

March 19, 2014

5:30 PM

Mayor Bruce Brown called the regular meeting of the City Council to order. Present were Council Milford Ashworth, Councilman Chris Hazlett, Terry Wahrer, Steve Zoellner, City Clerk Debra Blevins, Attorney Lee Phillips and Administrator Ray White.

Minutes of the March 5th, 2014 meeting were approved as written

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

City Administrator White stated the Spring Clean-up Day's will be May 17-18, 9A.M. – 3 P.M. The new Fire Engine has arrived you should stop by the Fire Department and have a look at it. Every 10 years the City has an ISO rating done for fire, this year is our year for review so we should see the rating lower with the new fire engine. The LED street lights program has been completed the lights on Bennett have not been completed since we will start the Bennett Avenue Improvements later this year. Liz Denson, from the Rodeo Committee presented the Mayor with a plaque for the Best New Rodeo for 2013-2014. Ashworth and Zoellner thanked the Rodeo Committee for all their hard work and the businesses and casinos for their backing and support of the Rodeo. Interim Police Chief Mike Rulo, introduced 4 officers to the council, Sergeant John Japp, who was with Logan County for 14 years, Sergeant Robert Kible – Team Leader, and new hires Andrew Oline also from Logan County and Robert Thornburg who comes to us from Victor and Teller County. Chief Rulo also welcomed Sergeant Josh Weatherill who has been out on medical leave back. The Council then thanked the Police Department for all they have done for the community and Chief Rulo for a good job since he has been with the city.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Finance Director Paul Harris gave the council an update on the gaming numbers for the month of February stating the AGP is up 12.5%.

APPOINTMENTS TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION:

Kathy Stockton, Historic Preservation & Planning Coordinator stated on March 1st the terms of five commissioner positions expired, four current members would like to be reappointed: Deborah Petty, Chairperson, has a 2-year term; Reed Grainger, vice Chairperson, has a 2-year term; Nancy McDonald, has a 1-year term; Steven Veatch has a 1-year term. Robert Goll submitted his resignation letter due to relocation, Nancy Schechter who has served as an alternate for two years would like to be appointed as a regular member, 2-year term. There was no public comment. Motion by Hazlett to approve the requested appointments, Second by Ashworth and motion carried.

Stockton also requested that the Council make appointments and assign terms for the two current vacancies and for the two alternate positions. Motion by Ashworth to table this item until April 16, 2014 with recommendations from the Commission for the appointments and assign terms, Second by Wahrer and motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION BUSINESS – REQUEST FOR TWO (2) VARIANCES TO THE SIGN ORDINANCE IN THE BB ZONE AT 119 CARBONATE STREET (L2 AMERICAN GAMING SUBDIVISION TO CRIPPLE CREEK, COUNTY OF TELLER, STATE OF COLORADO) TO ALLOW: 1) A ONE HUNDRED SIX (106) SQUARE FEET FREESTANDING SIGN WHERE SIXTEEN (16) SQUARE FEET ARE ALLOWED AND 2) A ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) SQUARE FEET ELECTRONIC SIGN WHERE A TEN (10) SQUARE FEET ARE ALLOWED, APPLICANT WILDWOOD CASINO:

Kathy Stockton, Historic Preservation & Planning Coordinator stated the first request is for a freestanding board sign with a total area of 106 sq. ft. is to be located in the area which formerly held flagpoles and is now a raised flower bed/shrub enclosure with two elements: the upper portion is 70 sq. ft. for the current Wildwood Casino logo, and a lower portion that is 36 sq. ft.

for the logos of several outlets within the casino. There will be no internal illumination. At the Historic Preservation meeting on February 13, 2014 the Sign Permit was reviewed and approved by the Commission the staff feel due to the extensive façade of the Wildwood Casino, fronting an entire block, that the larger size would be acceptable. There was no public comment. Motion by Hazlet to allow the freestanding sign, Second by Ashworth and motion carried.

Kathy Stockton, Historic Preservation & Planning Coordinator stated the second request is for an electronic sign up to 120 sq. ft. that would replace the current signs along the front rotunda area and temporary banners. The sign is an electronic message center that will be able to display information about casino offers and community events. No changes will be made to the façade. At the February 13, 2014 Historic Preservation Commission meeting there was much discussion and acknowledged disagreement on the Historic Preservation Commission, the commission voted to deny the request. There was public comment against the sign from **Susan Ward**, 405 E. Pikes Peak Avenue, stated she lives across the street from the casino and is already dealing with the lighting in the parking lot and feels the electronic sign will only add to the disturbance. Safety is also a concern all the drivers coming into the city will be distracted by this sign. We also need to consider if we want to lose our historic designation. **Steve Johnson**, 121 Silver Street also voiced concerns with the electronic sign, the city is in the process of taking Black Hawk to court for inappropriate use of Historic Funds what do we think we are doing? Mr. Johnson presented the Mayor with a petition his wife took around the community and collected signature against this variance. **Steve Heieck** of Colorado Springs a representative of YESCO Custom Signs stated there will be no distractions to the drivers as there will be no visual clutter. This sign will be displayed on the top of the façade and not at eye level. **Councilman Hazlett** stated there are too many signs and balloons at the casino now, and will be glad to be rid of the balloons and banners that are there now. **Mayor Brown** stated he believes this will be a good way to clean up all the banners and balloons, and that Susan Ward is the only resident that may be affected by the electronic sign. **Councilman Ashworth** asked how many accidents have happened since the Double Eagle was allowed to put up their electronic sign and was told by the Police Officers in attendance that there have been none. **Councilman Wahrer** asked Kathy when the Double Eagle was granted their electronic sign what was the time limit given them, Stockton replied there was no time limit placed on their sign. **Councilman Zoellner** stated that when approving the Double Eagle for the electronic sign it was a variance nothing else, we are involved with gaming but those signatures on the petition are from folks in my ward, I would like to have comments from them and not just a signature. **Liz Denson** 124 W. Bennett Avenue stated she feels this sign will not be in your face like the one at the Double Eagle because it will be placed a lot higher and is in favor of approving this variance. Motion by Hazlett to grant the variance for the Electronic Sign, Second by Ashworth motion carried with Zoellner and Wahrer voting NO.

CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS – REQUEST FOR TWO (2) VARIANCES TO THE SIGN ORDINANCE IN THE BB ZONE AT 119 CARBONATE STREET (L2 AMERICAN GAMING SUBDIVISION TO CRIPPLE CREEK, COUNTY OF TELLER, STATE OF COLORADO) TO ALLOW: 1) A ONE HUNDRED SIX (106) SQUARE FEET FREESTANDING SIGN WHERE SIXTEEN (16) SQUARE FEET ARE ALLOWED AND 2) A ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) SQUARE FEET ELECTRONIC SIGN WHERE A TEN (10) SQUARE FEET ARE ALLOWED, APPLICANT WILDWOOD CASINO:

Kathy Stockton, Historic Preservation & Planning Coordinator stated the Commission is recommending approval of the Free Standing Sign Variance. There was no public comment. Motion by Mayor Brown that the variance for the free standing sign be granted, Second by Hazlett and motion carried.

Kathy Stockton, Historic Preservation & Planning Coordinator stated the Commission is recommending approval of the Electronic Sign Variance. There was no public comment. Motion

by Ashworth to approve the Variance for the Electronic Sign, Second by Hazlet and motion carried with Zoellner and Wahrer voting NO.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUMP TRUCK/SNOW PLOW PURCHASE:

This item was removed for the agenda per the applicant.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SPRING 2014 COMMUNITY ALLOCATION FUNDS GRANT CYCLE:

The Pioneers in Public Service and Philanthropy presented the Council with the following recommendations for the Community Allocation Fund Distribution for spring 2014:

1) Court appointed special Advocacy Program \$1,500, the purpose of this grant is to provide children from 0-18 with a safe setting in which to have parenting time with non-custodial parents or exchange between parents when there is high conflict, domestic restraining orders domestic violence, and child maltreatment; 2) Choices \$1,895, the purpose of this grant is free education, confidential testing, monthly at the Choices location in Cripple Creek, as well as treatment provided by a trained medical doctor. Funding for 25 test and treatment at no cost for the patient; 3) Community of Caring \$2,055, the purpose of this grant is to purchase food for the Aspen Mine Center Emergency Food Pantry when faced with shortfalls throughout the year. Through agreement with Teller County grocery stores the Aspen Mine Food Pantry is able to purchase \$6 of food for every \$1 it spends. Funds are used to purchase food items during shortfalls or high demand times; 4) Community Partnership \$1,250, the purpose of this grant is to fund a six week program meeting once a week for 12 families in the Cripple Creek-Victor area to teach cooking , nutrition education for children 5-12. Participants will learn meal preparation, practical nutrition information, and food budgeting skills; 5) Cripple Creek-Victor Mountain Health Center \$2,000, the purpose of this grant is to provide a Colorado licensed courier service to pick up medication in Woodland Park for uninsured, under insured, as well as those who are not able to pick up medications due to a lack of transportation; 6) Teller County Victim’s Assistance Program \$2,000, the purpose of this grant in partnership with the “Kids Corral in Cripple Creek”, child care costs for crime victims will be covered while they are at the Cripple Creek Courthouse for court related business. Funds will cover approximately 167 children for one hour. Funds are seed money to help establish the program; 7) The Resource Exchange \$1.800, the purpose of this grant is to continue Infant/Toddler Playgroups at the Aspen Mine Center for children 0-5 year old. Serve 15 families within Cripple Creek-Victor area. Provide for exploratory play, outdoor play, reading stories, singing and art projects for infants and toddlers. Funding provides for 12 sessions during the summer, 17 sessions over the winter and 20 sessions during the spring. Playgroup also helps provide families with caregiver service recommendations for health care, behavior services and sources for parents of children with disabilities; for a total of \$12,500. Michael McDonald, the instructor for the class, thanked the Council for their continued support of this program. The students wrote two live grants. The first grant was to the Colorado Department of Education and the second to the Colorado State Library. Their efforts brought in \$6,000, which is being used to purchase children’s books for the library. They raised another \$400 through bake sales which has been used to support students in need. There was no public comments. Motion by Mayor Brown to approve the recommendations, Second by Wahrer and motion carried.

At 6:50 P.M. Motion by Hazlett to hold an Executive Session: to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations’, develop a strategy for negotiations, and/or instruct negotiators, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e), Second by Ashworth and motion carried.

Regular meeting reconvened at 7:44 with no further action being taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Bruce Brown, Mayor

Debra Blevins, City Clerk