

City of Elko)
County of Elko)
State of Nevada)

SS February 18, 2020

The City Council of the City of Elko, State of Nevada met for a special meeting beginning at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Robert Schmidlein.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Mayor Absent: Reece Keener

Council Present: Councilwoman Mandy Simons
Councilman Robert Schmidlein
Councilman Chip Stone
Councilman Bill Hance

City Staff Present: Curtis Calder, City Manager
Scott Wilkinson, Assistant City Manager
Kelly Wooldridge, City Clerk
Dennis Strickland, Public Works Director
Candi Quilici, Accounting Manager
Jan Baum, Financial Services Director
Dale Johnson, Utilities Director
Clark Phillips, Water/Sewer Superintendent
Bob Thibault, Civil Engineer
James Wiley, Parks and Recreation Director
Cathy Laughlin, City Planner
Nikki Johnson, Swimming Pool Manager
Pete Dondero, Golf Superintendent
Shane Fertig, Landfill Superintendent
Jeff Ford, Building Official
Matt Griego, Fire Chief
Jack Snyder, Deputy Fire Chief
Susie Shurtz, Human Resources Manager
Tobey Hancock, Recreation Services Manager
Ty Trouten, Police Chief
Diann Byington, Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Pursuant to N.R.S. 241, this time is devoted to comments by the public, if any, and discussion of those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item on the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on a successive agenda and identified as an item for possible action. **ACTION WILL NOT BE TAKEN**

There were no public comments.

I. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

- A. Discussion regarding short and long-term budget priorities, and matters related thereto. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Curtis Calder, City Manager, explained we will not get into the specific budget details. Today he wanted to take a broad overview and get some direction on a few big capital items and policy decisions. He gave a presentation (Exhibit "A").

Councilwoman Simons asked, when discussing funding a new swimming pool, what bonds are expiring, how much are they and when do they expire.

Mr. Calder answered the Police Station is maturing in 2024, and it was a \$3 million bond. The Airport bond for the terminal is retiring in 2026, and that is a 2% room tax for the airport. The Police Station was a property tax bond. The last 2% bond we did was for \$8 million. Theoretically, if interest rates were static, there is a potential of getting \$11 million in debt. Even with the ability to borrow \$11 million, the City will want to get with the Pennington Foundation to help fund a new swimming pool facility.

Councilman Schmidlein asked about the status of the swimming pool roof.

Mr. Calder answered the roof needs to be reroofed this summer. We will have to involve an engineer and a contractor. We have also planned to re-plaster the pool. Both projects will be a significant portion of the \$1 million estimated. There are no other options available other than closing the facility. The pool is in bad shape but it is safe according to a structural engineer.

Councilman Schmidlein asked if there is a possibility of the Boys and Girls Club could be incorporated into a recreation center or swimming pool.

Mr. Calder said that is where we get into community partnerships. We would have to have those types of discussions to see if it makes sense. We would like to see our regional partners involved since it would be a regional facility. We could talk to the County, the Boys and Girls Club and others that would like to see the facility constructed. He continued with his presentation.

James Wiley, Parks and Recreation Director, explained the feasibility study that was done ten years ago and what it included. There was extensive discussion about how large it was proposed to be vs. how big the current facility was and the need for a new feasibility study.

Mr. Calder explained each of his proposed Action Items.

Action Items

- Replacement Swimming Pool Feasibility Study (\$30K-\$50K)

**** A motion was made by Councilwoman Simons, seconded by Councilman Stone, to approve going forward with a replacement Swimming Pool Feasibility Study.**

The motion passed unanimously. (4-0)

- Existing Swimming Pool Maintenance Repair (\$400K-\$500K)

**** A motion was made by Councilwoman Simons, seconded by Councilman Stone, to authorize the needed maintenance and repair on the existing Swimming Pool.**

The motion passed unanimously. (4-0)

- No new full-time positions in the General Fund

Councilman Stone stated he wants more information regarding adding positions before they vote on this.

Mr. Calder cautioned everyone, unless it is a critical need, he won't support the requests. Ultimately, it is the Council's decision. He hasn't seen all the details yet either.

Jan Baum, Financial Services Director, said in the budget packets, they have included all open positions. All current positions are already budgeted. We are talking about adding positions over and above what is already budgeted.

Councilman Schmidlein thought they should vote and move on this one.

Chief Griego said in keeping with the Mission and Vision statements, and creating a community with great public service, we are not making it happen in the Fire Prevention Department. One Fire Marshal struggling to do all these inspections. There are too many certifications to do this part-time. It is a professional position. They are going to present Council bringing in some revenue with an additional Fire Marshal, anywhere from \$200,000 to \$400,000 a year.

Councilman Stone thought they can consider these requests on an individual basis.

NO ACTION

- Increase Room Tax 2% effective 7/1/2020

Councilwoman Simons thought we could ask staff to put the room tax increase on the next agenda for discussion.

Mr. Calder said this is a City Council decision but the ECVA and the Lodging Committee would want input.

NO ACTION

- Golf Fund – Keep as Enterprise Fund or Return to General Fund

Mr. Calder said if this is something the Council would like to consider, there is a timing process to get it moved over, and public hearings will be needed.

Councilman Schmidlein asked that this be discussed as an agenda item.

Councilmembers Simons and Hance thought it should stay the way it is for another year. It is easier to track the finances.

**** A motion was made by Councilman Hance, seconded by Councilwoman Simons, to keep the Golf Fund as an Enterprise Fund through FY 2021, to get a better handle on where the numbers are going.**

The motion passed unanimously. (4-0)

- Vehicle Leasing – Potential Savings = \$35K/year

**** A motion was made by Councilwoman Simons, seconded by Councilman Hance, to ask staff to arrange a presentation from the vehicle leasing company to be on a future agenda. Have them do a light vehicle presentation and then something for the specialty vehicles separately.**

Mr. Calder stated they don't really do specialty vehicles outside of some public safety vehicles. They will do police cars but they won't do fire trucks or motor graders. They call it light vehicles but it would include police vehicles.

Chief Griego said they can bring a presentation on fire vehicles because all the major manufacturers do lease the fire vehicles.

The motion passed unanimously. (4-0)

- Pursue Union Pacific Railroad Right-Of-Way Acquisition through RDA and/or City Funds

Councilwoman Simons wondered if all five of them should discuss and vote on this item.

Councilman Schmidlein said he would like to have an update. He knows Amodei has been doing a lot of work on this, trying to get the acquisition on the east end. Mayor Keener has been involved as well.

Mr. Calder said he could reach out to get more information. There are some new people at Union Pacific and that might help get this moving forward. There isn't a sense of urgency on this one but he wanted to get this in front of Council.

NO ACTION

Councilman Stone said they did the feasibility for the swimming pool. Do we want to do have this as a feasibility recreation center/swimming pool?

Councilwoman Simons answered that was the assumption.

Mr. Calder thought they could segment the two and get costs for both. Because we want the footprint to be large enough to grow into a recreation center, they have to do it as that and then

subtract the cost of the recreation center component. Either way you need a space to accommodate both.

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There were no public comments.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Robert Schmittlein adjourned the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robert Schmittlein

Kelly Wooldridge, City Clerk