

**CITY OF NEVADA CITY
DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2010**

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- City Council Meetings are available on DVD. To order, Contact City Hall - cost is \$15.00 per DVD.
- Closed Session Meetings are not recorded.

Regular meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Harris, Coffman, McKay, Vice Mayor Bergman, Mayor Senum

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION: Summary of the Chamber of Commerce's Strategic Plan – David Painter, and Karen Marinovich

David Painter, President of the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce stated that this presentation is the first of several that will be made over the next year. He referred to the Strategic Plan handout that was included in the packet and stated that they will be revisiting the mission statement, vision and value statement. Chamber has revamped committee structure and the Board of Directors this year is ambitious and the merger with the Downtown Association shares same goals as the Chamber. All the right components are in place to drive the Chamber forward in the future.

Karen Marinovich stated that the Chamber has been slow in responding to economic times. Referring to the Strategic Plan - they are on task, completed Phase 2, and constructive processes are in place to date. Announced there is a Town Hall meeting scheduled on April 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at City Hall and welcomes ideas from all in the community and encourages all business owners to come. Requests individual input from each of the councilmembers on working together.

- Councilmember Coffman indicated concern about giving individual input; it must be done in a public forum as a whole Council. There's a fine line and a legal opinion that occurs when you start doing that as a councilmember.
- Councilmember Harris suggested that Council have time to think about it, re-agendized for an upcoming Council Meeting and bring dialog to the table to publicly discuss prior to the Town Hall meeting.
- Mayor Senum is pleased to see this happening and thanked them for taking a proactive approach.

Direction: City Manager Gene Albaugh to notice the Town Hall meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – PUBLIC COMMENT (Per Government Code Section 54954.3)

Al Bulf, Sacramento – Encouraged the Council to think in another direction when it comes to transportation. He distributed a handout on light rail vehicles. Thanked the Council for the opportunity to comment on planning considerations for Historic Nevada City's energy sustainability concerns.

Rio, 20145 Rector Road – Came before the Council a couple of years ago for an Anti-War Resolution and is hoping to have this subject on the agenda from time to time for discussion.

1. COUNCILMEMBERS REQUESTED ITEMS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Harris

- Appointed by Mayor as City Representative for the 95959 Google project and since it's on tonight's agenda we'll discuss at that time.

Councilmember McKay

- Park & Recreation meeting scheduled for Friday, February 26th and will report at next City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Coffman

- No committee report but mentioned that she found the website statistic report interesting, learning that the Nevada City website was visited 2840 times in a 30 day period and thanked Dawn Zydonis, Park & Recreation Supervisor for the email and requested to have this report provided monthly or bi-monthly. It would be interesting to know in May how many times the website will be visited because of the events happening in Nevada City.

Mayor Senum

- Planned two sustainability workshops with Darin Dinsmore & Associates; March 8th 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and March 23rd 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and will be agendaized. Suggests that residences, stakeholders and business owners attend to help create a measurable vision for the community that will set the City up for funding to help jump-start the economy and do some good things in town. Darin Dinsmore & Associates' participation of these workshops is part of their initial fee of \$10,000 which Mayor Senum is currently trying to secure.

2. CONSENT ITEMS:

A. Police Department Activity Report for December 2009.

Action: Motion by Coffman, seconded by Bergman to approve Consent Item A.
(Approved 5 – 0)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2010.
- B. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes for January 27, 2010 (as amended)

Action: Motion by Bergman, seconded by Harris to approve Regular City Council Minutes for February 10, 2010
(Approved 5 – 0)

Action: Motion by Bergman, seconded by Coffman to approve Regular City Council Minutes for January 27, 2010 as amended.
(Approved 5 – 0)

4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

Subject: Consider Update Information on the Tribute Trail Project Transition Wherein the Sierra Fund has Assumed the Fiscal and Administrative Role that was Formerly with the Friends of Deer Creek – Elizabeth "Izzy" Martin, CEO and Joanne Hild, Friends of Deer Creek

Izzy Martin reported that they received funding to build different pieces of the trail; the resources agency grant funding of \$912k but the State of California had funding problems of their own which created cash flow challenges for Friends of Deer Creek and came to the Sierra Fund for assistance. The Sierra Fund turned to the community and found investors to float a loan up to \$200k and able to secure bonds with the state for funding. The project can now start again, Sierra Fund taking over the "bank" aspects and Friends will provide the science and take over the long term management of the trail for at least 20 years for stewardship and maintenance. American Rivers will continue to do the flood management and Nevada County Land Trust will continue to build the trail.

- Mayor Senum stated this is a great example of coming together to working collectively, problem solving and a great partnership.
- Councilmember Harris stated that the \$912k grant, in partnership with the City is for the Deer Creek Environs.
- Izzy Martin stated that the trail is a Phase 1 and Phase 2 project that starts at Pioneer Park where the sign location will be and approved by Planning Commission. The trail is a gift to the future for Nevada City.

Direction: City Manager, Gene Albaugh to amend the Memorandum of Understanding with changes and come back to the next city council meeting.

Administration & Finance

Subject: Consider an Overview Presentation of Expanded Payment Processing Methods, Specifically E-checks and Credit Card Payments to the City – E. Christina Dabis, (retired) County Treasurer & Tax Collector

Chris Dabis and Rolando Navarro provided a power point presentation about Official Payments – a company offering more modern methods for accepting payments. They are a third party provider; the fees are based on a chart (2% - 3% processing fee to customer); Official Payments becomes the merchant, no direct contractual with credit card companies.

- Catrina Andes, Finance Director stated that her experience with electronic payments is a painless process to put in place, there is no direct interface with our system, a time saving method in the current processing of the checks.
- Councilmember Harris stated she likes the more modern process for productivity gains to staff, a 24/7 convenience mechanism available to customers and likes the error/omission concept.
- Councilmember Coffman asked how conspicuous is that the customer will pay fee on the website.
- Rolando indicated that it is visible right when they get on the website. For more information, Official Payments website is www.officialpayments.com.

Direction: Staff to assess this further and come back to Council with a contract.

Administration & Finance

Subject: Mid Year Budget Adjustments - Consider Resolution No. 2010-10 Adopting the Mid Year Budget Adjustments - Catrina Andes, Finance Director

Catrina Andes, Finance & Human Resources Director reported referring to the document included in the packet.

- Councilmember Coffman asked if NID money was included in the budget adjustments.
- Catrina Andes indicated that it had not but will include it and thanked her for bringing that to her attention.
- Councilmember Harris stated that Catrina made this a comprehensive report but didn't see the savings from City Engineer and City Attorney positions.
- Catrina Andes stated that the City Engineer is charged out to every grant fund and special revenue available right now therefore, showing no impact on the General Fund. The City Attorney is charging out his hourly time through departments and paid as a part-time employee and will keep a separate reporting from payroll.
- Councilmember Harris stated that everything we know is within the Mid-Year Budget Adjustments with a few upside exceptions, but we don't know how much degradation we'll see in the future in the revenue streams which is a concern. We'll need to be constantly ahead of that with ideas.

Action: Motion by McKay, seconded by Bergman to approve Resolution 2010-10 Adopting the Mid Year Budget Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2009/10
(Approved 5 – 0)

Public Works/City Engineer

Subject: Award of Bid for ARRA Paving Project on Broad Street to Western Engineering of Loomis, CA in the Amount of \$89,470 and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Contract. – Bill Falconi, City Engineer

Bill Falconi, City Engineer reported that the City has ARRA funds available to do reconstruction and paving on Broad Street between Union Street and Bennett Street. This work has been scheduled using these funds prior to the AMGEN Tour in May. He indicated that seven bids were received for the work with the engineer's estimate being \$91K-\$95K and announced the three lowest bids.

Action: Motion by Coffman, seconded by Harris to authorize the City Engineer to complete the negotiations with the top bid winner to satisfaction and to meet the scheduling plan and other requirements and go to next lowest bidder without having to come back to council and to award bid for ARRA Paving Project on Broad Street to Western Engineering of Loomis, CA in the amount of \$89,470 and authorizing the Mayor to sign contract.
(Approved 5 – 0)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Subject: Consider Resolution No. 2010-11 Consumnes, American, Bear & Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Participation for the City of Nevada City.

Gene Albaugh, City Manager stated that Councilmembers Bergman and Coffman reviewed the IRWMP document.

- Councilmember Coffman indicated that this document offers guidelines only.
- Councilmember Bergman stated the plan is informative and a worthwhile approach to a difficult subject that everyone will be facing. Integrated is the key word to water management as a whole with a comprehensive approach of goals.
- Councilmember Harris stated there is no cost to the City and there is potential lead to grants and educational funding.

Action: Motion by Harris, seconded by Bergman to approve Resolution No. 2010-11 Consumnes, American, Bear & Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Participation for the City of Nevada City
(Approved 5 – 0)

Subject: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-02 Amending and Adding to Chapter 5.20 of the Nevada City Municipal Code Authorizing Administrative Approval for Non-Exclusive Operation of Taxicabs in the City.

Action: Motion by Harris, seconded by McKay to read title only adopting Ordinance No. 2010-02.
(Approved 5 – 0)

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Request of Eileen Jorgensen for the City to Consider Acquisition of Bureau of Land Management Property on Cement Hill Road

Eileen Jorgensen made presentation referring to a map showing the area and a possible trail system connected on Cement Hill in the future, stated the need to keep history of BLM land alive and the City interested. She stated that the City could purchase the land for very little money thus bridging the city's properties together. The lower 11 acres form wetlands that feeds Hirschman's Pond which provides historical significant. The other piece that backs up to the airport property is a diseased forest. Eileen stated she would like to see the feasibility of moving forward with this property. It was pointed out that this property is within the City's Sphere of Influence.

- Gene Albaugh, City Manager will be attending a SPAM meeting next week where he will meet with Bill Haigh, head of BLM in this area.

Direction: Recommends the City Manager and staff to look into this further and report back to Council.
(Approved 5 – 0)

Subject: Consider Grant Application in Cooperation with Spiral Internet for the Google Fiber for Communities Ultra-high Speed Broadband and Approval of a Community Event on Sunday, March 14, 2010.

Councilmember Harris reported that Google is by having a competition amongst areas that contain a municipality to provide extremely fast broadband internet service through a grant application; Google proposes to provide and install the cable to bring the 95959 community up to this very high speed access, an incubator approach to see what happens; and to spur on the government to take more action about making sure the United States stays competitive in terms of broadband access. Spiral Studios suggests Nevada City giving it a try even though there is a good chance we would not be the winner giving the nature of our community. Spiral Studios is putting together a team to fast track the application and video (which is a requirement of the application) for a submittal date of March 26th. Meetings are held every Monday and Friday. The street closure request is for the filming of the video. Looking for support of the Council to approve grant application processing, there's no cost to the City, and

should 95959 win, it will be beneficial to the community and businesses (i.e. Nevada City Tech Center) plus provide great jobs.

- Vice Mayor Bergman stated that the technical aspects have already been done in connection with the Broadband Grant.
- Councilmember Coffman stated that she read on the 95959 Google website they were looking for a rural area to prove how this service would benefit this type of area.
- Councilmember McKay stated that winning a competition such as this will not only bring in great jobs but families to the area.

Action: Motion by Sally, seconded by Coffman for Council to support, participate, and approve the submittal of the 95959 Google Grant Application and approve a street closure on Sunday, March 14th to film the video (aka: kick-off event).
(Approve 5 – 0)

Subject: Consider Resolution No. 2010-XX for a Grant Application to the EPA for Funding of Arsenic Removal at Pioneer Park and Restoration of Little Deer Creek in Cooperation with the Friends of Deer Creek.

Action: This item was pulled from the Agenda at the request of the City Manager.

Subject: Approving Parking Lot Closure on Nevada Street on March 20th 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Rally by the Nevada County Peace Center – James Engelhardt

Rio was there on behalf of James Engelhardt and requested the closure of the parking lot on Nevada Street for a Peace rally. Approximately 100-150 people are expected to be in attendance.

- Councilmember Coffman requested that the rally start an hour earlier, 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Direction: Rio to complete the City Street Closure Request Form for City Hall to circulate amongst the Dept of Public Works, Police Dept, and Fire Dept to get their input. Also, move the event an hour earlier starting at 9:00 a.m. - Noon. Upon department approvals, the Council gives authority to the City Manager to approve the parking lot closure without the requestor having to come back to the Council.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Letter from the LAFCO about Possible Realignment of Nevada Irrigation District Service Boundary.

Action: Received and filed.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Action: Received and filed.

10. CLOSED SESSION:

None

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Action: Motion made by Harris, seconded by McKay to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.
(Approved 5 – 0)

Reinette Senum, Mayor

ATTEST:

Niel Locke, City Clerk

