

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, April 6, 2015

Regular Meeting

Item Consent2

Approve the minutes of the March 30, 2015 Special Meeting.

Staff Contact: Cindy Dickinson, City Clerk

Special Meeting
March 30, 2015

The Scottsbluff City Council met in a Special Meeting with the Cities of Scottsbluff, Gering, Terrytown and Mitchell, and the Villages of Morrill, Lyman, Henry, McGrew, and Melbeta and Scotts Bluff County on Monday, March 30, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gering Civic Center, 1050 M St., Gering, NE. A notice of the meeting had been published on March 24, 2015, in the Star Herald, a newspaper published and of general circulation in the city. The notice stated the date, hour and place of the meeting, that the meeting would be open to the public. That anyone with a disability desiring reasonable accommodations to attend the council meeting should contact the city clerk's office, and that an agenda of the meeting kept continuously current was available for public inspection at the office of the city clerk in City Hall; provided, the city council could modify the agenda at the meeting if it determined that an emergency so required. A similar notice, together with a copy of the agenda, also had been delivered to each council member, made available to radio stations KNEB, KMOR, KOAQ, and television stations KSTF and KDUH, and the Star Herald. The notice was also available on the City's website on March 24, 2015. An agenda kept continuously current was available for public inspection at the office of the city clerk at all times from publication of the notice to the time of the meeting.

Mayor Randy Meininger and Gering Mayor Tony Kaufman presided and City Clerk Dickinson recorded the proceedings. Mayor Kaufman welcomed everyone in attendance and encouraged all citizens to participate in the meeting. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Meininger informed those in attendance that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for the public's review. Mayor Meininger asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none. Mayor Meininger asked if any citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda wished to include an item providing the City Council determines the item requires emergency action. There were none.

The Councils and Boards stated their names and the Village, City or County they represented:

City of Scottsbluff

Liz Hilyard
Jordan Colwell
Raymond Gonzales
Scott Shaver
Mayor Randy Meininger

City of Gering

Dan Smith
Phil Holliday
Troy Cowan
Mayor Tony Kaufman
Don Christensen
Larry Gibbs
Justin Allred
Julie Morrison
Pam O'Neal

Village of Morrill

Tony Schuler
Robert Betancur

City of Mitchell

Mayor Brian Taylor
Bill James
Don Stall
Paul Murrell
Sean Hopkins

Scotts Bluff County

Ken Meyer
Chairman, Mark Masterton
Mark Reichert
Steve Stratton

Bayard

Mayor Michelle Coolidge

Lyman

Kenny Moore
Scott Hort

Terrytown

Mayor Kent Greenwalt
Marcia Sherlock
Jerry Green
Brian Armstrong

City attorneys: Jim Ellison, Kent Hadenfeldt and Rick Ediger

County and City Clerks: Vera Dulaney, Scotts Bluff County; Cindy Dickinson, City of Scottsbluff; Kathy Welfl, City of Gering; and Nate Heffron, City of Bayard.

Tom West and Courtney Zaugg with Thomas P. Miller and Associates, Inc. (TPMA) gave an overview and power point presentation of the Regional Economic Development Plan and reviewed various aspects of the plan. The next step is to create a regional entity based on an interlocal agreement. Each Council or Board will appoint one member to serve. The appointments should be made by April 30 and submitted to Rick Kuckkahn, Scottsbluff City Manager. The first meeting will be held in early May. Mr. West suggested that communities submit their Council meeting schedules along with their appointments to the regional committee.

Mayor Taylor, City of Mitchell, added a few comments and expressed a need for a place at the table for those communities along the Highway 26 corridor. He feels the Economic Development plan should expand beyond Scottsbluff and Gering. Mayor Greenwalt stated one thing we could compare this to is how we've cooperated with the Scotts Bluff County Communication Center Advisory Board and how well that has worked; he's excited about going forward with this.

Mr. West said the priorities will be determined by the regional communities, not by the TPMA consultants. Mayor Meininger clarified that the consultants will help draft the document, tying all of the communities together in unity and they will also provide assistance with the draft document. Mr. West added that the economy doesn't recognize city limits or boundaries.

Gering Council Member Gibbs suggested leaving the invitation open to communities that might not participate immediately but would like to join at a later date and time. He said someone from TPMA

Inc. will be here to assist with the initial meeting with the Council and Board representatives the first week or two of May. The goal is to have an interlocal agreement prepared by the end of May, 2015.

Mayor Meininger noted that the following communities have LB840 funding in place: Scottsbluff, Gering, Bayard and Mitchell. This will provide a major source of funding for the implementation of the Economic Development Plan. He added that he still has many questions for the consultants and invited others with questions to contact the consultants.

Mayor Meininger thanked everyone again and stated that this was the first time in history that this many entities have come together to work on a Regional Economic Development Plan. This is extremely important to our region and to the state of Nebraska.

Moved by Scottsbluff Mayor Randy Meininger, seconded by Terrytown Mayor Kent Greenwalt, "to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.," all in attendance voted in favor of adjournment, motion passed.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk