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## PUBLIC NOTICE

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF WORLAND September 15, 2020

A regular meeting of the City Council of Worland, Wyoming convened at the Worland Community Center Complex Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. on September 15, 2020. Mayor Jim Gill presided and the Councilmembers in attendance were Kody DeMunbrun, Keith Gentzler, Kreg Lombard, Mandy Horath, Mike Neuffer, Christy Schneider and Kenneth Shearer. Also present were: Chief of Police, Gabe Elliott; City Attorney, Kent Richins; Airport Manager, Lynn Murdoch; Superintendent of Public Works, Brian Burky; City Engineer Representative, Mike Donnell; Municipal Judge Marcy Argeris and Clerk/Treasurer, Tracy Glanz. Councilmembers Caleb Vigil and Delayne Renner-Newton were absent.

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

Councilmember Christy Schneider led the Council and Visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Gill declared a Quorum present and asked for review and approval of the agenda.

Motion: to approve the agenda.  
By: Councilmember Lombard.  
Second by: Councilmember Gentzler.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the September 1, 2020 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 September, before normal City Council approval on the first Tuesday of October and approve the Council Work Session Minutes of September 8, 2020 and the Payroll Voucher for the period ending September 6, 2020; PAYROLL 9/06/2020 - \$66,345.84.  
By: Councilmember Gentzler.  
Second by: Councilmember Shearer.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Constance Salcido informed the Council of a softball tournament to be held this weekend. The tournament will be a blind draw with a \$20.00 entry fee per person and all proceeds will be donated to the Worland Food Bank. Ms. Salcido requested approval of overnight camping at Newell Sargent Park for the event. Chief of Police Gabe Elliott had no concerns.

Motion: to approve overnight camping in Newell Sargent Park for the softball tournament this weekend.  
By: Councilmember Horath.  
Second by: Councilmember DeMunbrun.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

James Seckman, CPA presented the audited financial statements for the City of Worland for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. The audit tests for reasonable rates and reserves, and tests for compliance with laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements. The City is financially healthy with more than adequate reserves in each fund. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz was recognized for exemplary work with regard to fiscal management of the city.

Municipal Judge Marcy Argeris requested approval to continue Municipal Court at City Hall. Mayor Gill asked if this request was a temporary fix until the Supreme Court opened the Courthouse for use. Municipal Judge Argeris indicated she would like to have court at City Hall permanently. Mayor Gill indicated his frustration over previous conversations with the judge over this issue and that the Council Chambers is the only room big enough in city hall to have meetings, "it is already hard enough to schedule use of the room." City Attorney Kent Richins stated that while court is working well at City Hall, there is no security at City Hall and inmates could not be transferred to City Hall for Court. City Attorney Richins continued that defendants show more respect for the Court in a Courtroom setting at the Courthouse. Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Glanz reiterated the issue of security at City Hall and asked that approval be temporary, only until the Courthouse is opened back up for Court. Chief of Police Gabe Elliott shared the security concerns stating that time

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is of the essence when there is an issue. Councilmember Horath retorted that there has never been an issue even when court was held at the Courthouse. Councilmember Lombard said, "There is a courthouse in the city and City Hall is the people's hall, we do not need to have municipal court permanently at city hall when there is a courtroom in the city available". Discussion continued. Municipal Judge Argeris indicated that she would like to purchase recording equipment for the court as allowed in her budget and this equipment could be shared by the court and city hall as it would be portable.

Motion: to allow the use of City Hall Council Chambers for Municipal Court from October through December, 2020.  
By: Councilmember Gentzler.  
Second by: Councilmember Horath.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent of Public Works Brian Burky informed the Council that things are going well at the Golf Course and reminded the Council that the contract with the current operator is expiring at the end of the year. The contract can be extended one (1) year or for a period of years; with a four (4) year contract the advantages include a reduction in the city's financial support, security in operations, increased growth in use at the golf course and a new fleet of golf carts (4 year lease required). Superintendent of Public Works Burky recommended the Council extend the contract with Sagebrush Sport LLC for four (4) years as there are still performance benchmarks in the contract that must be met. Discussion followed; a request was made to enter into executive session to continue discussions on a contract.

Mayor Gill asked that the Council review the WAM Resolutions and appoint a voting delegate. The meeting to discuss and approve the resolutions is this Thursday, September 17, 2020 through Zoom.

Motion: to appoint Mayor Gill as voting delegate for the WAM Resolutions.  
By: Councilmember Neuffer.  
Second by: Councilmember Gentzler.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Gill read a statement referencing the issue of chain of command. "I am compelled to visit with Councilmember's this evening to remind you to be respectful of our employees and especially our respective Department Heads. The election season is on which can drive ones interest to shine above another. That can bring on a heavy price for the city to pay in regard to employee morale. I would ask each of you to refer to your Mayor/Council Handbook, Chapter IV, Page 4 under Public Relations it reads": Good public relations should be a matter of concern for each councilmember and the governing body as a whole. The success of any administration is affected by its image – how the public views it. This image is created not only by what the body does but also how it does it. "It does not help Public Relations or employee morale to go around the Mayor's office and respective Department Heads when a Councilmember visits with a given employee during business hours or seeks out the opinion of an employee with contractors or others in the community. This type of activity is beyond the pale and it needs to stop." Mayor Gill asked City Attorney Richins to review the Chain of Command Policy with the Council. City Attorney Richins stated that the policy is from 2004 and explains the protocol for the Council and Mayor when dealing with employees. "If a Councilmember has an issue with an employee or a Department Head then they go to the Mayor. The Mayor then talks to the Department Head and the Department Head then goes to the employee. This policy has been violated recently." Councilmember Horath stated that if the Council is expected to abide by this policy it should be updated. City Attorney Richins reiterated that this Chain of Command is how all first class cities operate. Councilmember Neuffer stated that he works with city employees and should be able to talk to them. Mayor Gill stated that we should act like a team and reminded the Councilmembers of conflicts of interest. Clerk/Treasurer Glanz said, "It has been brought to my attention that a Councilmember has been talking to contractors about the Building Official and I really do not appreciate it. I do not think that's fair to the employee. The employee is upset and morale is very low. This behavior shows a total lack of respect for that employee not to mention a lack of respect for the Department Head." City Attorney Richins reiterated that this is issue is affecting the morale of the staff and Department Heads. There were no further comments.

Under Board & Commission Reports, Councilmember Horath

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asked if Councilmember Renner-Newton should be replaced as the Council liaison on the Board of Adjustment & Planning Commission (BAPC) since she has not been attending the meetings. Mayor Gill will confer with Councilmember Renner-Newton.

Superintendent of Public Works Burky informed the Council that mosquito spraying will wrap up this week; support from Weed & Pest may be cut next year due to shortfalls in funding from the State. Crack sealing will start next week and the crew will be putting out notices on doors the night before the work starts. A priority list to replace water lines connecting fire hydrants between houses is being created and those lines will be examined.

City Engineer Representative Mike Donnell reported that the 2020 Double Gutter project started on Monday with work starting on North 8th Street and Bonine Avenue. The Culbertson Avenue Project is progressing; all of the water and sewer lines have passed inspection as well as the concrete and compactions tests. The road base will be laid next week on the east side of the street. Work is continuing on revising the subdivision code with the BAPC.

Chief of Police Gabe Elliott stated that the Police Department received AED equipment for each Officer through funding from the Helmsley Foundation. The State of Wyoming teamed up with the Helmsley Foundation to provide this equipment to first responders. This is a huge asset to the Police Department as we are usually the first to respond. The school system talked about doing something different for the Homecoming Parade this year, but after discussion the parade will be held tentatively on October 9, 2020 following COVID-19 guidelines. The Ordinance Office position has been advertised with a closing date of September 24, 2020.

Airport Manager Lynn Murdoch informed the Council that the Taxilane C Project is going well; the paving will be done this week with the opening of the taxilane by the end of the month.

Councilmember Lombard asked for clarification on one of the WAM Resolutions.

Motion: to enter into executive session to discuss possible litigation and contract negotiations at 8:03 p.m.  
By: Councilmember Lombard.  
Second by: Councilmember Schneider.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: to leave the executive session at 8:33 p.m.  
By: Councilmember DeMunbrun.  
Second by: Councilmember Lombard.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Gill informed Donnie Bjorhus with Sagebrush Sports LLC that the Council did not come to a decision on the golf course contract, but will work towards presenting and approving a contract at the October 6, 2020 meeting. Discussion followed regarding the golf cart lease and the trade in of the city owned carts. Mr. Bjorhus stated that the city would receive a check from the Dealer for the carts traded in and the lease for the new golf carts would be with Sagebrush Sports, LLC.

Motion: to file a civil suit against Mike Propp dba Propper Golf Management, LLC for the amount owed the City.  
By: Councilmember Neuffer.  
Second by: Councilmember Horath.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

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

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.  
By: Councilmember Neuffer.  
Second by: Councilmember Shearer.  
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

James R. Gill, Mayor

ATTEST:  
Tracy A. Glanz, Clerk/Treasurer

September 24, 2020