

January 7, 2020

The City Council of the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado, met this day in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The Honorable Mayor Ron Shaver called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Present: Honorable Mayor Ron Shaver  
Councilmember Clint Anderson  
Councilmember David Fowler  
Councilmember Allison Howe  
Councilmember Kevin Lindell  
Councilmember Lisa Northrup  
Councilmember Doug Schossow

The meeting was also attended by City Manager Jeff Wells, City Treasurer Jean Kinney, Chief of Public Safety Paul Schultz, Community Services Director Ty Hamer, Public Works Director Steve Glammeyer, Water Resources/Utilities Director Brent Nation, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Susan Kurk, Economic Development Specialist Sarah Crosthwaite, Building Inspector Mike Hosier, Chief Building Official Mike Kirkendall, FMPD Commander Jared Crone, numerous other FMPD personnel and Deputy City Manager/City Clerk/PIO John Brennan.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 17, 2019 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

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Councilmember Allison Howe offered a resolution to approve the minutes of the Dec. 17, 2019 city council regular meeting as presented, which was seconded by Councilmember Kevin Lindell and approved unanimously.

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**SWEARING-IN OF NEW FORT MORGAN POLICE OFFICER JARED LARSON**

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Mayor Ron Shaver administered the oath of office to new FMPD officer Jared Larson, and Chief of Public Safety Paul Schultz provided some brief biographical info on him. Larson's mother then pinned his badge to his uniform.

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**RECOGNITION OF MIKE HOSIER AS EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

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Public Works Director Steve Glammeyer noted that Mike Hosier had been with the city for many years, working in the fire department before becoming a great addition to the building department. He said Hosier was a great employee who was loved by the public, and he was proud to honor him as the employee of the quarter for the third quarter of 2019. Chief Building Official Mike Kirkendall praised Hosier's work and his dedication to studying for new certifications, and Wells highlighted Hosier's adherence to the four city goals.

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**REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

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Councilmember Lisa Northrup said the library advisory board had two expiring terms and the only applications received were from the members whose terms were due to expire. She made a motion to reappoint Sandra Schmeekle and Abigail Patterson to the Library Advisory Board for new three-year terms. That motion was seconded by Lindell and approved unanimously.

**COUNCIL ACTING AS THE LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY – PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW HOTEL & RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE FOR PEPPERS LLC**

Mayor Shaver outlined the format to be followed during the public hearing, and Deputy City Manager/City Clerk/PIO John Brennan confirmed that proper legal notice of the hearing had been published and posted on the property. Brennan reviewed the application, which had been submitted in October and formally accepted by the council in December, at which time this hearing was scheduled. Brennan said the application was complete and in order and all fees had been paid, but noted that the applicant was not present although he had been asked to attend the meeting. Brennan said the main purpose of the hearing was for the applicant to establish public support for the issuance of the license, which was done through petitions submitted with the application.

No public comments were received either during the hearing or in advance. Under council comments, Northrup said she would have preferred to have the applicant present. Howe agreed, and noted that the application packet contained references to several past violations by this applicant at another restaurant he owned, which she would like to ask him about. Northrup then made a motion to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Councilmember Clint Anderson and approved unanimously.

Council and staff discussion then followed about what course of action to take on this item in the absence of the applicant, with consensus emerging that the applicant should be present. City Attorney Geoff Wilson said the council could approve, deny or defer action on the item, and Brennan said the agenda item could be continued to the next regular meeting. Howe offered a resolution to continue this public hearing on the application for a new liquor license for Peppers LLC to the next regular council meeting on Jan. 21. That resolution was seconded by Northrup and approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST COLORADO HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Wells reminded the council that this agreement had been discussed in an executive session and reviewed the reasons for it. The health department was contemplating construction of a new building on the city's CentrePointe property, and this agreement said the two parties would cooperate in working toward a project where the city would provide a small parcel of land and other in-kind services in exchange for space in the new building for a city employee health clinic. Wells said this was not a final agreement on the project but simply an agreement to work together, and any building resulting from this effort would be owned by the health department.

Northrup offered a resolution to approve the Resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Northeast Colorado Health Department, which was seconded by Lindell and approved unanimously.

**COUNCIL ACTING AS THE BOARD OF THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT AND SYSTEM ENTERPRISE OF THE CITY OF FORT MORGAN – RESOLUTION ADJUSTING ELECTRIC RATES**

Water Resources/Utilities Director Brent Nation explained how electric rates are structured and set and how they must be adjusted from time to time to reflect actual costs of electric power, which fluctuate constantly. He said the city had lowered its rates in November 2018 but was still collecting too much revenue so it was time to reduce rates again. He said the decrease would be about 10 percent on the energy consumption portion of the electric rate, and would mean a monthly reduction of about \$6.73 for the average residential customer.

Howe offered a resolution to approve the Resolution adjusting the electric rates for the Electric Department and System Enterprise of the City of Fort Morgan, which was seconded by Lindell and approved unanimously.

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### **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CENTREPOINTE DESIGN STANDARDS**

Glammeier noted that this ordinance had been discussed at the previous council meeting and set for first reading at this meeting after it was received favorably by the council. Several council members again complimented staff for its work and the quality of these standards.

Howe made a motion to approve first reading of an Ordinance amending Article 4, Chapter 20, Land Use Code, of the Fort Morgan Municipal Code establishing CentrePointe design standards, and setting second reading and a public hearing on the ordinance for Jan. 21. That resolution was seconded by Lindell and approved unanimously.

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### **PROPOSAL TO INCREASE EXPENDITURES TO FULLY UTILIZE DOLA GRANT FOR CITY CAMPUS DESIGN**

Wells explained that this proposal resulted from a misunderstanding by city staff of the terms of a Department of Local Affairs grant for the design of new city facilities at CentrePointe. Staff understood the DOLA grant to be a 50/50 match on a \$1.6 million design project, but when the first billings were submitted it was realized that the grant was a 60/40 match on a \$2 million total, so the city had budgeted less than needed for its 60 percent share.

Wells said the city could continue with its reduced scope of the design project at \$1.6 million, in which case it would need less additional matching funds, or it could restore the project to its original total of \$2 million. In the latter case it would require more matching funds but would also get full construction drawings for a public works/utilities building, in addition to the fieldhouse, Wells said.

Wells said the additional funding was not budgeted and would have to come from reserves, but increasing the scope was DOLA's recommendation and would help the city maintain credibility with that agency and improve the chance of getting additional DOLA grants.

Substantial council and staff discussion followed about the pros and cons of each alternative, the respective costs, the level of city financial reserves and other issues. Audience member John Biskowski of 1600 E.9th Ave. asked to speak, and said he felt the council was not being provided with enough information and should not take action until that information was provided in writing.

After further discussion, Lindell offered a resolution to increase expenditures to be able to utilize the full \$2 million DOLA grant, which was seconded by Northrup and approved on a vote of 5-2, with Shaver and Councilmember Doug Schossow voting against.

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None.

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### **REPORTS BY OFFICIALS AND STAFF**

Chief Schultz announced his plan to retire on March 31 and thanked everyone at the city for their support. Schultz also presented the council with a plaque for a national award the department had won for its National Night Out event, and said crime was down 24 percent in 2019.

Wells lauded Schultz's accomplishments during his three years with the city and said Fort Morgan had been fortunate to have him. Wells also spoke about plans for the annual council budget retreat.

Howe said she had received some calls regarding the pet licensing ordinance that went into effect Jan. 1 and asked that additional messaging be done on that program to clear up confusion in the community.

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## **BIDS, MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Brennan announced current bids and upcoming meetings.

Mayor Shaver adjourned the Jan. 7, 2020 regular meeting at 7:49 p.m.

*/s/ Ronald Shaver*  
Mayor

*/s/ John Brennan*  
City Clerk