

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BRIGHAM CITY COUNCIL
August 13, 2020
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Tyler Vincent	Mayor
	D.J. Bott	Councilmember
	Alden Farr	Councilmember
	Joe Olson	Councilmember
	Tom Peterson	Councilmember
	Robin Troxell	Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT:	Christina Boss	City Recorder
	Rick Bosworth	Human Resources Director <i>via Zoom</i>
	Mike Christiansen	City Attorney
	Mike Nelsen	Police Chief
	Derek Oyler	Finance Director
	Tyler Pugsley	Public Works Director <i>via Zoom</i>
	Jason Roberts	City Administrator
	Brandon Thueson	Fire Chief <i>via Zoom</i>

Mayor Vincent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Reverence Period was given by Councilmember Troxell. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Oyler approached the podium and displayed his presentation on the screen. He explained the historical data graph depicting the tax rate increase in 2001, and Brigham City adopting the certified tax rate from 2002 until 2019 when the tax rate was increased. Currently, just over 15% of a resident's total tax bill goes to Brigham City and just over 60% goes to the school board.

Mr. Oyler reviewed General Fund projects discussed during the budget process:

- City roads and parking lots
- Swimming pool fence and pool covers
- Airport capital projects
- Main Street trees
- Senior Center kitchen
- Parks infrastructure

Mr. Oyler displayed a graph comparing the tax rates of surrounding cities which showed Logan as the only city with a tax rate lower than Brigham City. He stated that the County's current certified tax rate is 0.1677%. Brigham City's tentative budget was adopted with a tax rate of 0.1802% which is the same tax rate as 2019. He concluded his presentation with a comparison of four Brigham City home values illustrating the differences in dollar value of the current certified tax rate and the prior year tax rate.

Councilmember Olson clarified that the tax rate would be the same as 2019. He confirmed that the revenue will increase due to increased home values.

MOTION: A motion to open the public hearing was made by Councilmember Bott, seconded by Councilmember Farr and carried unanimously.

Ms. Boss read public comments received via email. Maria Escobedo's comments were in opposition to the property tax increase, as were the comments of Steven and Janet Pocock, and Annie Robison. Sherry Phipps commented via the Zoom meeting and expressed her opposition to the tax increase. Nancy Mullins commented from the City Hall 2nd floor lobby and was also opposed to the tax increase. Mayor Vincent

addressed her comment on the recreation office request for proposal stating that the item was not part of the truth in taxation public hearing and could not be addressed. He referred Ms. Mullins to earlier City Council meetings where the recreation office relocation was discussed pending the Bunderson Center closure.

MOTION: A motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilmember Bott, seconded by Councilmember Olson and carried unanimously.

Mr. Oyler recalled the 2019 truth in taxation meeting and Council's discussion after the public expressed their frustration with large tax increases. At that time, the Mayor and Councilmembers decided that they would not allow the tax rate to decrease over time but would stay current. The 2019 proposed tax increase was ~ 111% and the Council adopted ~ 69% tax increase with the final budget.

The Mayor and Councilmembers discussed supporting maintenance projects and the damage that occurs to the infrastructure if projects are delayed. In 2019 the Councilmembers listened to the citizens who felt that large tax increases were irresponsible and believed that taxes should instead be increased incrementally.

Mr. Oyler spoke on the possibility of a reduction in sales tax revenue due to COVID-19. He explained that the City estimated a potential \$300,000 loss of sales tax revenue in the upcoming budget year. Should the deficiency occur, fleet purchases and filling position vacancies could be delayed to make up for the loss. Total sales tax revenue received in August for the month of June showed an increase compared to last year.

Councilmember Peterson expressed his belief that Council meetings should be opened to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

The undersigned duly appointed Recorder for Brigham City Corporation hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete record of the August 13, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2020.

Christina Boss

Christina Boss, Recorder