

**CITY OF CENTRAL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 4, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Central was called to order by Mayor Engels at 7:13 p.m., in City Hall on February 4, 2014.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Engels
Alderman Gaines
Alderman Heider
Alderman Spain
Alderman Voorhies

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Clerk Bechtel
Attorney McAskin
Finance Director Flowers
Planner/HPO Fejeran
Police Chief Krelle
Fire Chief Allen
Utilities Superintendent Griffith
Streets/Facilities Superintendent Braccio

ADDITIONS AND/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No Council Member disclosed a conflict regarding any item on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Voorhies moved to approve the consent agenda containing the regular bill lists for January 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2014; and the City Council minutes for the meetings on January 7 and 21, 2014. Alderman Spain seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one requested time to address the Council.

ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

Speed Study for the Parkway – Request to move forward

Joe Behm, CC BID Manager, gave the background as follows:

The 8.5-mile Central City Parkway was a design-build project planned and managed by AMES construction. At the time of design, the Central City Business Improvement District (CCBID) as Project Owner, requested that design speeds meet or exceed the existing routes to Central City. Upon opening of the Parkway, the District requested that the posted speeds be raised to

better represent the modern, safe, four-lane design and, again, to be reflective of the non-canyon (two-lane) route to Central City. AMES responded that without historical data, limits were set conservatively.

The District has requested in the past that the City of Central again review the posted speeds, with the City declining each request for various reasons including expense of such an undertaking and lack of institutional experience.

Request:

The District would respectfully request that a speed study be commissioned along with a final, professional engineering report, based upon the collected data, for the City to use as support for accurate posted limits. The District recognizes that, following professional examination, the posted speed limits along the Parkway may increase or decrease and there may be reasons to include “advisory” limits on curves and at intersections.

Methodology:

The District would request that the City allow the District to contract with professional consultants who utilize the same methodology that CDOT and jurisdictions throughout the country use to determine appropriate speed limits. This methodology is set forth in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and also codified in state statute.

The District believes that the speeds along the Parkway should be consistent, safe, reasonable and enforceable. Research on roadway speeds concludes, “when 85% of drivers voluntarily comply with speed limits, it is possible and reasonable to enforce the limits with the 15% who drive too fast. Unreasonably low limits can promote disrespect for and disregard of other reasonable posted limits. They also promote a false sense of security among residents and pedestrians who may expect that posting lower limits will change driver behavior. Unreasonably high limits create unnecessary risks.”

Recommendation:

The District proposes to contract with two firms, All Traffic Data and Fred Lantz. All Traffic will be responsible for the data collection and Fred Lantz, a professional traffic and transportation-engineering firm, will produce the final report including posted limits conclusions.

Total cost for the speed study will be in the \$4,000 range. While the District would certainly entertain the City contributing to the cost of the study, the Board of Directors has agreed to contract with the firms and pay for the study without any City assistance at this time.

The Board would, again respectfully, request the City authorize the District to complete the study with the understanding that the City will use the conclusions/recommendations to make any modifications to the posted Parkway speed limits.

Mayor Engels stated that since the Police Department is responsible to enforcement the speeds that are set, the BID will need to work with the Chief to choose the firm for the study.

Alderman Gaines moved to approve the Parkway Speed Study request with the understanding that the BID will work with the Police Department to choose the company, that the study will be at their cost, and that the City will waive any permit fees. Alderman Spain seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 14-01: An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Central amending Article V of Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code regarding the Planning Commission.

Attorney McAskin gave the background as follows:

Ordinance No. 14-01 proposes minor revisions to Chapter 2, Article V of the Municipal Code, pertaining to the City's Planning and Zoning Commission ("Planning Commission"). The minor revisions set forth in Ordinance 14-01 are being proposed by City Staff in order to authorize the appointment of an alternate to the Planning Commission. This topic was discussed at the January 21, 2014 work session.

The minor revisions to Chapter 2, Article V of the Code addressed in Ordinance 14-01 include the following:

- Adding language authorizing the appointment of an alternate member to the Planning Commission (the alternate shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by a majority of City Council); and
- Other revisions intended to conform Article V of Chapter 2 (Code provisions pertaining to Planning Commission) to Article VI of Chapter 2 (Code provisions pertaining to the Historic Preservation Commission).

Alderman Gaines moved to adopt Ordinance No. 14-01: An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Central amending Article V of Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code regarding the Planning Commission and setting the Public Hearing for February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Alderman Spain seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

City Planner Fejeran reported that the City was awarded the CLG grant to update our survey of each property in the city. We applied for this grant in August of 2013 and staff will work with the University to complete this survey which will be used as a model for other communities and will be digital with GIS interface.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Alderman Heider expressed her disappointment that the Jazz Gala will be held in Central City on the same evening as the Opera Gala in Denver. Planner Fejeran stated that the Opera felt there would be minimal conflict since there is a different demographic between the two events except for the local residents here that would enjoy both.

Alderman Gaines noted that the City has received the outstanding funds for the widening of Gregory for the Lawrence Street project from the BID. She also gave kudos to Streets/Facilities Superintendent Braccio for his leadership.

Alderman Voorhies thanked the Public Works crew for their extra effort during the recent snow events.

PUBLIC FORUM/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

John Boyer, VFW member presented an outline to construct a memorial wall for veterans and described the type of location such as the Nevada Street Wall that is needed to meet the requirements for this project.

Jeff Henschel, Famous Bonanza/Easy Street Manager, gave a letter to Council asking for increased communication between the City and the businesses for any upcoming projects or events.

At 7:58 p.m., Alderman Spain moved to adjourn into Executive Session as follows:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) and 24-6-402(4)(f)(II) to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators regarding potential new development within Central City and pending contract negotiations; and to generally discuss personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees and invited Ron Miller to the meeting. Alderman Voorhies seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Ronald E. Engels, Mayor

Reba Bechtel, City Clerk