
PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WORLAND January 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of Worland, Wyoming convened at the Worland Community Center Complex at 7:00 p.m. on January 19, 2021. Mayor Jim Gill presided and the Councilmembers in attendance were Kody DeMunbrun, Kreg Lombard, Wendy Fredricks, Scott Schaeffer, William Worley, Mike Neuffer, Christy Schneider, Adam Martinez and Barbara Brookwell. Also present were: Chief of Police Gabe Elliott; Airport Manager, Lynn Murdoch; Superintendent of Public Works, Brian Burky; City Attorney, Kent Richins; City Engineer Representative, Mike Donnell and Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz.

There were five (5) visitors present for this meeting of the City Council.

Superintendent of Public Works Brian Burky led the Council and Visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gill declared a Quorum and asked for approval of the agenda as presented.

Motion: to approve the agenda as presented.
By: Councilmember DeMunbrun.
Second by: Councilmember Schneider.
Vote: The motion pass unanimously.

The minutes of the January 5, 2021 regular meeting stand approved as published.

Motion: To approve all vouchers and authorize payment for payroll, utility charges, refunds for City Services, recording fees, postage and other miscellaneous items, during the month of January, before normal City Council approval on the first Tuesday of February and approve the Consent Agenda with Council Work Session Minutes of January 11, 2021 and Payroll Voucher for the period ending January 10, 2021; PAYROLL 1/10/21 - \$64,812.08.
By: Councilmember Worley.
Second by: Councilmember Lombard.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

John Humphreys addressed the Council about his concern over the cell tower going up at the High School and the frequencies emitted. City Attorney Richins suggested that Mr. Humphreys may want to talk to the School District about the issue. City Engineer Representative Mike Donnell stated that the cell tower was approved by the Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission (BAPC) a few years ago. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz will find the minutes from the BAPC meeting and send them out to the Council.

Mayor Gill announced that there were two (2) candidates for the Ward 1 Council vacancy and gave each candidate the opportunity to address the Council. Barbara Brookwell and Kenneth Shearer introduced themselves and provided information as to why they wanted to be on the Council. Mayor Gill asked for any questions from the Council; Councilmember DeMunbrun thanked both candidates “for putting yourselves out there, it is to be admired; we appreciate those that love our community as much as

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we do.” Mayor Gill stated that as the head of the governing body it is his duty to appoint a candidate from those that applied. “As a former Councilmember representing Ward 1, I am going to honor the earlier decision of the Ward 1 voters who sought change by appointing Barbara Brookwell to the fill the Councilmember vacancy in Ward 1.” Mayor Gill asked for a motion to approve the appointment.

Motion: to approve the appointment of Barbara Brookwell to fill the Council vacancy in Ward 1.
By: Councilmember Schneider.
Second by: Councilmember Martinez.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney gave the Oath of Office to Barbara Brookwell who received a round of applause and then took her seat on the Council.

Mayor Gill stated that the City has an opportunity to provide a one-time \$500.00 bonus to all city employees and Eagle Engineering (the City Engineer). Additional bonus funding was granted by the State of Wyoming for the COVID-19 testing done at the lagoon in the amount of \$25,000.00. “I am asking the Council, based on the fact that no employee raises were included in the budget this year, to approve this one-time bonus.” Superintendent of Public Works Brian Burky explained that under the contract with the State to test for the virus, if the city did not miss any sample submissions then we could be awarded a bonus. Samples have been taken at the Boys School and the Sewer Lagoon. The crew at the lagoon and others have done what they needed to do to get this done. This money does not have any “strings” on it and can be used as the city desires. Discussion followed on the cost of the bonus and if the testing at the lagoon would continue. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz noted that the bonus would cost the city approximately \$23,000.00 spread out between the General and Enterprise Funds. Councilmember Schaeffer asked if the testing would continue. Superintendent of Public Works Burky stated that testing would continue through 2021 under contract with the State and monthly payments to the city will continue for this testing. Previous testing indicated that Worland was the hot spot in the State the last month or so. Councilmember DeMunbrun asked what would be done with the rest of the money after the \$500.00 bonuses were paid out. Mayor Gill stated that three (3) employees, who actually did the work, would be awarded an additional \$500.00 and the rest of the funds would stay in the Sewer Fund. Mayor Gill noted that all city employees deal with COVID-19 on a daily basis and that the city has been very fortunate having only a few employees impacted by the pandemic. Mayor Gill thanked the Department Heads for providing PPE and COVID-19 information to employees.

Motion: to approve a one-time \$500.00 bonus to all city employees and Eagle Engineering.
By: Councilmember Lombard.
Second by: Councilmember Schneider.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Gill mentioned that the Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM) is putting on a Bootcamp for newly elected Councilmembers. The meetings will be held virtually. There is also a WAM Region III virtual meeting on Tuesday, January 26,

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2021. Clerk/Treasurer Glanz will email the information to Councilmembers. Mayor Gill stated that WAM has been working hard to stay on top of funding issues to local government at the legislature. The new President of WAM is Mayor Matt Hall of Cody.

Clerk/Treasurer Glanz reported that the current proposal by the Joint Appropriation Committee (JAC) is to reduce the direct distribution to local governments by \$5.25 million. The City of Worland would see a reduction in direct distribution of approximately \$80,000.00.

City Attorney Kent Richins congratulated and welcomed new Councilmember Brookwell and thanked Kenneth Shearer for applying. City Attorney Richins reminded new Councilmembers that his office is always open to consult or ask questions and invited them to ask questions during the meeting if needed.

City Engineer Representative Mike Donnell informed the Council that his office is working on getting a DEQ permit for the wastewater treatment plant pump replacement project. This project also includes lining approximately 1,000 feet of 24” sewer outfall line. This will be paid for with a 50% grant from the State Lands & Investment Board (SLIB) for the total cost of the project. A resolution for the new SLIB application will be presented to the Council for approval in February, 2021 to upgrade several mid-block fire hydrant lines that run in between houses. The water lines will be slip-lined or pipe-burst. The valves and some of the hydrants will also be upgraded in this project.

Superintendent of Public Works Burky reported that the crew was working on fixing water leaks and trimming trees. The city is crushing the concrete from the Culbertson Avenue Project for gravel.

Airport Manager Lynn Murdoch reported that a mechanic from Kodiak had been in Worland to work on the broom again; until we get snowfall we will not know if it works properly.

Councilmember Lombard thanked Superintendent of Public Works Burky for the tour of the city shop and lagoon. The facilities look so much better than they did years ago. Councilmember Lombard reported that he had not been invited to the meetings regarding the proposed ambulance service and thought maybe the city should check with other communities on funding the service. “We definitely do not want to lose the ambulance service.”

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gill asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.
By: Councilmember Neuffer.
Second by: Councilmember Lombard.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

James R. Gill, Mayor

ATTEST:
Tracy A. Glanz, Clerk/Treasurer

January 28, 2021