DISCUSSION ON THE SYRINGA FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Brian Brower, City Attorney, explained legislation sets forth the amount collected in the form of a franchise tax from telecommunication companies that is collected by the state and the City receives of portion of the revenue collected. However, the telecommunication company was still required to obtain approval of a franchise agreement allowing it to install infrastructure within the City. He stated Syringa Networks, LLC, a broadband network company based in Boise Idaho, forwarded their standard agreement to the City to install voice or data transmission services within the City.

Mr. Brower reported he had suggested some minor and changes to the agreement and explained them to the Council. Michelle Koyle, Syringa Networks, introduced herself to the Council and explained the services provided by the company were telephone and internet services.

DISCUSSION ON IMPOSING A RAMP TAX

Adam Lenhard, City Manager, believed the City provided great recreational opportunities and stated at this time all programs were being funded by user fees. He informed the Council that the State allowed communities to adopt a RAMP tax which could also be used for such purposes;
however, it would need to be approved by voters. He presented the idea of posing the question of a RAMP tax to Clearfield voters in November and explained the tax would be in the form of a 0.01 percent addition to the sales tax.

He explained if the proposed RAMP tax was confirmed by voters and adopted by Resolution of the City Council the tax could be collected up to ten years. He reviewed the process of a RAMP tax with the Council and explained how the funds could be used: playground equipment, community parks, arts center amenities and debt service in conjunction with the Aquatic Center.

He reminded the Council that the topic had been previously suggested during the budget retreat and requested direction. A discussion took place pertaining to the proposed RAMP tax. Councilmember LeBaron suggested prior to it coming before the voters the City should educate the voters. Mr. Lenhard responded the issue could be discussed during neighborhood meetings, in the City newsletter, utility bills and via social media. He emphasized the importance of informing the residents about how the tax would be a benefit to the City. The Council directed staff to begin the process of getting the proposed RAMP tax on the ballot.

DISCUSSION ON A TRAFFIC STUDY FOR 700 SOUTH 1000 WEST

Adam Lenhard, City Manager, stated Councilmember Bush had requested an updated traffic study be completed for the 700 South 1000 West intersection now that the SR 193 extension had been completed and open for use. He explained the city engineer recently completed the study and Mr. Lenhard reported it was his conclusion that a signalized intersection was not warranted as it didn’t meet all necessary criteria. Mr. Lenhard pointed out that the Ninigret and Ivory Homes developments were progressing and mentioned it might be warranted at a later time.

Mr. Lenhard reminded the Council there had been some question as to whether a promise had been made to bring signalization to the intersection and informed the Council he had requested research of minutes be completed by the City Recorder’s office to determine if that was the case. He reported the minutes reflected that it had been suggested to widen 1000 West and install a left hand turn lane and reminded the Council the City had done that.

Councilmember LeBaron indicated he was satisfied with the information provided in the updated traffic study and stated he was also satisfied with the intersection improvements. Councilmember Bush stated residents believed the signaled intersection would be installed and suggested informing the residents that it wasn’t warranted at this time. Mayor Shepherd suggested neighborhood meetings would be taking place in various areas of the City and believed that venue would be appropriate to educate residents as to why the traffic signal would not be installed.

DISCUSSION ON THE (A-1) AGRICULTURAL ZONE

Scott Hess, Development Services Manager, distributed a handout and announced he had been asked to determine if the City was being overly restrictive specific to its Agricultural Zone. Mr. Hess reported the City currently allowed one horse and one fowl unit per acre and reviewed
neighboring cities’ allowances. He pointed out some cities allowances were based on a point system as opposed to a given number of allowed animals and explained that logic to the Council.

Mr. Hess suggested the Council consider whether or not the it would allow residents the use of their property as they so desired and inquired if the Council was comfortable with the current ordinance. He reviewed West Point City’s ordinance and compared its point system to Clearfield City’s and a discussion took place.

Councilmember Bush believed open space without the existence of residential structure should be taken into consideration when allowing animals in comparison to a similar lot size with a residential structure. Councilmember Young stated he didn’t want the Agriculture Zone to be as lenient as West Point City’s but indicated he could agree to a point system if it allowed more flexibility to the resident and a discussion took place. Councilmember Young didn’t know if a number of sheep or goats were appropriate and continued to express concern regarding allowances in West Point's Agricultural Zone.

Adam Lenhard, requested direction for staff regarding the Agriculture Zone. Mayor Shepherd suggested amendments to zoning ordinances and any consideration of a rezone should proceed through formal procedures with the Planning Commission’s recommendation. He directed the Planning Commission study the issue of agriculture zoning within the City prior to it coming before the City Council.

DISCUSSION ON A QUARTERLY NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING PLAN

Adam Lenhard, City Manager, reminded the Council of previous discussions regarding possible neighborhood meetings which could be used to educate residents about issues relating to the City. He reported staff had looked at the elementary school boundaries and was proposing two schools would be invited per meeting. He suggested the meetings take place on a night already designated as a work session and the format would be an informal open house atmosphere. He suggested staff could set up displays relative to issues which might be helpful to residents. Councilmember Young suggested the inclusion of regional issues as well. Mr. Lenhard mentioned the importance of having a police officer’s presence to allow residents to get to know the officers in addition it would allow them the opportunity to express any safety concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED
This 8th day of April, 2014

/s/Mark R. Shepherd, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder
I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Clearfield City Council meeting held Tuesday, March 11, 2014.

/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder