

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on June 15, 2011 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

WORK SESSION: 6:00 p.m.

Jeff Nielson went over the amended budget for fiscal year 2010/2011. Explained that we need to amend the budget to have a balanced budget. Revenues and expenses have changed since the budget was created.

MEETING CONVENED AT: 7:00 p.m.

CONDUCTING: Mayor Jonathan F. Cope

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Jonathan F. Cope
Councilperson Lynn Durrant
Councilperson Terry A. Ficklin
Councilperson Todd R. Gordon
Councilperson Sid Jorgensen
Councilperson Sterling Rees

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeffrey Nielson, Finance/Recorder
Chief Brad James, Police Chief
Junior Baker, City Attorney
David Johnson, Building Dept.
Bruce Ward, Public Works/Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT

Brent Hancock, L. Nyle Robinson, James Thomas, Yolanda Moser, Cary Hanks, Trent Cloward, Steve Cox, Gary Warner, Erman Stone, Jessica Kallas, Chelsea Connelly, Stephanie Griffiths, Melanie Phillips, Raychel Long, Raylene Long, Steve Carter, Tad Beck, Tammy Beck, Gordon Raymond, Junior Underwood, Wes Jenkins, J. Reed Cornaby, Melissa Harmon, Christian Harmon, Brian Dudley, Mike Pritchett, Matt Marziale, Chris Averett, Clark Crook

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

Mayor Cope asked if anyone would like to give a motivational or inspirational message. Councilperson Sterling Rees stated he would like to offer a motivational message in the form of a prayer.

2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Cope invited those who wish to participate, to stand and say the pledge of allegiance with him. He then led the pledge of allegiance for those who wanted to participate.

Chief James introduced the Veterans of Foreign Wars to do a special presentation. They asked Michelle McKean, who is a Salem EMT, to come forward. They presented her with “the outstanding emergency technician of the year” award, and then read a letter explaining the award. This is a great honor for Michelle to receive.

3. MISS SALEM – RACHEL FITZGERALD

Miss Salem Rachel Fitzgerald, 1st attendant Melanie Phillips, and 2nd attendant Stephanie Griffiths, introduced themselves to the mayor and council. Rachel talked about her platform, which is community service. They also reported that they have been working on the float and getting it ready for the upcoming parades. They have helped in the community and visited some of the rest homes nearby. Rachel would like to do a “Find Your Greatness Day” this would be done by having several workshops held at the high school. She told about her blog, which is at salemcityservice.blogspot.com. She asked the mayor and council if there is anything she can do to serve in the community to let her know.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

Open

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to open the public hearing.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sid Jorgensen.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

A. Approve the Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011

Jeff Nielson reported that each year towards the end of the budget year, the budget needs to be amended, based on the revenues received and the expenses. He presented the amended budget to the mayor and council during the work session. He also went over the amended budget for the council and public to view.

Mayor Cope asked if there were any comments. There were no comments.

Close

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to close the public hearing.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

A. Approve the Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to approve the amended budget for fiscal year 2010/2011 as presented by Jeff Nielson.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

5. NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT - PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR 2-LOT SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT 598 N. MAIN FOR THE JR. HIGH SCHOOL AND SEMINARY

Steve Carter, who represented Nebo School District and Bruce Ward, presented this item. Steve showed the map of the two lot subdivision. Bruce explained that this subdivision is for the Junior High School and the Seminary building for the LDS Church. Steve Carter stated that this subdivision would clean up the parcels. Right now there are three parcels that are involved and this subdivision would combine those three parcels and make two lots, one for the Junior High and the other for the LDS Church for a seminary building. Bruce also stated that the plat map will have all of the easements on it. Steve Carter wanted to thank the city and its staff for being so good to work with.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin to approve the Nebo School District subdivision preliminary plat for 2 lot subdivision located at 598 North Main.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

6. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH ALLIED WASTE FOR RECYCLING

Gordon Raymond from Allied Waste stated that they are asking for an extension on their agreement for solid waste pick up. The extension is for five years, it also establishes the rate for this year, which there was no increase, and it also establishes a rate for recycling if the city plans to do a recycling program.

Councilperson Ficklin mentioned that the recycling bins that are located by the grocery store may soon be taken out. The solid waste district has to dump them two to three times a week, and is not cost effective for the district since they do not charge to have the bins at this location.

Gordon Raymond explained the different options for the recycling. There is the mandatory option, where everyone would be required to have a can, there is the opt in, where residents can call and have a can placed at their home, or there is the opt out, where residents will have a set time period where they can call the city office to opt out of the program. If they do not call and opt out, then a can will be delivered and billed for the service. Gordon also explained that the cost for the recycling is based upon how many residents sign up. The more participants, the less expensive it will be.

Mayor Cope explained that Allied Waste currently does our garbage pickup. He would like to see a survey sent out to the residents inquiring of their interest.

Gordon Raymond explained what items can be recycled.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to approve the amended agreement with Allied Waste.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

7. APPROVE INSURANCE BROKER

Mayor Cope explained the city currently uses Utah Local Governments Trust as an insurance broker. A committee made up of Mayor Jon Cope, Councilperson Lynn Durrant, Attorney Junior Baker, Chief Brad James, and Jeff Nielson, was created to recommend a broker to the City Council. They met with three companies, ULGT, GBS and First West. Following that meeting the recommendation from the committee to the council was to work with First West Benefits Solution. First West works with several other cities in Utah County.

Attorney Baker stated that the committee looked at the type of benefits that the brokers would offer the City. First West's presentation on products and services was the most beneficial for the City and the employees.

Matt Marziale asked if First West was offering a HSA (Health Savings Account). Attorney Baker stated that they were offering the HSA option for those who wanted to participate, but that it would be on a voluntary basis.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to approve First West Benefit Solutions as the cities insurance broker.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

8. APPROVE HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL

Jeff Nielson presented the increase in PEHP Health Insurance for this next year's budget year (FY 2011/2012) was 0.2% and no increase with the PEHP Dental insurance.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the PEHP renewal for Health and Dental Insurance for the upcoming budget year of 2011/2012.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

9. APPROVE ANCILLARY INSURANCE RENEWAL

Jeff Nielson explained that the ancillary insurance is the AD&D, Life Insurance, Long Term Disability and Long Term Care. As our new insurance broker, First West Benefits, feel like they can improve our ancillary insurance and save the city a little money. They will be giving us some final quotes as quick as they receive them. Jeff explained that we need to approve First West Benefits to be our agent for the ancillary insurance.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon to approve the ancillary insurance benefits with First West Benefits Solutions.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sid Jorgensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

10. APPROVE UTAH RETIREMENT & 401-K PLAN RENEWAL

Jeff Nielson explained Salem City belongs to the Utah State Retirement. The retirement this year for public employees is 13.77%; this is a 0.4% increase from last year. Public Safety percent contribution is at 28.82% and had no increase this year. These rates are determined by Utah State Retirement. The city also contributes to a 401-K for the employees, the rates for public employees is 2.41% and for public safety employees it is 1.55%.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to approve the Utah Retirement and 401-K Renewal for 2011/2012.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

11. DOUG YATES SALEM HEIGHTS BOND EXTENSION FOR SEWER LINE ON 400 NORTH

Bruce Ward explained that Doug Yates, who developed Salem Heights, had a bond to have the sewer line upgraded on 400 North, from about 200 East to Main Street. The bond is going to expire on June 25, 2011. Doug is unable to come tonight to ask the council for an extension, because he was having surgery. Bruce stated Doug is requesting an extension on doing the improvements, but would need to come before the council. Therefore, he is asking to table this item until next council meeting. Bruce felt that if the bank would extend the bond for another 24 months there would be no problem in tabling this item until next council meeting, but if the bank is not willing to grant an extension, then he would recommend that the city call the bond. Because the bond expires on June 25th, he will need to get with the bank ASAP to get the extension.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to table this item until next council meeting, with the exception that the bank approves a bond extension before the bond expires on June 25, 2011; otherwise the bond would need to be called.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

12. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

MOTION BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon to approve the bills for payment.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

13. PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief James stated the Salem Spring Triathlon went well; they had about 300 participants, and had to have two people pulled out of the pond during the swimming event.

Chief James also explained that there was a forced entry robbery into a local business. The person was caught and we were able to recover the items stolen.

Cary Hanks from the chamber talked about the Economic Summit, they had about 100 people come and participate in the event. She thanked the mayor for attending. She also introduced Yolanda Moser who sits on the board and will be the representative for the Salem City businesses.

COUNCIL REPORTS

14. MAYOR JONATHAN F. COPE

Mayor Cope explained that Mayor Wayne Anderson, of Spanish Fork City, is asking that we create a resolution in conjunction with the other South County Mayors to ask that the proposed redistricting for the state representatives be changed. The boundaries were just realigned and Spanish Fork was split into three different districts. The mayors in the South Utah County are asking that our area be one district and that we have our own representative. There is enough population in the area to qualify for a new district.

15. COUNCILPERSON LYNN DURRANT

Councilperson Durrant reported the library is having a 10 year anniversary celebration and will be having a fund raiser event on the 20th of June at the Civic Center pavilion and stage area.

16. COUNCILPERSON TERRY A. FICKLIN

17. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Rees reported that he had a resident who lives by the pond ask him a question about a water issue. After talking with the resident, the resident started talking about Salem Days and how the fireworks have been moved from the pond. Councilperson Rees was embarrassed because he did not know about the changes in Salem Days. He was wondering if he could find out about the changes that have been made for Salem Days, so that if he is asked he can explain them and why. Mayor Cope explained that some of the complaints about Salem Days in the past have been that there is no shade at the ball park and the heat is extreme for the activities there, so why can't we use the Knoll Park for events. When we have the fireworks at the pond, we have to close the park down and maintain a 600 foot safety perimeter. Mayor Cope spoke with Randy Brailsford, (who does the fireworks), about the possibility of moving the fireworks to the High School baseball field. Randy told him that if the fireworks

were moved, they would still be able to be seen from the area by the stage. The idea of moving the fireworks to allow the events to be at Knoll Park has been discussed with the Salem Days Committee members, and it was decided to try it this year and see how it goes. Councilperson Rees felt that it should have been mentioned to the council so they would know how to address the public when they were asked about it.

18. COUNCILPERSON SID JORGENSEN

Councilperson Jorgensen thanked the city crews for their work and complemented on how nice the parks and the community look.

19. COUNCILPERSON TODD R. GORDON

Councilperson Gordon reported that the South Utah Valley Solid Waste District is doing well.

20. DAVE JOHNSON, BUILDING DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC WORKS

21. BRUCE WARD, CITY ENGINEER/ PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Bruce Ward stated the council should be getting set up with their Smart Yard program.

22. ATTORNEY S. JUNIOR BAKER.

Mayor Cope talked about the budget for this upcoming year, and how it has been a difficult budget process, especially with the proposed property tax increase. The tax increase is necessary help the city with funding for in the roads and the replacement of aging equipment. The city roads have been in need of repair for a long time, and we have not had any money to do the major repairs.

Jeff Nielson asked if there were any questions or concerns with next year's budget that the council would like to look at or discuss at this time. There was no discussion.

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin to adjourn city council meeting.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:30 p.m.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder