



AGENDA
CITY OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2021
101 W. 8TH STREET
6:15 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Note: Official meeting minutes are located on the City website via YouTube video at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/GlenwoodSprings1885/videos>. The times indicated in agenda items indicate approximately where the item can be found on the YouTube video timeline.

:02 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Godes, Mayor Pro-Tem Kaup, Councilor Willman, Councilor Wussow, Councilor Stepp, Councilor Hershey. Councilor Davis. Also present were Debra Figueroa, City Manager; Steve Boyd, COO; Jenn Ooton, Asst. City Manager and Karl Hanlon, City Attorney; Terri Partch, City Engineer; Ryan Muse, City Clerk

:02 Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Godes led the Pledge.

:02 Citizens Appearing Before Council

None.

:06 South Bridge Evacuation Route Presentation

:06 City Engineer Terri Partch led a presentation through the Cost Benefit Analysis Evacuation Route Modeling. Key points covered included:

- Fire history within district
- Fire frequency
- Rate of fire spread
- Assumptions of the evacuation model
- Evacuation model conclusions

:29 Mina Bolton, Glenwood Springs Fire Department led a presentation involving the East Troublesome Fire and the evacuation process from Estes Park. Fire Chief Gary Tillotson further explained that many factors including weather and recent drought condition impact the speed a fire spreads. Also reinforced the need for residents to be immediately prepared including everyone signing up for reverse 911, performing fire mitigation around the home and knowing the evacuation routes.

:32 Chief Tillotson said the Garfield County and City of Glenwood Springs websites have a link that residents can go to and register with reverse 911. He also said resources in most fire departments have resources available for small grants to help homeowners get reimbursed for some costs incurred from creating defensible space from fire danger.

:43 Terri Partch said crews working on the South Midland project have the ability to clear the Midland corridor quickly and safely.

:51 Debra Figueroa asked for Council permission to add a Deputy Fire Chief to the staff in 2021 to better prepare for any upcoming fire events.

:57 Mayor Godes opened the meeting for public comment.

1:14 Mayor Godes closed the meeting for public comment.

1:15 South Bridge Design Options Impacting the Glenwood Springs Airport

City Engineer Terri Partch presented an update for the engineering design of South Bridge to provide options to the proposed tunnel under the runway, which would cost an estimate of \$6,000,000. Three options were presented. The first is to reduce the runway on the South end only. The second option to shorten the runway by roughly 43 feet. This option would be done by shortening the airport runway and building South Bridge through the south end while maintaining maximum useable airport length.

1:40 Attorney Hanlon said there were no deed restrictions on the airport limitation for use of the property.

1:45 Mayor Godes opened the meeting to public comment.

2:48 Mayor Godes ended public comment.

2:48 Councilor Hershey pointed out the need for traffic to be able to reach Highway 82 without having to go back through town. Does not support a tunnel because it's too expensive to build and maintain.

2:52 Councilor Kaup clarified Glenwood's portion of the cost for the 27th Street underpass is \$500,000, not \$9 million. Appreciates the efforts to shorten the runway but the maintenance facility would impair the airport and hurt a small business. We have a BRIC grant on the table, we need to talk to the County Commissioners and try to find the \$6 million in grant or other funding.

2:57 Councilor Willman inquired as to whether FAA money may be available. Karl Hanlon said we'd have to have be on their 2-year list to compete for funds through the Airport Improvement Plan (AIP). The funding stream we'd be looking at instead would be through CDOT aeronautical which could provide much smaller dollar amounts. Terri Partch said the ongoing maintenance cost of a tunnel would be similar to that of a bridge and we would have to consider both maintenance and saving for replacement cost. Said he can't support a \$6 million price tag on a tunnel given our other infrastructure needs.

3:06 Councilor Wussow believes this decision is to monumental to make without further research and more consideration and makes a motion to table the item until the next meeting.

3:08 Councilor Stepp believes a \$6 million price tag is high, and we need to reach out to the County and other partners to see if we can

3:14 Councilor Davis pointed out shortening the runway by 43 feet vs. \$6 million to tunnel underneath the runway seems like a good bargain.

3:06 Councilor Wussow moved to continue the discussion to another meeting. Councilor Hershey seconded.

Ayes: Hershey, Wussow, Stepp, Kaup, Willman

Nays: Davis, Godes

3:17 Adjournment

3:17 Councilor Hershey moved, second by Councilor Stepp to adjourn.

Passed unanimously.