

CITY OF LEADVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
Tuesday, May 12, 2015

<p>City Council Members <u>Present:</u> Luke Finken   Gwen Shepherd   Mike Canty Greg Labbe   Jake Mohrmann   Jaime Stuever <u>Absent:</u> Max Duarte</p>	<p><u>Staff Present:</u> Joseph Swyers, City Clerk Sarah Dallas, Planning Official, Administrative Services Manager, and Deputy City Clerk</p>	<p><u>Others present:</u></p>
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City Council met in a special public session in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stuever called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll Call was taken.

(6:01 PM) Public comments on items not on the agenda: None.

(6:01 PM) Agenda Revisions: None

(6:01 PM) Snow Removal Plan.

- Street equipment to have decals for positive identification to avoid the city being blamed for what others do.
- Councilmembers Finken explained the presented snow removal plan.
- Plowing to the middle of Harrison was discussed but is not in the plan. Snow blower is needed for Harrison.
- Suggestion to include in the plan the street department's actual costs rather than budget numbers.
- Requiring sidewalks to be shoveled in the 100 block off of Harrison.
- 2008 failure of ordinance to require snow removal on sidewalks. Sidewalks to nowhere.
- Enforcing snow removal requirement on sidewalks from the fire station to 12th Street and other sidewalks.
- Distribution of the snow removal plan brochures.
- Not call it a snow removal plan because that would result in expectations and complaints.
- Call it a guide or an information document.
- Many streets have no curbs. Code says 6 ft from edge of pavement for throwing snow.
- Mayor Stuever and Councilmember Labbe stated that new people who move to a mountain community must understand the realities of snow plowing, limited budget, how small the streets are.
- City Clerk Swyers distributed the original Larimer County 1990s "Code of the West" guide to newcomers which has been adopted or used as an informative guide by many counties in the west.
- Councilmember Labbe suggested that real estate agents should inform buyers about some of the items in the "Code of the West".
- Mayor Stuever suggested that council should recognize a "Code of the West" as a guide for newcomers to Leadville if not formally adopting it.

(6:32 PM) Marijuana Ballot Referendum.

- How many years for an exemption. Give new businesses three years.
- How to tax one industry and not others. Do we need to apply it to all wholesalers?
- Sin taxes target liquor and tobacco. There are also gasoline taxes.
- Who will collect it? We don't have a tax collector. May need a separate city treasurer.
- Tax is being paid by the customers.
- How to determine sales value for transfers to the cultivators who own retail stores. Perhaps fair market value.
- We can look at their books, but their production figures are confidential information because release of that information tells competitors how they are doing.
- A tax on transferring a business – similar to real estate transfer taxes as a percentage of sale value.
- At least 5% but perhaps as much as 10%.
- Present total tax is 25% plus state and local sales taxes – 31.9% in Lake County.
- What if cultivators produce far more than they can sell? How do they dispose of it?
- This should be on the ballot.
- Submit suggestions for 5% to 10% and three year exemption to city attorney to draft language.

(7:07 PM) Street Sales Tax Ballot Referendum.

- Previous efforts, the need for street improvements.
- Failure of that ballot issue because of lack of campaigning and marketing.
- City councilmembers have to sell the ballot issue.
- Councilmembers commented that we need a plan first.
- Distributed to councilmembers was the prior 20 year street paving by Street Supervisor Diedrich in 2001 which went nowhere because of lack of funding to do the paving.
- It has been seven or eight years since there was any paving.
- The street department does not have the equipment to do paving.
- A past sales tax was earmarked for street improvement but the city quit putting it into street improvement.
- Doing all the streets may take thirty years. Many people won't have their streets done for decades.
- It is not just streets. It includes curbs, gutters and sidewalks. But don't complicate it. Focus on paving.
- Tie it into Safe Routes to Schools.

- Neighborhood associations to help with street improvements.
- Consensus for 1% to give us a start.
- Sell it as tourists helping pay the tax.
- Tax could give a match for grants.

(7:30 PM) TABOR Ballot Referendum.

- City Clerk Swyers distributed to councilmembers results of prior ballot issues.. Prior TABOR questions “debruced” all revenues or taxes except property taxes.
- Auditors annually calculate the maximum property tax allowed and then determine the mil levy for that tax.
- Last time it very nearly passed without campaigning to get it passed.
- Asking for increased taxes on the same ballot as a ballot issue to take controls off is a bad idea.
- Hospital will again be asking for a tax increase.
- A majority of councilmembers were against trying the TABOR question again this year because they don’t understand what was inadequate with the prior three TABOR “debrucing” questions passed by voters.

(7:55 PM) Report on Consolidation Feasibility Study.

Councilmember Labbe reported on the receipt of the grant and will be sending out Requests for Proposals. He explained reasons to not do surveys because people don’t understand what is feasible. Options may include:

- Consolidation of services without consolidating governments.
- Consolidating the police into the sheriff department to cover the entire county.
- Is it possible to consolidate the governments like Denver.
- The only option for consolidating governments may be a statewide ballot for an amendment to the Colorado Constitution at a cost of about a million dollars.
- Legislation to allow local decisions to consolidated governments rather than needing a statewide ballot question.
- Disincorporation of Leadville.
- People of Leadville and Lake County may not like any of the options.
- Consolidate water district, sanitation district, hospital district, city and county – all five into one government.
- The feasibility study idea originated with Tara Hosick of Climax Molybdenum.

(8:01 PM) Mayor Stuever adjourned the meeting.