

CORTEZ CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020

1. The workshop began at 5:45 in the Mesa Verde Room, City Hall. Attendance at the workshop included Mayor Karen Sheek, Mayor Pro-tem Orly Lucero, Sue Betts, Ty Keel, and Mike Lavey. Councilmember Gary Noyes was absent. Staff members present were Associate Planner Neva Connolly, City Planner Tracie Hughes, Interim Chief of Police Andy Brock, Director of Public Works Phil Johnson, City Engineer Chad Hill, General Services Director Rick Smith, Management Intern Peyton Heitzman, Finance Director Ben Burkett, Library Director Eric Ikenouye, City Clerk Linda Smith, City Manager John Dougherty, and City Attorney Mike Green. There were approximately 24 people present in the audience.
2. Discussion was held on a Letter of Support for the Mobility for All Pilot Program. City Manager Dougherty stated that the request came from Southwest Colorado Council of Government (SWCCOG) and is in support of a grant application that would improve access to transportation throughout the area. He noted that the grant would cover a five County region and would provide one location for people to click and find what transportation is available in the area. It was noted that the maximum estimated cost for the project is \$100,000, which would include a 20% match. It was noted that Council would discuss the issue further during the regular meeting (7g).
3. Library Director Ikenouye stated that this would be his last Council meeting as he has accepted a new position in Oregon. Council wished him well in his new job. Library Director Ikenouye spoke about the Gallery Windows Project which was a great success and thanked the Public Arts Committee for their work on the project. He stated that the Public Arts Committee has offered their support for a new project, Water Anthology, and he introduced Laurie Hall who has been tasked with moving the project forward. Ms. Hall, Director of the Sharehouse Community Food Center, explained what the project would entail and noted that the information will be about water in the high desert with local artist's work being included in a published book on the subject. She spoke about the budget for the book and the many people that would help with the publication. In answer to a question from Councilmember Keel, Ms. Hall stated that it is hoped that the book would be available by spring of 2020.
4. Director of Public Works Johnson stated that the City would like to apply for a grant through Southwest Transportation Planning Region (SWTPR) with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to be used towards ADA sidewalk/ramp improvements and pedestrian refuges on Montezuma Avenue. He stated that the grant would be laid out for the 2021 construction year; however, the grant would be required to be applied for by January 20, 2020. He stated that more information will be presented to Council on the design work closer to the project moving forward. Discussion was held on the Concrete Cost-Share Program and the proposed intersection changes for Montezuma and Mildred Streets.

5. Director of Finance Burkett gave Council an update on the audit status, embezzlement investigation, and TABOR/Best Practices information. He also spoke about the certification of jobs for Osprey for their agreement with the City for property exchange.
6. Discussion was held on the offer to lease space for parking by Montezuma Park. City Manager Dougherty stated that the property owner of the old Harp Building located by Montezuma Park approached him about the City possibly leasing the property, which is now vacant, for parking in exchange for property tax credit. After discussion on the proposal, Council agreed to decline the offer.
7. City Planner Hughes stated that many citizens have come to City Hall to research information on the Land Use Code and staff continues to receive comments from the public. She stated that staff would like to suggest that a pause be taken on the code to allow more outreach with the public so that factual information can be exchanged. It was suggested that committees be established to review sections of the code one at a time and that discussion continue with the community on how to move the code forward. Discussion was held on improving the old Land Use Code and/or cleaning up the proposed Land Use Code. Council agreed to move the proposed Land Use Code forward for review at the public hearing scheduled for January 28, 2020.

Council adjourned the worksession at 7:25 p.m.