

THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOVELOCK MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON APRIL 2, 2024 AT THE LOVELOCK CITY HALL AT 7:00 P.M.

Present:	Mayor	Mike Giles
	Council members	Jordan McKinney
		Jonathan Reynolds
		Bonnie Skoglie
	Legal Counsel	Kent Maher
	Police Chief	Michael Mancebo
	City Clerk	Terri Wilcox

Visitors: Jewels Crable and Bobbie Roybal (“Have Some HRT”), Cathie Bryant, Cecelia Thornhill, Shawn Thornhill, David Skoglie, Tom Donaldson, Chuck Cummins, Hilary Stokes, Tina Gallagher, Lee Ann Gallagher, Stephanie Minor, Laura Kataris, and Donna DeCillis.

PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE:

Jewels Crable and Bobbie Roybal gave a presentation the “Have Some HRT” substance abuse program and questioned if the program is offered in Lovelock. They would like the fire department, sheriff department, police department and hospital to consider a memorandum of understanding. They also asked if the city would issue a proclamation for September 21. Mayor Giles explained that usually a proclamation is made just before an event, however, since this is a school project a proclamation can be scheduled for the next council meeting.

Cathie Bryant expressed her dissatisfaction with rundown condition of the vacant commercial buildings in the downtown area and questioned why the city was not making the absentee owners maintain their property. Bryant said an ordinance needs to be developed to take care of the problems. Mayor Giles agreed that the property owners need to step up and maintain their property and noted there is no city ordinance for that type of issue.

Lee Ann Gallagher suggested the city needs to step up and praise the businesses that are taking care of their property. Gallagher also asked about the city broadcasting the meetings.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

There was no report

MINUTES REVIEW-APPROVAL:

Council member Reynolds moved to approve the March 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS IMPACT DETERMINATION:

After review and consideration of the probable effect that each agenda item for this meeting could have on a “business” as defined by statute, Council member Skoglie moved to make a finding that no item on this meeting agenda appears to impose a direct and significant economic burden on a business or directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business.

Motion carried unanimously.

/////////
/////////

SEWER-DISPOSAL ACCOUNT DELINQUENCIES-ADJUSTMENTS-REFUNDS:

There was no delinquent account list available because it is the beginning of the month and the report information is not yet available.

Mayor Giles reported that the sewer line on 14th Street was re-routed earlier today and the project is complete.

HEARING-BUSINESS LICENSE REVOCATION-CADILLAC INN:

The hearing was scheduled to consider the possible revocation of the Cadillac Inn business for non-payment of the transient lodging tax (room tax).

Hillary Stokes (Cadillac Inn business owner) advised she did not have a problem paying what was due for the room taxes, as she has only taken in \$700 over the last few months. Stokes said her business checking account is currently overdrawn because an insurance company automatically withdrew funds to pay an insurance premium. Yesterday, a notice of foreclosure was received. Stokes complained that although the rooms were remodeled, there is no business in town, there is nothing to do in town, there are no restaurants, she cannot hire anyone to work and she has tried to bring business to town by offering a wedding venue and a grow facility on the property, but that is not going to happen. Stokes said to cancel the business license.

Legal Counsel Maher explained that the collected room tax is a pass through tax (the business owner collects it for the city, it does not belong to the business) that belongs to the city and it should not be deposited into a personal account which is subject to the business owner debts, etc.

Stokes stated she spoke with the city clerk, and understands that if the room taxes are not paid, the business license is subject to revocation.

There were comments from members of the audience indicating they would pay the room tax delinquency to prevent the business license from being revoked. A \$100.00 bill was given to Stokes by Wendy Nelsen to pay the room tax.

Stokes was directed to contact the city clerk to determine the amount of the delinquency which must be paid. Stokes was informed that the room tax report must be filed monthly, whether or not any room tax was received.

Council member Reynolds moved to continue the matter and not revoke the business license pending Stokes contact with the city clerk and payment of the tax due.

Motion carried unanimously

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) PARK PROPOSAL-TIURA:

Mayor Giles stated that property owner Mark Tiura spoke with him about a proposal to establish an RV park at 395 7th Street, and that the first trailer unit was moved in over a year ago, and the second trailer unit was moved in a few months ago after Tiura was injured. Tiura said he has two spaces that he wants to put camp trailers in, because he is unable to work the way he formerly worked and he needs the income. Tiura claimed he has done a lot of work in town and has improved the quality of the town. Everything (on the property) is up to code, the water, sewer and electricity, and he is working on getting the apartment ready to rent.

Council member Skoglie noted that the property does not currently meet the criteria for an RV park and suggested Tiura start with the county planning department.

Legal Counsel Maher advised that the first step is to ensure the property is properly zoned and, a variance or special use permit may be required.

No action was taken.

PROFESSIONAL AUDIT-BUDGET SERVICES PROPOSAL-EIDE BAILLY:

There was no presentation.

No action was taken.

LICENSING ORDINANCE UPDATE-AMENDMENT PROPOSAL:

There was no draft ordinance for review.

No action was taken.

NUISANCE-VEHICLE ORDINANCE UPDATE-AMENDMENT:

Legal Counsel Maher provided a draft of a proposed ordinance and requested the mayor, council and staff review the proposal and provide input on the ordinance terms and conditions, noting that if the ordinance is introduced at this meeting the public hearing will be scheduled.

Council member McKinney moved to schedule the proposed ordinance for public hearing at the next available council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Reynolds stated that two or three years ago he mentioned the idea of using the county code enforcer to enforce city ordinances.

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS:

There were no proclamations or awards.

STAFF-COUNCIL REPORTS-PROPOSALS:

Council member Reynolds reported: (i) there is a LEPCE meeting on April 10 and an emergency response training on April 4; (ii) the audio in the meeting room needs to be fixed so that the audience can hear the council; (iii) he has been calling the state about the repair of the sidewalks on Central Avenue and was informed the project is on the list; and, (iv) his belief there is a need for the city to partner with the county on using the county code enforcer. Mayor Giles remarked that the only ordinance currently on the books for code enforcement is for weed abatement. Council member Skoglie suggested providing means so other things, like vehicles, can be subject to enforcement.

Council member Skoglie said she did not attend the PECDA meeting.

Council member McKinney reported there is a Recreation Board meeting on April 11 at 5:30 pm.

Mayor Giles reported: (i) the BLM is currently undertaking an environmental review for a proposed new mine in Spring Valley; (ii) interviews were conducted for the city public works position and an offer was made to a candidate; and, (iii) the new cameras are being installed in the police cars.

VOUCHERS, CLAIMS AND PAYROLL:

Council member Reynolds moved to approve vouchers numbered 50619 to 50644 inclusive.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chuck Cummins reported a company put in 18 applications for a total of 32,000-acre feet of water rights for the proposed Spring Valley mine project, which will be seven times larger than Coeur Rochester.

Tina Gallagher asked if the people living in the trailers on 9th Street will still be able to live there until Tiura completes the steps to have an RV park on that property. Mayor Giles said the police chief will advise the property owner that until the matter is settled it is not legal to have people living in the trailers.

Lee Ann Gallagher commented that people need to be encouraged to come to Lovelock, and she is disappointed that Heidi Lusby-Angvick is not here. There is a meeting at the Depot Building on Sunday to do some brainstorming about a cleanup day. She said she previously asked why the department heads are not at the meeting and how does the city process work orders.

Stephanie Minor stated the council is doing a great job making things happen, even though some of the same items have been talked about and it seems nothing gets done. She mentioned the lot they would like to buy from the city.

Cathie Bryant remarked that, in her opinion, city has no plans or goals. She suggested Frontier Days has good potential to bring people together, it could be something big.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm until the next scheduled City Council meeting on April 16, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Michael R. Giles, Mayor

Terri Wilcox, City Clerk