

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
2:00 P.M., Monday, December 12, 2011
City Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada

1. Call to Order (Time: 2:01:29 p.m.)

The regular meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Geno Martini at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call (Time: 2:01:40 p.m.)

Mayor Geno Martini, City Clerk Linda Patterson, Council Members Julia Ratti, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Mike Carrigan, Ron Schmitt, Assistant City Manager Steve Driscoll, City Attorney Chet Adams, PRESENT. City Manager Shaun Carey, ABSENT.

Staff Present: Steve Keefer, Andy Flock, Jeff Cronk, Adam Mayberry, Chris Syverson, Tracy Domingues, Jim Rundle, Neil Krutz, John Martini, Armando Ornelas, Andy Hummel, Ron Korman, Andy Koski, Dave Bruketta, Kim Laber, Heidi Shaw, Dan Marran, Phil Barton, Derrick Keller, Tyler Carson, Keith Muller, Matt Caldwell, Chad Richards, Jim Reid, Debi Hunt, and Donna DiCarlo.

Invocation Speaker: (Time: 2:01:57 p.m.)

The invocation was given by Pastor Brett Zunino, Summit Christian Church.

Pledge of Allegiance (Time: 2:03:27 p.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Attorney Chet Adams.

Comments from the Public (Time: 2:03:55 p.m.)

- Ms. Bonnie Hirluka, representing Prime Residential and the Park Vista Apartments expressed concern regarding the way single family homes versus apartment complexes are charged for sewer service.
- Mr. William Drake, representing Park Vista Apartment, expressed concern regarding sewer rates.
- Mr. David Aulwurm, representing Kromer Investments, expressed concern regarding sewer rates.

Approval of the Agenda (Time: 2:11:16 p.m.)

Consideration of taking items out of sequence, deleting items and adding items which require action upon a finding that an emergency exists.

Items 4.2 and 4.3 were heard out of order.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Carrigan, to approve the agenda as amended. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

3. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of

3.1 Consideration and possible approval of the Sparks City Council meeting

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minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2011 and the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2011 (Time: 2:12:26 p.m.)

A motion was made by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Ratti, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2011, and the regular Meeting of November 28, 2011. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

4. Announcements, Presentations, Recognition Items and Items of Special Interest

(Time: 2:36:14 p.m.)

Council Member Lawson introduced his wife's parents from Fort Collins, Colorado, who are visiting him for the holiday season.

4.1 Presentation from the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority on the terminal refurbishments and centralized checkpoint project (Time: 2:22:57 p.m.)

Community Relations Manager Adam Mayberry introduced Airport Official Dean Schultz who discussed the latest plans for increasing efficiencies at the airport, as outlined below:

Airport Update to Sparks City Council – December 12, 2011

Coming Soon... a new Gateway to the region.

- What is Gateway?
 - New front door to our community
 - Great new first and last impression
 - Tahoe theme throughout the airport
 - Centralized Security Checkpoint
 - New restaurants and stores
- Why Are We Doing Gateway?
 - 18-month construction project
 - \$6M in private investment
 - New restaurants and stores past security
 - Creates 275 local construction jobs
 - Truly creates new Gateway for 3.8 million passengers
 - \$27M funded by PFCs and RTAA revenues
- Baggage Claim
 - December 1 – This project lands in Baggage Claim
 - Bag Claim work begins
 - 4 phases of construction
 - Month-long phases
 - December 2011 – April 2012
 - Project touches on airline bag carousels & offices, rental car counters, restrooms, taxis, shuttles
 - Reno-Tahoe look
 - Carry same theme from ABC project
 - Welcome arriving passengers to the region
- Main Lobby
 - A New Restaurant is on the Menu
- Consolidated Security Checkpoint
 - Security Checkpoint replaces Food Court
 - New Food Court built past security on the 2nd floor
 - North escalator for arriving passengers
 - South escalator for departing
 - 2nd floor pushes out for mountain views
 - New food
 - New stores
 - More dwell time
 - Access to both concourses

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- Project Complete: the Gateway is OPEN!
 - Completion date April 2013
 - Best Security Screening System in West
 - Added restaurant and retail

Questions?

4.2 Commendation to The Legends at Sparks Marina (Time: 2:13:20 p.m.) (This item was heard out of order.)

Mayor Martini read a commendation to The Legends at Sparks Marina for their donation to the victims of the Caughlin Fire. The proclamation was received by Steve Graham of RED Development.

4.3 Commendation to the Sparks Fire Department (Time: 2:17:50 p.m.) (This item was heard out of order.)

Mayor Martini read a commendation to the Sparks Fire Department for their outstanding service to their neighbors (City of Reno) in need during the Caughlin fire. The proclamation was received by Fire Chief Andy Flock on behalf of the Sparks Fire Department.

4.4 Presentation and Recognition of Volunteers in the City Clerk's Office (Time: 2:37:03 p.m.)

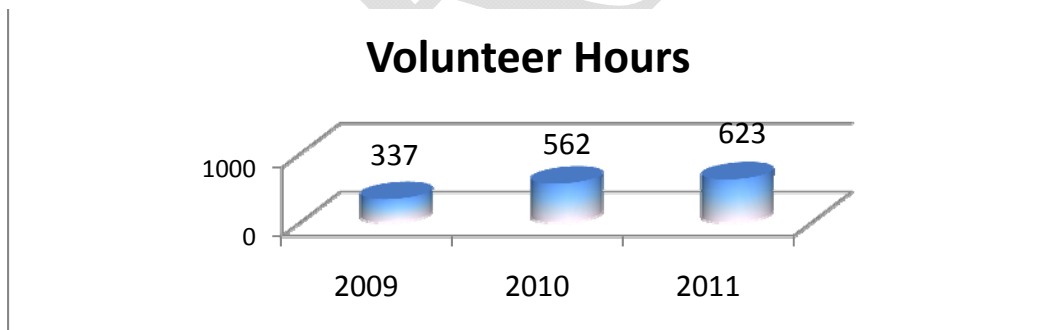
City Clerk Linda Patterson recognized the volunteers who have assisted in the City Clerk's Office over the past several years, as outlined below, and presented the volunteers with certificates of appreciation for their service to the City of Sparks.

Recognition of Our Volunteers - Sparks City Clerk's Office

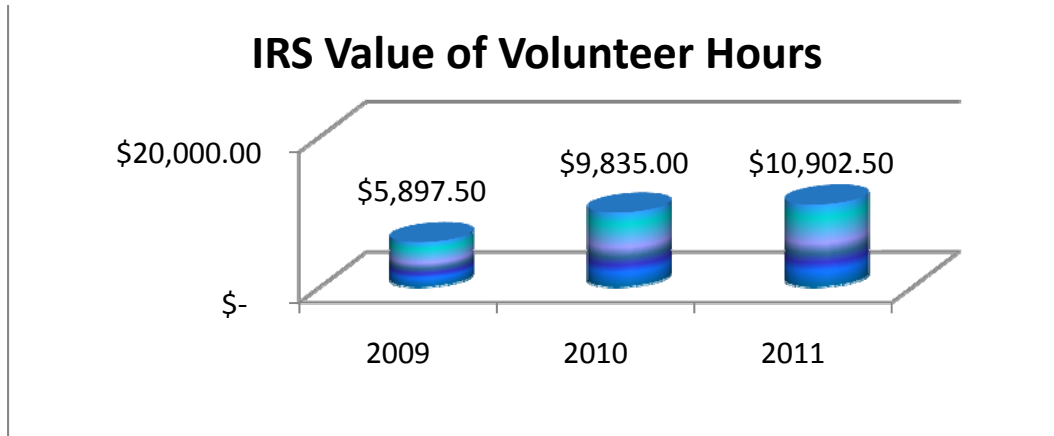
2009 Staffing

- Budget cuts in 2009-Staffing was reduced by 40%
- Clerk's Office began recruiting volunteers in March 2009
- Seven volunteers have worked in the Clerk's Office

VOLUNTEER HOURS



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Volunteers

- Loretta Hadlock - 3/9/2009 – Present
- Donna Cameron - 7/16/2009 - Present
- Vicki Powser - 9/23/2009 – 3/31/2010
- Maureen Groach - 7/31/2009 – 10/9/2009
- Patty Sohn - 5/4/2010 – 10/18/2010
- David Hansen - 11/10/2010 – 11/24/2010
- Mary Orr - 1/24/2011 – 5/18/2011

4.5 Presentation of the 2011 Special Event season and a preview of the 2012 Special Event season (Time: 2:42:19 p.m.)

Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Domingues reviewed the special events in Sparks for 2011 and the anticipated events for 2012 as outlined below:

SPECIAL EVENTS - 2011 REVIEW

Presented by the Special Events Division of the Parks and Recreation Department

2011 SPECIAL EVENTS

- Wild West Rodeo, produced by RTC (April 16 – 17)
 - Total revenues \$193
 - Total expenses \$193
 - Variance -\$0-
 - Location: Victorian Square
 - Estimated attendance was 1,500 for 2 days.
- Arts in Bloom, presented by Sparks Florist, produced by the City of Sparks (May 8)
 - Total revenues \$ 7,458
 - Total expenses \$21,103
 - Variance -\$13,645
 - Event was successfully moved from the Sparks Marina to the Victorian Plaza.
 - Production costs reduced by \$10,000.
 - Estimated attendance was 3,000 for one day.
- STREET VIBRATIONS, Spring Rally - produced by Roadshows, Inc. (June 3 – 5)
 - Total revenues \$12,536
 - Total expenses \$12,536
 - Variance -\$0-
 - This was the 5th year of this event on Victorian Square.
 - Estimated attendance was 13,000 over 3 days.
- Whole Foods Hometowne Farmer's Market, produced by the City of Sparks (June 9 – August 18)

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- Total revenues \$23,138
 - Total expenses \$32,921 YTD-6wks
 - Variance -\$ 9,783

The event was scaled down in 2011 to the Victorian Plaza. OT averaged \$1,885/wk in the new format compared to \$5,890/wk in the old format.
Estimated attendance was 5,000 weekly for 10 weeks.
- Victorian Summer produced by Victorian Square merchants (June 9 – August 18)
 - Total revenues \$7,833
 - Total expenses \$7,623
 - Variance \$ 210

With the market on the Plaza, this event was on the east end of Victorian Square on Thursday nights.
Estimated attendance was 500 weekly for 10 weeks.
- Star Spangled Sparks, produced by John Ascuaga’s Nugget (July 4)
 - Total revenues \$15,365
 - Total expenses \$15,365
 - Variance -\$0-

Location: Victorian Square
Estimated attendance was 50,000 for one day
- Hot August Nights, produced by Hot August Nights, Inc. (August 8 – 13)
 - Total revenues \$85,440
 - Total expenses \$85,401
 - Variance \$ 39

Location: Victorian Square
Estimated attendance was 132,000 for 5 days.
- Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off, produced by the Nugget (August 31 – September 5)
 - Total revenues \$84,075
 - Total expenses \$84,816
 - Variance -\$ 741

Location: Victorian Square
Estimated attendance was 480,000 for 6 days.
- Street Vibrations – Fall Rally, produced by Roadshows, Inc. (September 21 – 25)
 - Total revenues \$12,536
 - Total expenses \$11,177
 - Variance \$ 1,359

Location: Victorian Square. This was the 2nd year of the Fall event in Sparks.
Estimated attendance was 7,500 for 3 days.
Costs were estimated at \$27,000 for 5 day event.

 - Costs do not include incident related costs which are estimated at \$100,000. This does not include the ongoing investigation or the assistance received from other entities.
- Hometowne Christmas presented by Intuit, produced by the City of Sparks (December 2 – 3)
 - Total revenues \$15,000 estimated
 - Total expenses \$67,422 budget
 - Variance -\$52,422

Location: Victorian Square
The estimated attendance was 1,200 for the tree lighting ceremony & 10,000 for the parade.
- Victorian events budget review

EVENT	REVENUE	EXPENSE	DIFFERENCE
Bus Roadeo	193	193	0
Arts in Bloom	7,458	21,103	-13,645
Street Vibrations-Spring	12,536	12,536	0

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Farmer's Market	23,138	32,921	0
Victorian Summer	7,833	7,623	210
Star Spangled Sparks	15,365	15,365	0
Hot August Nights	85,440	85,401	39
Rib Cook-Off	84,075	84,816	-741
Street Vibrations-Fall	12,536	11,177	1,359
Hometowne Christmas	15,000	67,422	-52,422
Totals	263,574	338,557	-65,200

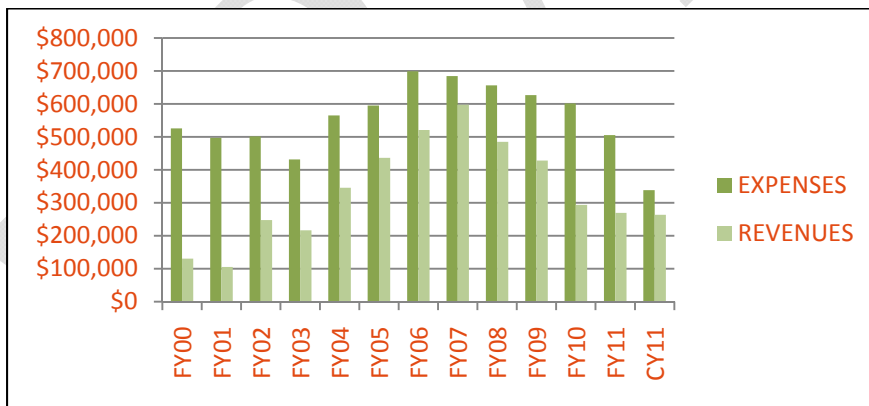
2011 events at the Sparks Marina Park

- March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon 4/30 (park rental)
- MS Walk in May (park rental)
- Miracles in Motion 5/14 cancelled (park rental)
- Kids' Free Fishing Day 6/11
- Mark Wellman's Adventure Day 6/12
- Star Spangled Sparks (Chamber) 7/4
- Sandcastle Soiree 7/9-10
- Air Nautique National Championships July 13 – 17, cancelled due to economy
- Scheels Kids' Triathlon 7/30
- Try Eryn Tri (triathlon) 9/11 (park rental)
- Buddy Walk 10/1 (park rental)
- Scheels Turkey Trot 11/24
- Star Spangled Sparks, produced by the Northern Nevada Chamber of Commerce (July 4)
 - Total revenues \$1,500
 - Total expenses \$4,001
 - Variance -\$2,501
 - Location: Sparks Marina Park
 - Estimated attendance was for 13,000 one day.
- Sandcastle Soiree produced by the City of Sparks (July 9 – 10)
 - Total revenues \$35,000
 - Total expenses \$35,993
 - Variance -\$ 993
 - Location: Sparks Marina Park
 - Estimated attendance was 1,500 for 2 days.
 - Funded by Tourism & Marketing Committee.
- Scheels Kids Triathlon, produced by the City of Sparks (July 30)
 - Total revenues \$4,512
 - Total expenses \$3,129
 - Variance \$1,383
 - Location: Sparks Marina Park
 - There was 134 athletes plus their parents for an estimated attendance of 282 for 1 day.
- Scheels Turkey Trot, produced by the City of Sparks (November 24)
 - Total revenues \$54,805
 - Total expenses \$37,000
 - Variance \$17,805
 - Location: Legends & Sparks Marina Park
 - Pre-registration had 1,577 plus 346 on race day for 1,936+ for 1 day.
- Marina events budget review

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EVENT	REVENUE	EXPENSE	DIFFERENCE
Star Spangled Sparks	1,500	4,001	-2,501
Sand Castle Soiree	35,000	35,995	-995
Scheels Kids Triathlon	4,512	3,129	1,383
Scheels Turkey Trot	(est)54,805	37,000	17,805
2011 Park Rentals	7,000	0	7,000
Totals	102,817	80,125	22,692

- 2011 events at Golden Eagle Regional Sports Complex
 - Senior Softball USA
 - Triple Crown Softball Tournament-5 yr contract
 - Boneyard Blast Softball Tournament
 - Triple Crown Softball Tournament
 - Balloon Race Softball Tournament
 - Blood n Guts Softball Tournament
 - Youth sports leagues include Pop Warner Football, Sierra Youth Football League, Sparks Little League, Northern Nevada Soccer League, Sparks Babe Ruth, Sparks Fast Pitch Softball, Sparks AYSO, & Great Basin Youth Soccer League
- Sparks Annual Mayor’s Cup Golf Tournament, produced by the City of Sparks (October 7)
 - Total revenues \$11,010
 - Total expenses \$ 5,273
 - Variance \$ 5,737
 - New Location: Red Hawk Golf Course
 - 84 participants w/proceeds benefiting the Youth Scholarship Fund.
- Budget Review (direct costs only)
 - Includes Rodeo, Arts in Bloom, Street Vibrations, Farmer’s Market, July 4th, HAN, RIB, & Christmas



2012 Potential New Events

- Upstate Watercraft Promotions Tour – Professional watercross & beach volleyball event at the Sparks Marina Park tentatively planned for June 30 – July 1, 2012.
- Expedition Man Endurance Festival (2.4 mile swim/112 mile bike/26.2 mile run). Northern Nevada’s 1st iron distance triathlon race to begin at Zephyr Cove and culminate at the Sparks Marina Park and Legends on August 25, 2012.
- Brew Fest – tentatively set for September or October, 2012 at Victorian Square. 2 day event in Idaho draws 40K.
- Half Marathon produced by Adrenaline Sports – tentatively planned for December, 2012.

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5. **Consent Items** (Time: 3:02:29 p.m.)

A motion was made by Council Member Ratti, seconded by Council Member Smith, to approve Consent Items 5.1 through 5.7. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

5.1 **Consideration and possible approval to award a contract to Mike's Trenching for excavation and site preparation for installation of brine production equipment**

An agenda item from Facilities and Fleet Manager Ron Korman recommending the City Council award a contract to Mike's Trenching in the amount of \$28,706.00 for site work related to the installation of the brine production and storage system at Gondolfo Park. The City received an air quality grant from the Federal Government through the State of Nevada that includes a containment system for the brine storage. This contract will prepare the site including water, and electrical infrastructure needed for the production of brine. The cost will be 100% reimbursed through a Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Grant. This project was originally approved on FY 2010-2011 Capital Improvement Plan.

5.2 **Consideration and possible approval of the Municipal Court Judge Pro Tempore list for calendar year 2012**

An agenda item from Court Administer Heidi Shaw recommending the City Council approve the Municipal Court Judge Pro Tempore list for calendar year 2012. Pro Tempore Judges are utilized by the Municipal Court in the event that a Judge is unavailable to hear matters due to illness, vacation, mandatory judicial training, and attendance at judicial conferences and/or recusal from a case. Pro Tempore Judges are necessary to fulfill the legal requirement of case processing and timely disposition. Staff is recommending the following attorneys as Pro Tempore Judges for the Municipal Court:

Dean Heidrich, Esq.
Cheryl Field-Lang, Esq.
Michael Specchio, Esq.
Lewis Taillel, Esq.
Jim Van Winkle, Esq.

5.3 **Consideration and possible approval of reimbursement to the City of Reno in the amount of \$23,151.06 for Sparks' share of a bid award to BJB Architecture & Engineering by the City of Reno to perform condition assessment of concrete structures at Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF)**

An agenda item from Acting Maintenance Manager Kim Laber recommending the City Council approve a reimbursement to the City of Reno for Sparks' share of a bid award for condition assessment of concrete structures as TMWRF. City staff is asking the City Council to approve reimbursement to the City of Reno in the amount of \$23,151.06 for its share of a \$73,800 contract administered by the City of Reno with BJB Architecture & Engineering. A survey is needed to determine the effects of aging and the environment on the concrete structures and to provide a prioritized list of needed repairs.

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5.4 Report of Claims and Bills approved for payment and appropriation transfers for the period November 10, 2011 through November 23, 2011

An agenda item from Finance Director Jeff Cronk recommending approval of the Report of Claims and Bills as outlined.

5.5 Consideration and possible approval of modification and termination of the Agreement for Sale of Treated Effluent with Kiley Links, LLC for service at Kiley Links Golf Course and subsequently service Kiley Links Golf Course under the terms and conditions set forth in Sparks Municipal Code 13.85, Effluent Service

An agenda item from Acting Utility Manger Andy Hummel recommending the City Council approve the termination of an agreement with Kiley Links Golf Course for delivery of effluent and subsequently service the client under the terms and conditions of the Sparks Municipal Code. In 2004, Sparks Development entered into an agreement with the City of Sparks for use of treated effluent at First Tee Golf Course. Site ownership has transferred twice, with the site being renamed to Kiley Links Golf Course. The site has changed from daytime delivery to nighttime. Additionally, the original meter size has proven to be grossly oversized, and is proposed to be changed from a 6" to 3" to provide better service. This modification and transfer to service under Sparks Municipal Code will address the credit that should have previously been issued for the change in delivery time, will change the contractual meter size, and will re-amortize the remaining connection fee as allowed under current code.

5.6 Consideration and possible acceptance of the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year 2010-2011, and review and possible approval of the City's Plan of Corrective Actions relating to our auditors' conclusion regarding the City of Sparks' compliance with Nevada Revised Statutes and Administrative Code as identified in the annual audit process

An agenda item from Finance Director Jeff Cronk recommending the City Council accept the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year 2010-2011. Per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 354.624, all Nevada local governments must provide for an annual audit by a professional accounting firm. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is the report representing the City's compliance with state law. A request for proposal to perform the annual external audit for the City was put out to bid during the spring of 2009, and a three year contract was awarded to Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. beginning with fiscal year 2008-2009. Staff is also requesting that the report be submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration for its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award. The fee associated with the GFOA award program is approximately \$580.

5.7 Consideration and possible approval of a Janitorial Contract for City Hall, Police Facility, Municipal Court Building, and Maintenance Yard Office, and rest rooms with Jani-King in the amount of \$67,536.00 per year.

An agenda item from Fleet and Facilities Manager Ron Korman recommending the City Council award a janitorial contract to Jani-King as outlined in the staff report. The Maintenance Division began contracting janitorial services in 2008. That contract has expired and a request for bids was issued. Four vendors submitted bids of which Jani-King a local franchise was the lowest bidder. Staff has checked the references provided by Jani King, Inc., and the responses were

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good. Staff is confident that Jani-King is a reputable company and will meet the needs of the City.

6. General Business

6.1 Consideration and possible approval of the Mayor's recommendation of appointment to the Airport Noise Advisory Panel and Park & Recreation Commission (Time: 3:03:15 p.m.)

Sparks has three appointments to the Airport Noise Advisory Panel. Because of a relocation, one of the appointees resigned last spring. Housing Specialist George Graham has applied to serve on the Panel, and Mayor Martini is recommending his appointment. The current term will expire December 31, 2012. Succeeding terms are for two years.

One of the Park & Recreation Commissioners wishes to resign prior to the end of his term - June 30, 2012. Thomas Cornell has applied to serve on the Commission, and Mayor Martini is recommending his appointment. Mr. Cornell will complete the unexpired term and be automatically reappointed to the succeeding three-year term.

A motion was made by Council Member Carrigan, seconded by Council Member Smith, to confirm the appointment of George Graham to the Airport Noise Advisory Panel and Thomas Cornell to the Park & Recreation Commission. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

6.2 Presentation and possible discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the Washoe County Home Consortium (Time: 3:04:40 p.m.)

Senior Planner Jim Rundle discussed the roles and responsibilities of the WCHC as outlined below:

WCHC (Washoe County Home Consortium)

- Established 1994
- Members:
 - City of Reno
 - City of Sparks
 - Washoe County
- Other participants:
- TRC
- Directors
- Regional Planning Governing Board

GOALS

- Provide decent affordable housing to low income households
- Expand the capacity of nonprofit housing providers
- Strengthen the ability of state and local governments to provide housing
- Leverage private-sector participation

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Homeowner rehabilitation
- Homebuyer activities
- Rental housing
- Tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA)

PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING

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- Level I Priorities:
 - Project must provide units at or below 40% of the Area Median Income for family units; at or below 45% of Area Median Income for senior projects. Project must have MOU for services.
 - Projects that provide permanent housing, especially in conjunction with supportive services, for individuals and households with special needs and/or emerging from homelessness. Project must have Supportive Services (MOU)Services.
- Level II Priorities:
 - On transit corridor
 - Green Component
 - Conforms to Consolidated Plan, Regional Plan, 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
 - Mixed Income/Use Projects

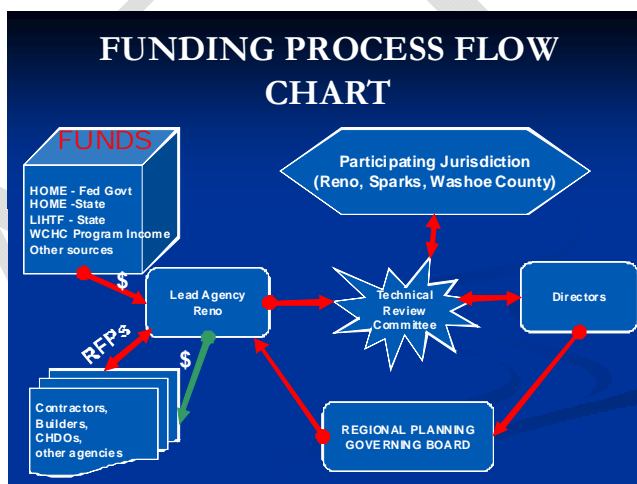
FUNDING SOURCES

- HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
- State of Nevada HOME dollars
- State of Nevada Low Income Housing Trust Funds (LIHTF)
- Any other potential funds provided to this region for housing

FUNDING PROCESS FLOW CHART

WCHC Recent Development Projects (2005-2010)

- Golden Apartments
- Southwest Village Rehab
- C Street rehab
- Bethel Plaza II
- Pilgrim Rest
- The Willows at Wells Senior Apartments
- St. Vincent's Residence
- Aspen Terrace
- Sierra Manor
- City Hall Senior
- STEP 1
- Silver Sage Senior on McCarran
- Autumn Village
- River Senior
- Silver Sage Senior at Neil Road



PROCESS

- TRC:
 - Calls for applications – October 1
 - Receives applications – December 8
 - Holds public hearings – January-March
 - Jurisdictions consider allocation of pro-rata share of HOME entitlement funds – February
 - Provides recommendations to Directors – March
- Directors:
 - Reviews recommendations from TRC – March
 - Provides recommendations to RPGB – April
- RPGB:
 - Ratification of recommended allocation

Funds available for commitment after July 1, 2012 upon approval of funds by HUD and must be committed within 24 months

6.3 Discussion and possible approval of the City's 2012 Federal Platform (Time: 3:12:38 p.m.)

Community Relations Manager Adam Mayberry noted this item addresses the City's proposed

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2012 federal platform, and highlights key planks for Sparks' congressional delegation to support. The current legislative rules in the United States Congress prevent the past practice of "earmarking." Mr. Mayberry discussed the proposed legislative platform as outlined below:

2012 Federal Legislative Platform

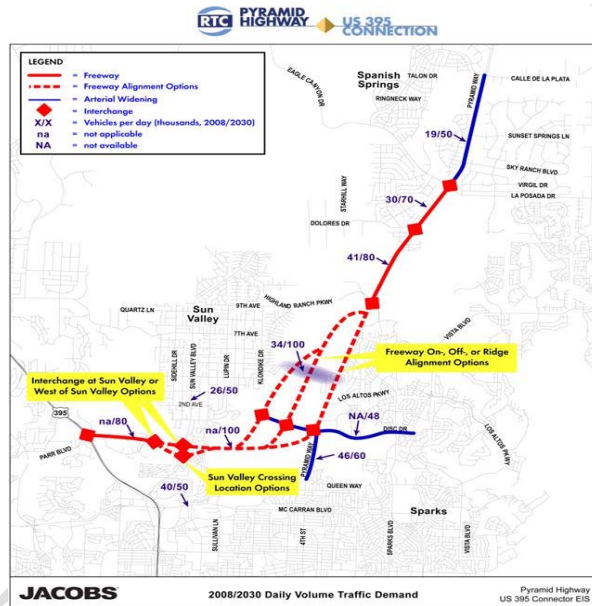
- Date
 - Dear Senator Reid: On behalf of the people of the City of Sparks, I'd like to thank you for your continued service to our state and nation. Under the current economic and political climate, we are aware that there is significantly less funding available and much more intense competition for it. The City of Sparks has already begun adapting to do more with less, but there is a point at which even the most efficiently administered and effective programs are threatened. In light of the severity of some of the cuts that have been proposed and the ongoing work of the Super Committee, the Sparks City Council and I believe it is important to support fully funding a number of Federal programs that benefit the people of Sparks. Specifically, we are concerned about Community Development Block Grants and HOME, surface transportation funding, Community Oriented Policing Services, firefighter grants, funding for our flood control project through the Corps, and Amtrak. All of these programs are effective ways of returning federal revenues to the cash-strapped states from which they originated. In addition, a long-term surface transportation bill would be very welcome in terms of economic security and job growth. The citizens of Sparks are sympathetic to the situation our federal delegation finds itself in, and understand that we may not longer be able to afford many of the things we have come to rely upon. We respectfully ask you do whatever is in your power to promote the interest of Sparks and the residents of Nevada's 2nd District. Sincerely, Geno R. Martini Mayor
- Key Financial Highlights
 - Three primary sources comprise approximately 87% of the City's total General Fund revenue:
 - Property Tax revenue is expected to decline in FY '12 by a total of 18.5% or \$4.4M since it peaked in FY '09, with further declines expected as home values continue to drop
 - Consolidated & Fair Share Tax revenue (primarily sales taxes) is expected to decline in FY '12 by a total of 33.3% or \$9.1M since it peaked in FY '06
 - Business Licenses and Permits revenue is expected to decline in FY '12 by a total of 25.6% or \$3.1M since it peaked in FY '07
 - The City's General Fund ending fund balance has been reduced by 54.1% or \$5.2M since the recession began
 - The City is currently operating at 1996 staffing levels.
 - Most City bargaining groups have granted permanent pay and benefit concessions generally equal to 7.5% of pay in FY '11
 - City Council has adopted fiscal policies for FY '12 designed to strengthen the City's financial position, and help sustain services provided
- PLANK 1 - Public Safety
 - Sparks must confront challenges facing foreclosed and abandoned homes
 - Foreclosed dwellings provide a public safety risk and a serious threat to neighborhood stability and community well-being
 - Banks fail to, or are slow in responding to maintain properties.
 - In many cases, banks fail to disclose ownership of properties, or fail to inform the city of their intentions with the property
 - Sparks Police Department has 1.14 officers per 1,000 citizens. This equates to approximately one officer per 1,000 population when the desired ratio is about 2 officers per 1,000 population
 - *Uniform Crime Reports, a FBI Publication
 - 56 more police officers would meet the national average
 - Sparks police officers are routinely responding to an increasing number of community generated calls for service and have limited time for routine patrol and other proactive policing strategies.
 - Homicides and violent crimes are on the rise. 9 homicides occurred in Sparks in calendar year 2011 (so far), and 4 to date in FY 2012, comparable to Reno, a city triple the size of Sparks.
 - COPS Grant – Sparks 2011 COPS (Community Oriented Policing Strategies) Grant for two officers remains on pending status. Six officers are employed from the 2010 COPS grant that expires in FY 2013.
 - Sparks Fire Department's 3-person crews respond to most emergencies, but must wait for a

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- second engine to arrive in order to attack an interior blaze
- The Department was in the top 3 percentile to qualify for the SAFER Grant. The City could not guarantee the “no layoff” provision and declined the grant
- Today, aging equipment and the need for capital replacements present significant threats
- * Approximately 1.5 FTE (full time equivalent) Sparks sworn fire and EMS per thousand residents calculated at a 40-hour workweek. Average is 2.16 for a community comparable in size to Sparks.
 - *Source: 2010 ICMA Center for Performance
- \$146.24 Total Fire Personnel and Operating Expenditures per Capita. Average is \$166.40.
- Overall reduction of minimum daily staffing by 24% has crippled the Department’s ability to manage more than one significant event at a time, such as a residential fire.
- PLANK 2 - Community Assets
 - Sparks’ entitlement share of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is down 19.9 percent from the same time last year
 - Poverty Rate in Sparks:
 - 2009-2010: 7% (families)
 - 2010-2011: 10.6% (families)
 - 2009-2010: 9.4% (individual)
 - 2010-2011: 12.8% (individual)
 - Sparks partners with Reno and Washoe County to support:
 - Continuum of Care
 - Silver State Fair Housing Council
 - Critical non-profit organizations providing public services to low/moderate income families and individuals
 - CDBG programs that Sparks administers include:
 - Housing Rehabilitation Program*
 - * Applicants must meet certain income requirements
 - Emergency Repair Grants: \$2,500 per household for emergencies such as hot water heaters, furnaces, plumbing and electrical repairs, or other necessities.
 - Deferred Payment Loan: up to \$20,000 for essential repairs. Secured by a Deed of Trust on the home.
 - Low/moderate income homes and neighborhoods in Sparks have benefitted from CDBG funding include new sidewalks, curb and gutters, and ADA compliance projects.
 - Through CDBG funding, the Sparks provided \$175,000 for the design and construction of the rehabilitated running track at Sparks High School. Prior to the City’s assistance, the running track was ungraded.
- PLANK 3 - Sustainable Energy
 - Decreased energy costs allows city to spend resources where needed most, such as public safety.
 - Sparks is generating close to 600 Kilowatts in solar power, equating to a savings of \$120,000.
 - Sparks Photovoltaic Projects include:
 - Sparks Police Department
 - Two Sparks Fire Stations
 - Larry D. Johnson Community Center
 - Golden Eagle Regional Park and Sports Complex
 - Cost/Benefits:
 - NV Energy rebates cover costs for all photovoltaic projects
 - Additional cost savings come from reduce power expenses
 - Possible future projects include:
 - Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility
 - Alf Sorenson Community Center
 - Expansion of Larry D. Johnson Community Center
 - Future Sustainability Projects for Sparks could include Wind Energy
- PLANK 4 – Transportation
 - Priority Transportation project for Sparks:
 - McCarran/Pyramid Way Intersection Improvement
 - Fully Funded, \$71 million
 - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) expected to be completed in 2012
 - Construction to start as early as 2013

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- Hardship Acquisition enables RTC to purchase homes after identifying hardships prior to completion of EIS
- Pyramid Highway | US 395 Connector Project is a critical project in Sparks
- The Connector is a component of the significant future improvements planned on Pyramid Highway between McCarran and La Posada Drive
- The connector is designed to alleviate the pressure on the north-south traffic in Sparks, and improve east/west connectivity from Pyramid to US 395 and east to Vista Boulevard
- First phase of the “Connector” Project could be underway as early as 2016
- Total project costs estimated at \$150-200 million
- Estimated time frame for connector to be put in place is 2018
- Trigger point for connect is 50,000 vehicles per day on the Pyramid Highway Corridor. Today’s volume is about 40,000 vehicles per day



- Federal Interstate Transportation Programs remain important to Sparks.
- Interchanges along Interstate 80 will soon be in need of repair and upgrades, i.e.: McCarran and I-80.
- City will be participating in a study of the I-80 Corridor between California, Nevada, and Utah.

Council Member Carrigan stated we need to be careful regarding the SAFER grant for police officers and its requirements.

A motion was made by Council Member Ratti, seconded by Council Member Carrigan, to approve the City's proposed 2012 Federal platform. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

7. Public Hearing and Action Items Unrelated to Planning and Zoning

7.1 **Public Hearing, Consideration and Possible Approval of the vacation of the southerly portion of Spanish Springs Road public right-of-way from State Highway 445 (Pyramid Highway) easterly 1020.5 feet (Time: 3:20:11 p.m.)**

Assistant Community Services Director John Martini noted that on July 18, 1978 the Washoe County Commission approved Subdivision Tract Map 1891 for Sky Ranch Unit No. 1-A which dedicated Spanish Springs Road from Nevada State Highway 445 (Pyramid Highway) easterly a distance of 1020.5 feet as public right of way. On January 9, 2006 the Sparks City Council approved Ordinance 2303 annexing 610.39 acres in size, and the southerly portion of Spanish

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Springs Road to the City of Sparks.

Washoe County by Resolution and Order of Abandonment dated September 6, 2011, recorded as Document No. 4038669 in the Official Records of Washoe County, has abandoned the northerly portion of Spanish Springs Road. Washoe County has requested the City abandon the southerly portion of Spanish Springs Road to the County for expansion and access to the County's Sky Ranch Park. Staff is recommending the Council approve the vacation of the southerly half of Spanish Springs Road right-of-way to Washoe County as described in Exhibit "1A" and Exhibit 2A" as depicted on Exhibit "C".

Mayor Martini opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to comment on the action plan. There being no comment, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Schmitt, to approve the vacation of the southerly portion of Spanish Springs Road from Nevada State Highway 445 (Pyramid Highway) easterly a distance of 1020.5 feet to Washoe County to as outlined by staff. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

7.2 Second Reading, Public Hearing and Possible Approval of Bill No. 2638, Amending the Sparks Municipal Code Relating to Alarm Systems; an Ordinance Amending Chapter 9 of the Sparks Municipal Code Relating to Alarm Systems; Directing that Money Generated By Fees Assessed from the False Alarm Reduction Program Contained in Chapter 9.06 of the SMC shall flow into the City's General Fund; And providing other matters properly related thereto (Time: 3:22:49 p.m.)

It was noted that the notice for this item was not published and therefore needed to be continued to allow time for the publication to take place.

A motion was made by Council Member Schmitt, seconded by Council Member Ratti, to continue consideration of this bill to the January 9, 2012 City Council Meeting. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

8. Planning and Zoning Public Hearings and Action Items

None.

9. Comments

9.1 Comments from City Council and City Manager (Time: 3:23:35 p.m.)

Councilman Ron Smith wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.

Assistant City Manager Steve Driscoll read an announcement regarding one opening on the Sparks Civil Service Commission and two openings on the Sparks Planning Commission.

Community Services Director Neil Krutz reported that the water leakage at the treatment plant over the weekend has been repaired and service is back to normal.

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Councilman Ron Schmitt thanked Parks & Recreation Director Tracy Domingues for the great job on the Sparks Hometowne Christmas event.

9.2 Comments from the Public (Time: 3:27:42 p.m.)

None.

10. Adjournment (Time: 3:27:55 p.m.)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk

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