

CORTEZ CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

1. The workshop began at 6:00 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 Interim Chief of Police Andy Brock, Director of Public Works Phil Johnson, Assistant Engineer Nic Stoker, City Engineer Chad Hill, Grants and Special Projects Chris Burkett, General Services Director Rick Smith, Finance Director Ben Burkett, City Clerk Linda Smith, City Manager John Dougherty, and City Attorney Mike Green. There were 18 people present in the audience.
2. An update was given on janitorial bids received for the Welcome Center which was requested by Council to be rebid at the Council meeting held on January 28, 2020. Director of General Services Smith stated that the low bidder Red Fin Janitorial has agreed to extend their Welcome Center Janitorial Contract at the same terms and conditions as 2019. He stated that the amount budgeted for the janitorial bid for 2020 was \$18,175.20, same as 2019. Council agreed to amend the regular Council agenda and consider approving the janitorial bid. It was noted that the City appreciates Red Fin Janitorial working with the City on the bid amount.
3. Director of Finance Burkett spoke about the bookkeeping cleanup that is continuing to take place and noted that CBI has released the 2016 books for staff to continue their clean-up work. He also spoke about the VOCA (Victims Assistance) Grant that the City received notice from the Department of Justice will stop grant payments until audits are complete. It is unclear if the grant will continue to be funded in the future or not due to audits not being completed. He stated that the sales tax audit program will begin in 2020 and noted that communication will begin with the businesses in Cortez to let them know that the program is being kicked off. Council asked how the companies to be audited would be chosen and Director of Finance Burkett explained that the audit is done by a third party and companies are chosen randomly. Information was distributed to Council showing the funding received from DOLA (Department of Local Affairs) and the Gates Foundation that was used towards the work completed on the proposed new Land Use Code. Director of Finance Burkett commented that all the expenditures and funding received for the project is accounted for.
4. City Engineer Hill reviewed the memo included in the FYI portion of the Council packet regarding the extension of 7th Street. He stated that the County self-performed the work rather than using a private (for profit) contractor and noted that the County did a great job; however, the City did not ever say the project would cost the amount quoted by County Commissioner Suckla (\$500,000). It was noted that the street has only been rough/mass graded.
5. City Manager Dougherty spoke about Council setting qualifications and discipline for board and commission members. He stated that currently there are not any set requirements for how board and commission members can speak outside of their attendance at the meetings

at which they are serving on. Discussion was held on how social media issues should be handled and it was noted that Freedom of Speech is an important right for all citizens. City Attorney Green stated that he would gather information from various places (CML/State Statutes, other communities) and put a packet together on a possible Code of Conduct for all boards and commissions for Council to consider at a future meeting.

6. Discussion was held on panhandling, pedestrian safety and median ordinances passed in Durango. City Attorney Green spoke about the difference in enforcing panhandling on private and public property. Interim Chief of Police Brock spoke about panhandling in the community noting that there are only a few cases that have been filed over the past year. He stated that if any of the store/property owners have issues with people lingering on their property the Police Department can charge a person with trespassing. He stated that there are very little issues with the people that are at the intersections asking for help. He noted most of the issues that have been reported are with intoxicated people.
7. Council adjourn at 6:45 p.m., to Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(2)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any election official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees.

No decisions were made during Executive Session and Council adjourned the worksession at 7:20 p.m.