

January 20, 2016

5:30 PM

Mayor Bruce Brown called the regular meeting of the City Council to order. Present were Councilmen Milford Ashworth, Chris Hazlett, Tom Litherland, Steve Zoellner, City Clerk Debra Blevins, and Attorney Lee Phillips.

Minutes for the January 6, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Ray DuBois, City Administrator stated the **2016 Ice Fest**, coming up in February 13th – 15th and 20th – 21st. **Butte Theater/TATC**, has set the 2016 show schedule, also showing Frozen the weekend of the Ice Fest; **C-Store project is moving forward**, getting close to opening;

Speculate that we should see the, “open for business” sign by the end of February; **Common Consumption Area Workshop - Pending**, employees of the State Liquor Enforcement Division to conduct the workshop and present information how the CCAs should operate; **Cripple Creek designated as one of the safest cities in Colorado**, Ranked in Top 10 based on findings by Consumer Affairs, a consumer news and advocacy organization, thanks to Rick Langenberg, of the Mountain Jackpot, for reporting this news; **CC-V School-Based Health Care Program**, Peak Vista pulled out of the school program December 8th, with no plans to return at this time, Penrose St. Francis Centura Health Centers, the operators of the medical clinic in Cripple Creek, has stepped up with willingness and strong commitment to operate school-based health clinic, City received a request yesterday afternoon for a letter of support for grant application to be submitted to CDPHE for Penrose St. Francis to receive funds to help operate the school-based health center; Grant application is due February 4, 2016, Would like to request Council’s consideration for a letter of support to be signed by Mayor and City Administrator; DuBois read the letter and Council approved the letter of support to be signed.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Paul Harris, Finance Director reported the audit went smoothly.

PRESENTATION OF CREATION OF A LOCAL MARKETING DISTRICT TO INCREASE TOURISM PROMOTION BY ESTABLISHING A TAX ON HOTEL ROOMS AND SELECT ATTRACTIONS:

Steve Kitzman, Events and Marketing Director introduced Cathy Ritter, the new Director of the CO Tourism Office, and Doug Price, the CEO of the Colorado Springs CVB. The presentation gave the results of an analysis conducted by Tourism Economics were presented to the regional tourism industry. The study helped to determine how Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak region (El Paso, Teller and Fremont counties) compares to its competitive set relative to destination marketing investment. The region’s tourism promotion budget is underfunded compared to its counterparts; Colorado Springs ranks 19 out of 20 for tourism promotion funding per hotel room (\$282); Colorado Springs ranks 14 out of 18 for tourism promotion funding per tourism job (\$86); Optimal funding level for tourism promotion of the Pikes Peak region is \$8.2 million (\$4.8million more than the current \$3.4 million budget); increased funding would substantially grow the number of visitors to the area as well as industry jobs; 95% of CVB funding is generated from the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County, while the entire region benefits from its marketing efforts. Recommended options: Raise the current LART to 4%; Assess a tax on area attractions; Expand the geographic foot print of the tax base to all benefiting counties through special marketing district.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE #2015-06 – A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-2-50 OF THE CRIPPLE CREEK MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION:

Mayor Brown read title only of Ordinance #2015-06. There was no public comment. Motion by Zoellner seconded by Hazlett to approve second reading of Ordinance #2015-06 and motion carried.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT AND USE STATE FUNDS PER THE GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN STATE OF COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS AND THE CITY OF CRIPPLE CREEK FOR STATE PROJECT NUMBER EIAF 9028, CRIPPLE CREEK WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT IMPROVEMENTS:

Mickey Groves, Water/Wastewater Director stated the grant is for \$175,000 to be used to construct improvements to our water treatment system to meet the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations regulatory requirements. The improvements will include UV pre-filtering, operational controls and containment systems. There was no public comment. Motion by Mayor Brown seconded by Litherland to approve the grant agreement between the Department of Local Affairs and the City of Cripple Creek for the State project #EIAF 9028 and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Bruce Brown, Mayor

Debra Blevins, City Clerk