

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
Rapid City, South Dakota  
December 13, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at the City Hall in Rapid City, South Dakota on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 5:30 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Steve Allender and the following Alderpersons: Ritchie Nordstrom, Darla Drew, Ron Weifenbach, Greg Strommen, Lance Lehman, Jason Salamun, John Roberts, Pat Jones, and Bill Evans; and the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: None; and the following were absent: None. Laura Armstrong joined the meeting by telephone.

Staff members present included: Finance Officer Pauline Sumption, City Attorney Joel Landeen, Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Biegler, Public Works Director Dale Tech, Police Lieutenant Scott Sitts, Community Planning Director Vicki Fisher, IT Director Jim Gilbert, and Administrative Coordinator Heidi Weaver

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Motion was made by Lehmann, second by Jones and carried to adopt the agenda.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** (3-minute time limit per speaker)

Abigail Anker, Jennifer Kruger and Aaron Ude spoke on behalf of the Rapid City Racers Swim Team. They are all in favor of building the “dome” at the Roosevelt pool. Kimberly Wallace, Nicole McNaught and Scott Engmann, all spoke in favor of Habitat for Humanity. Chuck Henrie would like more funds designated to the homeless. Domico Rodriguez spoke in favor of the “quiet zone” and the benefits it would bring to the downtown area.

**VISION FUND ITEMS** – Items 1 - 3

Mayor Allender explained how the Vision Fund started, how it is funded and the percentage of funds used for capital improvement projects and vision fund projects. The Vision Fund committee consisted of W. Kevn Maher (Chair), Jim Keck, William Sprindle, Beth Keenley, Martha Olson-Rangitsch, Kevin Crosby, James Haar, Kim Morsching, Christine Stephenson and Alternates: Jennifer Rice and Al Rodriguez. Maher indicated the committee held 15 working sessions since August 22, 2021, 22 site visits and four public hearings.

Mayor Allender read in item (No. CC121321-01) Presentation of Recommendations for Vision Funding by Vision Fund Citizen Committee. Maher started the Vision Fund presentation. Kevin Maher and Beth Keenley handled the presentation. The recommendations are in order of preference by the Vision Fund Citizen Community Committee. 1. He Sapa Otipi / Indian Boarding Lands Project for \$15,000,000 2. Black Hills Area Community Foundation Project for \$5,000,000; 3. Elevate Rapid City Project for \$2,500,000; 4. Special Olympics SD Project – Rapid City Flame for \$530,000; 5. SD School of Mines Project for \$4,500,000; 6. Sioux Park Tennis Restoration Project for \$3,000,000; 7. Central States Fair Project for \$980,000; 8. Black Hills Paddlers Project for \$325,000; 9. YMCA Project for \$403,000; 10. Main Street Square Project for \$70,000; 11. Black Hills Farmers Market Project for \$1,213,000; 12. Rapid City Racers / GREAT Swim Teams Project for \$1,015,000; 13. Black Hills Mountain Bike Association Project for \$600,000; 14. MARC / Journey Museum Project for \$495,000; 15. Rapid City High School Baseball Project for \$445,000; and finally, 16. Ignite City Soccer for \$292,000. The total recommended allocation is \$36,368,000.

Council thanked the committee for the time and dedication to this process. Council spoke on the committee's recommendations. They evaluated the committee's preferences and discussed each. City staff then presented four vision fund proposals to the council.

Mayor Allender read in item (No. CC121321-02) Presentation of Recommendations for Vision Funding by Mayor and City Staff. Sarah Hanzel presented the Railroad Quiet Zone Project Downtown Rapid City. The proposed project is to implement a Railroad Quiet Zone in downtown Rapid City for an estimated cost of \$5.75 million. In order to create a quiet zone, a community must install safety mitigation measures as gates, flashing lights, medians and wayside horns and then apply to the Federal Railroad Administration. Salamun asked to abstain from this item.

Melissa Petersen, Parks and Recreation Landscape Architect, presented a project to create a new city park in North Rapid City. The project would develop the 16.8 acres City parcel known as the Knollwood Drainage Area into a new park and community space for North Rapid City. Improvements would include a paved sidewalk looping the wetland, benches and gathering areas, lighting, play equipment and additional landscaping to create a community park where nearby residents can engage in free and walkable outdoor recreation. The amount requested is \$1,264,038.00.

Scott Anderson, Parks Division Manager, presented the Star of the West Irrigation and Concrete Replacement project. This project would replace the existing 30-year old irrigation system throughout the 8-field softball complex as well as approximately 12,000 square feet of badly deteriorated concrete within the complex. The new irrigation system would be incorporated into the City's Central Control System, providing a more efficient and water-saving application of irrigation water onto the softball playing field and the replaced concrete would address safety concerns at the site. The amount requested is \$1,250,000.00

Pauline Sumption, Finance Director, presented a proposal regarding the Opportunity Capture Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide input to Elevate Rapid City in the administration of the Opportunity Capture Fund. The amount requested is \$1,500,000.00. The fund currently stands at \$327,000 unallocated; everything else is in grant status right now. These additional funds would allow more economic opportunity for Rapid City through Elevate.

Mayor Allender read in item (No. CC121321-03)– Discussion and action from City Council. Motion was made by Lehmann, second by Nordstrom to schedule a special working session to discuss Vision Fund projects further. Amended motion by Jones, second by Weifenbach to have the special working session on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers. Weifenbach encouraged each councilperson to contact the requesting agencies to get their individual questions answered before the next meeting.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Roberts, second by Lehmann and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2021.  
CITY OF RAPID CITY

s/Steve Allender  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
s/Pauline Sumption

Finance Director  
(SEAL)

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