

**CITY OF LANDER
WORK SESSION MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
240 LINCOLN STREET
LANDER, WY 82520
September 26, 2017**

THE CITY OF LANDER IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Governing Body Present: Mayor Del McOmie, Council President Cade Maestas, Vice President Monte Richardson, Council Members Melinda Cox, Dan Hahn, Mark Calhoun, Dick Hudson

Governing Body Absent:

City Staff Present: Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, Police Chief Bob Cecrle, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Treasurer Charri Lara, City Clerk Sarah Edlund

Mayor Called meeting to order at 6:30

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Staff & Council Updates

Council member Cox wondering about signage and what we are doing on the airbnb and people are talking about what to do to make sure our community can utilize this source. Mayor spoke about the airbnb issue and how this was an issue with zoning issues. There are 5 residences that are going to go see the BOA in October to get the conditional use permit to allow having an AirBnB in their homes. There are several sites other than just Airbnb that we will be looking at. We let people know by a note through the sites they have their homes listed on. We seem to be having some issues with neighbors that are having problems with each other. They have come in and spoke to the city staff and they may reach out to council members and we are trying to do what we can. Lance needs to talk about the INI project and Rajean also has something to talk about that.

Public Works Director Hopkin gave an update in the infiltration and inflow project. The water and sewer project lining portion has been completed. On Wyoming Street there have been many problems as there is an existing water line near the sewer line that was unanticipated. The sewer line has been replaced and is in, but the city will have to revisit the water line. It is an extra line that is used to boost the hospital. There are a few residences on that line. The paving will have to wait for a while. There are still flood work problems to do at the river on the bottom of Wyoming Street.

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Mayor stated that it was a very old sewer line that was installed in the 1940s or 1950s.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen stated that there have been street closures on Wyoming and 2nd. This is a concern as it is a main hospital route and is the signed hospital route. A citizen was redirected to go around Main St when she had an emergency yesterday and was trying to get to the hospital with a child who was having seizures. The City is in discussions with the engineer to make sure that doesn't happen again. A test strip for paving at the airport should be tomorrow or early Thursday. The weather station is now up and running. Chamber building update, 1st street is closed and it is a safety issue with all that is going on with the construction we cannot have the public around there. Council President Maestas wanted to know if 1st Street will be a one way when it is reopened. Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen said yes it will be a one way north.

Council Member Calhoun wanted to know if the City working on a plan for loss of revenue for the business that are located along 1st Street? Council President Maestas said we do not pay businesses that have access on public streets when road construction affects the short term revenue Those business are not going to pay the City back money we give them when we reopen this street and they receive more revenue to their business due to the improvements in the public areas around their businesses.

Council Member Cox wanted to know if we could put up signage. Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen stated that we recommended that the private business owners could put up signs. Mayor, the contractor said it would be a period of time before they can even open up one lane. They still have some big parts of the project to do including replacing the sewer line. This would be a major safety issue if we opened the street up more.

Chief Police wanted to make sure everyone was aware that it appeared that people are parking in the lot on 3rd and Main to use the park next door. 1/2 the departments were in domestic violence training last week, it was a great training but leaves the departments short staffed. There was a vehicle pursuit that a person drove by Safeway at over 100 miles per hour. The Officers made the decision not to make chase due the vehicles they were driving and the safety of the public. The City is in the process of replacing a police officer this is a long process and requires multiple tests and training. The pool of applicants does not include a qualified officer so it will be a year before that person will be fully trained. Crash reports are in to the state within 2.9 days. The police department is doing much better about this and is now ranked 6th in the state for their turnaround time to the state. The State Traffic Grant person was in and was very happy with how Lander is performing in this area and is using them as an example of how to do well.

City Treasurer Lara, Auditors are here for the next 2 weeks, successful WAMCAT meeting two weeks ago almost every town in the state was represented.

City Attorney Phillips, CDS is going to exercise their option to purchase, we need to make sure there are easements completed. The deed will be completed this next week.

City Clerk Edlund, Airbnb update, 5 residences are meeting with the BOA. Council would

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like to look at making sure the definitions of lodging and bed and breakfasts are clear and meet this type of need. Will be looking at the other sites and working to contact those homeowners who were not previously contacted.

Council Member Cox wanted to thank the city staff for the way that the CDS lease was handled. It was a delicate situation and was handled very well.

2. Job Descriptions

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen, a desk audit of all the positions in city hall was completed. The water clerk does a lot of billing and should report to the Treasurer we now have a Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to address some of the audit issues. These duties were already in the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's her job description. The planning and zoning duties went into the Building Inspectors job description. The note taking and public record portion of the planning duties will still be the Clerk's responsibilities. Vice President Monte Richardson noticed they seem to be missing "any other assigned duties as required." verbiage. Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen shared that it should be included and if it is missing it needs to be added.

City Treasurer Lara stated that the Treasurer Job description should say CPFA Certified Public Financial Advisor not CMFA in the Treasurer Job description on page 3.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen has an updated on the GIS job description Brian is now spending 3/4 of his time here at City Hall, doing GIS work. It is a great asset to the City to have this ability.

Council Member Cox, Who now does the signing up of new employees?

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen, the Deputy Clerk will sign them up but the designated HR supervisor will stay with the Clerk position. She mentioned that having the staff participate in their desk audits was a great source of information for the positions.

3. Liquor Law Changes

Mayor there have been many changes this year in Liquor Laws. Room vs building, different license types, we have examples of what other towns are doing. Wants council input on the hour changes, 24 hour operations vs what we currently have now. Can make things more restrictive than the state statues but not less.

City Clerk Edlund a couple of the major changes are that the wording was changed from "dispensing room" to the whole building, the businesses are now allowed to be open 24 hours unless restricted by the local authority. There is a new license that is a seasonal license that is allowed for up to 3 months. City Attorney Phillips mentioned that another change was that minors can now serve alcohol to patrons in restaurants.

Council President Maestas is concerned with the dispensing room changes. What if Mr. D's says the whole building is the dispensing room, what happens when a 10 year old comes in without their guardian? Will they be allowed to be in the store? City Attorney Phillips and Sarah will check with the liquor division to see what they recommend on this issue.

Kyle Vassilopoulos representative of the Lander Bar asked to speak.

Mr. Vassilopoulos stated there is a division between dispensing room vs retail licenses. The new law also allows business owners to sell in an outside area next to the building. This would

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be a space like the deck at the Lander Bar. As for the 24 hour ability, he only sees a need for extra hours on Sundays when a holiday falls on a Sunday. Will still probably be closing early don't have as many customers on Sundays, but if the 4th of July falls on a Sunday it may be worth looking into making it 6 am to 2 am seven days a week. That would alleviate the need to have the council grant a resolution to allow for those special celebrations.

Mayor, as an association of governments we try to keep these rules consistent between towns, but things are changing and we need to move forward with this. There were 3 different bills that made these changes. Lander should make it as easy as possible. City Clerk Edlund, if the hours on Sunday were changed to 6:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. it would take away the need for these additional resolutions.

Council Member Cox stated the hours of liquor establishments do not create the substance abuse issues we see in our community, there are other outside factors that contribute to these issues. She agrees that the 6 to 2 is good compromise for the 24 hour changes.

Mayor, the legislature decided that there are some changes on the parked licenses that don't really affect us too much. What are your thoughts about 6 to 2? All in attendance agrees it is a good change. Council President Maestas was concerned if we had any requests from business owners want the 24 hour period? There have not been any requests from business owners for the 24 hour period. Mr. Vassilopoulos stated this change is really just concerning the high volume "special" days. Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen, the 24 hour period came up in Riverton from a few businesses but the council said no. Mayor wants to know what the next step would be. City Attorney Phillips stated Sarah and I will do some research and look at these changes. A seasonal license may not be needed here. Council President Maestas, could someone like the old timers rodeo want to do one for the summer.

Mr. Vassilopoulos is concerned that maybe someone from out of state would want to come to Lander and get a seasonal license for the summer months, which would cause them to compete with local businesses that rely on the summer income to get through the winter months. Or what if one of the non-profits that put events on gets a seasonal permit, it would cut out revenue to the local businesses. Public Works Director Hopkin, what do we do now? Council President Maestas said that they are required to get a malt beverage permit. Another concern brought up by Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen is that insurance needs to be considered as it is a requirement of the malt beverage permit.

Mr. Vassilopoulos said that the Lander Bar is very willing to assist those who have to apply for a malt beverage permits to utilize his license, as long as two of his employees assist with the events they could then utilize his license instead of having to get a permit. He is more than willing to assist and/or sponsor events to allow for this type of situation.

Council President Maestas said he is good with outdoor space as long as it does not use public space; there is a location that would like to use a sidewalk and that is not a proper location for this.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen asked Kyle if he wanted to talk about the road closure on 1st and Main St?

Mr. Vassilopoulos shared that he is concerned about an unended road closure that will negatively affect a business. Was there an ordinance to vacate the property? No, it is a public

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street so we are not vacting anything. Mayor, we are working on the street and it causes public safety issues. We will get the street open as soon as we safely can.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

The City of Lander
A Municipal Corporation

By: _____
Del McOmie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah Edlund, City Clerk

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