

CITY OF BISHOP
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
August 14, 2006

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Pro Tem Crom called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

INVOCATION The invocation was given by Councilmember Henderson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Cullen.

COUNCIL PRESENT Henderson, Connolly, Cullen, Crom

COUNCIL ABSENT Young

OTHERS PRESENT Richard Pucci, City Administrator
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk
Peter Tracy, City Attorney
Jim Barnes, Community Services Manager
Ray Seguire, Fire Chief
Joe Pecci, Police Chief
David Grah, Public Works Director
Gary Schley, Public Services Officer
Bob Kimball, City Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENT The Mayor announced the public comment period. No public comment was given.

COUNCIL PRESENTATION David Christensen
(1) The Council recognized David Christensen who served as Inyo County Deputy District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney and Public Defender. Mr. Christensen recently moved from the area. The City tile and a letter will be mailed to him.

CONSENT CALENDAR
(2) A motion was made by Councilmember Connolly to approve the Consent Calendar as presented:

Motion/Connolly

FOR APPROVAL AND FILING

- (a) Council Minutes – 7/24/06
- (b) Hiring Freeze Ratification
- (c) Personnel Status Change Report
- (d) Investment Portfolio – 6/06
- (e) Warrant Register – 7/06
- (f) Fund Transactions – 7/1/06 – 7/31/06

FOR INFORMATION AND FILING

- (g) Parks and Recreation Commission Agenda – 8/2/06
- (h) Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes – 6/28/06
- (i) Fire Department Activity Log – 7/06

Motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – Parking Permits (3)

Mayor Pro Tem Crom opened the public hearing scheduled to receive input on the feasibility of establishing a parking permit process to allow preferential parking for business owners and employees requested by a few business owners in the spring of this year.

The City Administrator gave a report on staff research on preferential parking ordinances of 14 cities. It was concluded that most parking exemption programs in place were to accommodate residents parking in commercial areas where those two uses were in conflict. Those cities which developed permit parking for the pure business districts did the following:

1. Defined the specific areas where permits were valid.
2. Issued a specific number per business and were made available equally to all businesses.
3. Made it clear that available parking was not guaranteed.
4. Had a revocation process for those who violated the permit process.
5. Developed a process to ensure that the majority of businesses would be benefited and not negatively impacted by the establishment of exempt parking.
 - a. The process needs to protect all business rights to succeed.
 - b. Parking needs are different for each business: some rely on walk-by traffic; others need long term; others need easy in/out short term parking.
 - c. All want parking close to their businesses for customers and convenient for owners and employees.
6. The question is whether permitted parking would help or hurt the majority of the type of businesses in an area.

Staff reviewed maps of the parking lots on the east and west side of Main Street and summarized the pros and cons of parking permit programs.

Public Comment

A letter was read from Dan Wells, 312 North Main Street, stating that business parking permits are the first step to no customer parking. Another letter was received from Bishop Motorsports, 156 East Pine Street, recommending that all timed parking be eliminated.

John Cochrell, 621 West Line Street stated the number of untimed parking spaces available now is adequate.

James Wilson, 224 North Main Street, stated the staff report hit the nail on the head and that parking is really for the customers

who create sales tax revenue for the City. At times when he has parked in the lot behind Josephs it takes less than two minutes to walk to his business.

There was no one present speaking in favor of parking permits.

Motion/Crom

At 8:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Crom made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion passed 4-0.

**DIRECTION TO STAFF –
FEASIBILITY OF
PARKING PERMITS FOR
BUSINESS OWNERS AND
EMPLOYEES**

(4)

Councilmember Henderson stated that more time is needed to see if the all-day parking spaces that were recently opened are sufficient to address the need and that customers are what make the downtown area work and they need to be accommodated.

Councilmember Connolly stated that the all-day parking in the Elks lot on East Line Street IS working out fine.

Councilmember Cullen stated that more time is needed to see if things are working.

Motion/Crom

Mayor Pro Tem Crom made a motion to table the issue for a year or so. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

**PUBLIC HEARING
Request for Timed Parking
at 201 East Line Street –
Cebridge/Suddenlink**

(5)

Motion/Crom

David Gibbs, Plant Manager at Cebridge/Suddenlink, requested consideration for placing timed parking during business hours in front of the business located at 201 East Line Street. There was no further comment.

At 8:08 p.m. a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Crom to close the public hearing. Motion passed 4-0.

**TIMED PARKING
REQUEST**

201 East Line Street
Cebridge/Suddenlink

(6)

Councilmember Cullen stated she did not have a problem with timed parking at the location but suggested the two-hour parking across the street on East Line Street in front of the old Window Fair, currently a private residence, be eliminated.

Council directed staff to notice the area that would be affected by the recommended changes and bring back a resolution in September for two 24-minute parking spaces in front of Cebridge.

**PRESENTATION BY
SUPERVISOR CASH –
Relating to The Tourists’
Fair Share Act on the
November Ballot**

(7)

Inyo County Supervisor Susan Cash reported that the County will again be pursuing raising the transient occupancy tax from 9% to 12% on the November ballot but as a general tax. She requested the Council’s endorsement in favor of the measure be included in the voter pamphlet.

It was the consensus of the Council members to support the County’s efforts to raise their bed tax by 3% but Council was not able to take action to support the tax measure and the deadline for

submitting arguments in favor of the measure will pass before the next Council meeting. Staff will bring back a resolution to the next Council meeting supporting the measure and each member can as individuals be listed as supporters in the voter pamphlet.

UPDATE - Home Street Improvement Project (8)

The Public Works Director stated the Sierra Nevada Construction crew has put a lot of effort into the Home Street project. The sidewalks should be completed in two weeks and paving will begin. He thanked the community for taking alternate routes during the construction. The start of school and the Tri-County Fair will both be challenges but efforts are being made to work out the details. Completion is anticipated for mid-September.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER 1 - Home Street Improvement Project (9)
Motion/Cullen

In order to extend construction from West Yaney to Sierra Street, Councilmember Cullen made a motion to approve the Home Street Improvement Project Change Order 1 in the amount of \$165,365.00. Motion passed 4-0.

BID AWARD – Supply of Vehicle Fuel (10)
Motion/Henderson

Councilmember Henderson made a motion to approve the bid award for the contract to supply vehicle fuel from September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008 to Haycock Petroleum/Eastern Sierra Oil. Motion passed 4-0.

REQUEST TO GO TO BID Two Vehicles – Public Works Department (11)
Motion/Henderson

On a motion by Councilmember Henderson, and a vote of 4-0, the Council approved the request from the Public Works Director to go to bid to purchase one pickup truck to be used by the Superintendent and one sewer cleaning truck.

REQUEST TO GO TO BID Heating/Air Conditioning Unit for Police Department (12)
Motion/Cullen

Councilmember Cullen moved to approve the request to go to bid for a replacement heating and air conditioning unit for the Police Department building.
Motion passed 4-0.

REJECTION OF BIDS Tennis Courts (13)
Motion/Connolly

Staff reported that the sole bid received for tennis court replacement would exhaust the Proposition 40 grant money and would not make it possible to re-plaster the swimming pools.
Councilmember Connolly made a motion to reject the sole bid from Malibur Pacific Tennis Courts Inc. in the amounts of \$219,000.00 or \$184,000.00. Motion carried 4-0.

REQUEST TO WAIVE HIRING FREEZE Hire New Officer at Salary Schedule Step 2 (14)
Motion/Henderson

Councilmember Henderson made a motion to waive the hiring freeze and authorize the Police Chief to hire a new police officer with five years experience at the second step of the salary schedule. Motion carried 4-0.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT
City Attorney
(15)
Motion/Henderson

On a motion by Councilmember Henderson the Council voted 4-0 to approve the contract renewal with City Attorney Peter Tracy. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL - PARS
Actuarial Analysis
(16)
Motion/Connolly

Councilmember Connolly made a motion to waive the formal bid procedure under the professional services exemption and authorize the actuarial to be done by Bartel & Associates in the amount of \$9,000.00. Motion passed 4-0.

APPROVAL - Budget
Adjustments and Transfers
FY 2005-2006
(17)
Motion/Cullen

On a motion by Councilmember Cullen the Council voted 4-0 to approve the budget adjustments and transfers for fiscal year 2005-2006 as presented in order to bring the listed accounts into reconciliation with expenditures through June 30, 2006.

COUNCIL REPORTS

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m. to the next Council meeting scheduled for Monday, August 28, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

FRANK CROM, MAYOR PRO TEM

Attest: Richard F. Pucci, City Clerk

By: _____
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk

Approved by Council 8/28/06