

**CITY OF CENTRAL  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
September 15, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Central was called to order by Mayor Engels at 7:12 p.m., in City Hall on September 15, 2015.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Engels  
Mayor *pro tem* Heider  
Alderman Gaines  
Alderman Voorhies  
Alderman Laratta

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Miera  
City Clerk Bechtel  
Attorney McAskin  
Finance Director Adame  
Public Works Director Hoover  
Fire Chief Allen

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

**ADDITIONS AND/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with a change to discuss Ordinance No. 15-7 to allow for community comments and determine the next steps.

**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 of September 3, 10; and the City Council minutes for the meeting on September 1, 2015. Alderman Laratta seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Members of the Sign Code Steering Committee (SCSC) spoke regarding the proposed new sign code. Comments regarding electronic message centers (EMC) included: concerns about enforcement; the proposed regulations have limitations so they will be a clean look; important to business livelihood; can be limited by area or zone; will clear up banner clutter and be more convenient for changeability; they are incompatible with the historic nature of Central City; and they diminish the unique character of the NHLD. Other comments regarding the sign code included: sidewalk signs add to the clutter of the street and are liability for accidents; sidewalk signs are

needed by some businesses with recessed doorways to be visible; business needs to be able to advertise; and window signs need to be transparent. Additional comments from other community members included: EMC's are needed for daily specials and events and can be done well; Council can take their time to consider all sides of this issue as the SCSC and HPC were split on some of the sign types; lots of signs including neon were allowed in the 1950's; and very old European cities have modern signs which does not detract from the character.

### **ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance No. 15-7: *An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Central, Colorado repealing and reenacting Chapter 14 of the City of Central Municipal Code in its entirety regarding sign regulations.*

Council consensus is that there is a lot of information to consider and they would like to take time for additional discussion. Alderman Gaines moved to table Ordinance No. 15-07 to the October 6, 2015 meeting and direct staff to schedule this for a work session before that meeting. Mayor *pro tem* Heider seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 15-19: *A resolution of the City Council of the City of Central establishing certain financial procedures specific to authorized check signatories.*

Finance Director Adame explained that Resolution 15-19 establishes elected officials and employees that are authorized to sign checks as well as those authorized as a signatory on bank accounts for the City. This resolution reflects the removal of former Finance Clerk Whitney Blake as an authorized signatory as she is no longer an employee with the City.

Also, for City employees to use credit or debit cards in order to make purchases or reservations, Resolution 15-19 recognizes that in these cases, only one (1) authorized signature will be required and lists the City employees who are authorized to have and use a City credit or debit card for such purchases. This resolution replaces Public Works Foreman Aaron Behring with Public Works Director Sam Hoover.

There are no immediate fiscal impacts. Indirect financial impacts could be realized based on adherence to this recommended internal control practice.

Alderman Voorhies moved to approve Resolution No. 15-19: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Central establishing certain financial procedures specific to authorized check signatories. Alderman Gaines seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

### 2014 Audit Presentation

Finance Director Adame explained that in April of this year, John Cutler & Associates performed an audit of the City's financial procedures, practices, and financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2014. Over the course of the past few months staff and John Cutler & Associates have worked together to draft and prepare the finalized 2014 Audited Financial Statements. The financial statements illustrate the financial transactions of the City over the course of 2014 and present the City's financial information, in whole and as separate units, as of December 31, 2014. State law requires the City to submit the audited financial statements to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. It is customary for the auditor to review the statements and his opinion letter with the Council and for the Council to accept the statements as presented in the form of a motion.

John Cutler added that fund balances improved in 2014 which is always good progress. This is an “unmodified” or clean report. The letter of recommendation for enhancing financial controls is being worked on now and will come later.

Mayor *pro tem* Heider moved to accept and approve the 2014 Audited Financial Statements with the authority to make additional non material amendments or corrections. Alderman Voorhies seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

### **STAFF UPDATES**

City Manager Miera responded to Council questions on the following:

Knights of Pythias – the engineers report is inconclusive so due to concerns regarding the parapet, the fencing needs to remain for now

New Mobility West Transportation Study – set for early October

Sign Code Work Session – Council consensus is for October 6 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Director Hoover responded to the question regarding Eureka Street paving which will begin September 24<sup>th</sup> estimated to be complete in 2-3 days.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Alderman Laratta gave recognition to Maryann Block for her excellent job with the flowers and added that the SCSC did a great job with much compromise on the new sign code which is very important to business.

Mayor *pro tem* Heider noted that the Bacon and Bourbon Festival was a wonderful event.

Mayor Engels thanked Council and City Manager Miera for their work at the Council Retreat Work Session.

Alderman Gaines read her Letter of Resignation effective October 16, 2015. Mayor Engels thanked her for her service on Council and on HPC and wished her and family all the best.

### **PUBLICFORUM/AUDIENCEPARTICIPATION**

Several community members expressed their thanks to Alderman Gaines for her service.

Barb Thielemann, 101 H Street, provided information for the Nevadaville Survey presentation on October 3<sup>rd</sup> with the public welcome.

Joe Behm, CCBID, stated that some members of the CCBID have met recently with the bondholders and are working on options to improve the situation with the parkway debt.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:32 p.m., Mayor *pro tem* Heider moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purposes of developing positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategies for negotiations; and instructing negotiators regarding property located on Nevada Street in Central City; and pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) and (4)(e) to discuss specific legal questions regarding pending water rights litigation and for the purposes of developing positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategies for negotiations; and instructing negotiators concerning water rights case no. 2011CW273.

Alderman Voorhies seconded, and without discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2015 at 8:32 p.m.

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Ronald E. Engels, Mayor

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Reba Bechtel, City Clerk