

**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2019**

A Council Workshop was held in the Council Chambers and called to order by Council President Eaton at 6:30 p.m. on May 14, 2019.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce McGee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scot Stokes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Mountsier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nick Altonaga, City Planner
Stan Langve, Chief of Police
Tim Reiter, Utilities Superintendent

Public Input:

There were none.

General Items:

There were none.

Executive Review

1. Resolution: A Resolution Of The City Council To Amend The Large Grant Request Program Pursuant To The Recommendation Of The Laurel Urban Renewal Agency.

Nick Altonaga, City Planner, stated in the past few years the requests for the Large Grant Program had increased significantly. Last year there was between \$400k to \$500k in requests. LURA is requesting a limit raise to \$225k. Current grant requests are at \$225k with two weeks remaining until the deadline.

It was questioned how much tax revenue is diverted into the LURA funds every year. It was clarified that the Planner did not have a budget with him.

Judy Goldsby, LURA Chair, stated the funds are currently in excess of \$1 mil.

It was questioned how much of the annual taxable income is set aside in various grant accounts. It was stated the Large grant program has a cap of \$100k. The Small grants do not have a cap but have limits based on hours, square footage, etc. LURA has never come close to using all their funds.

It was questioned if the Mayor had spoken with LURA about a bondable project. It was clarified that he had spoken about the various options to extend the TIF District. That there was no presented bondable project. There had been discussions about the project on the east end of town being the bondable project, but no formal presentation has been made. The Mayor also spoke about a second TIF district for the west end development.

It was questioned how much reserves will need to be used for a bondable project. LURA had been told that there was federal funding available for roads.

Council President Eaton asked that this matter be set aside until the next Workshop. Currently, \$604k of taxable income is placed into LURA's funds each year. Of that, 37% is designated for grant accounts. The Mayor has specifically outlined the project on the east end of town. That project is looking to be approximately \$1.5 mil.

There is a question if the money coming in from HB124 will be around to service this loan. Do not want LURA to be in a position that they can not afford to continue the grant programs.

It was requested that the Clerk/Treasurer attend the next Workshop to discuss.

Council agreed they wanted to see the financials before more than doubling the Large Grant cap.

Item will be brought back at the next Workshop on May 28th.

2. Resolution: Resolution Approving Change Order No.1 To The Contract For The City Of Laurel's WWTP Sludge Dewatering Facilities And Authorizing The Mayor To Sign All Change Order Documents On The City's Behalf.

Doug Whitney, KLJ, presented Change Order No. 1. During the process of pumping down digester B, the City's pump could not pump the material out. The City was able to get within four feet of the top of the cone. To protect the City's only pump, the contractor pumped the remaining material. There is a discrepancy between the contractor's estimate and the engineer's estimate. It was clarified that the difference in the estimates was because the contractor has pumped material to the bottom of the cone. The disputed amount is from the top of the cone to the bottom of the cone. The Change Order amount is only to the pumping of the top of the cone. The remainder will be disputed at the end of the project.

It was questioned if this Change Order puts the project over budget. It was clarified this change order puts the City above the bid amount. It was unclear if the contingency has been used.

Tim Reiter, Utilities Superintendent, stated that the City expected to run into issues as they pumped down each digester. They had not been physically inspected in 20 years. There was a healthy, contingency budget.

3. Resolution: Resolution Approving Change Order No.2 To The Contract For The City Of Laurel's WWTP Sludge Dewatering Facilities And Authorizing The Mayor To Sign All Change Order Documents On The City's Behalf.

Doug Whitney, KLJ, stated as they pumped digester B down, they found approximately six items that needed to be addressed. The contractor's estimate was for \$39k. The contractor was paid on a time and material bases and reduced the cost to \$11k. The City did work on one of the items. This item cost the City \$1k in parts plus labor. The contractor had estimated the cost for that item at \$12k to \$14k.

Council Issues

4. Update on Website

The Mayor gave the following update. The website is functioning, and re-directing is being tested and issues being resolved. The last of the information for the several departments being installed. Working on the integration of the online bill pay program. The website should live by or before July 1, 2019

5. Update on West Railroad

The Mayor gave the following update. KLJ is helping to determine their cost estimate compared to the States. Identifying and reviewing other sources for additional funding.

6. Discussion of Tow Away Zone near Stadium

Council clarified that this discussion item is in relation to Mr. Koch's statement at last weeks Council meeting. It was further clarified that people are parking along the fence, making it difficult for people to maneuver the parking lot. It was requested if along the fence could be a tow away zone.

Police Chief Langve stated that he needs clarification if this parking lot is City owned or School owned. There are different enforcement laws for public and private property. In order for Police to write a ticket in a handicap spot, the sign needs to clearly identify the spot as handicap with posted fine. The ability for the Police to have a vehicle towed change in a parking lot.

Council requested to know who owns the property. It was further requested that discussion on the sign with fine being posted at next Workshop.

Karl Dan Koch, 320 Colorado Avenue, stated this is the third year he has been bringing up the issues with this parking lot. He stated that it needs to be bigger. He does not think a tow away zone is needed. He originally wanted angled parking. He clarified that this was a handshake agreement. The City donated the property, and the School took care of the painting. He stated he does not want the entire parking lot handicap parking. He stated the pavement needs to be wider.

Nick Altonaga, City Planner, stated he has spoken with the Public Works Director this morning. The parking lot is City owned. This was an agreement with the School to provide parking for the stadium. This is general handicap parking year-round. He warned that making this lot seasonal parking could have its pitfalls with ADA regulations. He stated he is happy to work with the Police Chief on this matter, but that Staff works at the direction of the Mayor. He stated he would follow up with the Mayor and see how the Mayor would like Staff to move forward.

Other Items

The next Public Works Committee is May 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Conference Room.

The next Emergency Services Committee is May 20th at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Review of Draft Council Agendas

7. Draft Council Agenda, May 21, 2019.

Remove the LURA resolution as discussed previously.

Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting

All in attendance will be at next weeks Council meeting.

Announcements

8. May Employee Recognition.

Council President Eaton read employee recognitions clarifying a typo. Chief Peters has been with the City for 20 years.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney Moorman", written in a cursive style.

Brittney Moorman
Administrative Assistant

NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.