

CORTEZ CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021, 5:30 p.m.  
Hybrid Meeting/in-person and Virtual Contact by ZOOM

1. The workshop was called to order at 5:30 p.m., with a Hybrid Meeting/in-person and Virtual Contact by ZOOM format. Councilmembers present in the Council Chambers included Mayor Mike Lavey, Robert Dobry, Amy Huckins, Mayor Pro-tem Rachel Medina, David Rainey, and Arlina Yazzie. Councilmember Orly Lucero participated by ZOOM. Staff members present by ZOOM included Airport Manager Jeremy Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation Dean Palmquist, Director of General Services Rick Smith, City Planner Tracie Hughes, Director of Public Works Phil Johnson, and Library Director Alicia Gomori-Lusker. Chief of Police Vernon Knuckles, City Manager John Dougherty, City Clerk Linda Smith, City Attorney Mike Green, IT Support Technician Kyle Kuhn, System Analyst Shay Allred, and Network Administrator Bill Kuhn were present in the Council Chambers. There were 15 people signed up as participants on ZOOM.

2. Presentation by Shelley Millsap, Behavioral Health Manager for Axis Health System, spoke to Council about the employment and educational services provided by Axis Health System for patients with a mental health diagnosis as well as increased patient engagement in meaningful activities. She spoke about the program policy and how the referral process works. She stated that services provided to help patients include resume building, job searching, training, etc. to help with employment as well as education. In answer to a question from Mayor Pro-tem Medina, Ms. Millsap explained that Axis is happy to work with the Bridge Shelter and other groups that may have clients they would recommend to the program. Jodie Miller stated that Axis can offer references for clients and is always looking for jobs that would be the right fit. Mayor Lavey thanked Ms. Millsap and Ms. Miller for their presentation and the assistance they give to the people of the community.

3. Library Director Gomori-Lusker spoke about the Library Master Plan which was created with input from the public. She noted that the Library is a hub for the community and many people ask about what is happening next with the Library in regard to an expansion. She stated that discussion on the expansion of the Library began prior to her employment with the City and that there is another project (band shell) that may be competing for the space that would be used for the Library expansion. She asked how Council felt about the two projects and in answer to a question from Mayor Pro-tem Medina, she spoke about the pros of the Library expansion which would include meeting space and possibly a business incubator place. Discussion was held on funding for the Library expansion which City Manager Dougherty stated that grants could not be received until the audits are completed; however, it is possible that the Library expansion could be completed in phases. Discussion was held on the proposed location of the band shell and it was noted that a presentation would be made on the proposal at the next Council worksession. It was noted that Council would need to decide what is more important to the community and the best use of the property. Discussion was held about alternative places for the band shell including the possibility of locating the band shell in the proposed south park. Director of Public Works Johnson shared a visual picture of the proposed Library expansion/band shell location and where the additional parking would be located which would conflict with each other. City Planner Hughes spoke about the community rooms that are proposed with the Library expansion

and how the parking spaces were calculated. Director of Parks and Recreation Palmquist spoke about the Master Plan that was developed for the south Park by the community input. Councilmembers Rainey and Lucero noted that the Library would be used more than the band shell. Library Director Gomori-Lusker spoke about capital projects that need to be completed at the Library. Council will continue discussion on the projects following the band shell presentation.

4. Director of Parks and Recreation Palmquist spoke about the three bids that were received for the landscape and maintenance services for Brandon's Gate and Rodeo Subdivisions. He spoke about the price being distributed to the lots in the two subdivisions rather than just to the properties that have been built on to make the fee more equitable to the residents. Councilmember Dobry asked about how the cost breakdown would be done for the larger lots which Director of Parks and Recreation Palmquist noted could be worked out prior to the fee changes projected to be done in 2022. The per lot fee was reviewed and discussion was held on how the City would bill the lot owners.

5. Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(d), regarding the dispatch center contract. Council adjourned from Executive Session at 7:32 p.m., with no decisions made.

The worksession meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.