

**CITY OF CENTRAL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the City Council for the City of Central was called to order by Mayor Engels at 6:00 p.m., in City Hall on March 18, 2015.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Engels
Mayor Pro Tem Heider
Alderman Voorhies
Alderman Gaines
Alderman Laratta

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Miera
City Clerk Bechtel
Police Chief Krelle

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

ADDITIONS AND/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with a change to the title of Resolution No. 15-08.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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

PUBLIC FORUM/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one requested time to address the Council.

ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 15-08: *A resolution of the City Council of the City of Central, Colorado selecting a design concept for the updated Central City Parkway archway sign and authorizing the City Manager to execute Agreements as necessary to facilitate the successful installation of the updated archway sign.*

Shannon Keel, General Manager for Reserve Casino Hotel, thanked Council for their time to hold this Special Council meeting. Ms. Keel presented the sign options and offered that at the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce conference she had attended, the message was "You can't grow without change". The proposed sign packet comes from collaboration of several individuals.

City Manager Miera gave a brief review of the process for this presentation. Parkway signage was first presented at the February 17, 2015 work session with the CCBID and included a change to the existing archway sign, a proposed new LED sign and a proposed hillside sign. The archway sign is

owned by the City and is considered a traffic control sign. If the City agrees on a design then the City can have a direct agreement with the Reserve or work through the CCBID.

Mayor Engels clarified that the Reserve has been driving this project so staff here may as well work directly with the Reserve Ms. Keel added that the CCBID is behind this process and that the Reserve is taking the role of driver for this to move forward. Also, there could be some modification once YESCO has had a chance to engineer the weight and size. They are willing to make changes to be in agreement with the City. They will save the current lettering and if there does not prove to be any benefit in 1-2 years it can be changed.

Ms. Keel explained that yellow on black is the most visible from a distance and adding the *Historic* to Central City is something that sets us apart from Black Hawk. The Tributary at 243(formerly Kermit's) has 10-30 people a day who stop and ask for directions to the casinos which indicates we need to provide direction.

Alderman Gaines moved to approve Resolution No. 15-08: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Central, Colorado selecting a design concept for the updated Central City Parkway archway sign and authorizing the City Manager to execute Agreements as necessary to facilitate the successful installation of the updated archway sign as amended. Alderman Laratta seconded. In discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Heider stated the sign *Casino Parkway* reinforces that this is a road to Black Hawk as the wording *Historic Central City* fades out and all you see is *Casino Parkway*. Alderman Gaines that through collaboration with the Reserve Casino Hotel, the word *Historic* was added and they have assured the City that this can be temporary and changed again. Alderman Gaines also pointed out that the City can use other signage to promote history. Mayor Engels offered that this is the first, simplest and most affordable step in the plan for branding for Central City which will include all other attractions in our City with the casinos being the backbone of our revenue it makes sense that this is comes as the first step so thank you to Ms. Keel. Alderman Laratta agreed with Mayor Engels that if the vehicles are bypassing us as they drive through, it is our problem and we need to make some additional changes such as the *Do Not Enter* sign. Alderman Voorhies agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Heider that the *Historic Central City* is not as visible as we would like and also agrees that this may be a first step. Mayor Engels added that if the engineering reports allow for larger lettering then so much better. When Mayor Engels called the question, the motion carried 4 votes to 1 with Mayor Pro Tem Heider voting no.

STAFF UPDATES

City Manager Miera gave information from his staff report:

Knights of Pythias – timeline has been given to the property owner

Main Street Traffic Direction Project – staff is working with JVA to review previous studies and put together costs for perhaps a trial basis

CEDA – has filed articles of dissolution

Pit Rally – dates are July 17 8am-noon & July 18 8am-5pm for parkway closures

Arch sign on Nevada – YESCO is working to provide cost estimates for a *Welcome to Historic Central City* archway sign on Nevada

Gilpin County/Black Hawk Lawsuit – 4:04p.m. today, Denver District Court issued a dismissal for the lawsuit filed by Gilpin County and Black Hawk against the State, Teller County, Cripple Creek and Central City

Finance Department – Clifton Larson Allen is a CPA firm and could look at our Caselle conversion and other possible cost saving measures

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Alderman Voorhies expressed her enthusiasm for the possibilities to use the Belvidere as a community building.

Alderman Gaines thanked City Manager Miera for arranging the sit down with the County Commissioners as it was very productive.

PUBLIC FORUM/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ren Goltra, property owner, asked about the distance of visibility for the proposed archway sign and suggested that there could be radio streaming of information on the parkway. Mr. Goltra also added that the change for the Belvidere is good for the City but noted the same property owner is behind on the taxes for his Main Street properties and encouraged the City to find a way to get them back on the market or into use.

David Josselyn, 344 E 1st High, described that when he first looked at the picture of the proposed archway sign he read it “Historic Central City Casino Parkway” rather than “Casino Parkway” it is “Central City Casino Parkway” and it can be changed if is not effective.

At 6:59 p.m., Mayor Engels adjourned the meeting.
The next Council meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Ronald E. Engels, Mayor

Reba Bechtel, City Clerk