bid to the amount offered in the lower bid, and in the event the company is not willing to match the lower bid the city would accept the proposal of Larry Rodgers Design. That resolution was seconded by Bryan and approved on a vote of 6-1, with Nation voting against.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BIDS FOR A FUEL CARD READER AT THE FORT MORGAN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Community Development Director David Callahan explained that this project had been placed out for bid in 2009 and 2010 with no responses, but the bid information had been simplified this year and several bids were received. Callahan recommended accepting a bid from Complete Aviation Fuel Systems Inc. not to exceed \$28,429, pointing out that 90 percent of the cost would be paid by a grant so the city's total cost would be less than \$3,000. Shaver offered a resolution to accept the bid from Complete Aviation Fuel Systems as presented, with that motion seconded by Councilmember Lyn Deal and approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BIDS FOR SEWER MANHOLE REHABILITATION SERVICES

Water Distribution/Wastewater Collection Superintendent Mitch Church told the council this was a new project proposed by city staff this year to stabilize old, brick-lined manholes. Church said hundreds of such manholes are scattered throughout the city, most in back yards, side yards and other areas inaccessible by heavy equipment. Rather than attempting to rebuild them, Church said the city wanted to try rehabilitating them by sealing the interior of the manholes with a protective coating. Five bids were received, and Church said city staff wanted council approval to award some of the work to each of two companies, Guildner Pipeline Maintenance and K.R. Swerdfeger Construction Inc., with total expenditures not to exceed the \$50,000 budgeted in 2011. This would give the city an idea of which company's products and performance were better, for future work of this type.

Powers offered a resolution to accept the two bids recommended by staff, which was seconded by Nation and approved unanimously.

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Aug. 16, 2011 regular meeting
- B. Approval of the minutes of the Aug. 30, 2011 special meeting
- C. Approval of an application for renewal of a Hotel and Restaurant Liquor License – Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Liquors, for the Rodeway Inn located at 1409 Barlow Road with a clear investigative report
- D. Approval of an application for renewal of a Tavern Liquor License – Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Liquors, for The Club Tap LLC located at 212 Main Street with a clear investigative report

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.

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

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of September 2011, the vote upon roll call being as follows: Ayes: Mayor McAlister; Councilmembers Bryan, Deal, Forstedt, Nation, Powers and Shaver. Nays: None.

DISCUSSION OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Wells opened the discussion of the preliminary draft of the 2012 budget by reviewing projections of city revenues for next year. Property taxes are expected to be lower because of declining property values, he said, but sales taxes are forecast to be higher based on the trend over the past four years. The proposed draft of the budget showed projected revenues to be just \$48,000 below proposed expenses, which is a much better situation than the gap of \$875,000 that was presented in the first draft of the 2011 budget in October of last year, Wells said.

Wells then reviewed the proposed expenses for each general fund department, answering various council questions during the presentation. After a short recess, projected revenues and expenditures for the capital improvement fund were also reviewed.

Wells closed the presentation by explaining that this draft did not include expenses for certain pension fund contributions or pay increases for city employees, which would be determined after the budget was refined further. He also said the city's numerous enterprise funds for utilities and other operations would be reviewed during a similar presentation in the near future.

PUBLIC COMMENT / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

REPORTS BY OFFICIALS AND STAFF

Wells announced that Dreessen had informed the city of his intention to retire effective Oct. 8, 2011, after more than 20 years with the city, and thanked Dreessen for his service. Wells also updated the council on the ongoing city employee salary survey and software issues affecting city utility bills.

BIDS, MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Brennan announced current bids and upcoming meetings.

Mayor McAlister adjourned the September 6, 2011 regular meeting at 10:17 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk