

CITY OF BISHOP
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER	Mayor Ellis called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 301 West Line Street, Bishop, California.
COUNCIL PRESENT	Council Members Laura Smith, David Stottlemyre, Keith Glidewell Mayor Pro Tem Pat Gardner Mayor Jim Ellis
COUNCIL ABSENT	None
OTHERS PRESENT	Keith Caldwell, City Administrator/Community Services Director Robin Picken, Assistant City Clerk Lorraine Ray, Assistant Finance Director Ray Seguire, Fire Chief Chris Carter, Police Chief David Grah, Public Works Director/City Engineer
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>The Mayor announced the public comment period.</p> <p>Alex "Skandar" Reid thanked Public Works Director Grah for all of his work that he has done on the Warren Street Project. Council then thanked Skandar for his continued participation on the Warren Street Project Focus Group as well.</p> <p>No further public comments were provided.</p>
SCHEDULED DISCUSSION	Discussion was held on the following Study Session agenda items:
1. Traffic Calming on West Elm Street	Public Works Director Grah presented Council with a handout addressing the request by Bishop resident Scott Patterson that the City take action to slow traffic on West Elm Street west of Home Street. Director Grah reviewed with Council the results of a survey mailed to 102 residents and property owners within 300 feet of this block on West Elm Street. Based on observations and safety data as well as overall management of the city traffic control system, it does not appear that a change to West Elm Street is warranted, especially in light of the cost involved. In addition, there does not seem to be neighborhood support for a change. After further discussion, Council asked staff to purchase cones and place them at the crossing guard locations on Elm Street for the rest of the school year and to also contact the schools for their assistance in reaching out to the parents to remind them to slow down and watch for children near the school zones. Mr. Patterson thanked Council for their assistance in this matter and offered to help as a private citizen in any way.

2. Information Technology

As requested by Council at the March 20, 2014 Budget Workshop, Assistant City Clerk Robin Picken handed out an outline of costs associated with the purchase of Granicus (a web based software to enhance government transparency). After a review of the Granicus costs, a discussion ensued on the potential "savings" in time and costs incurred by staff if the Council were to approve the purchase of Granicus.

Bishop resident and business owner Alex "Skandar" Reid presented Council with his comments regarding the purchase of Granicus. He expressed to Council that he felt that the City's purchase of Granicus would be an investment in the City's future. Two other handouts were given to Council for their review and consideration: 1. A note from Sierra Wave Owner and News Reporter Benett Kessler letting Council know that Granicus is extremely helpful to open up local government to the people and the news media, and 2. A note from Public Works Secretary Michele Thomas letting Council know that she has already cut the amount of hours spent doing minutes by having the audio version of the meetings (Planning Commission & Water & Sewer Commission) posted on the City's website and recommends the purchase of Granicus should be postponed until further evaluations can be done and an IT support agency is in place for the City.

After further discussion, Council agreed that the costs to purchase and run Granicus needs to be included in the budget process and will be discussed further at the next Budget Workshop scheduled on April 25, 2014.

3. Taxes

City Administrator Caldwell reviewed with Council their past discussions regarding taxes, more specifically Transaction and Use Tax (TUT). The decision to propose a half of a percent to a one percent increase in TUT has been debated. This increase in TUT could be proposed through the City of Bishop or in conjunction with the County of Inyo at the November 4, 2014 election.

After further discussion, Council asked City Administrator Caldwell to attend the next Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for May 6, 2014 to present the idea of working with the County of Inyo on a proposed half a percent increase to the TUT that the City already has in place with the County.

4. Current 7:00 p.m. agenda items

Discussion was held on the upcoming agenda items for the evening meeting. Questions were answered by staff as needed.

5. Future agenda items

The list of future agenda items was reviewed.

6. Department Head Reports Reports were given as appropriate.
- COUNCIL DISCUSSION Council Members gave committee reports, community announcements and/or made comments or inquiries to staff. No action was taken.
- CLOSED SESSION Closed Session began at 5:36 p.m. Council reconvened at 6:30 p.m.
- Report on Closed Session:
1. CONFERENCE WITH No action was taken.
LABOR NEGOTIATOR
pursuant to Government
Code § 54957.6 - Agency
designated representative:
City Administrator Keith
Caldwell - Employee
Organization: Bishop Police
Officers Association
- ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to the regular meeting scheduled at 7:00 p.m.

JIM ELLIS, MAYOR

ATTEST: Keith Caldwell, City Clerk

By: _____
Robin Picken, Assistant City Clerk