

CARLIN CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CARLIN, STATE OF NEVADA
REGULAR MEETING
CARLIN CITY HALL
101 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
CARLIN, NEVADA

January 28, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Cliff Eklund called the meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Council Members Present: Mayor Cliff Eklund
Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner
Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield
Councilperson David Trujillo
Absent: Councilperson Lee Griswold
2. Administrative Staff: City Manager Glenn S. Trust, City Clerk LaDawn Lawson
3. Public Present: Michael Lee, Anna Dean, Lew Eklund, Ellen Meshefski, Marian Meshefski

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Discussion, review and possible approval by the Carlin City Council of Carlin High School and Junior High School applicants to be sponsored by the City for Nevada League of Cities youth awards and scholarships, and all matters related thereto. (Action Item)

1. Michael Lee, Guidance Counselor of Carlin Combined Schools stated he would present names for the Nevada League of Cities scholarships and award. He noted, "The high school students nominated are Nathan Pawelek, Karlee Buckles and Sarah Brizzee for scholarships and Ayla Anderson, Cameron Kinney and Christopher Hyatt for awards. For Junior High, Gloria Armenta, Kara Wilson and Hanna Fetters. I prepared an individual dossier on each of them".
2. City Manager Glenn Trust explained the City would review the applications and it can sponsor three (3) applicants for each of the scholarships and each of the awards, three (3) for the high school and three (3) for the junior high school.
3. Michael Lee explained he took the seventh (7th) applicant off the high school list.
4. **Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner moved for approval of the Carlin High School and Junior High School applicants to be sponsored by the City for Nevada League of Cities youth awards and scholarships, and all matters related thereto. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

II. Discussion, review and possible approval of a proposal from the Carlin Citizen of the Year Committee for the City Council to appoint a Council member as Liaison to the Committee, and all matters related thereto. (Action Item)

1. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, "The Committee requested a meeting with Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner and myself and we met with them and they requested participation of a City Council member to assist them with guidance in selecting the Citizen of the Year, as well as organizing. This adds no cost to the City".
2. Discussion was held on when the Committee meets and who is on the committee.
3. Mayor Cliff Eklund replied, "Lew Eklund, Ellen Meshefski, Bob Heath, all of the former Citizens of the Year".
4. Lew Eklund stated they are requesting this because the City has always had a Council member as part of the committee, Linda Bingaman the most recent.

5. Discussion was held on when the Committee plans to begin this process.
6. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated he thought Councilperson Lee Griswold would be a good liaison because of his knowledge and lifetime residency in Carlin, noting he is in Reno for back surgery.
7. Ellen Meshefski stated they usually start in January with nominations from the community and February they meet as a group and with the people who have nominated to sell the person they are recommending and then past recipients meet to decide the person. She stated they have not started with this because they are waiting for a Council member. She noted that April, May or June is usually when they hold the Citizen of the Year dinner.
8. Discussion was held on the process and procedures with the timeframe.
9. Lew Eklund stated they usually try to have the dinner prior to school closing for the summer.
10. Councilperson David Trujillo stated they might contact Councilperson Lee Griswold and see what his position is.
11. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated that Councilperson Lee Griswold could be nominated as a spokesman for the Council with Councilperson David Trujillo as backup.
12. **Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner moved for approval of a proposal from the Carlin Citizen of the Year Committee to appoint Councilperson Lee Griswold as Liaison to the Committee, with Councilperson David Trujillo as alternate, and all matters related thereto. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

III. Discussion and review of possible dates to hold the annual Carlin Clean-Up Week and possible approval of a designated week by the Carlin City Council, and all matters related thereto. (Action Item)

1. Mayor Cliff Eklund suggested they go back to the second 2nd week of May.
2. City Clerk LaDawn Lawson explained the process for organizing the event and meetings with the department heads.
3. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated the dates would May 11 – 16, 2009.
4. **Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield moved for approval of tentative dates, May 11-16, 2009 to hold the annual Carlin Clean-Up Week and possible approval of a designated week by the Carlin City Council, and all matters related thereto. Councilperson David Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

IV. Discussion and review of the benefits derived from, and costs associated with, continued membership by the City of Carlin in the Elko County Economic Diversification Authority (ECEDA) and determination as to whether the City of Carlin will maintain its membership in ECEDA in Fiscal Year 2009/2010, and all matters related thereto. (Action Item)

1. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated he brought this to the Council because of proposed membership fee increase about 100%, from \$2,400 annually to \$4,100. He explained that Elaine Barkdull of ECEDA reported they were revisiting this, because "I did not feel that our City Council would go for the raise and that the member from Wells had expressed the same issue that they would not stay in at the projected price. We decided to downsize ECEDA and maintain the fees at the current price. He read a letter from Elaine Barkdull Spenser into the record: *January 23, 2009 Dear Mayor Eklund and Carlin City Members, We at ECEDA understand the serious challenges you are dealing with when trying to prepare your 2010 fiscal year budget. The nation and state economy woes have reached Elko County and your city as well. We realize you to have evaluate the benefits of each department, each service and each program your city is involved with. ¶ECEDA is in the process of evaluating its economic development and diversification programs. We plan to select a group of goals and services that will best benefit each of its entities during these challenging times. ¶Focus Items for ECEDA's new strategic work plan may include: Creating innovative programs for promoting and selling city and county owned industrial parks and land. Assessing the possibilities of alternative energy and renewable resource projects in Elko County. Continuing our*

community outreach program, which allows residents to actively contribute to their city's economic potential. Retaining existing companies in Elko County and assisting companies that wish to expand. Marketing each of the cities' assets and resources to potential new companies. ¶ECEDA is a quasi-public organization that depends on its members and grants to fund its services. In years past, ECEDA was able to apply for grants to help subsidize its programs, this year grants were cut and new revenue sources were shut off. Understanding that these are challenging times for everyone, ECEDA cut its budget significantly and decided not to raise its dues. Instead, ECEDA will be just as dedicated to your city and will continue to offer services that do not require additional funds from its members. For your budgeting purposes, attached is an invoice demonstrating the same amount Carlin contributed to ECEDA last year. ¶We are dedicated to seeing Elko County and all of its entities grow and prosper. This coming year is one of great importance; new options are on the horizon and we will need to be prepared to take advantage of expansion and additions to our local industrial mix. ¶ We are asking the City of Carlin to retain its membership in ECEDA and to allow us to continue to market and promote your city. s/ Elaine Barkdull Spenser, ECEDA Executive Director s /Mary Kopti, ECEDA Board Chairman. Mayor Cliff Eklund explained that the reason he brought it to the Council was because of the increase in dues and to inquire of Council members if they desire to retain involvement in ECEDA or “pull out”.

2. Councilperson David Trujillo stated he wished there was community feedback, inquiring if City Manager Glenn Trust had any.
3. City Manager Glenn Trust replied negatively.
4. City Clerk LaDawn Lawson explained that Elaine Barkdull Spenser had made a couple of “approaches that hurt Carlin and I was disappointed in. Truly, I have not seen a lot of efforts done on behalf of Carlin. To promote our industrial park, I know she brags about the billboard they put up and bringing in the gentleman to speak on bringing tourism to the town. Honestly, I have not seen a lot done”.
5. City Manager Glenn Trust stated, “My thought on this as strictly your financial manager, is that to me whether it is \$4,100 or \$2,200, anything we do should have some value attached to it. It is irrelevant to me, either of those numbers could be used somewhere else, if we are not getting good value. My suggestion is that by the 17th of February, we are supposed to have our projection from the state as far as our revenue next year and if that revenue shows a significant or even a minor decrease in what the City of Carlin will be paid, we have to be cognizant that there are some expendable programs where that money would be better used. The mayor's suggestion that we table this until we know exactly what our numbers are next year may be appropriate”.
6. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, “I want to expand on what City Clerk LaDawn Lawson stated. We have had our issues with ECEDA ever since I have been on the board. There's been a time or two where it lead to a meeting with the City, Elaine Spenser and County Commissioners over some issues we had. Last summer we had another issue I was very disappointed with, but it is basically one of the few organizations that the City of Carlin belongs to where we get to meet with other people from the County and discuss the issues and work together. A result of that would be last summer when Wells had the earthquake. Carlin was one of the first ones to step up to the plate. Some of that came with our relationship with Wells through ECEDA; some of it came because of the relationship of the former city manager and city of manager of Wells. What it does, there are a lot of things that go on in ECEDA, that if we aren't there, we cannot grab it up. It is my opinion that if you are not on the menu, you are the menu. It is sixes to me as to what you want to do. Last spring, after we had trouble when City Manager Bill Kohbarger left tracking some things and Elaine Spenser helped us with that. She did write a \$360,000 grant that was approved and it did not get spent, so it got removed from us after we had done the work. There are some benefits, but if we do maintain this relationship, I would like maintain this relationship at arms length,

- because in my opinion, they have used information that they got from Carlin representatives to stab us in the back”.
7. Councilperson David Trujillo stated they would always lean toward Elko City, more than Carlin or Wells.
 8. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated there is an appearance of being a conflict of interest because of ECEDA’s role in the Railport. He stated in his opinion, he thinks this cost Carlin a business last year.
 9. Councilperson David Trujillo stated, “From the letters that she wrote and from what we know, it is an organization that is on the canvas right now. If we withdraw our financial support, and Wells withdraws its financial support, this organization could possible go away. How could that benefit Elko County in any way, shape or form. I am kind of torn”.
 10. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, “Following what you said, ECEDA, when operating properly and on all cylinders, goes to Carson City, represents Elko County of EDA issues at the legislature, they also monitor any grant money available for Elko County, as well as the City of Carlin”.
 11. Councilperson David Trujillo stated, “Which we should get a share of”.
 12. Mayor Cliff Eklund explained that is a function of ECEDA that can help Carlin “if everything is running on all cylinders”.
 13. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated, “I have some very pointed questions for ECEDA when they were here last meeting and I was not very happy with the answers that I got. One, that they had been in operation for 10 years and they had no plan for us for this year, no 5-year plan or no 10-year plan, which I was kind of upset about. If it weren’t for Mrs. Sawyer being a part of ECEDA now, I would opt to remove ourselves from them. But what Mrs. Sawyer has done in the past and seeing what she has done for other organizations, I think she is a very valuable asset to us”.
 14. Councilperson David Trujillo stated she is specifically dedicated to the outlying areas.
 15. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated he has talked to Mrs. Sawyer a couple of times since the last meeting and she is presently working on a 5-year plan for Carlin and other outlying areas. He noted he would like to see what the state budget looks like before making a decision.
 16. Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner stated, “For the last few years, I really did not think they had done a great deal for the City. I think there have been times that they could have done a great deal more and they have put us on the back burner. You’ll find, being on the Council, that happens a lot, but it also makes you watch your back. I do think we need to table this and see what the budget is going to be”.
 17. **Councilperson David Trujillo moved for table approval for continued membership by the City of Carlin in the Elko County Economic Diversification Authority (ECEDA) and determination as to whether the City of Carlin will maintain its membership in ECEDA in Fiscal Year 2009/2010 until the information is received from the state, and all matters related thereto. Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

V. Discussion and review of the Financial Due Date calendar associated with budget preparation and proposed meeting and workshop dates to ensure that the City is timely in its financial reporting and budget submissions to the State. (Non-Action Item)

1. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, “We have a meeting on February 19, 2009”.
2. City Manager Glenn Trust agreed, “I put a calendar using the state-mandated dates and the proposed meeting dates. Our plan is to bring to you a balanced budget. We are meeting regularly with all of the departments as an administrative body to make sure all the department needs are met and that the projects and capital improvements that are necessary are addressed. We have to prepare ourselves that, in reality, our revenues will decrease. I think we should wait until February 16th or 17th when we receive preliminary projections and are being told that they could go down from there. Most years they hold true for a while; this

year we are being told they may go down even from the preliminary tentative revenue projections, so with that in mind, one of the things that we are proposing is we will meet regularly. We are going to have our capital improvement projects ready for your review and, as a body, we will come to you in a united way with our budget balanced and flat to what we expect revenue to be. We are also working on a plan that if the revenue turns out to be lower by a percentage, by as much as 10% or 20% than what is expected, we will have an alternative plan to submit to you as a budget. To do this, we are proposing that on the February 17th we get our preliminary revenue projections, we would like to meet with you on the 19th. We are going to do a lot of leg work ourselves so if we could meet at some of the meetings for an hour, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the 19th, the week prior to the Council meeting we would like to present you with the initial budget revenue projections; that will give us an idea of where we are. At the regular Council meeting a week later, we will be able to update you and let you know if that is holding true or if we have no further information, we will continue to work on the budget. We are proposing an additional work session with the Council, again for an hour, same time, to look at the detailed first draft of the budget”.

3. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated, “March 4th is a meeting of the Planning Commission”.
4. Mayor Cliff Eklund inquired if the tentative budget has to be approved in March.
5. City Manager Glenn Trust stated the tentative budget goes to the state in April 15, noting, “We are looking at April 8, the first Council meeting as approval of the tentative budget. We would get it to the state by the 10th”.
6. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield suggested they could move the Planning Commission back half an hour later.
7. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated final approval is a date set by the state that the Council has to honor.
8. City Manager Glenn Trust stated May 19 is the required date for the Public Hearing. May 27th could be the final approval and adoption of the budget. He stated, “Our goal is there is enough work session time so that we can resolve issues, answer questions and have a lot of interaction and feedback, that by the time we get to the May 27th adoption meeting, all of the questions will have been answered and all of the issues addressed. The goal is that the department heads come united with a plan that we can put down in front of you and we can answer your questions and assure that issues have been addressed”.
9. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield noted the April 1st one is also a Planning Commission date.
10. City Manager Glenn Trust stated he and City Clerk LaDawn Lawson would address that problem.
11. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated he would ask Chairperson David Jones if there would be a problem with moving the Planning Commission back ½ hour.

VB. Review and possible approval of Payments from 1/15/09 to 1/28/09. (Action Item)

1. **Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner moved for approval of Payments from 1/15/09 to 1/28/09. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield recusing from One Stop Auto Parts.**

VI. City Council Members Report. (Non-Action Item)

1. Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner reported the 5-year anniversary date for the Senior Center was on Monday.
2. Councilperson David Trujillo reported there are quite a few projects going on in Public Works in varying stages.
3. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated he met with the new Volunteers for the Fire Department, Robin McCombs on the ambulance crew and Jake McCombs on the fire crew. He stated he met with Government Affairs and distributed a letter to Senator Reid concerning Employment Free Choice Act and he will discuss this at the next meeting before a vote can

be taken.

4. Mayor Cliff Eklund reported, "We had a governor's roundtable meeting in Carson City with the Speaker and head of the Finance Committee, discussing the financial issues of the state and how it will affect the cities. They cannot give us any definitive answers yet, because they are still in the middle of their budget hearings. They said do not be surprised to get somewhere between 6% and 12% cut. It was very informative. Tourism is down in the state. They asked for any city that had wage cuts or layoffs and of all of the cities there, Carlin, Elko and Ely were the only ones that did not raise their hand. Las Vegas laid off 1000 people. Reno met with union groups that they wanted a 6% cut. Reno is about \$53 million short thus far and that is last year's budget. It allowed us to express our concerns to the legislators and we will do this on a monthly basis until they get through their legislative term".

VII. City Clerk's Report. (Non-Action Item)

1. City Clerk LaDawn Lawson reported the City Manager and she had been working on the audit.

VIII. City Clerk Manager's Report (Non-Action Item)

1. City Manager Glenn Trust had no report.

IX. Comments by the General Public: Pursuant to NRS 241.020(2C) this time is devoted to comments by the general public and discussion to those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item until the matter has been included on a successive agenda and identified as an action item. (Non-Action Item)

1. Member Anna Dean reported she met with a person who is with the POW/MIA and they said they would like to be contacted if we know of any servicemen or women coming home, because they like to give them a party or awards.

X. Adjournment. (Action Item)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

APPROVED:

CLIFF EKLUND, MAYOR

ATTES T:

LADAWN LAWSON, CITY CLERK