

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS  
JUNE 24, 2013

Present: President King, President Pro Tem Bennett, Councilmembers Collins, Gaebler, Knight, Martin, Miller, Pico, and Snider. Also present, Chief of Staff Neumann, City Attorney/Chief Legal Officer Melcher, and Legislative Counsel Massey.

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

City Clerk Johnson called the roll. All Councilmembers were present.

2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

A. Add Supplemental Appropriations for Special Events to Item 10, Councilmember Reports and Open Discussion

B. Remove the Extra Agenda topic, Public Works Director Confirmation.

C. A possible Memorial Hospital employee topic may be added as an Extra Item after the Executive Session.

3. **REGULAR MEETING COMMENTS 6-25-2013**

There were no comments.

4. **REVIEW OF 6-10-2013 WORK SESSION MINUTES**

There were no changes.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION (estimated time will be a minimum of one hour)**

Legislative Counsel Massey read the legal request to go into Closed Executive Session. Closed Executive Session was approved on a 7-2 vote.

6. **STAFF AND APPOINTEE REPORTS**

A. Agenda Planner – Sarah Johnson, City Clerk  
No questions or direction given.

B. Memorial Health System Enterprise Update – Kara Skinner, CFO  
No questions or direction given.

## 7. PRESENTATIONS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. *Not One More Child Coalition* – Sallie Clark, El Paso County Commissioner and Dan May, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney, provided background that inspired the *Not One More Child Coalition*. They spoke to engage and educate the community in a common goal that not one more child die due to abuse or neglect in El Paso County. Resources they have produced include a website, [www.NotOneMoreChild.net](http://www.NotOneMoreChild.net), a hotline, 1-800-4-A-Child (counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week), and a positive parenting DVD to broadcast the message that alternatives are available.

Rick Bengtsson, Executive Director of the El Paso County Department of Human Services, provided explanation on why such a large number of incidents have occurred in El Paso County: the large population of the county; the large number of those under 18; and, the transitory nature of many families due to their military assignments. He stated they are reaching out to let citizens know there are resources available to provide the support many of these individuals need.

## 8. ITEMS FOR INTRODUCTION

- A. A Resolution providing written Notice of Termination of the Intergovernmental Agreement concerning the El Paso County Emergency Services Agency (ESA), dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011.

Tommy Smith, Interim Fire Chief, stated that the ESA agreement has been in place since 1995. Since then they have seen an increase in call volume related to medical calls in the City. ESA governs all 911 calls in the County with 85% of those calls taking place in Colorado Springs. 75% of the time the Fire Department arrives on the scene first, therefore, they would like to manage the contract for the citizens of Colorado Springs. They want a system that is dynamic and flexible to meet the expectations of the Affordable Care Act that will drive a lot of changes for how emergency services are delivered.

Councilmember Gaebler stated since City Council is involved in IGA's she believes it would be beneficial to have one Councilmember involved in the procurement process since they are being asked to terminate an IGA before knowing what is in the future for our fire and EMS services.

Councilmember Martin described the need to respect and value our regional partnerships.

President King asked for a quick explanation of the financial impact and how a solution will come about. Interim Fire Chief Smith responded they had issued an RFP a month ago and, in that, are asking to recover some of the costs that we expend as a City for EMS services. He explained the Fire Department budget is about \$57 million. In looking at the services provided, we are asking the contractor

to cover a portion of the costs of those services. We approximated \$3 million, but plan to set down with the bidders to come to a solution. It is planned this will take place over the course of the next couple of months.

**9. ITEMS UNDER STUDY**

- A. President King indicated that on-going discussions about Memorial Health System employees may result in an action after tomorrow's Executive Session. Councilmembers should watch for additional information coming forward on the matter.

**10. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION**

- A. Councilmember Bennett reported that he and Councilmember Martin hosted a meeting with the I-25 economic development group earlier today. He stated all four cities passed the resolution on the same day that Colorado Springs did. They reviewed a video of an ad to promote the program. He will send the link to other Councilmembers.
- B. Councilmember Gaebler announced that she held her first town hall meeting last week. She expressed appreciation for the help she received from Council and Utilities staff. She stated there was lively discussion relative to old city trees, regulating marijuana, etc.
- C. Councilmember Pico stated he had accompanied Police Chief Carey and Interim Fire Chief Smith during the Black Forest fire. He expressed concern that the police were some of the first responders, noting they were not adequately equipped for wildfires. He would like Council to consider further discussion about their need for supplemental equipment.
- D. Bridging her transition from service as Council Administrator, Aimee Cox requested Council provide more specific direction for supplemental funding for this year's Balloon Classic. She was unclear if there is to be an appropriation and, if so, the amount.

Councilmember Collins responded she understood all the costs were covered in the past and would support doing so this year, although she is generally not in favor of funding events.

Councilmembers Miller, Martin, Pico and Bennett acknowledged the safety concerns and all emphasized the need to establish criteria, and clear guidelines for these events and would like to a list of associated costs when considering supplemental requests.

Councilmember Knight asked, since there had been no accidents in the past, what was the catalyst requiring the street closure, not only for the Balloon Classic but also the road closure for Old Colorado City's Farmers' Market.

Chief of Staff Neumann responded the event organizer knew that there was going to be a variance that they would be responsible for since the beginning of the year and they have been paying that variance since 2009. She also stated the Balloon Classic is a for-profit event and many non-profits were not approved for LART funding this year. She stated Council is welcome to appropriate as they wish from the LART Reserve Fund, but cautioned, this would be setting a precedent. Brianna Goodwin, the City's new Event Coordinator, added that, in this new position they have reviewed City codes and standards to ensure safety guidelines are followed for these types of events which resulted in the recommended road closures. Police Chief Carey explained the safety concerns and provided a map illustrating the proposed street closures.

Councilmember Collins asked Chief Carey to send her a list of the road closure hours and asked if these were published for the benefit of businesses that could be directly impacted by the closures.

Councilmember Gaebler asked Ms. Goodwin to provide Council with the information on the City's code and policies to which she referred regarding health, safety, and welfare. Councilmember Knight added that he would like to see the figures for past years' events and related costs on a reference sheet, along with relevant rules and regulations for background review.

Councilmembers Pico, Miller, Collins and Bennett acknowledged the immediate need, yet reiterated that they need criteria, consistency, and a clear policy for future events. Councilmember Bennett also stated he would be in favor of sharing costs with the organizer for this event, however, not cover the entire cost.

Councilmember Snider asked if they were going to have a work session on this matter. Councilmember Martin expressed a need for immediate action on this matter. Ms. Cox asked for clear direction and explained past years' funding amounts.

President King asked that they go forward with the full amount for the initial Ordinance and work from there.

- E. President King asked about watering restrictions and whether there could be a change from the 2 day watering plan to a 3 day plan, while utilizing the same amount of water. Councilmember Miller agreed it would be good to look at the option. Councilmember Knight added comment relative to the review and reporting provided by CSU and the decisions made by prior Council. Councilmembers Pico and Gaebler recommended it be left the way it is for the summer and take a look at it again next year when we see where we are at that time.

## 11. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 4:32 p.m.