

Arvada City Council Meeting, July 7, 2014

Notes taken by Susan Shirley

In attendance were Mayor Marc Williams, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McGoff, and Councilmembers Don Allard, Bob Dyer, Bob Fifer, Jerry Marks, and John Marriott.

Public attendance at 6 p.m. was 11 people, and at 6:30 it was 10 people.

Minutes from the June 16 meeting were approved with no changes.

Public Comment:

Chris Hill of Odyssey Beerwerks taproom at 5535 W. 56th Avenue, wishes for some relief from the relatively high food truck permit fees charged by the city. He said that the fees are \$100 per month or \$500 per year, higher than other cities, and the expense precludes most vendors from doing business here. His taphouse doesn't serve food, and there are no nearby restaurants or fast food places; the taproom is in the industrial area near 58th and Lamar. They rely upon food trucks to supply food for their patrons, and he asked that Council look into the problem sooner rather than later, as it is getting more and more difficult to get food trucks into this area. Mayor Marc Williams said that he would much rather the people be drinking beer on a full stomach, and asked that staff look into the matter, saying that it is not a significant source of revenue anyway.

Rick Percoco spoke in favor of industrial hemp, and wanted to have Council differentiate between it and recreational marijuana. He stated that industrial hemp can only contain three-tenths of a percent of THC, the psychoactive component of marijuana; it has some 10,000 to 50,000 known uses in the fields of papermaking, food, textiles, industrial products, and more. He would like to have an exception to the marijuana prohibition which would allow growers of industrial hemp, or secondary users, who would buy the raw materials and make products from them, here in Arvada. He gave his opinion that Council voted for the ban because of their own personal biases against people who get high, and he said that he, himself, is a veteran and has also not ever taken any mind-altering drugs, including alcohol, nor has he ever even smoked tobacco.

Mayor Williams responded that he will have city staff look into the matter, and will talk with Percoco. He said he will look to legal counsel to determine if industrial hemp even falls within the ban as things stand now.

Ashley Irlando, Development Officer of Ralston House, invited everyone to participate in the upcoming .5K Endurance Race, a grueling three-block-long challenge known as Arvada's Shortest Race. Ralston House, a nonprofit child advocacy center, expects to serve at least a thousand children this year, and hopes for an equal number of participants in the race. Irlando said that the children who come to Ralston House take a giant step forward by reporting their abuse; we can, she said, take a few steps in support of them. She also said that the Pinwheel project this past spring raised just over \$47,000 for the Ralston House. The race will be August 2; registration is at 8:30 in Olde Town Square, the race starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 10:01 a.m. (just kidding!) and there will be live music, free coffee, pancakes, and face painting. And ambulances, lots and lots of ambulances for those who neglect to join Mayor Pro Tem Mark McGoff in stretching exercises before embarking on the journey.

Consent Agenda:

R14-093 is to authorize acquisition of land at 5609 Lamar Street (Wright's German Motors) for a right-of-way. The sellers are Josef and Inge Reith and the land is to be used for the Lamar Street sidewalk extension, project number 13-ST-16.

R14-094 is to authorize a contract for redesign and reconstruction of the parking lot at the Arvada Food Bank, and reconstruction of the parking lot at Meyers Pool. The contract is for \$202,219, and the contractor is PLM Asphalt and Concrete, Inc., of Aurora.

Both items were approved, 7 to 0.

Resolutions:

R14-095 is for an agreement between the City and Crested Butte company Managing Results, LLC, to design and implement an employee performance methodology system. The contract is for \$86,075. The system is meant to tie in with the city's change to performance-based budgeting and the resultant strategic goals of each department; this system should make it possible for individuals to understand their own contributions to, and impact on, the success of city government. City Manager Mark Deven said that the budget conversion represents an "intensive business transformation." He said that the police department has been seeking a way to measure performance, and volunteered to be the first department to implement the system.

This resolution passed, 7 to 0.

R14-096 allows the addition of five members to the Arts Council, to serve as the Founding Board for the non-profit organization if it is placed in charge of the Arvada Center. The new members are Ken Fellman, Nancy Gary, Meyer Saltzmann, Terry Stevinson, and Stephanie Tuthill. Mark Deven said these are all avid supporters of the Arvada Center and also of Arvada; they can be counted on to look out for the best interests of both. In response to questioning by Mayor Pro Tem McGoff, Deven said that the first draft of the partnership operating agreement should be done by the end of the year, possibly as soon as early November.

The motion by Bob Dyer, I heard as R14-095 again. Not sure it matters, and I could be mistaken. It was approved, 7 to 0.

Public Comment: None.

Reports from City Council: Jerry Marks had good things to say about the CML conference at Breckenridge and that he learned a lot at their seminars. He also said that he met with the Festivals Committee, which he called a "well-oiled machine."

Bob Fifer agreed that the CML conference went well and that he presented FirstNet and will do so again next year. He said that next week he will be in Washington DC to speak with the FCC about local control matters regarding cell tower placement. Fifer spoke briefly about the 4th of July, saying that he hears from people who don't live here that Arvada has the best, longest fireworks display, which brings in people from other parts of the metro area. He applauded the city and the Festivals Commission for a great job.

John Marriott spoke about the new Ralston Central Park, saying it is very well attended, that the splash pad is as popular as was expected, and that the vistas are excellent.

Mayor Williams talked about the memorial service he attended on Wednesday for Dick Walter, a former member of the Planning Commission, North Jeffco Parks and Recreation, the Chamber of Commerce, and Kiwanis. Walter suffered a massive heart attack in late June while on a fishing trip.

Reports from City Manager: The City Council Workshop for June 14 will be about the retail market, with information from AEDA, and an update on the Comprehensive Plan.

Report from City Attorney: None.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40.