



MAYOR
Ron Smith

CITY COUNCIL
Donald Abbott, Ward I
Ed Lawson, Ward II
Paul Anderson, Ward III
Charlene Bybee, Ward IV
Kristopher Dahir, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY
Chet Adams

CITY MANAGER
Neil Krutz

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

2:00 P.M., Monday, June 8, 2020

This meeting was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Ron Smith at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Ron Smith, Council Members Donald Abbott, Ed Lawson, Paul Anderson, Charlene Bybee, Kristopher Dahir, City Manager Neil Krutz, City Attorney Chet Adams, City Clerk Lisa Hunderman, PRESENT via ZOOM.

3. Opening Ceremonies

3.1 Invocation Speaker

No invocation speaker.

3.2 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Lawson.

4. Public Comment

Public comment was received via telephone from Tanya Hayes, Esmeralda Salez, MJ Ubando, and Janet Roman expressing the need for local police reform and justice for Miciah Lee. Ideas included incorporating a 'duty to intervene', banning chokeholds in police procedures, defunding of the police department, a more transparent and accountable police force, addressing the disproportionate arrests of people of color, more funding for community services and education, and an establishment of a citizen diversity council.

City Clerk Lisa Hunderman read into record emails from Daniel Purdy and AnneMarie Grant regarding the death of Thomas Purdy who died in 2015 during police custody. The emails also called for transparency and accountability of the police force and reform of their arresting procedures.

An email from Erik Blomberg regarding dissatisfaction of new housing developments was also read into record.

5. Agenda

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.

Monday, June 8, 2020

Motion: Move to approve the agenda with item 9.9 moved to a special meeting following the City Council meeting.
Moved by: Council Member Abbott
Seconded by: Council Member Dahir
Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir
No: None
Abstain: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0

6. Minutes

6.1 Consideration and possible approval of the minutes of the Sparks City Council meeting for May 26, 2020. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the Sparks City Council meeting for May 26, 2020.
Moved by: Council Member Bybee
Seconded by: Council Member Anderson
Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir
No: None
Abstain: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

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

7.1 Boards and Commissions Vacancy Announcement: Sparks Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

There is one vacancy on the Sparks Senior Citizens Advisory Committee for a Ward 4 alternate position. This is a partial term, coterminous with the appointing elected official, ending November 4, 2022. Applicants must be Sparks residents, preferably over the age of 55 and preferably residing in Ward 4. Applications will be accepted through 5:00 PM on Friday, June 26, 2020.

7.2 Board and Commission Vacancy Announcement: Sierra Arts Foundation Board of Trustees

There is one (1) vacancy on the Sierra Arts Foundation Board of Trustees, for a one-year term ending August 13, 2021. Applicants must be Sparks residents. Applications will be taken through July 17, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

7.3 Presentation: Voluntary Pay Reduction by Elected Officials

A presentation by Assistant City Manager Doug Thornley concerning the process by which elected officials may voluntarily reduce their pay.

Council agreed voluntary pay cuts are helpful to save jobs while preserving services to residents. Council asked if there is a way to reverse the pay cut once the City is more fiscally stable. Assistant City Manager Thornley stated that process is submitted with the same form as the voluntary reduction.

8. Consent Items (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Motion: Move to approve consent item 8.1 as submitted.
Moved by: Council Member Dahir
Seconded by: Council Member Abbott
Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir
No: None
Abstain: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

8.1 Consideration and possible acceptance of the report of the claims and bills approved for payment and appropriation transfers for the period of May 13, 2020 through May 21, 2020. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from Chief Financial Officer Jeff Cronk requesting Council approval of the report of claims and bills approved for payment and the appropriation transfers for the period of May 13, 2020 through May 21, 2020.

9. General Business

9.1 Consideration, discussion and possible approval of the Mayor's recommendation to the Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission for three, three-year appointments with terms ending 06/30/2023, (from the following pool of applicants, listed in alphabetical order): Terry Frugoli; Mark Harris; Eric Juarez; Jasmin Lozano; Kelli Luchetti; Meghan Meagher; Matthew Robinson and Melanie Short. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz requesting Council approval of the Mayor's recommendation to the Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission. The City of Sparks has three, three-year appointments available to the Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission. This commission reviews the tentative budget of the Parks and Recreation Department; makes recommendations for improvements to parks and playgrounds to the City Council and aids by recommendation in the implementation of a beneficial parks and recreation program.

Motion: Move to confirm the Mayor's appointments of Terry Frugoli, Melanie Short and Matthew Robinson to the Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission for three-year terms ending 06/30/2023.
Moved by: Council Member Lawson
Seconded by: Council Member Bybee
Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir
No: None
Abstain: None
Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.2 Consideration, discussion and possible approval of the Mayor's recommendation to the Civil Service Commission for two, three-year appointments with terms ending 06/30/2023, (from the following pool of applicants listed in alphabetical order): Rita Greggio; Carlson Hawley and Matthew Robinson. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz requesting Council approval of the Mayor's recommendation to the Civil Service Commission. The Civil Service Commission has authority over all phases of the procedures for selection, appointment and promotion of employees in the civil service; for the appeal rights of such employees with regard to suspension, demotion, dismissal and disciplinary action; and for the transfer of employees within the City.

Motion: Move to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Rita Greggio and Carlson Hawley to the Sparks Civil Service Commission, each for a three-year term ending June 30, 2023.

Moved by: Council Member Lawson

Seconded by: Council Member Dahir

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.3 Consideration, discussion and possible appointment to the Regional Planning Governing Board for a three-year term, (from the following pool of applicants listed in alphabetical order): Donald Abbott; Paul Anderson; Charlene Bybee; Kristopher Dahir; Ed Lawson and Ron Smith. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz requesting Council appointment of one member of the Sparks City Council to represent the City of Sparks on the Regional Planning Governing Board. The Regional Planning Governing Board is responsible for regional planning policy issues and adopts the Regional Plan based on recommendations put forward by the Regional Planning Commission. The Board has ten members; three from Washoe County; four from the City of Reno; and three from the City of Sparks. Council Member Charlene Bybee's appointment expires on June 30, 2020.

Motion: Move to appoint Council Member Bybee to the Regional Planning Governing Board for a three-year term of June 30, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Moved by: Council Member Anderson

Seconded by: Council Member Lawson

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0

9.4 Consideration, discussion, and possible approval of a construction contract (C-5670) for the 2020 PCC (Portland Cement Concrete) Replacement Project with CFL Construction in the amount of \$92,320. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from Assistant City Manager John Martini and presented by Transportation Manager Amber Sosa requesting council approval of construction contract (C-5670) for the 2020 PCC (Portland Cement Concrete) Replacement Project. The project involves removing and replacing sidewalk panels, curb and gutter, driveways and ADA accessible pedestrian ramps throughout the city that are either in need of replacement or have been repaired with temporary asphalt.

Council asked which locations are included in this project. Transportation Manager Sosa stated the Transportation Department keeps a running list throughout the year of sites that need repair and address them all in one project. Included in this years' project are sidewalks on Stanford Way, Lincoln Way, 4th Street, 3rd Street, C Street, Greenbrae Drive, Howard Drive, Prater Way, Oasis Park Drive, Deep Creek Drive, Vista Terrace Lane, Belmar Drive, El Rancho Drive, Pradera Street, Cloud Peak Drive, and Eagle Mountain Drive.

Motion: Move to approve a construction contract (AC-5670) for the 2020 PCC Replacement Project with CFL Construction in the amount of \$92,320.

Moved by: Council Member Abbott

Seconded by: Council Member Bybee

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.5 Consideration, discussion, and possible approval of a claim against the City of Sparks in the amount of \$40,875.88 submitted by Lamar advertising based on the replacement cost to repair a billboard that was damaged by a City vehicle. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz and presented by Assistant City Attorney Brandon Sendall requesting Council approval of a claim against the City of Sparks submitted by Lamar advertising to repair a billboard that was damaged by a City vehicle. On May 26, 2019, a contract laborer drove a City work truck into a billboard located at the corner of Glendale Ave. and McCarran Blvd. The billboard suffered significant damage. Lamar Advertising, the owner of the billboard, recently submitted a claim to the City's Risk Management Committee seeking reimbursement for the actual replacement costs to repair the damaged billboard.

Council asked if and how much insurance covered this incident. Assistant City Attorney Brandon Sendall stated this is not covered by the City's insurance policy, but rather paid by the City's risk fund.

Council asked if once the vote on this claim is complete, will there be potential legal suits to come afterward. Mr. Sendall stated that a civil suit shouldn't be viable once the City pays the costs to repair the damage.

Motion: Move to approve the claim submitted by Lamar Advertising in the amount of \$40,875.88 for the damage to the billboard located at the southwest corner of Glendale Ave. and McCarran Blvd.

Moved by: Council Member Lawson

Seconded by: Council Member Anderson

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.6 Consideration, discussion, and possible approval of an Addendum to Agreement (A-3762) for Golden Eagle Regional Park Concession Services with SBAL, LLC. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz and presented by Assistant City Manager John Martini requesting Council approval of an addendum to agreement (A-3762) for Golden Eagle Regional Park Concession Services with SBAL, LLC. The fields at Golden Eagle Regional Park have been closed due to COVID-19 for several weeks and as a result, the concession contractor for Golden Eagle, SBAL, LLC, has been unable to operate its business. This proposed addendum to the agreement would pause SBAL's monthly rent payments to the City while fields at Golden Eagle Regional Park are closed due to COVID-19 and reduce SBAL's monthly rent payment by half once the fields reopen through December 31, 2020.

Council expressed gratitude to staff for helping small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion: Move to approve the Addendum to Agreement (A-3762) for Golden Eagle Regional Park Concession Services with SBAL, LLC.

Moved by: Council Member Bybee

Seconded by: Council Member Dahir

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.7 Consideration, discussion, and possible approval of Resolution 3363, waiving annual fees associated with Outdoor Dining and Encroachment Permits during Fiscal Year 2021 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from Assistant City Manager John Martini requesting Council approval of Resolution 3363. Because the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted many businesses that hold outdoor café permits, and the special events that generate customers for these businesses are likely to be curtailed or canceled,

City staff proposes to waive the rent payments for outdoor café permits for Fiscal Year 2021.

Council thanked staff for helping local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion: Move to approve Resolution 3363 to waive annual fees associated with Outdoor Dining and Encroachment Permits for Fiscal Year 2021.

Moved by: Council Member Abbott

Seconded by: Council Member Bybee

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.8 Consideration and possible ratification of the City Manager's declaration of a state of emergency in the City of Sparks due to a state of civil unrest in the Truckee Meadows on May 30, 2020. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz requesting Council ratification of the City Manager's declaration of a state of emergency in the City of Sparks due to a state of civil unrest in the Truckee Meadows. On May 30, 2020, the City Manager declared a state of emergency in Sparks based on rapidly deteriorating conditions in downtown Reno where peaceful protests earlier that day gave way to riots involving violence and significant property damage. The declaration served as the legal foundation for a city-wide curfew made necessary by both mutual-aid obligations of the City's police force and the dynamic nature of the event.

Council thanked staff for taking steps to protect our community.

Motion: Move to ratify the City Manager's declaration of a state of emergency in the City of Sparks on May 30, 2020, based on civil unrest in the Truckee Meadows.

Moved by: Council Member Dahir

Seconded by: Council Member Anderson

Yes: Council Members Abbott, Lawson, Anderson, Bybee, Dahir

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9.9 Update on employee contract negotiations – EXEMPT MEETING under NRS 288.220 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

An agenda item from City Manager Neil Krutz and presented by Assistant City Manager Doug Thornley. Pursuant to NRS 288.220 and the Nevada Open Meeting Law Manual, the City Manager will provide an update on the current labor negotiations during an exempt meeting.

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

None.

11. Planning and Zoning Public Hearings and Action Items

None.

12. Comments

12.1 Comments from the Public

City Clerk Lisa Hunderman read into record an email from Andrea Tavener thanking the Sparks Parks and Recreation Department for their dedication to public service and to the community.

12.2 Comments from City Council and City Manager

Council requested the reformation of the Diversity Commission and encouraged members of the public to reach out to the Sparks Police Chief for questions or concerns about what Sparks' Police Department is doing for the community. Council also encouraged public input and community conversations and stated there are many opportunities for the public can get involved, such as joining a board or commission. Mayor Smith stated the number one priority of Sparks is the safety of its people.

13. Adjournment

Council was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Ronald E. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Hunderman, City Clerk

>>>NJ