

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 5, 2016
CITY HALL
121 S. MERIDIAN

Mayor Laurie Dove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Dale Kerstetter, Lou Cicirello, Gina Gregory, Marci Maschino, Lionel Jackson, Ben Anderson and Al Hobson.

Members Absent: Brendan McGettigan

Staff Present: Kristine Polian, Finance and Admin Director
 Mark Hephner, Police Chief
 Neil Owings, Parks and Public Buildings Superintendent
 Lonnie Tormey, Fire Chief
 Brent Holper, City Superintendent
 Ryan Shrack, Community Development Director
 Joshua Golka, City Engineer
 Barry Arbuckle, City Attorney
 Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk
 Barry Smith, Asst. Treasurer

Press present: The Ark Valley News

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Hobson moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Cicirello. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA

MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2016 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Jackson moved to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2016, special City Council meeting, seconded by Maschino. Vote yea: Kerstetter, Cicirello, Gregory, Maschino, Jackson, and Anderson. Opposed: none, Abstain: Hobson. Motion carried.

MINUTES – JUNE 21, 2016 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Maschino moved to accept the minutes of the June 21, 2016, regular City Council meeting, seconded by Hobson. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS – None

PUBLIC FORUM – Chris Strunk with the Main Street Valley Center Steering Committee reported on their progress. The committee has been meeting monthly since March and established a mission statement. They are in the process of obtaining 501 (c) (3) non-profit status. New planters along Main Street have brought color to the downtown area. Strunk requested on behalf of the committee funding from the City to promote and carry out projects planned for 2017 that would enhance the historic downtown area.

APPOINTMENTS – None

COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS – June 13, 2016 Site Plan Committee Meeting Minutes

OLD BUSINESS –

A. WSU STRATEGIC PLAN – SET DATE FOR WORK SESSION/RETREAT

Finance and Admin Director Polian reported that she has been in contact with staff at WSU about possible dates. The staff from WSU would not be available on a Saturday until August, however they would be available on Monday July 18, 2016 for a strategic planning retreat to last approximately 3 hours. Discussion among Council was held regarding waiting until August or meeting on the July 18th date. The consensus was to meet at 5:00pm on July 18, 2016 with a location to be announced. Mayor Dove will identify working groups at the retreat to compose a draft plan for further review.

NEW BUSINESS-

A. REQUEST FOR ALCOHOL WAIVER

Polian reported that the City had received a request for an alcohol waiver from Jerry's Tex Mex Grill. If Council has no objections, they may call for a public hearing and direct staff to draft a resolution. Public notice will be printed in newspaper and notice mailed to First United Methodist Church and USD 262.

Anderson called for a public hearing to be held July 19, 2016 at 7:00pm at City Hall, 121 S. Meridian, regarding waiver of the location restrictions of Section 5.18.040 for Jerry's Tex Mex Grill, 556 N. Meridian, Valley Center. Kerstetter seconded the motion. Vote yea: unanimous. Motion carried.

B. PRESENTATION OF 2017 DRAFT BUDGET

Polian stated that tonight would only be a presentation and discussion of proposed 2017 budget. This allows Council to review proposed budget. Council must set maximum spending limit and publish Notice of Public Hearing by August 2, 2016. Polian reminded Council that the tax lid is not in effect for this budget year.

Polian stated that the Budget presented has been a coordinated effort on behalf of herself and all department heads. Polian explained that the proposed 2017 budget focuses more on outcomes instead of individual departmental expenditures, and paves the way for a stronger community. The City received approximately 1.3% increase in assessed valuation, which if mills remain consistent results in \$32,257 added tax dollars.

Polian stated the recommended budget addresses 5 general outcomes that she perceives as priorities by the Governing Body, the Community and the City Staff. 1) Align the City for future growth; 2) Recruit and retain quality personnel; 3) Infrastructure and equipment maintenance and enhancement; 4) Continue a conservative fiscal approach by maintaining strong reserves and fund balances through sound budgeting practice; 5) Promote citizen engagement through excellent customer service and communication.

The City faces several challenges that Council should continue to consider: 1) Tax lid effective 1/1/18; 2) Volunteer Fire responsiveness and department succession planning; 3) Poor drainage throughout City; 4) Antiquated infrastructure/equipment and undersized public facilities; 5) Economic Development/Planning Needs; 6) High special assessment delinquency rate.

Discussion followed regarding Fire department. Polian explained that the 2017 budget would allow for one additional firefighter and a study and recommendation for a 5 to 10 year plan from a consultant. Hobson expressed his opinion that the money for the study would be better used to directly fund another firefighter.

Polian reported that this budget leaves 3 options open for the General Fund for Council to consider: 1) decrease spending to balance the fund 2) decrease fund balance by \$46,000 or 3) increase taxes. Polian is confident that each of these options will still keep the City in an excellent position. Council should keep in mind that 2017 will be the final year without a tax lid.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE**
- B. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS FOR COLLECTION**
- C. 2016 MIDNIGHT SWIM EVENT**

Cicirello moved, seconded by Maschino to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote Yea: Unanimous. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

CHIEF TORMEY

Tormey was glad to report that no reports of fire or injuries occurred over the 4th of July weekend.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SHRACK

Shrack reported the results from the survey of residents on Dexter and Colby were 8 in favor of a 2 way street and 36 residents opposed any change.

Updated FEMA flood maps will be available December 22, 2016.

The Main Street Valley Center organization will be appointing a Board of Directors.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT HOLPER

Holper reported that Voltz-Pargo are working in Valley Center on both the Leeker driveway and the south west corner of Main and Meridian.

A total of 6.89 inches of rain fell last week, but the rainfall was spread out over time so it didn't cause as many flooding issues.

His crew have been continuing to clean culverts.

GOVERNING BODY REPORTS –

MAYOR DOVE

Mayor Dove thanked the Main Street Valley Center committee for all their work.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON

Reported that the new golf course in Valley Center is open and is a valuable asset to the community

COUNCIL MEMBER HOBSON

Has noticed Johnson grass on City property. Would like to see it sprayed as it is classified as a noxious weed and will get into citizen's property if not addressed.

Hobson moved to adjourn, second by Kerstetter. Vote Yea: Unanimous.

ADJOURN -

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Kristi Carrithers, City Clerk