Wednesday, September 21, 2011

In attendance:
Matt Burde, Marv DeSelm, Ed Dorsey, Jean Garrabrant, Ken Kranz, Jan Martynuska, Kathleen Moncrieff, Marv Morgan, Bob Nelson, Eric Scarbro, John Spice, Dick Sugg, Bethany Thomas, Leonard Todd, Lynda Wentworth

Staff:
Jeff Hansen, Denise Hish

Guests:
Steve Gallant, Saoirse Charis-Graves

Council:
Marcia Claxton

I. MINUTES APPROVAL

With a motion by Jean Garrabrant and a second by Bethany Thomas, the August 17, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

II. SALES TAX - JULY (collected in August) – Jeff Hansen

Sales tax collections were down $19,655 (-2.2%) for the month. Use tax collections were up $65,364 (40.9%) for July and for the year, use tax is up $453,611. In the area of audit revenue, $15,428 was collected in August.

Jeff explained the Judge’s decision with the sales tax issue with Aramark and the fact that they were not collecting sales tax at CSM for food. The Judge ruled the transaction was between Aramark and CSM and not subject to tax. Aramark is no longer the food vendor at CSM but the City has met with the new vendor and they are also not collecting sales tax on food. The City needs to decide how they want to proceed; could file a motion for the judge to re-consider his decision. Bethany asked how much had been spent on legal fees and Jeff estimated $15,000. Another option is to pursue CSM to collect sales tax from the sale of meal plans to the students.

Marv DeSelm asked where the new medical building use tax was located, geographically on the sales tax report; the medical facility taxes are part of Golden Heights.

III. 2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – C.I.P.

Ed Dorsey noted that CBAC has been talking about how the Clear Creek Corridor Plan is considered unfunded, but he feels that this is no longer the case because Council wants to fill in the pond, which will be step one. Jeff felt that this is not necessarily the case, it is a matter of problems with geese only and Jeff reminded that at Council tomorrow night there will be a public comment period to voice opinions.

Jeff stated that Mike presented this memo and CIP to Council last week. Not a lot of change on the revenue side, but there was a change on the expenditure side due to the potential $3 M for the bike trail along Highway 93. We won’t know if the bid is accepted by FWS until late this year or early next year. The $3M in cash will be in the form of a loan from the General Fund to the Sales and Use Tax Capital Fund (SUT). The SUT Fund will then repay the entire principal in three equal installments in 2013, 2014 and 2015. The SUT Fund will also make interest payments to the General Fund. Dick Sugg added that FWS had a meeting last month and everyone was given the opportunity to send comments to them prior to the meeting, which many people did. Golden was well represented at the meeting by staff and Council and he described went on at that meeting.
Jean Garrabrant asked about the Inspiration Playground – Jeff responded that it has been pushed back because there has not been a decision to move forward.

Ed Dorsey asked Jeff to explain why the finance software is so much more than originally planned. Overall bid is $515,000 + estimate of $60,000 for travel expenses to implement and training. Jeff will be giving a presentation at Council tomorrow night why we want to do this now and what the advantages are. This new system will also allow citizens to pay utility bills on-line, businesses to pay sales tax on-line and the integrity of data will be improved. It will also be very user friendly and will make things much more efficient. The new system also includes Commercial Development, Building permits and Court.

Kathleen Moncrieff asked about Streets – Jeff explained in 2011, $1.7 M will be spent and in 2012 $1.3 M will be spent. In 2013, 2014 and 2015 – Council moved that money to a line item “undetermined infrastructure improvements” to place hold the money to determine what to do, at a later date. Kathleen said that the City has a bikeability plan and a walkability plan but worries that we are not keeping up with our streets and some are in terrible shape. Ed added that this Council has made changes to streets, like curbs protruding and is a danger to drivers. Not everyone is a biker or a walker and we need to be heard and understand why Council continues to spend money for only one group in Golden (younger people). Jeff responded that the reasons for the curbs are mainly a safety issue, to slow traffic, but Ed disagreed and said that it inhibits traffic.

John Spice asked about the Street Index and asked if Council had made any decision about lowering the index. Councilor Marcia Claxton responded that Council had not requested that it be lowered from 85 and are still just weighing all the information that Dan has given. Ed stated that he doesn’t understand why Council would move that money out of infrastructure, unless they plan on spending it elsewhere. They should not only leave it there, but add to it. Jeff reiterated that no decision has been made by Council and money is still as is for 2011 and 2012; no money has gone away.

Bob Nelson stated that he is concerned that Golden is changing from a growth community to a maintenance community. He wanted to know what the financial impacts will be. Jeff said we don’t know what that will look like at this point, but will continue to make assumptions each year with the information that we do have. There is still room for commercial property, but we won’t be getting many building permits or water and sewer taps for new residential.

IV. VOTING MEMBERS – AS OF SEPTEMBER, 2011

- Betsy Brooks
- Matt Burde
- Jim Dale
- Marv DeSelm
- Ed Dorsey
- Jean Garrabrant
- Ken Kranz
- Jan Martynuska
- Kathleen Moncrieff
- Marv Morgan
- Bob Nelson
- Eric Scarbro
- John Spice
- Dick Sugg
- Bethany Thomas
- Lynda Wentworth

V. OTHER DISCUSSIONS / CITY UPDATES

USA Bike Pro Challenge – Jeff stated that we are hoping to have a good calculation of what the bike race cost the City by end of the month. Don’t know what the impact will be to future economy but it was streamed live
worldwide.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned 8:45.