

CITY OF WILLIAMS
Council Special Meeting Minutes

810 E Street / P.O. Box 310, Williams, CA 95987

CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

At 2:00 pm, Mayor Troughton called the Special Meeting of the Council to order.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: John Troughton, Jr., Alfred Sellers, Jr., Kent Boes, Santos Jauregui, Charles Bergson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Troughton invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for a moment of silence in memory of Wes Goforth.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION: Acting City Administrator Saso explained that this matter was brought forth by Council Member Charles Bergson. This item was to request a ten year expenditure history from the Colusa County Transportation Commission.

ACTION: Council Member Bergson made a motion, seconded by Council Member Sellers Jr., approving staff to author letter to the Executive Director of the Colusa County Transportation Commission on behalf of the City Council. Motion passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION: City Engineer David Swartz gave an update on the Margurite Street Extension. He stated Caltrans and the County of Colusa were still trying to work out the final details of the project. He stated this item was brought to council today because at the next meeting, he will be asking for permission to go out for bid. Mr. Swartz explained to Council that Caltrans was still trying to work out the fine details of the final approval of plans.

City Engineer Swartz said he is just waiting for the issuance of the E-76 which is the formal authorization to proceed that establishes the date for reimbursement of costs. He also explained that until the E-76 is received, the project would not go out to bid. Swartz would like to begin advertising for bids in January and have the bids opened and awarded in March 2015. If the schedule goes as planned, construction would begin in April and be completed by December 11,

2015. Acceptance of the project would take place at the regular City Council meeting of December 16, 2015.

Funding: Swartz said to complete the project it would take 5.5 million dollars with 3.5 million dollars coming from the Regional Transportation Improvement Program through the County of Colusa Transportation Commission and the other 2 million dollars coming from City and developer funds through the sale of real property. The 3.5 million dollars will be used for the roadway construction which is covered by Caltrans and the rest of the 2 million dollars will be dedicated to the infrastructure.

Council Member Bergson asked what was included in the base bid. Swartz said base bid is for all road work including storm drain, street lights, curb and gutter and sidewalks. It does not include water and sewer components. Council Member Boes asked if the City funds were only for contingency and change orders or how much of those funds were expected to be used. Swartz said it was only for contingency and change orders.

WORKSHOP

DISCUSSION: Evaluate the Infrastructure and with the new development coming we will need.

Pace Engineering: Complimented the City in the improvements that the City has worked on and on the two master plans that the City has started which are the water and sewer improvements. He explained that these were still in draft format and they are only the first, second, and third chapter of a complete master plan. He told Council he thought the City was moving in the correct direction. Mr. Warnock also said that it was good that the City realized they had infrastructure that was getting old.

Mr. Warnock said the CDBG Sewer Project should be designed by this spring and begin construction in the fall. Council Member Bergson asked Finance Director Greenbaum if the impact fees were to be used for the sewer only or if it can be used on the WWTP in general. Greenbaum responded there were funds for both as long as they relate to future needs. Mayor Troughton asked for an update on the CDBG Sewer Project. Mr. Greenbaum explained that this process had been delayed due to the change in representatives with CDBG also because the City had to approve some of their guidelines that were changed.

BUDGET

DISCUSSION: Acting City Administrator Saso said he would like this time to talk about City finances, where the City stands today and where the City is going moving forward in the next two years. Finance Officer Greenbaum provided the City Council Members with a hand out of the Proposed Schedule for Two - Year Capital and Operating Budget. City staff is hoping that this schedule can be adopted at the regular City Council Meeting of January 21, 2015.

Mr. Greenbaum started discussing the City's Fiscal Challenges including long term deficits.

The storm drain deficit is currently being paid back twenty thousand dollars a year from the General Fund and will take over fourteen years to pay off.

Finance Director Greenbaum said that when the Redevelopment Agency was setup, there were some fees that were incurred which were the two hundred and eighty thousand dollars.

Mayor Troughton explains that the Redevelopment Agency was a program that the governor took away three or four years ago.

The City also funded the construction of the new Police Station which was to be funded by future impact fees. This is a current deficit that is not funded, but will get paid back with future developments. Mr. Greenbaum said it could take over ten years to have this paid off.

The last item on the long term deficits list is the City Hall Annex Roof. Finance Director Greenbaum said there had been heavy rain in the last week and the roof had been leaking and will need to be replaced. Staff is currently looking at repair options.

The total long term deficits are almost a million dollars and staff wanted to make the City Council aware of what the current issues are. Mr. Greenbaum said budget process will also help to develop a plan to decrease the deficit.

Council Member Bergson asked if our old Risk Management owed over \$100,000 to the City. Greenbaum confirmed and he stated that the City might be receiving some of the funds within a couple of years.

Annual Operating Concerns:

The City is highly reliant on taxes from gasoline and is impacted with decreases in prices. Mr. Greenbaum explained prices fluctuate from year to year but lower gasolines prices appear to be a long term concern.

There is an expiring COPS grant which is set to run out in February of 2016. At the end of February of 2016 there will approximately thirty one thousand dollars unfunded and ninety two thousand represents the full amount of one police officer. Mr. Greenbaum said the City Administrator Saso is looking into a potential funding which might help offset some of the cost.

Finance Director said that we have had an increase on Fire District Contributions commencing in 2016.

We are currently funding vehicle replacements on budgetary savings at the end of fiscal year.

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

Council Member Bergson: He stated that his comments about the budget are coming down the road. He said that streets and sidewalks need to be addressed as well as park improvements. He would like to issue an RFP to do a study on the street lighting on the west side of town. He would like to add a proposal to the budget and see if the City can fund the mosquito abatement at cost of between twenty to thirty thousand dollars a year. He would like to bring back utility rebates for seniors and low income residents. He stated that our sewer rates are very high due to regulations imposed by the State.

He would like to see park and recreation programs including adult basketball restarted. He stated these programs are very important for the community and would like the City to contribute as commonly done in many other cities. He wants a capital improvement plan permanently on the budget. He believes the City needs some additional positions including a management analyst for City Hall, a management analyst and assistant for the finance department.

He would like to see the CDBG Assistance Loans advertised in Spanish and English, contact the Oddfellows owner and work with him to get that building resurrected. He wants to improve downtown and also analyze sewer rates for food markets because they are very high. He mentioned that at Council level, he would like to contact the State Assembly Office and Congressional Offices and work on finding funds for our capital plan. Lastly, he believes the City needs a Management Succession Plan for all management positions.

Council Member Boes: He would like to focus on two things, one is revenues he would like to find a way to find more revenues and use the money earned from those revenues to decrease the deficits. He also said we need to finish programs that have been started like the sewer and water master plan, CDBG programs, and the water project. One other important thing that the City needs to focus on is the crumbling infrastructure. He said until these issues are taken care of that is where our focus should be.

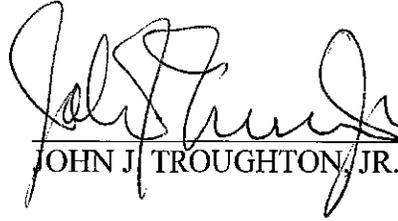
Council Member Jauregui: He would like to find ways to improve lighting on the west side of town he said this may be possible by contacting PG&E and ask if they can improve our lighting. He also stated he would like to see street improvements maybe grinding down the bumps on the streets and patching the holes that were left behind after the rains. He also thinks the City should rehab Valley Vista and Venice Park. Council Member Jauregui would like to also see the soccer goals out on the parks for the youth to be able play.

Mayor Pro Tem Sellers: Mayor Pro Tem Sellers would also like to see the lighting on both sides of the overpass going towards the east of town be improved. He wants to be more involved when it come to the Community College and would like for City staff to contact the administration at the college and get an update on the courses they are currently offering.

Mayor Troughton: Mayor Troughton would like to see the City get taxable income from developers and bring that money back into the City and funds some of the things that have been discussed at this meeting. He would also like to improve streets, sidewalks on 11th street, and suggests that the City looks for grants. He would like to see an interpreter for the Latinos and any other person that does not speak fluent English and help them understand what is going on in the City.

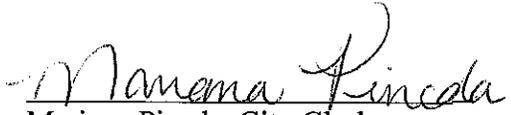
ADJOURNMENT: At 3:32 pm, Mayor Troughton adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:



JOHN J. TROUGHTON, JR., MAYOR

ATTEST:


Mariana Pineda, City Clerk