

Call To Order

The regular council meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Frith. Vice Mayor Sheppard, Council Members Arnold and Busch were present. Council Member Thompson arrived at 6:30 p.m. Staff present: City Administrator Mark Sorensen, City Attorney Greg Einhorn, City Planner Scott Friend, City Engineer Brian Martin and City Clerk Roben.

**2. GENERAL PLAN STUDY SESSION #2:**

City Planner Scott Friend presented a review of the General Plan Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports prepared in support of the City of Biggs General Plan update project.

He stated an EIR was a document providing policy makers with information to make an informed choice. It only looks at the physical effects on the environment.

Council will be asked to certify the EIR next month, make findings of fact per CEQA, adopt the findings of fact and statement of overriding considerations, adopt the mitigation monitoring and reporting program, adopt by resolution the 2030 General Plan, and adopt GPA 2014-01 approving the land use diagram.

Study Session Concluded

Fire Captain Todd Tindill introduced Division Chief Chris Hail, and Nolan Hale, recent graduate from Ione Fire Academy.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Council adjourned to closed session at 6:00 p.m. for conference with real property negotiators.

**RESUME REGULAR SESSION:** Council resumed the regular session at 6:30 p.m. with no announcement.

**1. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:**

Resident Mary Frith stated she was approached by a local resident with strong artist abilities that would like to make a metal sculpture for a park in the City of Biggs.

**3. PRESENTATIONS:**

A. Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Mayor Frith presented a proclamation to Margie Ruegger, Executive Director of Child Abuse Prevention, proclaiming April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention.

B. Annual Audit of Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2013.

Independent CPA Donald R. Reynolds presented his summarized audit report to Council and gave an unqualified opinion for the City of Biggs.

Motion/Second to accept the audit. (Thompson/Busch, MCU)

C. Consider adopting a resolution granting consent to the Butte County Board of Supervisors to annex property within the jurisdiction of the City of Biggs in the County of Butte Community Facilities District (CFD) 2013 (Clean Energy).

Valerie Navarro, CEO of Living Elements, introduced a program that could be used for financing or refinancing the acquisition and installation of energy-efficiency, water-conservation, and renewable-energy improvements to commercial buildings. There would be no cost to the City to participate. Only property owners that choose to seek financing through the CFD and unanimously vote to annex their property into the CFD would be subject to this program. Property owners that choose to obtain financing would repay it through assessments or special taxes on their property tax bills over a set period of time.

Council questioned the impact on the City and stated they needed more time to discuss this matter.

**4. HOMETOWN CELEBRATION:**

Brian Bassett stated he was the new committee chairman for the Biggs Hometown Celebration. The committee currently has 40% of the funds needed for the celebration this year and would be holding events to raise more funds.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Approval of Council Minutes for Regular Meeting of February 11, 2014.
- B. Approval of warrants: #8472- 8481; Z00996 - Z01014, and 27675 - 27736 for the month of February 2014 in the amount of \$321,222.09.
- C. Acknowledge receipt of Biggs Animal Control Report for January 2014.
- D. Acknowledge receipt of Biggs Fire Department Report for January and February 2014.
- E. Acknowledge receipt of Accountant's Compilation Report for January 2014 and Monthly Cash and Investments Report for January 2014.

Motion/Second to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. (Thompson/Frith, MCU)

**6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**A. Planning / Code Enforcement:**

- 1. Mr. Friend reviewed the Activity Report for February 2014 / March 2014.
- 2. GPA #2014-01: 2014-2022 City of Biggs Housing Element.

Mr. Friend stated staff was seeking input from Council on the content of the Public Review Draft of the 2014-2022 City of Biggs Housing Element document along with authorization from the City Council to submit the draft document to the State of California Housing and Community Development Department for the mandatory pre-adoption 60-day State review.

Motion/Second to authorize staff to submit the Public Review Draft of the 2014-2022 City of Biggs Housing Element to the State of California Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) for the mandatory 60-day pre-adoption State review period. (Frith/Thompson, MCU)

**B. Engineering:**

- 1. City Engineer Brian Martin reviewed the Department Activity Report - February / March 2014.

2. Wastewater Improvement Project – Phase I.

Mr. Martin informed Council the plans and specifications for the Wastewater Improvement Project – Phase I had been prepared and reviewed by the City and the engineer is now ready to move forward by advertising for construction bids for the project.

Motion/Second to authorize advertising for bids on the City's Phase I Wastewater Improvement Project. (Arnold/Thompson, MCU)

- C. Public Safety. Mayor Frith stated police contract negotiations would take place this year. Chief Dean Price reported on police issues relating to Biggs
- D. Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency (SBFCA). Vice Mayor Sheppard reported on the meeting he attended.
- E. Pubic Works. Councilmember Arnold reported he visited the City of Davis and viewed their SCADA System.
- F. Electric. Mayor Frith stated there may be changes to the City's public benefits program.
- G. BCAG. Councilmember Busch reported on the BCAG meeting he attended in January. Councilmember Thompson reported on the BCAG meeting she attended in February.
- H. Air Quality. Councilmember Thompson reported on the meeting she attended.
- I. Solid Waste. Councilmember Arnold asked if the phone number for Waste Management could be put on the website.
- J. Mosquito Abatement. Vice Mayor Sheppard reported on the meeting he attended.
- K. Other commission reports.

Mayor Frith reported he and Mr. Sorensen attended an informal meeting with the school superintendant and two school board members to discuss issues between the City and the school.

Mayor Frith, Mr. Sorensen and Councilmember Arnold were invited to the Orchard Hospital board meeting to review the City's response to the hospital's name change.

Councilmember Busch recently attended a SCORE Meeting and reported a grant for \$2000 had been approved for a risk management related project in the City.

L. City Administrator.

- 1. City Attorney Recruitment Update. Mr. Sorensen reported the recruitment committee met again and three of the four members believe the City should continue with the contract with the existing attorney.

Mayor Frith stated council needed to decide whether or not to accept the attorney's offer to resend his resignation or to send out another RFP.

Motion/Second to resend the resignation of the city attorney. (Busch/Thompson, MCU)

2. Budget Review Q2 2013-2014. Mr. Sorensen provided a brief overview of the major operating funds for fiscal year 2013/2014 as of December 31, 2013.
3. Purchase of Tax Defaulted Property. Council is asked to consider authorizing the purchase of three tax defaulted parcels for the Wastewater land disposal project.

Motion/Second to approve Resolution No. 2014-03 "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIGGS TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF BUTTE TO ACQUIRE TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY AND TO ACCEPT SAID PROPERTY." The Council also objects to the County's tax sale. (Sheppard/Arnold, MCU)

4. Water Meter Installation Policy. Mr. Sorensen asked Council to consider concepts of a program to proactively convert water customers from flat rate to metered service.

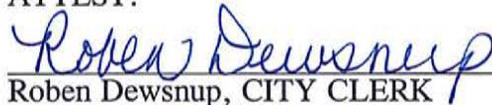
Mr. Sorensen would create a program for replacing water meters and would bring back to council.

5. Daughters of the American Revolution Arbor Day Planting.

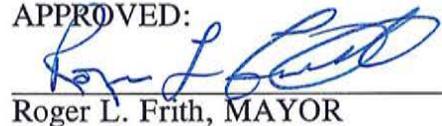
Mayor Frith stated he was approached by an individual from the Daughters of the American Revolution who would like to plant a tree for Arbor Day at no cost to the City. Council was interested and Mayor Frith would have the organization contact Mr. Sorensen.

7. **INFORMATIONAL:** None
8. **CLOSED SESSION:** Council adjourned to closed session at 9:28 p.m. for conference with labor negotiators and public employee performance evaluation.
9. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION:** Council resumed regular session at 10:48 p.m. with no announcement.
10. **ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Roben Dewsnup, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

  
Roger L. Frith, MAYOR