

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR EPHRAIM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
EPHRAIM CITY BUILDING
5 S. MAIN
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2014
6:00 PM**

The Ephraim City Council convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Squire, Mayor
John Scott, Mayor Pro Tem
Tyler Alder
Terry Lund
Margie Anderson
Alma Lund (arrived at 6:30)

STAFF PRESENT

Regan Bolli, City Manager
Bryan Kimball, City Planner
Leigh Ann Warnock, City Recorder
Ron Rasmussen, Police Chief
Chad Parry, Public Works Director
Glade Bown, Power Superintendent

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

See attached.

WORK SESSION 5:30 PM

Mayor Squire called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register and Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' STATE

The City currently has \$1,000 in a fund to draw from for donations. That fund can be added to if the Council wishes.

MOTEL ON MAIN STREET

The Council would like to find any kind of building or health code violation so condemnation is something that can be pursued. Discussed having Chief Steck perform a fire inspection to see if any part of the empty building is a fire hazard.

POLICY AMENDMENT

Councilmember Scott would like to discuss amending the city's Employee Termination Policy. It is his understanding the intent in the original policy was that the Council be consulted or made aware of disciplinary actions. That has always happened, but he would like it to be written in the policy, making the Council the decision-making authority.

Councilmember Scott also suggested creating a sub-committee consisting of two Council Members to help with the decision making process.

Regan pointed out that safeguards are already in place. Currently, as per City Code, department heads, the City Manager and Mayor have authority to make suspension and dismissal decisions. If that is not acceptable to the employee, they can request a grievance. If a grievance is filed, the employee may go to a Personnel Board consisting of two City Council members and two employees picked from departments other than the employee in question. If the employee is still not satisfied, they may appeal directly to the City Council, after which they may then appeal with representation if desired. The reason for this is any non-appointed employee has a property right to their job. This is due process. It is already in place in both State and City Code.

Mayor Squire commented he feels if an employee does not feel comfortable talking to the City Manager or the Mayor, it would be good to have a two-member council committee to talk with in the beginning stages.

Terry Lund wondered if employees are protected down the road. He likes the idea of a two-council committee so employees have someone to talk with, as long as they are protected. However, if the current system works, it shouldn't be changed.

WASTEWATER RESOLUTION

This is an annual report Chad fills out and the City is required by the state to pass it by resolution.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Tyler Alder moved the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember John Scott. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Squire called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Tyler Alder offered an opening prayer. Councilmember John Scott led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register of February 4, 2014.

Councilmember Tyler Alder moved to approve the warrant register of February 4, 2014 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Terry Lund. A roll call vote was taken: voting "yes" Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Council reviewed the minutes of the January 15, 2014 City Council meeting.

Councilmember Terry Lund moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2014 City Council meeting with changes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember John Scott. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Abraham Hundepool expressed his concern with how trucks travel along certain roads and routes. Big trucks drive by his home via College Ave. and 200 West and make sharp turns to shoot across the highway. Mr. Hundepool feels if trucks would stay on college road and turn onto the highway at the light, it would save maintenance on those roads and proposes establishing a truck route.

He also mentioned that at 200 west there are sometimes up to five trailers parked by Quester Gas. His feeling is the City should think about implementing a gross weight restriction. “There is no additional revenue for those trailers parking on our roads, and we are here to protect the assets of the city.”

SANPETE GIVES BACK

Rachael Hermansen was present to ask for approval to hold the 2014 Sanpete Gives Back Tournament on June 13-14. Phil Murray confirmed that date would work fine and fits in with the Recreation schedule. Five nominations for families to sponsor have been received to date; the deadline is March 21.

Councilmember Tyler Alder moved to approve the dates of June 13-14, for the 2014 Sanpete Gives Back Tournament. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Margie Anderson. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

COMMUNITY GARDEN PRESENTATION

Pete Conover introduced himself to the councilmembers not familiar with the Ephraim Community Garden. Mr. Conover said he grew up in Sanpete County, but found when he moved away that what he had taken for granted on the farm was not available in big cities. When he returned, he found a lot of people had given up having a garden and he wanted to do something about this. He showed a Power Point presentation showing the community garden that was approved by the City last year. There was lots of volunteerism and support.

Mr. Conover is currently working on achieving tax exempt status. He is also working on classes to be offered to the community this summer. Matt Palmer from USU will be teaching some classes as well as some others from Snow College. They are trying to get more children involved. He is hoping to have some classes in the kitchen area which would require a fridge and a stove for canning demonstrations, etc. He is looking for donations of those appliances from the community.

They are asking for monetary support from the City. If the City could match the \$700 they have come up with, they would be able to start the new year and get more people involved.

A pantry has been planned for storing food there for the community, which would somewhat restore the Bishop's Storehouse to its original function. In the fall they would like to have a farmer's market, called Utah Heartland Farmer's Market, set up where the co-op and granary are and in the garden area itself. As the community garden grows, the farmer's market could be moved to Pioneer Park.

One goal for the garden is to have garden beds with walkways in the garden itself. It could be used as a reception area and would certainly make Main Street more attractive. It may even extend the Co-op's ability to generate revenue.

Mr. Conover once again asked the Council help preserve our heritage by having a living garden. About 50-60 people attended the garden party last year.

Permission was granted for use of city land and water to be used for the garden. Mayor Squire called for a motion regarding the requested monetary support.

Councilmember John Scott moved to donate \$700 to the Ephraim Community Garden. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Margie Anderson. A roll call vote was taken: voting "yes" Councilmembers Terry Lund, John Scott, Alma Lund and Margie Anderson. Voting "no" Councilmember Tyler Alder. The motion carries 4-1.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER AND RECORDER

Councilmember John Scott moved to reappoint Leah Romero as the Ephraim City Treasurer and Leigh Ann Warnock as the Ephraim City Recorder. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alma Lund. A roll call vote was taken: voting "yes" Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, Alma Lund and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF DETERIORATED MOTEL BUILDING ON MAIN STREET

The building was previous found to be structurally sound. The owner puts a tenant in for a little while, and then it stands empty. This has been the pattern for the last five or six years. It would require a lot of money to demolish the building. The County Land Fill may be able to help by not charging tipping fees. The building needs to be inspected again for building and health code violations to see if something can be done this year.

DISCUSSION OF POLICY AMENDMENTS

Regan Bolli mentioned he has filed for a grant to have an MBA intern work on updating the City's Policy and Procedures Manual.

Councilmember Scott wished to withdraw discussion, but stressed all employees need to understand there is a process and what that process is. Regan commented personnel policies are reviewed at Staff Meetings each month.

RESOLUTION ECR 14-02, WASTEWATER RESOLUTION

This is a yearly report that must be submitted to the state in resolution form. This report will be submitted to the state and the City will proceed with its usual operations of the sewer.

Councilmember Margie Anderson moved to adopt ECR 14-02, A Wastewater Resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Terry Lund. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, Alma Lund and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

BOYS’ AND GIRLS’ STATE DONATION REQUEST

Jack Keisel, of the Mt. Pleasant chapter of the American Legion, was present to request a donation to help sponsor Ephraim students to attend the Boys’ and Girls’ state activity. Councilmember Tyler Alder offered to call the American Legion in Manti to get more information.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS

Chief Rasmussen –would like to start leasing some vehicles in the future.

Regan Bolli

Splash Pad – the splash pad is scheduled to be completed May 15th. A review of the final design was done yesterday and parts are being ordered. This will be the summer version of the ice rink.

Airport – the environmental assessment comment period has expired. There were no findings.

Amphitheater – We hoped to have that last summer. Once the dirt work is done, we will be putting in more trees. Dale Cox is ready to do the concrete work and Craig Oberg says the structure is done and waiting to be installed.

State Expo – The City and Snow College have partnered to have a booth at the State Sports and Health Expo held at the Southtowne Expo Center. Material and signs have been purchased to advertise what Sanpete County has to offer.

Mayor Squire

Rural Legislator’s Day – Felt this experience was very informative. There are a lot of people in Utah concerned about economic growth in our rural areas.

Bryan Kimball

Well – We’ve been having some discussions about pursuing a new well this year. As part of that project, we are also looking at some options to consider underground storage by way of using a recharge well to recharge the aquifer with our overflow water from our water tank. This is treated drinking water that currently just overflows into the ditch during the winter months and much of the summer. Franson Engineering, the same group that is helping us with our tunnel, has done this successfully in other areas of the state. They offered to come down at no charge and discuss some possible options on how to best accomplish that. The benefit to this approach is that by storing our existing water, it potentially saves us from having to buy additional water rights to put into our

well. Instead we just store our existing water underground and then pump it out again when we need it.

John Scott

Planning and Zoning - Public hearings are scheduled for discussion of the Roads Master Plan. He encouraged the Council to be present at those.

Terry Lund

Historical Committee – things are getting started with the Historical Committee. Terry recommended Roy Crouch and Rebecca Adams as new members of the committee.

Councilmember Terry Lund moved to appoint Roy Crouch and Rebecca Adams as new Historical Committee members. The motion was seconded by Councilmember John Scott. Voting “yes” Councilmembers Tyler Alder, Terry Lund, John Scott, Alma Lund and Margie Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Margie Anderson

ECHA – the Board is seeking a loan to help with their new subdivision. Lorna Olson thought it would be the end of February before they would know, but they received a promising e-mail from the Olene Walker foundation that said it looks good.

Rural Legislative Day – representation for rural areas are diminishing. Our champions have got to become some of those urban legislators who grew up in rural areas.

Tyler Alder

Rec Department - We can now do drafts on a computer. We have learned how to do that and will start with baseball.

Scandinavian Festival – we will meet again in two weeks.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Terry Lund moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tyler Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on February 19, 2014, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council room.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Date