



CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

February 15, 2011

**Civic Center
350 Kimbark Street
Longmont, CO 80501**

STUDY SESSION

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The February 15, 2011, Study Session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Baum in the City Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL

Sara Rusher, Assistant City Clerk, called the roll. Those present were: Mayor Bryan Baum and Council Members Brian Hansen, Sarah Levison, Sean McCoy, Alex Sammoury, Gabe Santos, and Katie Witt.

3. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

The following people spoke in opposition to a proposed ban on medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of Longmont:

Peter LeVine, 709 Kimbark Street,
Betsy and Bo Shaffer, 7425 E. County Line Road,
Jeffrey Rodgers, 2133 Longs Peak Avenue,
Allyson Feiler, 2212 Watersong Circle,
Henri Moran, 206 Sandalwood, Lafayette,
Shay Turlup 3152 Folsom Street, Boulder,

Al Scheopner, 2324 Atwood Street, commented on the new Special Transit facility recently built in Boulder, comparing it to Longmont's outdated and decrepit facility, urging residents to think carefully before passing any additional FasTracks taxes.

Stacey Balcom, 1854 Centaur Circle, Lafayette, noted that she was excited to hear the discussion regarding large special events at Union Reservoir, adding that she is looking forward to a letter of intent.

Bob Norris, 532 Rider Ridge Drive, invited Council to El Comité's fundraiser dinner on February 26, 2011, challenging them to have more people attend the dinner than the school board.

Strider Benston 951 17th Avenue, commented on the recent democratic demonstrations taking place in Africa, noting that the new government in Egypt as a chance to establish a real democratic government.

Paul Tiger, 452 Dixon Street, noted that although he believes marijuana should be legalized, he supports a ban on medical marijuana dispensaries in the City, as it is illegal sell that product. He would like to see some leniency given to those that grow medical marijuana outside of their homes.

4. SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Reports or Presentations.

5. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

A. Large Special Events Discussion

Valeria Skitt, City Clerk, presented this item, reviewing the proposed draft of the Special Event Policy and Event Guidelines for events south of Union Reservoir.

Mayor Baum noted that the proposed guidelines seem very cumbersome and unnecessary; with so many restrictions, the City will not see any events held at the reservoir.

Council discussed ideas surrounding waste management and the possibility of requiring the event organizers to provide recycling bins. They also discussed the proposed fee structure and how it compares to other cities in Colorado and the need for accurate tax collection and remittance by vendors working at the events.

Council Member Witt moved, seconded by Santos, to accept the proposed guidelines and to revisit them in the future if they are not meeting the needs of the City.

Council discussed further the issue of required recycling and also how these event applications will be evaluated. They also discussed the proposed security deposit and how this might be covered by the event organizers insurance.

At the request of Council Member Sammoury, Ms. Skitt explained the limited involvement on part of the Longmont Area Visitors' Association (LAVA) on the development of these guidelines, suggesting that the City wait until a new Executive Director is hired for that organization before seeking further participation.

Council Member Hansen offered a friendly amendment to the motion to require that the recycle bins be provided at all events. Amendment not accepted.

Gordon Pedrow, City Manager, clarified for Council that the timeframe being proposed for allowing events (July through September) is to accommodate a tenant farmer on the land in question, which remains the best way of maintaining this property.

Council Member Hansen offered a friendly amendment to the motion to require that event organizers demonstrate that they can provide adequate water provisions for the event. Amendment not accepted.

Mr. Pedrow indicated that this would be evaluated during the application process by Public Safety.

Vote was taken on the motion and it carried: 5-2 (Baum and Sammoury dissenting).

B. Use of Conservation Trust Fund

Jeff Friesner, Recreation Manager, and Paula Fitzgerald, Parks and Open Space Project Manager, presented this item.

Council discussed ways in which this money could be used in the City including open space enhancements, museum expansion, trail connectivity, and park development and maintenance. Council indicated that they would like staff to move forward with the public involvement process.

Council Member Hansen moved that the money be put toward off-road trail connections with a priority on inner-city areas and areas with a lot of school traffic.

Council Member Santos noted that he would like to see feedback from the public before Council makes a decision as to where to direct these funds.

Council Member Hansen withdrew his motion with the caveat that the options he suggested be included as choices throughout the public involvement process.

C. Longmont Traffic Crash Report (*pre-recorded presentation*)

Bob Ball, Transportation Engineer, presented this item and discussed with Council issues including clearly marked bike lanes, flashing yellow turn lights, downtown mid-block street crossings, and using roundabouts to decrease collisions.

6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Witt invited the other Council Members to join her at a Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) meeting to be held February 16, 2011, and also congratulated Buzz Feldman, a Longmont resident recently named a "Chanel 7 Everyday Hero".

Council Member Sammoury wished Eugene Mei, City Attorney, a happy birthday.

Council Member Levison acknowledged City staff's work on the recent Council retreat and noted that she has been chosen to serve on three National League of Cities' policy committees.

Mayor Baum sent out condolences to the Jurgens Family.

7. CITY MANAGER REMARKS

Gordon Pedrow, City Manager, noted that the March 15, 2011, Study Session will not be held as that is the same week as the National League of Cities Conference.

8. CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

The City Attorney had no final remarks.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO

Mayor

Signed by the Mayor in accordance with Section 3.9 of the Longmont City Charter; not reviewed by City Council.

ATTEST:

City Clerk