

CITY OF BISHOP
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
RETREAT
MAY 2, 2012

- CALL TO ORDER Mayor Stottlemire called the meeting of the Bishop City Council to order at 1:00 p.m. in Suite A, 301 West Line Street, Bishop, California.
- COUNCIL PRESENT Councilmembers Jeff Griffiths, Laura Smith
Mayor Pro Tem Susan Cullen
Mayor David Stottlemire
- COUNCIL ABSENT Jim Ellis
- OTHERS PRESENT Keith Caldwell, City Administrator/Community Services Director
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk
Cheryl Solesbee, Accounting Secretary/Budget Manager
Ray Seguine, Fire Chief
Chris Carter, Police Chief
David Grah, Public Works Director/City Engineer
- PUBLIC COMMENT The Mayor announced the public comment period. No public comment was provided.
- DISCUSSION Discussion was held on the following agendized items:
1. Street Vendor Licenses Mayor Pro Tem Cullen requested discussion on limiting the number of street vendor permits within the city limits. Councilmembers Griffiths and Smith and Mayor Stottlemire stated that as long as pedestrian and traffic safety is not an issue, they would consider allowing a certain amount of street vendors. Staff was directed to research procedures and restrictions on street vendors from other similar-sized cities relating to the number allowed, laws and opposition.
 2. Legislative Platform Following discussion it was the consensus of the Council and staff that the City of Bishop does not need a legislative platform.
 3. Budget Review
 FY 2011-2012 Budget Manager Cheryl Solesbee gave a review of improvements to the current fiscal year budget with increased revenues and departmental budget cuts. It was concluded that the two-year budget process is an important planning tool.
 4. Bishop Population Signs Discussion was held on what would be involved to change the population signs for Bishop to include the entire community to more accurately reflect the actual population. The Public Works Director indicated that Caltrans did not feel the change was justified but that a new sign could be designed and placed under permit. The Council directed staff to see if the Chamber of Commerce would be interesting in collaborating on a new Bishop population sign.

5. Letters to LADWP to Encourage Main Street Land Releases
- Mayor Stottlemyre requested discussion on developing a letter-writing campaign to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Los Angeles City Council to encourage the release and sale of property on Main Street to allow current business owners to purchase their leases.
- Clarence Martin, Assistant Aqueduct Manager for the Bishop Office of the LADWP, reported on the difficulties of changes to land release policy with the frequent turnover in General Managers and the Board of Water and Power Commissioners. He provided a copy of Resolution No. 012-217 stating the Board's interest in divesting of non-watershed properties in the Eastern Sierra communities at fair market value. Martin estimated the timeline for releasing properties would be in six months but that due to land surveys and legal descriptions an auction would not be possible for a couple years. A letter to the City of Los Angeles and the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners will be drafted to encourage movement toward a competitive bid process and purchase option to current lessees.
- RECESS/RECONVENE
- The Mayor recessed the Retreat for a short break.
6. Labor Cost Revenue Study
- The Mayor requested discussion on ways to determine the sustainability of labor costs. Staff was directed to work on future projections for revenue and personnel/benefit costs.
7. Sample Slogan Contest
- The City Administrator gave a report on the Slogan Contest concept. It is anticipated the contest for a short slogan that would promote tourism will be advertised and selected during the July 4th Big Day in the Park. Prizes and potential judges were discussed. Councilmember Smith will serve as one of the judges. The slogan will be used in promoting the City. Staff was directed to contact the Chamber of Commerce Executive Director to collaborate their efforts.
8. Christmas Parade Route Change
- The Police Chief discussed an off Main Street option for the location of the Christmas Parade to save on overtime costs for parade traffic control. Staff was directed to get input from the Chamber of Commerce and discuss the options of Home Street, Spruce Street, and Main Street from Church to the City Park. An update will be given to the Council in late May or early June.
9. Study Session/Regular Meeting Staff Report Format
- Mayor Pro Tem Cullen requested discussion on cancellation of the Study Sessions held at 4:00 p.m. prior to the regular City Council meetings. It was determined that Staff Reports would be eliminated from the Study Session as appropriate to shorten the length of the Study Session meetings.
10. Mule Days Parade Council Entry
- Discussion was held on the mode of transportation to be used by the Council during the Mule Days Parade to be held on May 26th.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m. to the Study Session scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

DAVID STOTTLEMYRE, MAYOR

Attest: Keith Caldwell, City Clerk

By: _____
Denise Gillespie, Assistant City Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNCIL MAY 14, 2012