

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Tim Wilson called the workshop meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tim Wilson; Councilmembers: Eugene Bain, Ken Caylor, Dan Dever, Genna Dorow, Kenneth Johnson, and Mark Snyder.

Also Present: City Administrator Ehman Sheldon; Department Heads: Finance Officer Mike Bailey, IT Manager Stan Anderton, Police Chief Steven Dunnagan, City Clerk Debbie Kudrna, and new Finance Officer Spencer Williams.

Absent Was: Councilmembers Charles Garcia.

Council carried a motion to excuse Councilmember Garcia. M/S Dorow/Bain.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE UPDATE – LYNETTE CARUTHERS

Lynette Caruthers, spokesperson of the Beautification Committee advised that the City received the QUADCO grant and will be reimbursed \$10,000 for the Main Street architect services and also received a grant for \$19,500 to be applied toward the lighting project. Mrs. Caruthers reported on their recent activities and the architect will soon be presenting his landscape plan of the Main Street project. However, the Beautification Committee has modified this plan and have their own landscape plan version. She reviewed their plans, which include all infrastructure, mechanical, and concrete; pedestrian lighting; trees, and planters. The total cost for their project for 15 blocks of Main Street is approximately \$2,256,000. The over-the-street entryway sign is approximately \$110,000 and the structural drawings that will be rendered by an architect will require additional fees. She advised that the over-the-street entryway sign could be moved to a location on south 1st Avenue. They want to complete the project in phases and fund the project in phases and are looking at many possibilities to fund the project.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2013 REVENUE SOURCES

Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m. and asked for a staff report. Finance Officer Mike Bailey reported on the preliminary revenue sources for 2013. He reported on the general; street; water; sewer; solid waste; tourism; REET, and utility tax funds. Mayor Wilson asked for citizen input. There were no comments. Mayor Wilson asked for Council comments. There were no comments. Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing at 7:24 p.m.

SWAC UPDATE – KEN CAYLOR

Councilmember Caylor, representative of the County SWAC Board advised that there are grants available to purchase containers to be serviced by our solid waste contractor for yard waste and grass clippings. They believe that the savings on landfill fees would offset the costs for the collection program. Adams County Planner Mr. Wiltsie explained that they have had fires caused from grass clippings placed in plastic bags that are compacted into the containers and then combust. Ritzville has containers that their citizens use for yard waste. It does take time for citizens to use the collection appropriately and it's best to have them located where they can be monitored. Some grants require that the product collected be used specifically for a recycling program. The County can apply for the grants every 2 years and the next cycle is June, 2013. Mr. Wiltsie advised that SWAC isn't interested in expanded their participation in the City's fall cleanup project.

REPORT ON LIQUOR SALES/PROFITS & EFFECTS ON CITY BUDGET

Finance Officer Spencer Williams reported on the changes of liquor revenues since the passage of Initiative 1183. For 2012, the city will lose the liquor excise tax revenue for the 4th quarter of 2012; however, this will be compensated by the one-time revenue from the liquor store auctions. In 2013, the liquor excise tax revenue will continue at a lower rate, starting with the 4th quarter of 2013. The State now receives revenue from license fees from distributors and retailers. This revenue will offset the decrease in liquor excise taxes.

MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Finance Officer Spencer Williams gave a report on the status and performance of the City's investments and cash positions in the Local Government Investment Pool and the financial portfolio

with the Bank of America. Mayor Wilson advised that a large portion of the City's money is earmarked for future projects. Mr. Sheldon advised that the Finance Department is performing a comparison of the current earned interest income verses the loss of our spending dollars due to inflation, which will show us the value of our dollars.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Johnson reported that there is an ACDC meeting next week. Councilmember Caylor advised that GWMA is working on several funding projects to meet their needs.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Johnson stated that the city's website needs to be back online as soon as possible. Mr. Sheldon stated that our IT Manager has worked many hours on the project.

Mayor Wilson made the following announcements:

- Council Budget Committee meetings have been scheduled for October – please review the handout. Councilmember Johnson suggested the General Government review be rescheduled to this Thursday. The Law Enforcement review will be moved to 1:00 p.m. on October 18th.
- Our October 22nd meeting will be held at CBHA 14th Avenue in the Board Room @ 6:00 p.m. This will be our budget retreat where staff will present their programs, projects and equipment requests. The majority of the meeting will be devoted to discussing your thoughts and ideas for the 2013 budget.
- Water/Sewer committee (Councilmembers Dorow, Caylor and Snyder) will meet on Wednesday to discuss the new ordinance on latecomer fees.
- Budget Contract meeting is scheduled for Thursday at noon. Councilmembers Johnson, Caylor, and Dever.
- Annual City/Fire Department meeting is October 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the County Fire Station. Councilmembers Snyder, Bain and Garcia.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further items to discuss, Mayor Wilson adjourned the workshop at 7:54 p.m.

By: _____
TIM WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
DEBBIE L. KUDRNA, City Clerk