

Mayor Lee Webster called the Special Meeting to order at 6.00 p.m. Council Members present were Art Smyth, Kris Dawson, John Scheller, Bob Fateley and Dan Smith. A quorum was present. Also present were City Clerk Misty Ruiz, Deputy Clerk Desha Dawson and Public Works Director JD Smith.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET APPROVAL, SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND EMS LEVY:

Council had previously reviewed the 2012 preliminary budget for the City of Brewster. Mayor Webster stated at this time, the preliminary budget needed to be approved and a public hearing date set for the same. Also, the public hearing date for the EMS Levy needs to be set. Council agreed to set the Public Hearing date for the above noted items for November 9th, at the Regular City Council Meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Smyth made the motion to approve the 2012 City of Brewster Preliminary Budget. It was also decided to set the public hearing date for the 2012 Preliminary Budget and EMS Levy for November 9th at the Regular City Council Meeting. Council Member Fateley seconded the motion. All in favor.

AIRPORT LEASES DISCUSSION/UPDATE:

Mayor Webster stated that there was question raised as to whether Golden Wings Aviation leases were ever approved through Brewster City Council. Mayor Webster checked into this and discovered that the leases in question were signed and approved at the March 15, 2006 City Council Meeting, motioned by Dave Freels, seconded by Jerry Tretwold and passed, all in favor. Council Member Fateley asked how long this lease was approved for. Mayor Webster stated 25-years.

Mayor Webster provided Council with a screen shot of the data file history from Deputy Clerk Dawson's computer, where all minutes are typed and saved, transferred into PDF format (locked files) and then placed on the City website. These minutes cannot be tampered with. A copy of these minutes are archived in Ellensburg. The reason for this screen shot showing when the minutes were typed, printed and last saved is due to the fact that he received a phone call from Freels stating that these leases were not approved through Council and that he "fought it" (approval). Mayor Webster received a second phone call from Freels, at which time Mayor Webster informed him of what the minutes from 3/15/06 read, and Freels stated that the minutes "must have been changed". Mayor Webster again reviewed the screen shot of the minutes data file showing that these were not changed as Freels had stated and the proof is there in front of them.

Council Member Dan Smith asked to comment. Mayor Webster stated to Smith that if he feels the need to comment, so be it, but he recommends that Smith not comment due to the fact this has to do with Golden Wings Aviation (his father's business). Council Member Smith stated that he will comment as this has to do with leases that are already signed and in force – that this is old business.

Council Member Smith stated he would like to see the archive files for these minutes, to see if there is any evidence if these minutes were changed or not. Smith was on the Airport Commission Committee at the time these leases were being written. More happened during that time than just this particular lease and other leases were discussed at that time as well. He wants this issue put to rest.

Council Member Smith also stated that at the last Council meeting, Scott Baker asked (in reference to Golden Wings Aviation) "how do you get a lease this good", and that the Mayor replied "you write it yourself". Council Member Smith asked Mayor Webster if this remains his stance on the issue, that Dave Smith Sr. wrote his own lease. Mayor Webster replied "yes". Council Member Smith stated he wants this "on record".

Council Member Dawson asked why these issues have not been addressed until now. Council Member Scheller stated it was not until a member of the public asked questions about them (leases). Council Member Scheller asked Council Member Smith if he was addressing this as a previous Airport Commission member or as a Council Member. Council Member Smith stated he was addressing this as a Council Member. He also stated that he does not understand why Council would negotiate these leases in good faith and then dispute them.

Council Member Fateley stated that there is no question that something needs to be done, but the nit picking needs to stop between both parties involved. The City cannot afford another year of this. If it continues, he believes Council will need to look at cancelling any of the leases of those parties causing problems and costing the City money that we cannot afford to spend on these petty issues. This has to stop.

Dave Smith Jr stated that these irresponsible actions are causing the problems. Mayor Webster asked if making a statement like "I'm going to sue the !&*# out of the City of Brewster" is a responsible comment? Mayor Webster stated that at the last Council meeting, Dave Smith Jr. was overheard making this comment to a person attending the meeting. Dave Jr. did not comment. Mayor Webster again asked Dave Jr. if he denied making the comment. Dave Smith Jr. asked if this was hearsay or fact that he said this? Webster stated he made this comment to someone at the meeting and did he say it or not. Again, Dave Smith Jr. did not answer.

Council Member Fateley stated that both entities in this conflict need to do self evaluations and do what is best for their environments. Fateley stated if this were going on in his business, he would do just that.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Council regarding the Special Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Lee Webster

ATTEST:

City Clerk/Treasurer Misty Ruiz