

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the
City Council of the City of Cherry Hills Village, Colorado
Held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
At the Village Center

The City Council held a study session at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Russell Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Russell Stewart, Mayor Pro Tem Katy Brown, Councilors Randy Weil, Afshin Safavi, Al Blum and Mike Gallagher were present on roll call. Also present were City Manager Chris Cramer, Deputy City Manager and Public Works Director Jay Goldie, City Attorney Kathie Guckenberger, Police Chief Michelle Tovrea, Finance Director Jessica Sager and City Clerk Laura Gillespie.

Absent: Councilor Dan Sheldon

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council conducted the pledge of allegiance.

POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARD PRESENTATION

Chief Tovrea presented the Police Commendation Award to School Resource Officer (SRO) John-Norman Flaum. She explained Officer Flaum had been the City's SRO since August 2015 and during that time had been an exceptional ambassador to the City's schools. He had enhanced the position by upgrading and improving security systems; organizing training and drills; educating students about the Safe to Tell program and other programs; being an approachable mentor for students; and developing important relationships with students, teachers and parents.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown indicated Officer Flaum was a wonderful example of why SROs were important.

Mayor Stewart thanked Officer Flaum for his dedication.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Janney Carpenter, 9 Random Road, stated she had been a resident since 1999 and was the Board President of the Cherry Hills Land Preserve (CHLP). She provided an update on the CHLP's nature and conservation programs, including a stargazing event and Fall Adventure Day later that week. She expressed support for the resolution Council would be considering at a future meeting in support of pollinators and explained the CHLP was launching a 2021 Bee Project to educate and encourage residents to support local pollinators.

REPORTS FROM CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Blum to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2020

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- b. Contract for Services with Hamon Infrastructure, Inc. for the High Line Canal Pedestrian Bridge and Trail
- c. Professional Services Agreement with Ground Engineering for Materials and Special Testing for the High Line Canal Pedestrian Bridge and Trail
- d. Resolution 29, Series 2020; Amending Resolution 35, Series 2019 Concerning the Term of Members for the 75th Anniversary Committee

The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Suspending the Master Plan

City Manager Cramer explained at the August 11, 2020 Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z) study session, P&Z members discussed possibly suspending the Master Plan process. The discussion centered around the importance of in-person city-wide meetings, as well as in-person Citizen Advisory Taskforce meetings. Given the current limitations for public gatherings and the health risks in meeting in large groups, the P&Z discussed the advantages of waiting until in-person meetings were safer and allowed. But it was clear throughout the discussion, the Master Plan is critical, and this delay would not mean the process would cease, only that it is delayed. The Master Plan consultant, RICK Engineering, was understanding of the issues and was willing to work with a new schedule. Because the Master Plan was already planned to be multi-year process, no amendment to the original agreement with RICK Engineering is necessary. At their September 8, 2020 regular meeting the P&Z voted 6-0 to recommend to City Council that the Master Plan process be suspended.

Mayor Stewart asked when the Master Plan process might resume.

City Manager Cramer replied P&Z hoped to have more guidance from the State and Tri-County Health Department later in the year and would make a recommendation to Council to restart the process when it was considered feasible.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Weil, to temporarily suspend the Master Plan process until such time that large public in-person meetings can be held.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Stewart reported he had attended the CML Board meeting at which CML took positions on several ballot issues; the CML District 3 meeting; the I-25 and Belleview Avenue Interchange Executive Board meeting; the Metro Mayors Caucus meeting; he had met with two residents during his Monday office hours regarding speeding, dogs running at large, and the High Line Canal underpass; a meeting regarding the Fairfax Clark Colony private litigation; and a meeting with Councilors Blum and Weil with Crown Castle regarding cell coverage in the City. He indicated the I-25 and Belleview Avenue Interchange virtual public meeting for all stakeholders was tomorrow and the virtual public meeting specifically for Cherry Hills Village residents was on October 14th. He

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reported upcoming meetings included the CML Policy Committee meeting and Metro Mayors lunch. He noted employee review time was coming up and asked Council about reviewing the City Manager and City Attorney. He noted City Manager Cramer had only been in the position for four months but had indicated he would appreciate the feedback.

Councilor Safavi indicated he believed it would be beneficial for the employees who reported to Council to get feedback from Council.

Mayor Stewart added the City Treasurer and City Clerk also reported to Council.

Members of City Council

Councilor Blum asked about the November 3rd Council meeting as it was also election night.

Council agreed to begin the regular meeting at 5:30pm and to hold the meeting virtually.

Councilor Blum reported the meeting with Crown Castle had been informative and another meeting was scheduled with Zayo Group in a couple weeks. He stated one result of the meeting was the City would publicize contact information to allow residents to report dissatisfaction with cell coverage in the City directly to carriers. He asked about the Council retreat.

City Clerk Gillespie stated the Council retreat would be held February 2nd.

Councilor Gallagher spoke about the resolution on the October 20th agenda recognizing and supporting the importance of pollinators. He noted several other municipalities had passed similar resolutions. He explained the City was already doing a good job protecting and supporting pollinators and the proposed resolution would recognize that. He noted the proposed resolution coincided with the CHLP's 2021 Bee Project. He thanked Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie for his work on the resolution with the People and Pollinators Action Network.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown noted it was unfortunate the I-25 and Belleview Avenue Interchange virtual public meeting specific to Cherry Hills Village was scheduled during Cherry Creek School District's fall break. She indicated the city manager review process was very involved and she wasn't sure Council would have enough valid feedback after just four months of employment. She added reviews were often used to inform merit pay increases, which were not currently included in the proposed 2021 budget. She suggested a different process or waiting until after the retreat which would be six months. She noted she did not remember being a part of a review of the city attorney or municipal judge positions in the past. She indicated Council had not reviewed the city treasurer or city clerk positions in the past and questioned the appropriateness of doing so. She stated the City Attorney had been asked to draft a memo on this issue and suggested Council wait to decide how to proceed until they could consider that memo.

Councilor Weil reported DRCOG had been quiet.

Councilor Safavi encouraged citizens to continue to wear masks and to get their flu shots.

City Manager & Staff

City Manager Cramer agreed with Councilor Safavi and noted the number of cases was still low in the City but had been increasing.

Councilor Weil asked about the numbers.

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City Manager Cramer explained the numbers came from Tri-County Health Department and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He noted there was sometimes a delay in test result reporting.

Mayor Stewart asked how COVID-19 impacted the Police Department and if there had been any cases in the department.

Chief Tovrea replied the Police Department continued to operate under their service modifications which directed that officers make a phone call rather than in-person visits for misdemeanor crimes. She indicated if an in-person visit was conducted then precautions such as masks and social distancing were taken. She stated officers did not ask if anyone had tested positive for COVID-19 but residents sometimes volunteered that information. She noted the handheld devices for e-citations had been very helpful. She added the Police Department had been responsive to the traffic complaints received and the speed trailers were being used. She indicated there had been no positive cases at the Police Department.

City Manager Cramer noted the October 7th I-25 and Belleview Avenue Interchange meeting would be more of a broad overview and encouraged residents to attend the October 14th meeting if they could only pick one. He added both meetings would provide the opportunity to give feedback and would be recorded. He reported he had received a proposal from Natalie Anderson regarding Quincy Farm and would send it to Council for their information after meeting with her on Thursday. He added discussion would be scheduled regarding this issue at the October 20th Council meeting, including an executive session, but no decisions would be made at that meeting. He indicated a bus from University of Colorado Anschutz, in coordination with the Arapahoe County Office of Emergency Management, would be at John Meade Park on Thursday to conduct antibody tests for people who had received postcards.

Chief Tovrea thanked Council for allowing the Police Department to have their award presentation during the meeting.

Director Sager reported the Flu Shot Clinic and Shred Day would be at City Hall on October 24th.

Councilor Blum noted Greenwood Village was in the process of developing a parking lot on the south side of Belleview Avenue to access the High Line Canal and noted that could increase traffic in Cherry Hills Village.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie replied staff was aware of the project and had asked Greenwood Village to address the traffic issues, especially concerning ingress and egress from Belleview Avenue. He noted the design was for a very small lot.

Deputy City Manager/Director Goldie indicated Council had received an email from a resident in the Covington neighborhood expressing concerns about traffic increasing at their access point when the High Line Canal Underpass project was complete. He explained staff had met several times with concerned residents in the Covington neighborhood. He stated in order to alleviate traffic in the Covington neighborhood staff was working on a design to add a new trail from Monroe Street to the City's new trail and pedestrian bridge which were already part of the Underpass project. He indicated due to various restrictions the current design plan for the Monroe trail connection would require a small amount of construction in CDOT right-of-way which would complicate the project.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown stated she was not necessarily opposed but noted this project could set a precedent for other neighborhoods with similar concerns throughout the City, and indicated the City should be consistent.

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City Manager Cramer replied he believed this situation to be unique because the underpass would create new access and it was common to add something like this to at the end of a capital project when it would be cost effective.

Mayor Stewart asked staff to keep Council informed.

City Manager Cramer thanked Director Sager for all her time and effort spent working on the 2021 proposed budget in an unusual year.

City Attorney

City Attorney Guckenberger noted her office had prepared a summary of the legislative session for Council's review.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Brown moved, seconded by Councilor Blum to adjourn the meeting.

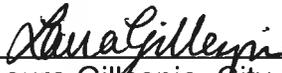
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

(SEAL)



Russell O. Stewart, Mayor



Laura Gillespie, City Clerk