

MINUTES

JOINT CITY/COUNTY WORK SESSION
MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2014
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
211 WEST ASPEN AVENUE
4:00 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ryan called the Joint City/County Work Session of June 2, 2014, to order at 4:00 p.m.

Notice of Option to Recess Into Executive Session

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the City Council and to the general public that, at this regular meeting, the City Council may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice and discussion with the City's attorneys for legal advice on any item listed on the following agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present:

Flagstaff City Council
MAYOR NABOURS
VICE MAYOR EVANS (arrived at 4:18 p.m.)
COUNCILMEMBER BAROTZ
COUNCILMEMBER BREWSTER
COUNCILMEMBER ORAVITS
COUNCILMEMBER OVERTON
COUNCILMEMBER WOODSON

Councilmembers absent:

Coconino County Board of Supervisors
CHAIRMAN RYAN
SUPERVISOR ARCHULETA
SUPERVISOR BABBOTT
SUPERVISOR FOWLER
SUPERVISOR METZGER

Others present: City Manager Kevin Burke, County Manager Cynthia Seelhammer, City Attorney Michelle D'Andrea, County Attorney William Ring.

3. **Public Participation (Non-Agenda Items Only):**

*Public Participation enables the public to address the council about items that **are not** on the prepared agenda. Public Participation appears on the agenda twice, at the beginning and at the end of the work session. You may speak at one or the other, but not both. Anyone wishing to comment at the meeting is asked to fill out a speaker card and submit*

it to the recording clerk. When the item comes up on the agenda, your name will be called. You may address the Council up to three times throughout the meeting, including comments made during Public Participation. Please limit your remarks to three minutes per item to allow everyone to have an opportunity to speak. At the discretion of the Chair, ten or more persons present at the meeting and wishing to speak may appoint a representative who may have no more than fifteen minutes to speak.

Chelsea Keiper addressed the City Council and Board of Supervisors thanking the City for their efforts in translation services for Council meetings, press releases, and other documents.

4. Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) Presentation

Wildland Fire Manager Paul Summerfelt introduced District Ranger Mike Ellson.

Mr. Ellson stated that there is a unique situation in Flagstaff with this being the first partnership of its kind. The Forest Service is focusing efforts on work on the ground where there is current NEPA clearance and they are working closely with City and County officials to reach out to other partners.

Mr. Ellson introduced Erin Phelps, Project Manager for the Forest Service, who provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

- ▶ FLAGSTAFF WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT 2014 DEIS
- ▶ PURPOSE AND NEED
- ▶ DRY LAKE HILLS (DLH) SOIL BURN SEVERITY MAP
- ▶ MORMON MOUNTAIN (MM) SOIL BURN SEVERITY MAP
- ▶ FWPP PROPOSED ACTION
- ▶ SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTIONS BY ALTERNATIVE
- ▶ DLH – ALTERNATIVE 2: PROPOSED ACTION WITH CABLE CORRIDORS
- ▶ MM – ALTERNATIVE 2: PROPOSED ACTION WITH CABLE CORRIDORS
- ▶ DLH – ALTERNATIVE 3: PROPOSED ACTION WITHOUT CABLE CORRIDORS
- ▶ MM – ALTERNATIVE 3: PROPOSED ACTION WITHOUT CABLE CORRIDORS
- ▶ DLH SOIL BURN SEVERITY MODELED PREDICTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3
- ▶ MM SOIL BURN SEVERITY MODELED PREDICTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3
- ▶ DLH – ALTERNATIVE 4: MINIMAL TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE
- ▶ MM – ALTERNATIVE 4: MINIMAL TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE
- ▶ DLH SOIL BURN SEVERITY MODELED PREDICTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE 4
- ▶ MM SOIL BURN SEVERITY MODELED PREDICTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE 4
- ▶ FIRE SEVERITY IMPACTS
- ▶ SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE IMPACTS
- ▶ IMPACTS TO MEXICAN SPOTTED OWLS
- ▶ ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS
- ▶ PLANNING TIMELINE (NEPA)
- ▶ PUBLIC OUTREACH
- ▶ QUESTIONS

Mayor Nabours stated that these areas are surrounded by the 4FRI areas; he asked the status of the DEIS of the surrounding areas and if they are on the same track. Scott Russell with the Forest Service stated that the project is a little ahead in terms of timing, it has a DEIS and they are gathering comments. It is anticipated that the final is out in August for public comment. There is potential that some of this work could be implemented as part of that contract.

Councilmember Brewster asked if alternative four with minimal treatment would take longer due to there being no use of specialized equipment. Ms. Phelps stated that it could feasibly be treated in less time due to the lower acreage. Less area is being treated but there is still an impact. Ms. Phelps went on to say that one alternative does not need to be picked over another; if desired, the alternatives can be mixed and matched to suit needs.

Supervisor Metzger asked what the product might be from the thinning and how the community might benefit from the creation of jobs. Ms. Phelps explained that there will be a lot of small diameter material, not much over 18 inches would come off the mountain. The lower areas off steep slopes have been identified as permit areas where people can gather and burn personally in their homes. They use local contractors when possible and they are currently working on a contract with the State using the Department of Correction crews.

5. City/County Road Repair Initiatives

County Manager Cynthia Seelhammer introduced Alan McGuire who provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

- ▶ TRANSPORTATION IN NORTHERN ARIZONA
- ▶ ARIZONA'S TRANSPORTATION NETWORK
- ▶ TRANSPORTATION IS FOUNDATIONAL
- ▶ FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRUST FUND
- ▶ ARIZONA HIGHWAY USER REVENUE FUND
- ▶ RESPONSE ELSEWHERE
- ▶ LOCAL RESPONSE
- ▶ KEY TO ECONOMIC VITALITY
- ▶ SAFE TO SCHOOLS AND ON-TIME TO WORK
- ▶ IMPORTANT QUALITY OF LIFE MEASURE
- ▶ A KEY ECONOMIC DRIVER

Dr. Fred Solop continued the presentation.

- ▶ ROAD MAINTENANCE RESEARCH
- ▶ RESEARCH STRATEGY: 2013-2014
- ▶ 2013 TELEPHONE SURVEY RESULTS
- ▶ 2014 FOCUS GROUP RESULTS
- ▶ VARIOUS QUOTES FROM FOCUS GROUPS
- ▶ 2014 TELEPHONE SURVEY RESULTS
- ▶ SUPPORT FOR COUNTY SALES TAX INCREASE TO MAINTAIN ROADS
- ▶ SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC COUNTY TAX INCREASE PROPOSALS

Ms. Seelhammer continued the presentation.

- ▶ POTENTIAL COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE SALES TAX INITIATIVE
- ▶ WHY NOW?
- ▶ NO NEW REVENUE SCENARIO SUMMARY
- ▶ NO NEW REVENUE IMPACTS
- ▶ NO NEW REVENUE: ROAD SERVICE IMPACTS
- ▶ NO NEW REVENUE: TRAFFIC ISSUES
- ▶ ROAD MAINTENANCE SALES TAX OPTIONS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD
- ▶ 1/4 CENT – COUNTY TRANSPORTATION TAX
- ▶ 1/4 CENT – ROAD SERVICE IMPACTS
- ▶ EXTEND 1/8 CENT EXISTING COUNTY SALES TAX
- ▶ TERM OF ROAD MAINTENANCE SALES TAX
- ▶ NEXT STEPS

Mr. Burke continued the presentation:

- ▶ ROAD REPAIR AND STREET SAFETY INITIATIVE
- ▶ CITY OF FLAGSTAFF – TIMELINE
- ▶ CITY OF FLAGSTAFF CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE – OPTIONS
- ▶ CITY AND COUNTY COORDINATED OUTREACH

Supervisor Archuleta asked how many years the proposed tax will be for. Mr. Burke stated that it could be anywhere from 20 to 25 years; the 20 years is necessary for bonding and for the ongoing maintenance.

Mayor Nabours asked if the ballot question will call out the intended and restricted use of the tax. Mr. Burke stated that the idea is to clearly identify the intent of the funding but they do not want to put so much specificity on it that it becomes overly restrictive.

Mayor Nabours asked for an explanation of the concept of stacking and if the school district being on the same ballot will factor into that. Dr. Solop responded that stacking occurs when there are at least two ballot questions that deal with roughly the same issue. If the school district is included on the ballot people generally separate those issues as being different.

Mayor Nabours stated that due to time constraints in the agenda the Council and Board of Supervisors will move on to the next agenda item and if need be can return to this item for further discussion.

6. Presentation by Northern Arizona University President Dr. John D. Haeger re Student Housing

Dr. Haeger addressed the Council and Board of Supervisors with background information about student population. There was a change in how the university educated students when the State legislature began funding based on performance. Today, the University is in strong financial shape and there has been spectacular enrollment growth. Growth has benefits and problems. NAU has worked cooperatively with the City over time to address housing and transportation issues. NAU is in the top 2% of the universities that offer on-campus housing. This fall NAU will be able to accommodate 9,000 students on campus.

The University philosophy on housing is that there is a strong recommendation that all freshman students live on campus. That is top priority as research suggests that students have a better success rate when they spend their first year on campus. NAU is aware of and understands the issue of housing and its pressure on the community. He said he was there to offer further collaboration with the City and County to find solutions.

Supervisor Archuleta noted that the NAIPTA and NAU partnership is a great example of the partnerships that exist. Some institutions that own land partner with developers to provide housing, she asked if that was an option for NAU. President Haeger stated that the University knows that enrollment growth is important but also knows that they cannot build residence halls as they did in the past. This is why the University partners with private companies to put additional housing on campus.

Supervisor Babbott stated that there is a goal for 5,000 more students to come to NAU. Dr. Haeger indicated that the 5,000 is a stated goal in the master plan but it is being relooked at as the rate of growth has slowed down. Supervisor Babbott asked if there is collaboration with private developments to determine how they fit with the University and community needs. Dr. Haeger stated that those conversations tend to be very fruitful and the University is always willing to pursue partnerships including student housing.

Vice Mayor Evans suggested a round table forum to discuss the housing issue. Dr. Haeger offered that the teams from the City, County, and University often meet to discuss problems and solutions. Vice Mayor Evans asked that community members be included in the groups for discussion. Dr. Haeger agreed and urged promptness in the scheduling of the meeting so the incoming President can have a basis to discuss.

A break was held from 6:05 p.m. through 6:18 p.m.

Councilmember Barotz suggested that when a project comes into the City, staff should contact NAU to notify them that there is a potential project and then NAU can contact the developer to sit down and discuss issues and intent. This would demonstrate collaboration and good partnership.

Supervisor Archuleta stated that student dormitory style housing seems to be a thing of the past and students are more interested in apartment style housing. She asked what it would take to get more housing on campus that is housing students want to see and utilize.

She also suggested that United Way may be a good resource in facilitating a community discussion. She offered her assistance and participation in a group or committee to help establish and organize a meeting. Councilmember Barotz stated that the Museum of Northern Arizona may be a good resource; they have been hosting hot topic cafes that allow a safe environment for people to express themselves.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the student housing development planned at Arrowhead Village Mobile Home Park:

- Chelsea Keiper
- Robert Douglass
- Charlie Silver

- Charlotte Welch
- Gloria Valencia
- Victor Page
- Jamey Hasapis

Comments received:

- The City needs to develop clear guidelines on how developments come in to the community.
- The project does not belong in an existing neighborhood.
- Traffic impacts of the development on the neighborhood will be substantial.
- It is disheartening that those with less are the first to go.
- There is not adequate availability for the displaced residents.
- The developer should take more responsibility to better accommodate the displaced residents.
- Development is good so long as it fits in the community and within the desires of the community, this development does not.

At this time the Council and Board of Supervisors returned to the discussion of item 5.

Councilmember Oravits stated that people really just want to know what the money is going to be used for. Ms. Seelhammer added that roads are a fundamental aspect of the community and the more specific the use, the more support there tends to be.

Mr. Burke stated that the utility issues that are most concerning very rarely fall under the most damaged streets. Solving the utility problem will not happen with addressing the most damaged roads. It is necessary to save rate capacity for utility repairs in the future and not use that capacity for this issue.

Supervisor Archuleta stated that one of the big differences between counties and cities is that counties have only the authority that the legislature allows. For a sales tax the County only has a half cent tax capacity left to use; there are so many needs within the county and very limited resources to utilize.

Chairman Ryan offered that the County is looking to get some stability in the roads with the tax increase; it is not going to fix all of the problems but it will help stabilize what is existing.

Supervisor Metzger stated that in addition to collaborating she feels that the County can be looking at other things to help lighten the load. For example, the Forest Service can find more material debts, the County can help in the effort to empower citizens in the County to plow their own roads where they have not been able to do so due to legal issues.

7. Informational Items To/From Chairman, Supervisors and County Manager/Mayor, Council and City Manager.

Chairman Ryan thanked the City for their continued partnership and thanked them for their assistance with the Slide Fire.

Vice Mayor Evans thanked the Board of Supervisors for meeting with the City Council.

Supervisor Archuleta thanked the City for their hospitality and conversation.

Councilmember Barotz thanked the Board of Supervisors and asked the City Manager to invite the firefighters who worked the Slide Fire to a Council meeting in order to recognize and thank them for their work on the Slide Fire.

Supervisor Metzger thanked the City and County staff for working together with the Type 1 Team on the Slide Fire.

Councilmember Brewster thanked the Board of Supervisors for being there and thanked the Firefighters and the communication team for their hard work on the Slide Fire.

Supervisor Fowler thanked the City Council for hosting the Board of Supervisors.

8. Public Participation

None.

9. Adjournment

The Flagstaff Joint City Council/County Board of Supervisors Work Session of June 2, 2014, adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK