

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EPHRAIM CITY HALL
5 SOUTH MAIN, EPHRAIM, UTAH
MAY 2, 2018
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Ephraim City Council convened in a Regular City Council Meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, in the City Council Room. Mayor Squire called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY

Councilmember Boothe offered an invocation. Councilmember Anderson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

Richard Squire, Mayor
Margie Anderson, Mayor Pro Tem
Tyler Alder
John Scott
Greg Boothe
Richard Wheeler

STAFF

Brant Hanson, City Manager
Marcus Gilson, City Attorney
Bryan Kimball, Community Dev.
Leigh Ann Warnock, City Recorder
Steve Widmer, Financial Director
Chad Parry, Public Works Director
Cory Daniels, Power Director
Aaron Broomhead, Police Chief
Phil Murray, Rec Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment presented.

PRESENTATIONS

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER

Breezy Anderson, the newest Ephraim City Police Officer, was sworn into office by the City Recorder.

LIBRARY REPORT

Library Director, Lori Voshall, reported the Ephraim Library is a Certified Public Library with the State of Utah and partners with Mt. Pleasant and Manti libraries to provide services to the area. They have access to the State library's digital selection. The library pays for its own subscription to Mango Language Services. 4,351 items were added to the Library's inventory during the last fiscal year.

For the 2018 Summer Reading Program, Lori is looking into getting a local author to come in and present a writing workshop. She reported the library associates have uniformly shelved and labeled all items, there is a new book display, and they have updated the catalog, and weeded collections for outdated, damaged and non-circulating material as per the State Library's recommendation. She has also implemented a Tween Program (for ages 10-14) and maintained certification with the State.

Lori will be graduating with Masters of Library Science on May 11th. She has been working with the community to promote arts, community events and volunteers. Her goal is to pursue the Quality Library Designation.

WATER RATE ADJUSTMENT

Planner Bryan Kimball presented a Power Point presentation explaining the history and future of Ephraim's culinary water. Points reviewed included water sources, usage, risks, quality and quantity of water.

Mayor Squire acknowledged that many responses to the survey sent to Ephraim residents were received and all have been reviewed and comments taken into consideration.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Squire called the public hearing to order at 7:46 p.m. This Public Hearing is for the purpose of receiving input from the public with respect to the issuance of parity water/revenue bonds and any potential economic impact to the private sector from the construction of the project to be funded by the bonds. The following public comments were received:

Frank Crowther, a 40 year resident of Ephraim, commented he appreciates the obvious preparation conducted for this meeting. He was concerned about the City taking money out of the utilities fund last year and putting it in the general fund. He said it sounds like the City has drained any surplus that should have gone to the well. "The original charter says a certain percentage will be used to run the City and it looks like that is not happening or running according to that charter. That means you are doing something that shouldn't be done." He stated the City should be more conservative when facing reductions in income when senate bill 81 is enforced. "If funds are being taken from utilities to run the City, you're running a

deficit and it means more taxes down the line.” Mr. Crowther would like to see more conservation in the City.

Mayor Squire replied the money transferred from the utility fund to the general fund is actually money the City pays to those funds for the utilities it uses. That money comes out of the general fund, to the utilities fund, and then back again as per the Gasby Law, which has been in effect for the last 2-3 years. The only other way to meet this requirement by the State would be to raise taxes and then look at another increases to citizens to cover the difference. This way it can legally be done without any increase to residents.

Brian Nielson commented he is having a hard time trying to make it financially, as everyone is. Increases in utilities makes it hard for them and for students who want to come to Ephraim for school. The rates keep going up and are never sustained in one place. At one time Ephraim had the lowest utilities anywhere in the county, and is now becoming one of the highest. “That’s a problem, and makes people not want to move here. If we keep going down the same path, the next thing will be to raise sewer rates. We are paying more and more for the same amount of water.”

No further comments were received. Mayor Squire closed the public hearing at 8:00 p.m.

MOTION AGENDA

APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register of May 1, 2018.

Councilmember Alder moved to approve the May 1, 2018 Warrant Register as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scott. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Scott, Boothe, Wheeler, Anderson, and Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

A budget meeting will be held on May 9, 2018.

Councilmember Scott moved to acknowledge receipt of the 2018-2019 budget. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Scott, Boothe, Wheeler, Anderson, and Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF BID: CAMERA INSPECTION OF THE CULINARY WELL

Bryan Kimball informed the Council that bids had been opened for the camera inspection of the culinary well. The purpose of this project is to increase the quality and quantity of water from the existing well. The low bid was submitted by Gardner Brothers Drilling, Inc. for the amount of \$5,800.

Councilmember Wheeler moved to approve the low bid of Gardner Brothers Drilling, Inc. in the amount of \$5,800. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Scott, Boothe, Wheeler, Anderson, and Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Scott moved to appoint Darrin Glather to the Planning and Zoning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Scott, Boothe, Wheeler, Anderson, and Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Margie Anderson

Miss Ephraim – The pageant is in very capable hands. It will be held on Saturday, May 12th.

ECHA – The Board advertised for two new homes to be built.

Richard Wheeler

Fire Department – The Fire Board is upgrading training for driving certifications.

Greg Boothe

Scandinavian Festival – The festival is moving ahead. Steve Hood mentioned having a hard time taking the science building down and won't have trucks moving in and out during the festival, which is good news for us. This year's festival will be reduced in size due to the construction, but next year there will be a lot more green space to utilize for the festival.

John Scott

Airport Board – at 5:00 p.m. today the Manti and Ephraim City Councils met to begin discussions about an official agreement between the two cities with respect to the airport.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chad Parry, Public Works Director, reported he has been with the City 30 years as of today.

Water Supply – Last year at this time we were bringing in almost 1,500 gallons/min. Last week we were bringing in 500. The weather's warm, everyone is trying to get their

lawns going. He was stressed out for a few days, but the springs have come up and we are now at 1,199 gallons/min.

Phil Murray, Rec Director

Sports – Soccer wraps up on Saturday. Softball begins May 15th and runs to the middle of June. Qualifying teams will go to tournament the third week of July. Track was canceled because of the rain and rescheduled for next Monday. City needs to work with Snow College about field usage.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Commendations - Brant commended Bryan Kimball for all the hours spent putting together information for the water presentation. He also commented that Lori Voshall is fantastic at what she does and said she is an incredible Library Director. She is doing a lot with the little they have.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Scott moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, starting at 5:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council room.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Date