

A Regular Meeting of the Manitou Springs City Council was held in the City Council Chambers, 606 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs, Colorado, on December 6, 2011. Mayor Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Mayor Marc A. Snyder
Mayor Pro Tem Matt Carpenter
Councilman Ed Klingman
Councilman Rick Barry
Councilman Michael Gerbig, Jr.
Councilwoman Coreen Toll

COUNCILMEMBERS NOT PRESENT FOR ROLL CALL:

Councilwoman Aimee Cox
City Administrator Jack Benson
Planning Director Dan Folke
Public Services Director Bruno Pothier
Interim Finance Director Rebecca Davis
City Clerk Donna Kast

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened with a reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

All Members of City Council were present for roll call with the exception of Councilwoman Cox who arrived at 7:10 pm.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter and a second by Councilman Gerbig, the agenda was unanimously approved as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Matt Carpenter, speaking on behalf of the Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon, announced that the organization was donating \$2,000 toward the Iron Mountain Open Space purchase, another \$2,000 to the Manitou Springs Fire Department and \$644 to the City toward the repair of Memorial Park.

Resident Torry Pal spoke about the Community Garden located near Higginbotham Flats, stating that it is very unsightly and noting that abundant amounts of compost and mulch are constantly dumped on it. Following her comments, Mayor Snyder directed Jack Benson to investigate into the matter.

Councilwoman Cox arrived at 7:10 pm.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR (These Items voted on in one Motion)

The following items were acted upon by unanimous consent of the members present:

1. Warrants (Payables)
2. Approval of the Minutes of the November 15, 2011 Regular City Council Meeting
3. Approval of the Minutes of the November 29, 2011 Special City Council Meeting

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter and a second by Councilman Gerbig, all items were passed, adopted and approved. Motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Municipal Court Update**

Manitou Springs Municipal Court Judge J. Martin Thrasher presented his proposed 2012 fine schedule. He explained that he has the authority to set the fines without City input, but believed it was prudent to give the City Council the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions. Following discussion of the fines, Judge Thrasher spoke about the good work being done in behalf of the Court by Janie Nuci, Marta Dubay, Lieutenant James Hopkins, and City Prosecutor Debra Eiland; noting their professionalism and dedication. In addition, Judge Thrasher spoke regarding the good results being achieved when defendants participate in the Restorative Justice Program.

2. **Approval of the 2012 Parking Permit Program**

Dan Folke presented a memo written by City Planner Michelle Anthony outlining the 2012 Parking Permit Program recommended by the Parking Advisory Board and approved by the Metropolitan Parking District. He also presented a newly completed brochure that includes a map of the downtown parking area that will serve as a guide to parking.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gerbig and a second by Councilwoman Toll, the 2012 Parking Permit Program was unanimously approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

3. **Presentation of the Water and Sewer Rate Study by StepWise Utility Advisors**

Fletcher Davis with StepWise Utility Advisors showed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the results of the water and sewer rate study conducted by his firm. He noted that if rates are not adjusted, the City will soon have insufficient revenue to maintain operations and maintenance costs. He recommended the adoption of a 5-year plan that would gradually adjust water and sewer rates to ensure revenue stability, build and maintain reserves, and encourage water conservation.

Mayor Snyder called for a break at 8:44 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:49 pm.

4. **Approve Water Enterprise Fund Purchase of a 2002 Used Front Loader**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter and a second by Councilman Klingman, the Water Enterprise Fund purchase of a 2002 Used Front Loader for \$64,000 was unanimously approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

5. **Ordinance No. 2511, an Ordinance Approving a Lease-Purchase Agreement Between the City of Manitou Springs and Municipal Services Group, Inc. – 1st reading**

Rebecca Davis explained that this ordinance approves a 5-year lease purchase agreement for vehicles for the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments and a new accounting software package. The agreement includes a lease principal of \$433,974 with an estimated interest rate of 1.98%, for total estimated repayment of \$451,156.05.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Cox and a second by Councilman Barry, Ordinance No. 2511 was unanimously approved at 1st reading as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

H. HEARINGS

1. **Ordinance No. 2211, a Special Ordinance Repealing Section 5 of Ordinance No. 1103 Concerning the Continuing Existence of the Central Manitou Springs Business Improvement District – 2nd reading**

Upon a motion by Councilman Barry and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter, Ordinance No. 2211 was unanimously approved at 2nd reading as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Ordinance No. 2311, an Ordinance Establishing a General Tax Levy for the Purpose of Raising Revenue for the General Operating Fund, and the Voter Approved Mill Levies for Other Funds of the City of Manitou Springs – 2nd reading

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter and a second by Councilwoman Toll, Ordinance No. 2311 was unanimously approved at 2nd reading as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Ordinance No. 2411, an Ordinance Approving the Annual Budget and Appropriating Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012 and Amending the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2011 – 2nd reading

Rebecca Davis outlined the changes to the budget that were made as a result of the discussion that occurred during 1st reading of the ordinance.

Councilman-elect Gary Smith asked the City Council to rethink the salary increases, keeping the money in the budget but waiting to assign salary increases to specific employees until an analysis could be made regarding pay structures.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Cox and a second by Councilman Barry, Ordinance No. 2411 was unanimously approved at 2nd reading as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

I. MAYOR’S REPORT

None

J. RECEIVE OR ACT ON COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

None

K. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Councilman Gerbig informed the City Council that the new task force formed by the Library Board of Trustees for the purpose of exploring the possibility of joining the Pikes Peak Library District will hold its first meeting next Monday.

Mayor Pro Tem Carpenter announced that efforts to improve the visibility of the City’s website have been successful, noting that our website is now listed in 5th position when a Google search of the words “Manitou Springs” is entered.

Mayor Snyder informed everyone that he met with the Open Space Advisory Committee last Monday and learned that it is the Committee’s recommendation to tear down the house that is located on the Iron Mountain Open Space property. He also said that the Committee has agreed to begin conducting tours on the property beginning next year.

Councilwoman Cox said that a bill has been introduced to change the Colorado Constitution to create a Veteran Lottery. Should the bill become law, this will have a negative impact on Conservation Trust Fund revenues as proceeds will first go to benefit veterans before the balance is distributed for other purposes.

L. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Jack Benson informed the City Council that he recently met with Champion regarding the down payment made on the City’s pool expansion project. He stated that Champion representatives expressed a willingness to compromise, noting that their main concern was the ability to recover hard costs. He said they also expressed a willingness to work with the City to move the project forward.

Mr. Benson informed the City Council that 16 applications have been received for the Finance Director position. He stated that the screening committee will be meeting next week to select 3 finalists that will be given the opportunity to interview before City Council.

Mr. Benson also informed the City Council that 5 Requests for Proposals have been received for the Police Chief Executive Search Firm. He stated that he will review the proposals and prepare a recommendation to present at the next City Council meeting.

M. FUTURE AGENDAS

- December 13, 2011 – Worksession
- December 20, 2011 – Regular Meeting
- January 3, 2012 – Regular Meeting
- January 10, 2012 – Worksession
- January 17, 2012 – Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Mayor Snyder concluded the Regular Meeting at 9:30 pm.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

CITY CLERK

Minutes Prepared by: Donna Kast, City Clerk