

CITY OF BISHOP
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
JULY 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
Ryan Jones, City Attorney
Peter E. Tracy, Esq., Jones & Mayer, Of Counsel
Lorraine Ray, Assistant Finance Director
Ray Seguine, Fire Chief
Danny Nolan, Police Sergeant
David Grah, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Deston Dishion, Public Works Superintendent

PUBLIC COMMENT The Mayor announced the public comment period.

No public comments were provided.

SCHEDULED DISCUSSION Discussion was held on the following Study Session agenda items:

1. City Council Workshop with Eastern Sierra Community Services District (ESCSD) Public Works Director Grah announced that Water and Sewer Commission Vice-Chair John Martin was present to address the Council on the Water and Sewer Commission's support for the cooperative effort between the City and ESCSD. He also announced that Water and Sewer Chair Joe Pecsí was on his way to also be in attendance to address the Council, if needed. Public Works Director Grah then presented Council with an overview of the opportunities for cooperation currently being discussed between the City and ESCSD. Letters written by both Water and Sewer Commission Chair Joe Pecsí and ESCSD Board President Walt Pachucki that expressed each of their support in continuing work on Opportunities for Cooperation between the District and City were reviewed by Council. Board President Pachucki also reviewed these opportunities for cooperation between the City and ESCSD and highlighted cost saving opportunities they have already worked together on with success, such as the cleaning of the digesters. He asked Council that before they move forward together with further expenditures and work projects, specifically on the proposed consulting project

with R.O. Anderson, he wanted to hear from Council to confirm their commitment that they too support these collaborative efforts as does the ESCSD Board. After a short discussion, Council thanked City staff, ESCSD Board President Patchucki, and both Water and Sewer Commission Chair Peksi and Vice-Chair Martin for attending and agreed that collaboration is now the way of the future.

2. Discuss Transaction and Use Tax (TUT)

City Administrator Caldwell reviewed with Council the initial discussions that took place months ago in regards to looking at a Transaction and Use Tax (TUT). These discussions were held during the Council Budget Workshops where Council was looking for ways to increase revenues and decrease expenditures for future City budgets. Discussions on working with the County of Inyo to possibly increase the current TUT were proposed. Inyo County Administrative Officer Carunchio presented Council with information on the TUT, which City Administrator Caldwell handed out to Council again for reference.

In April, the City and County Liaison Committee discussed a possible increase in the current TUT. At the Inyo County Board of Supervisors meeting held on June 24, 2014, City Administrator Caldwell proposed that the City work with the County on an initiative for the November 2014 election to increase TUT. The Board of Supervisors voted to not pursue an increase in TUT at this time.

City Administrator Caldwell and Jones & Mayer, Of Counsel, Peter E. Tracy reviewed with Council what it would take to bring forward an initiative to increase TUT on their own. They also reviewed the pros and cons of working on such an initiative with the County in the future.

After a lengthy discussion, Council agreed to not move forward on an initiative for the November 2014 elections for an increase in TUT.

Council thanked City staff for looking into this matter. City Administrator Caldwell advised that perhaps this matter could be looked at again in the future. This would give Council and City staff time to review and educate the community on why Council may feel this is something they may wish to pursue in the future. A short discussion ensued on the costs of the City's Defined Benefit Plan and other outstanding items that the City still needs to look at ways to address these types of costs.

3. 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.

