



MINUTES
CITY OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2021
101 W. 8TH STREET
6:15 PM

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 in agenda items indicate approximately where the item can be found on the YouTube video timeline.

REGULAR SESSION

:12 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Godes, Mayor Pro-Tem Willman, Councilor Kaup, Councilor Wussow, Councilor Hershey, Councilor Davis. Also present were Debra Figueroa, City Manager; Jenn Ooton, Asst. City Manager; Steve Boyd, Chief Operating Officer; Matt Langhorst, Director of Public Works; Brian Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation and Karl Hanlon, City Attorney.

:13 Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Godes led the Pledge.

:13 Agenda Changes and Conflicts

Councilor Wussow recused herself from item Planning File 29-21 - 406 W. 7th Street (Butler Rents).

Mayor Godes requested that item F on the consent agenda, be removed and addressed after Annexation hearing.

Mayor Godes recognized Rob Gavrell, who passed away in a motorcycle accident. Godes stated that Gavrell was on the transport commission, a father, attorney, and Colorado Bar Senior Vice-President. Godes called for a few moments of silence in respect of his passing.

:15 Citizens Appearing Before Council

Jennifer Vanion, Glenwood Springs resident, asked Council to lend its support, as a Council or individually, in fundraising efforts for the homeowners, Troy and Deondre Morris, who were affected in the 7th Street and Lincoln Avenue house fire.

Sheryl Cain, Glenwood Springs resident, asked for enforcement of the speed limit on Grand Avenue because vehicles have driven by her house at excessive speeds. Cain asked why the sound system in the Council Chambers has not been improved and why the citizens voices are not heard by the Council.

:19 Council Comments

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman commented that he attended the Colorado Municipal League conference and would like a work session before the end of the year, to discuss a climate action program to add to the Comprehensive Plan. Debra Figueroa, City Manager, stated that it could be added and discussed. Willman addressed Jennifer Vanion's comment regarding help for the Morris family, and that the Council could possibly obtain a tent that could be used for a fundraiser. Mayor Godes agreed that the council members should help individually. Willman addressed Sheryl Cains comments regarding the chamber sound system and informed the public that staff are working on the new system but due to availability of technical equipment, it is being delayed.

:23 Mayor Pro-Tem Willman moves to temporarily use a paper based voting system for all roll call voting.

Motion Failed for lack of a Second.

Councilor Davis commented that the Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association had requested to present a future project to Council. Councilors Stepp and Davis agreed and asked Council. Councilors Hershey, Wussow and Kaup all agreed. Mayor Godes suggested the first Council meeting in November would work.

Councilor Wussow commented on feedback received about the Rocky Mountaineer train arriving in the City and concerns raised about noise and light issues. Issues and concerns are being looked in to and Wussow asked for some patience until the concerns are resolved.

:25 Motion for Consent

:25 Councilor Hershey moved, Seconded by Councilor Kaup, to approve the consent agenda less item F, the FAB Grant recommendation, removed by Mayor Godes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Godes mentioned that masks are optional but are encouraged in the Council Chamber, as per guidance by the CDC.

:26 09-20 Consideration of an Annexation and the initial zoning/Rezoning of 15.818 acres to Commercial (CO) District and

Planned Unit Development (PUD) District at 214 Center Drive (PIN: 2185-061-00-042). Debris Flow Update and Response

Karl Hanlon, City Attorney, updated the situation regarding the Motion to Deny that had been made in the first Council meeting, then continued, so the Motion must be actioned before proceeding.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman commented that it is important that all the Councilors are present to vote on the development issue.

:27 Mayor Pro-Tem Willman withdraws Motion to Deny.

Councilor Wussow commented that all councilors should be present for the integrity of the vote.

Councilor Wussow withdraws Second for Motion to Deny.

:28 Mayor Pro-Tem Willman moved, Seconded by Councilor Kaup, to continue annexation item to October 21, 2021.

Councilor Wussow commented that there are amendments to the application which will be heard at the next Council meeting and asked if public comment is allowed or if it is closed. Attorney Hanlon answered that public comment is closed; however, it was at Council's discretion whether it is reopened.

Ayes: Wussow, Davis, Willman, Godes, Kaup

Nays: Hershey

Motion Passed 5-1.

:31 FAB Grant Recommendations

Mayor Godes commented that the hockey item was 'not responsive' as it provided the overall membership number and not the number Glenwood Springs resident families that participate on the grant application. Godes would like to know the number of participant families. Staff to approach youth hockey for the breakdown.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman moved, Seconded by Councilor Kaup, to approve the FAB recommendation of the swim team, and to continue the consideration of the hockey application and recommendation to October 21, 2021.

Motion passed unanimously.

:33 2022 Budget Submittal

Debra Figueroa, City Manager, presented the 2022 Budget Submittal. Figueroa recapped on the events of 2021 and all the projects, city facilities, infrastructure improvements, new designs and plans for the city, and the returning indoor and outdoor recreation programs for citizens. Figueroa also highlighted the new staff arrivals for several departments, the Council's strategic goals and the budget overview

Councilor Kaup asked for more information on the evacuation planning prior to the Annexation hearing on October 21, 2021. Debra Figueroa agreed to a written response.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman asked for a round of applause for all the City staff.

Councilor Davis asked to re-address downtown security as it is not needed seven days a week and probably only needed for Fridays and Saturdays until the tourist season begins again. City Manager Figueroa asked for guidance from Council and suggested that security could be increased again in December.

:57 Councilor Davis moved, Seconded by Councilor Wussow, to maintain the level of security service for downtown on Friday and Saturday nights, until such time Council re-examines security needs.

Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Wussow asked if the City should hold a firework display earlier in the evening on New Year's Eve. Councilor Davis agreed and added that people should be downtown for fireworks when the stores are still open, which would help support restaurants and retail outlets. City Manager Figueroa replied that it was primarily for residents.

:59 Councilor Davis moved, Seconded by Mayor Godes, to move the firework display to 7:00pm while retail outlets and restaurants are still open.

Councilor Kaup asked to move the time to 9:00pm.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman asked how many stores are open on New Year's Eve. Councilor Davis replied that downtown is very busy.

Brian Smith, Parks and Recreation Director, commented that the thought was to hold an event with bands and fireworks as in 2019. Smith asked for guidance from Council as to what kind of events they want. Councilor Davis replied that it should be a bigger event to celebrate the end of *this* year with early evening bands and fireworks, if budget and staffing allow. Councilor Kaup commented that people should be allowed to go downtown to meet with friends, eat and drink, with fireworks being the culmination of the event at 9:00pm. Councilor Wussow would be comfortable with 8:00pm. Mayor Godes preferred 7:00pm.

Ayes: Davis, Godes, Wussow, Hershey

Nays: Willman, Kaup

Motion Passes 4-2

Brian Smith clarified that the event should be a full event. Council confirmed.

1:06 Airport Capital Needs and Funding

Brian Smith, Parks and Recreation Director, presented. Safety issues were highlighted including above ground tanks, ground conditions, runway lights and reflectors, perimeter fencing, wildlife assessment, de-icing, monitoring of tunnel, UNICOM and AWOS systems. The total of the projects for the airport would be \$6.6 million dollars, much of which can be covered by CDOT grants, other funding, donations and in house spending. Smith commented that the 2022

amount for critical safety needs would be five hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The recommendation is to appropriate one hundred thousand dollars for the UNICOM system and schedule the interfund transfer loan of three hundred thousand dollars for the Jet A fuel system.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman asked if Classic Air will be contributing or completing some of the work. Smith replied not for the immediate UNICOM or Jet A fuel system but they had proposed to build a hangar or provide FBO space. Smith added that once a master plan for the airport had been completed, discussions with Classic Air would start again. Councilor Wussow asked if there was any feedback from the Airport Commission, if there was any interest in a public/private partnership, and for information on the price per square foot. Smith replied that this list was in order of priority from the Airport Commission, the existing hangars were privately owned on land owned and leased by the City and the new hangars would be City owned and leased out. Matt Langhorst, Director of Public Works, replied that the price per foot was based on previous buildings recently completed by the City, and was an estimated figure.

1:19 Mayor Godes opened for public comment.

Eric Stroutman commented that the airport is self-funding, and the flying community is only just now asking for money for projects. He pointed out that CDOT will maintain the runway coating for five or ten years, and all jet fuel equipment has been donated. Stroutman said there are many grants available, and surplus equipment can be purchased at a savings from other airports.

1:16 Mayor Godes closed for public comment.

Councilor Hershey asked why the funding is being discussed as the issue was placed on the ballot for November. Karl Hanlon replied that the UNICOM issue is necessary for the operation of the airport, and this is the only matter to be voted on by Council. Councilor Kaup asked for clarification that Council is not voting on the full amount in the presentation. Karl Hanlon clarified that it is just for authorization of one hundred thousand dollars for the UNICOM with the Jet A fuel amount being in the 2022 budget. Mayor Godes asked if the airport can operate without the UNICOM system. Brian Smith replied that it would be a safety issue for the pilots if the airport functioned without the system. Debra Figueroa replied that it is a safety system to warn pilots of snow or ice on the runway and the current handheld system is only a temporary fix.

1:26 Councilor Hershey moved, Seconded by Councilor Wussow, to approve the money only for the UNICOM system.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman asked how many flights there were a day. Brian Smith answered about twenty-five a day on average. Willman commented that he has concerns with authorizing money when he doesn't know if the airport will stay open.

Councilor Wussow commented that the money should be authorized because at the moment it is an operational airport, and the safety concerns must be addressed until such time the citizens decide on its future.

Councilor Davis commented that there are more users of the airport than just Classic Air and that Jet A fuel is used by helicopters and turboprop planes.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman commented that the current situation at the airport has been created by the lack of investment from the City and the users, and the community can have its say in three weeks on all investment issues for the airport.

Ayes: Kaup, Hershey, Wussow, Davis

Nays: Godes, Willman

Motion Passed 4-2.

Mayor Godes asked if Council needed to approve the three hundred thousand dollars for the Jet A fuel for the 2022 budget. Debra Figueroa replied that if Council does not want to address the issue during this session, it can be addressed at the next budget session on October 21, 2021.

Councilor Hershey commented that for airport budget approval, Council should hear from the citizens before deciding. Karl Hanlon pointed out that the election results will not be certified until after the first November meeting, so the issue could be addressed at the second City Council meeting in November.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman commented that he could not support the budget for the Jet A fuel because it is only beneficial to a limited number of citizens, and it should be removed from the budget. Councilor Kaup agreed and added that with the potential for more large expenditure in the future, she questioned where the money will come from to cover the costs and liability of keeping the airport open. Kaup wanted to delay the budget issue until the citizens have answered the ballot question in November. Councilor Wussow stated that not everyone uses the community center but still pay taxes for it, but ultimately it should be the citizens decision with transparency on the costs to keep the airport open and safe.

1:42 Mayor Pro-Tem Willman moved, Seconded by Mayor Godes, not to include the three hundred-thousand-dollar Jet A fuel airport budget item in the 2022 budget and transfer from the capital projects.

Ayes: Willman, Godes

Nays: Hershey, Davis, Wussow, Kaup

Motion Failed 4-2

1:44 Councilor Wussow moved, Seconded by Councilor Hershey, to move the discussion to the second regular Council meeting in November.

Ayes: Wussow, Godes, Kaup, Hershey, Davis

Nays: Willman

Motion Passed 5-1

1:45 Recess

1:55 Resolution 2021-25 - A Resolution Approving the Glenwood Springs Public Art Master Plan.

Stephanie Davis, Chairman of the Art and Culture Board, and Josh LaPierre, Designing Local, presented on creating a comprehensive public art policy.

2:13 Mayor Godes moved, Seconded by Councilor Kaup, to adopt Resolution 2021-25 Approving the Glenwood Springs Public Art Master Plan.

Councilor Kaup commented that this is a Resolution to adopt the overall plan, with funding and implementation up to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Council.

Mayor Godes commented that there would be no capital outlay for this Resolution.

Motion Passed unanimously.

2:17 Resolution 2021-28: Roaring Fork School District Mill Levy Endorsement.

Karl Hanlon commented that this endorsement is at Council's discretion.

2:17 Mayor Pro-Tem moved, Seconded by Councilor Hershey, to approve Resolution 2021-28: Roaring Fork School District Mill Levy Endorsement.

Councilor Wussow commented that there are close to fifty thousand educators in Colorado, and Glenwood Springs has one of the seven finalists for Teacher of the Year. Wussow stated that this endorsement shows that all educators in the community should be paid an equitable wage.

Motion Passed unanimously.

2:19 Community Survey Results.

Ryan Winger, Director of Data Analysis for Magellan Strategies, presented an overview of the Community Survey Results. The objectives of the community survey were to measure and understand the opinions of Glenwood Springs residents regarding city services, programs, priorities, and quality of life.

Councilor Hershey wanted clarification on the question regarding the speed of new housing. Ryan Winger replied it was the speed of construction of new housing.

Councilor Kaup asked about budget priorities and whether affordable housing was included. Winger replied that affordable housing was not included in the list drawn up by himself and City staff.

Councilor Willman asked about a report not in the presentation that concerned the City taking into account citizen input when making decisions; it stated that fifty-six percent said the Council do not take citizen views into consideration. Winger replied that although it appears negative, it takes a lot for a citizen to believe they are listened to and is a somewhat typical measurement. Mayor Godes commented that a comparison of results from other cities would be of interest.

2:34 Mayor Godes opened for public comment.

Ethan, no second name provided, asked about walkability in the survey. Winger replied that one was included in the report, but not in the presentation. Mayor Pro-Tem Willman commented that the data is included in the agenda packet.

2:35 Mayor Godes closed public comment.

2:36 Planning File 29-21 - 406 W. 7th Street (Butler Rents)

Councilor Wussow recused herself due to a conflict.

Jenn Ooten, Assistant City Manager, presented Planning File 29-21 – 406 W. 7th Street (Butler Rents) where the property owners had asked for a two-year extension of previous incentives due to expire in 2023. This was deferred to the Council for a decision.

Karl Hanlon commented there were no recommendations and that the incentives were there to kick-start development along 8th Street.

Mayor Godes asked why it should be considered if there is no staff recommendation. Ooten replied that the owners were unable to develop the land due to the pandemic.

2:44 Mayor Godes opened for public comment.

No comment was made.

2:44 Mayor Godes closed public comment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Willman asked that if developers were involved, would this be active by 2023 in a normal development cycle. Karl Hanlon replied that if there was an active planning application it could be, but the question was whether the Council wanted the incentives extended. Hanlon also stated that, if necessary, the Council can revisit the issue at a future date.

Councilor Kaup asked if this would affect the City's 8th Street project. Hanlon replied that it would not, as the right of way had already been secured.

Councilor Davis asked if the pedestrian connection had been secured. Hanlon replied that it had.

2:47 Mayor Godes moved, Seconded by Councilor Davis, to deny the request for two-year extension for incentives in 406 West 7th Street from May 31, 2023, to May 31, 2025.

Motion Passed unanimously.

Councilor Wussow returned to the Council Chambers.

2:48 Divestment in Fossil Fuels

Will Hodges, coordinator of the local chapter of 350 Colorado, requested that the City join with other cities in the valley, in writing a letter of recommendation to the C-SAFE portfolio manager asking to divest bonds in Exxon and Chevron and prohibit all future investment in coal, oil and gas companies.

Councilor Hershey commented that divestment would take away any stockholder influence and that because the investment is so small it would not make a difference. He commented that Exxon, Chevron, BP, and Shell only produce ten percent of all oil extraction and pointed out a number of petroleum products in the Council Chambers. He stated that it would only be a symbolic statement.

Mayor Godes commented that divestment should occur where the values of the community do not align with those of the companies invested in. Godes stated that the amount of the City's divestment would not make a dent in the company values, direction or stop oil production, but the City should be a leader and demonstrate where the community's values lay.

Councilor Kaup agreed of the symbolic gesture but stated that an important message is sent to the oil companies and its shareholders when more and more portfolios divest.

Councilor Wussow commented that there are better ways to demonstrate the City's position. The community had chosen to invest in renewable energy which showed their values.

3:00 Councilor Kaup moved, Seconded by Mayor Godes, to show support for the letter to the portfolio manager for divestment in fossil fuels, as a symbolic gesture.

Ayes: Kaup, Wussow, Davis, Willman, Godes

Nays: Hershey

Motion Passed 5-1.

3:01 Report from City Administration

City Manager

Debra Figueroa commented that Matt Langhorst had compiled a plan to deal with the debris in the river and the big rockslide.

City Attorney

Karl Hanlon commented that he had attended the Colorado Municipal League Conference and there were a lot of quality sessions good topics for the City. Hanlon stated that smaller communities looked to the City of Glenwood Springs as a leader with short-term rentals and housing as major subjects.

Correspondence Incoming/Outgoing

None

3:03 Adjournment

3:03 Mayor Pro-Tem Willman moved, Seconded by Mayor Godes, to adjourn.

Motion Passed unanimously.