

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on May 4, 2011 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

Work session: 5:30 – Jeffrey Nielson went over the tentative budget for 2011/2012. Jeff explained that he has met with each councilmember and reviewed their respective department’s budgets along with the supervisor and department head of each department. With the proposed tentative budget, it is showing an estimated \$400,000 deficit in the general fund. He explained that there are still many cuts that can be made, but in the last four years the city has already cut out many items because they were not a priority. Those items have now become a priority. We are at a point where we need to appropriate some money for maintenance and improvements, especially in the road fund. There was a discussion of a tax increase in accordance with the requirements of the Truth in Taxation ruling. Tax rates from several of the cities in the county were compared.

At 6:00 p.m. the Miss Salem Contestants came in and introduced themselves to the City Council and presented their platforms. The Miss Salem pageant will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2011.

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

Excused:

OTHERS PRESENT

Lana C. Harris, Amber Chandler, Sheila Parrett, Christa Eidem, Tia Daniels, Morgan Howen, Sam Ford, Alyssa Anhder, Alexis Parker, Rachel Paulson, Dustin Memmott

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

Mayor Cope asked if anyone would like to give a motivational or inspirational message. Councilperson Sid Jorgensen 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.

3. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

Mayor Cope asked if anyone was present to represent the youth council. There was no one present.

4. APPROVE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012

Mayor Cope reported that during the work session tonight the council went over the tentative budget. One of the items looked at was a tax increase in accordance with the truth in taxation rules for this coming budget year. The tentative budget is available for the public to review and is also online.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Terry Ficklin to approve the tentative budget for 2011/2012 fiscal year, with a tax increase in accordance with the Truth in Taxation rules and that the new tax rate would tentatively be at .002394, which would generate approximately \$288,000, along with a recommendation that the Council review the electrical rates and consider a rate adjustment to offset a known increase in electrical rates from UMPA.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sid Jorgensen.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

5. APPROVE MINUTES OF April 20, 2011

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the minutes of April 20th 2011 as written.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Todd Gordon.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

6. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

MOTION BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant to approve the bills for payment.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sid Jorgensen.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

7. PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief James reported that at approximately 10:30 a.m. on Monday morning the Special Olympics Torch run will be coming through Salem.

Tuesday morning will be the Annual Handicap Fishing Day at the pond.

COUNCIL REPORTS

8. MAYOR JONATHAN F. COPE

9. COUNCILPERSON LYNN DURRANT

10. COUNCILPERSON TERRY A. FICKLIN

Councilperson Ficklin wanted to thank Tracy Fratto for keeping the Community Center clean; she is doing a great job.

11. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Rees reported that the PI system is filled with water and is ready for the year.

12. COUNCILPERSON SID JORGENSEN

Councilperson Jorgensen reported that the city crew has been working hard to complete the spring clean up. They are doing a great job.

13. COUNCILPERSON TODD R. GORDON

Councilperson Gordon reported that the Solid Waste District has informed us that they will not increase their rates to the cities.

The Easter Egg hunt went well; Councilperson Gordon thanked the Youth Council, the Fire Department, and the Chamber for their work on the Easter Egg Hunt.

Memorial Day program is set for 8:00 a.m. on Memorial Day.

14. DAVE JOHNSON, BUILDING DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC WORKS

15. BRUCE WARD, CITY ENGINEER/ PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

16. ATTORNEY S. JUNIOR BAKER

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Lynn Durrant.

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 7:15 p.m.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder