

EAGLE BEND METROPOLITAN DISTRICT # 2

<http://www.eaglebendmetro.com>

-Monthly Meeting

Heritage Eagle Bend Clubhouse

23155 E. Heritage Parkway, Aurora, Colorado 80016

Date: February 27, 2014

10:00 am

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The Regular meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Director Geiger. In attendance were Directors: Rexroat, Coker, Geiger, Simner, Arellano, and Board Recording Secretary Audrey Davie.

II. Declaration of Quorum/Director Qualifications/Disclosure of Conflicts

A quorum was present. It is the responsibility of each Director to disclose any matter of conflict of interest with the District to the Board prior to each meeting, and any such potential conflicts must also be filed with the Secretary of State. An annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure must also be filed with the Colorado Secretary of State.

III. Approval of Consent Items

- A. Agenda for February 27, 2014
- B. Check Register for February
- C. Approve Minutes for January 23, 2014

Director Coker made a motion to approve the following consent items: February 27, 2014 agenda, January 23, 2014 minutes and the February payables with check numbers 3016-3030. The motion was seconded by Director Simner. The motion was unanimously approved 5-0.

IV. Public Input, self-introduction by guests

- A. Statutory public comments (comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
- B. Steve Hogan, Mayor of Aurora

Twenty (20) members of the public introduced themselves which included HEB residents, EB Creekside HOA President and Board member, four HEBMA Board Members, BBVA Branch Manager, City of Aurora Budget Committee Member Françoise Bergen and Creekside Church represented by their pastor.

Lee Rutorbories reported he submitted to Gene Blum, HEB General Manager, data from Gene Naes' study regarding the speed limit on Gartrell Road. Many believe the speed limit should be reduced.

Director Coker introduced Steve Hogan, Mayor of Aurora. The Mayor addressed several issues regarding the City of Aurora (COA) and answered questions posed by members of the audience. The following is a record of the presentation and Q & A session. Mayor Hogan first gave a few facts about Aurora: **1.)** Aurora is the 56th largest city in the United States with a 2012 population of approximately 335,700 people. By comparison Denver is the nation's 23rd largest city. **2.** There are only 3 suburbs in the U.S. which are larger than Aurora and **3.)** If Denver and Aurora were combined into one city the "new" city would be the 11th largest in the nation.

What is the Mayor's top priority now? Expanding 6th Avenue east to E-470. The projected cost for construction is roughly \$17 million.

How is the City preparing for the establishment of recreational marijuana stores? The City must have regulations in place by July 1, 2014. The City Council is wrestling with two looming questions:

1. How to decide who gets a license to sell marijuana?
2. Should there be any additional city taxes assigned?

Mayor Hogan noted \$60,000 in tax revenue was generated in Pueblo within a 2 month period.

Why isn't the City being proactive regarding the widening of roads such as Arapahoe Road or

Gun Club Road? CDOT currently does not have monies to expand roadways at this time; as all monies have been designated for maintaining existing roadways. Mayor Hogan acknowledged that certain roadways are definitely

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continued

overpopulated and need to be widened however, “the work cannot be done as there is no money within the City budget to do so”. NOTE: Mayor Hogan was Executive Director of the E-470 Public Highway Authority from 1991 to 1998.

What can be done about the unequal distribution of the tax burden within Aurora?

Since the south end of Aurora is more populated than our northern neighbors it carries a heavier tax burden regarding the infrastructure of the city e.g. water, sewer, streets etc. It was questioned whether it would be possible to establish another Ward within Aurora. Mayor Hogan stated this is plausible but..... the City’s Charter would have to be amended as all wards must be equal in size to have representation on City Council. Simply petitioning for another Ward is not feasible. Ballot issues in the past have not been successful such as 2B which was defeated in the November election.

HISTORY REGARDING CITY COUNCIL: The Aurora City Council is composed of a Mayor and 10 council members. Of those 10 members, six are ward council members, representing one of the six wards that section the city. Eagle Bend is in Ward 6. The remaining four council members are elected at large, like the mayor, to represent the entire city. The 10 members are part-time elected officials, meaning they may all have jobs in addition to their responsibilities as council members. The mayor's position is a full-time responsibility as required by the City Charter.

How will fracking impact the environment? To date there have been 3 proposals to drill & frack wells. When a well is fracked, drilling occurs thousands of feet deep unlike drilling for general water wells. There is a miniscule chance that fracking would contaminate our drinking water and Mayor Hogan stated that 97% of our drinking water comes from the mountain run off not underground aquifers.

Raising chickens in the “backyard” is becoming more popular so what responsibility does the HEBMA have in this new trend? HOA’s were given the authority to determine whether chickens would or would not be allowed within a community.

The need for increasing services to seniors is growing; so how will this growing population be served? Mayor Hogan stated that internal studies are currently being conducted but a senior center of sufficient size would cost \$12million to build, and currently there is no money to do so. The studies are being conducted in order to be “ready” if and when the City is in a financial position to build such facilities. He pointed out that *senior services* is a different issue and the Arapahoe County Commissioners are in charge of the *service* arena.

The City Council of Aurora authorized a study in 2012 to examine the incorporation of Aurora to become the “City and County of Aurora”. What is the result of this study? The final report was given last month to City Council. The report stated that over the next 20 years of an implementation period the General Fund and City would benefit. However, social services and the construction of new buildings, specifically a new county jail, would be the largest expenditures. In conclusion, Council asked for more information and to identify the worst case fiscal cost(s).

However, to incorporate to become a City and County a state amendment is needed and must be executed during an even year election. Should the incorporation go forward, Mayor Hogan predicts it would not be effective until January 2021 due to a very complicated process. The issue would have to be placed on the 2016 or 2018 ballot as 2014 is too late. The ballot issue may also require a two year implementation phase as demonstrated by Broomfield.

What is the City’s position regarding xeric landscape? The City’s Water Department has developed xeric landscape guidelines and is very supportive of residential areas incorporating this type of landscape. Mayor Hogan stated even though Aurora is 25% larger in population than 15 years ago, it uses 20% less water. Water previously used to water sod can now be used for other projects as people are more conscientious concerning water.

What incentives does the City provide to entice businesses to move to Aurora? The incentive involves reduced tax rates and is given to businesses AFTER project completion. For example, the proposed Gaylord Hotel will cost developers approximately \$600 million to build and will provide 10,000 temporary jobs and 2,500 permanent jobs. Through the State Tourism and Redevelopment Act passed in 2009 the Gaylord Hotel may receive up to \$350 million in rebate incentives. The Redevelopment Act was specifically designed to assist projects targeting tourism. In addition the City has a Small Business Assistance Office which focuses on retail and commercial entities.

Where is the money coming from for the development along Colfax? The area is being developed as an “artistic center” with monies coming from the public and private sectors.

Contact information for the Mayor: Council office 303-739-7015 or shogan@auroragov.org

V. Unfinished Business

A. Update re: Spring Board Election -Community Resources Services of Colorado - Sue Blair

Director Geiger reported the election will be a mail-in ballot process. Information regarding the election was published in the newsletter and also posted to the website.

VI. Reports of Officers, Committees and Professional Consultants

A. Treasurer

1. Monthly Report

Director Coker reported the Investment Committee consisting of Directors Coker, Arellano and Geiger are currently researching investment opportunities.

B. Senior Vice President

1. Monthly Report

Director Coker gave a brief report on the COA's strategic long term plan.

C. Vice President of Water Operations

1. Monthly Report

Director Rexroat reviewed his written report noting the following: water rates did not increase on the Cherry Creek Valley Pipeline. He will present the results of the study currently being conducted regarding the drilling of another water source in May or June.

D. Vice President of Landscape Maintenance

1. Monthly Report

Keesen Landscape Company and Director Arellano will meet next week to establish a schedule and plan for the District's landscaped areas - garden, and street scapes.

All were reminded of the class to be held at the Demonstration garden on June 21st. Personnel from the Aurora Water Department will present a class on xeriscape. The plant identification tags will be installed before the June 21st class. Lee Ruterbories thanked the Board for the Open House conducted last year in the garden.

E. Vice President of Communications

1. Newsletter & Website

The newsletter has been published and the website is current per Director Simner.

F. Legal

1. No information at this time.

G. President's Issues

1. No information at this time.

VII. New Business and Special Orders

A. "Candidates Night Forum" March 6, 2014 at 7:00pm, HEB Clubhouse

All candidates running for election will give a brief presentation and be available for questions.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting ended at noon.

The next regular meeting will be held March 27, 2014