



MAYOR  
Geno Martini

CITY COUNCIL  
Julia Ratti, Ward I  
Ed Lawson, Ward II  
Ron Smith, Ward III  
Charlene Bybee, Ward IV  
Ron Schmitt, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY  
Chet Adams

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**2:00 P.M., Monday, November 9, 2015**  
**City Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada**

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

The regular meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Geno Martini at 2:01 p.m.

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

Mayor Geno Martini, Council Members Julia Ratti, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Charlene Bybee, Ron Schmitt (arrived at 2:06), City Manager Steve Driscoll, Chief Assistant City Attorney Shirle Eiting and City Clerk Teresa Gardner, PRESENT.

ABSENT: None

**3. Opening Ceremonies**

**3.1 Invocation Speaker** (Time: 2:02 p.m.)

The invocation was provided by Richard Evans, President, Reno Free Thinkers.

**3.2 Pledge of Allegiance** (Time: 2:05 p.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Lawson.

**4. Public Comment** (Time: 2:06 p.m.) - None

Dale Lowery with the Nevada Board of Plumbing Examiners and D&D Plumbing and Brian Reeder of the Nevada Associated Mechanical Contractors and AGC spoke in opposition of removing the certification for plumbers and electricians from the Sparks Municipal Code.

Richard Evans spoke in opposition of having government sponsored prayer on the meeting agenda.

Ardena Perry spoke regarding commercial animal establishment license. Council Member Schmitt requested information from the Attorney regarding the ordinance.

Congressman Amodei gave an update on current legislative issues including CDBG funds, the potential City of Sparks' cemetery, sage hen habitat study, marketplace fairness act, transportation infrastructure, proposed routes of Interstate 11 and associated land ownership, rights-of-way and land transfers.

**5. Agenda (Time: 2:36 p.m.)**

**5.1 Approval of the Agenda (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

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

A motion was made by Council Member Schmitt, seconded by Council Member Bybee, to approve the agenda as submitted. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Bybee, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**6. Minutes (Time: 2:36 p.m.)**

**6.1 Consideration and possible approval of the minutes of the Sparks City Council workshop of October 12, 2015 and the regular Sparks City Council meeting of October 26, 2015.**

A motion was made by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Schmitt, to approve the minutes of the Sparks City Council workshop of October 12, 2015 and the regular Sparks City Council meeting of October 26, 2015. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Bybee, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**7. Announcements, Presentations, Recognition Items and Items of Special Interest (Time: 2:37 p.m.)**

**7.1 Proclamation: "Family Caregivers Month" (Time: 2:38 p.m.)**

Mayor Geno Martini proclaimed November 2015 as Family Caregivers Month. Council Member Smith read the Proclamation and noted the dedicated work of family caregivers and recognized caregiving as a vital and needed profession today and in the future.

**7.2 Introduction to RAD Strategies and briefing on the Comprehensive Plan update. (Time: 2:40 p.m.)**

Senior Planner Karen Melby introduced RAD Strategies Inc. who were hired to assist the City of Sparks with updating the city comprehensive plan. RAD Strategies Account Director Allyson Bolton and Creative Cities Consultant Karen Craig presented plans for outreach, strategy, timeline, vision, and communication connected with the "igniteSparks" initiative. The time requirements for citizen champions and the popularity of Sparks' athletic fields were discussed.

**8. Consent Items (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 2:57 p.m.)**

A motion was made by Council Member Schmitt, seconded by Council Member Ratti, to approve the consent items as submitted. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Bybee, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**8.1 Report of Claims and Bills approved for payment and appropriation transfers for the period October 8, 2015 through October 21, 2015. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Financial Services Director Jeff Cronk recommending the City Council approve the report of claims and bills as presented in the staff report.

**8.2 Consideration, review and acceptance of the receipt of grant and/or donation money which is individually under \$5,000. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Financial Services Director Jeff Cronk and Accountant Rick Parton recommending acceptance of grants and/or donation received that are individually under \$5,000 as required per Resolution No. 3234. There is no impact to the general fund.

**8.3 Consideration and possible approval of an amendment to an existing Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) with the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County for the Signal Timing 4 Project. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Assistant Director of Community Services John Martini and Transportation Manager Jon Ericson recommending approval of an amendment to an original Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) (AC-5041), entered into on May 12, 2014, which allowed the RTC to reimburse the City of Sparks for staff time up until October 31, 2015. The ICA amendment allows the RTC to reimburse the City of Sparks up to December 31, 2015. There is no impact to the general fund.

**8.4 Consideration and possible approval of an amendment to Independent Contractors Agreement A-3709 to provide Phase 3 Engineering and Construction Support Services for the North Truckee Drain Realignment Phase 3 Project with HDR Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$252,503. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Assistant Community Services Director John Martini and Utility Manager Andrew Hummel recommending Council approve an amendment to Independent Contractors Agreement (A-3709). The engineering services provided by this amendment are above the original scope of services with HDR, and are needed to complete the project as desired. Funds are available in the FY16 CIP budget; there is no impact to the general fund.

**8.5 Consideration and possible approval to purchase one RAM 5500 Chassis w/ Harbor Rancher Body and one RAM 1500 from Carson Dodge in the amount of \$79,351.50. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Deputy City Manager of Community Development Neil Krutz and Public Works Manager Ron Korman recommending approval to purchase these vehicles to replace the GMC 3500 small dump truck, vehicle #534A, and a 2004 Ford Explorer #478A. These vehicles have maintenance costs that exceed the value of the vehicles, and no longer meet the needs of the Drains and Sewer Departments. 534A will be sold at auction at a later date, and 478A may be reused as a "loaner Vehicle" for the City Garage. Funds are available in the motor vehicle fund; there is no impact to the general fund.

**8.6 Consideration and possible approval to purchase five vehicles from Champion Chevrolet in the amount of \$139,940.25. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from Deputy City Manager of Community Development Neil Krutz and Public Works Manager Ron Korman recommending approval to purchase these vehicles to replace four Fire Department vehicles #304D, #310C, #317A, #316A and one TMWRF vehicle #24A. These vehicles have reached the end of their life cycle. These five vehicles will be reevaluated and may be reused as a replacement for other older vehicles in the fleet or will be sold at auction. Funds are available in the motor vehicle fund; there is no impact to the general fund.

**8.7 Consideration and possible approval of a Final Map for Fountainhouse at Victorian Square. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

An agenda item from City Engineer John Martini recommending Council approve the Fountainhouse at Victorian Square Final Map which will create 220 residential condominium lots at Victorian Square. The final map and civil improvement drawings have been reviewed by the Community Services Department and have been found to be acceptable. There is no impact to the general fund.

**9. General Business**

**9.1 Consideration and possible approval of a contract to A&K Construction for the La Posada Ditch Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$322,000. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 2:58 p.m.)**

An agenda item from Assistant Community Services Director John Martini and Utility Manager Andrew Hummel recommending Council approve the contract to remove and replace approximately 875 feet of failed ditch lining located to the north of La Posada between Benedict Drive and Spanish Trail Drive. Funds are available in the Storm Drains Capital Fund; there is no impact to the general fund.

A motion was made by Council Member Schmitt, seconded by Council Member Bybee, to approve the contract to A&K Construction for the La Posada Ditch Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$322,000. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Bybee, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**9.2 First Reading of Bill No. 2697, a general ordinance to rezone a property from PO (Professional Office) to MUD (Mixed Use District) for a site approximately 0.4 acres in size located at 1040 El Rancho Drive. (PCN15029) (Time: 3:01 p.m.)**

The bill was read by title by City Clerk Teresa Gardner. The public hearing and second reading will be conducted at the regular meeting of the City Council on November 23, 2015.

**9.3 First Reading of Bill No. 2698, a general ordinance to annex into the City of Sparks a site approximately 5 acres in size located at 6500 Spanish Springs Drive, Sparks, NV. Upon annexation the parcel shall convert from a Washoe County zoning designation of A5 (Agriculture/5 acre minimum lot size) to City of Sparks A5 (Agriculture/5 acre minimum lot size). (PCN15036) (Time: 3:02 p.m.)**

The bill was read by title by City Clerk Teresa Gardner. The public hearing and second reading will be conducted at the regular meeting of the City Council on November 23, 2015.

**9.4 Consideration and possible direction to the City Manager to initiate an amendment to Title 15 of the Sparks Municipal Code to remove the requirement for certificate of qualification for any person who labors at the trade of plumbing or electrician in the City of Sparks. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 3:04 p.m.)**

An agenda item from City Manager Steve Driscoll and Assistant Community Services Director John Martini, per request by Mayor Martini at the October 26, 2015 Council meeting, recommending Council provide direction to work on an amendment to Title 15 of the Sparks Municipal Code (SMC) to remove the requirement for certificate of qualification for any person who labors at the trade of plumbing or electrician in the City of Sparks. The requirement for such certification is included in Section 15.05.115 of the SMC. In addition, SMC Section 115.2 – 115.4 details the method for applying for certification of qualification from the building official or accept qualification from other governmental agencies. Staff has determined that the requirement for certification was added to the SMC in October of 1992 via Ordinance Number 1760. To staff's knowledge, this requirement has not been used or enforced over the last 23 years and staff does not believe it is necessary because building inspectors inspect to the code approved by the building department to ensure compliance. There is no impact to the general fund.

Mayor Martini said his request was a result of a concern brought to him that this issue may be detrimental to upcoming development. Mr. John Martini said there has not been any issues with homes not being done to code; other agencies are responsible for quality of work of these trades; and the Senior Assistant City Attorney Doug Thornley interprets the code to say certification can be provided by the city building official or somewhere else.

Tony Abreu with KDH Builders and Jenuane Communities, Chad Kay with High Voltage Electric, Don Tatco of the Builders Association of Northern Nevada, and J. Witt of Silverwing Development spoke in support of removal of the SMC requirement for plumbers and electricians to have this additional certification. In addition, Mayor Martini said he received an email noting support by various members of the building community to eliminate this requirement.

Dale Lowery of D&D Plumbing spoke in opposition of removal of the certification requirement.

Council Member Ratti requested staff get the word out to the community of the proposed bill and the date of the public hearing so they have an opportunity to comment.

A motion was made by Council Member Schmitt, seconded by Council Member Smith, to direct staff to prepare an amendment to Title 15 of the Sparks Municipal Code and introduce the bill in two weeks. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Bybee, Schmitt, YES. Passed unanimously.

**10. Public Hearing and Action Items Unrelated to Planning and Zoning**

**10.1 None**

**11. Planning and Zoning Public Hearings and Action Items**

**11.1 None**

**12. Closed Door Sessions**

12.1 None

**13. Comments**

**13.1 Comments from the Public** (Time: 3:33 p.m.) - None

**13.2 Comments from City Council and City Manager** (Time: 3:33 p.m.)

City Manager Steve Driscoll asked if Council had any objections to cancelling the December 28, 2015 City Council meeting and moving the December 28, 2015 Sparks Redevelopment Agency meeting to December 14, 2015. There were no objections.

**14. Adjournment**

Council was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

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GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Teresa Gardner, City Clerk

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