

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BRIGHAM CITY COUNCIL
February 16, 2017
7:00 PM**

PRESENT:	Tyler Vincent	Mayor
	DJ Bott	Councilmember
	Alden Farr	Councilmember
	Ruth Jensen	Councilmember
	Tom Peterson	Mayor Pro Tem
	Mark Thompson	Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT:	Ryan Abraham	Cemetery Sexton
	Joseph Bach	Fire Chief
	Mark Bradley	City Planner
	Dave Burnett	Public Power Director
	Mary Kate Christensen	City Recorder
	Mike Christiansen	Deputy City Attorney
	Nancy Green	Senior Center Supervisor
	Kaia Landon	Museum-Gallery Director
	Kristy Law	Community Activities & Services Director
	Mike Nelsen	Police Chief
	Derek Oyler	Finance Manager
	Tyler Pugsley	Public Works Director
	Jason Roberts	City Administrator

Mayor Vincent called the meeting to order. The Reverence Period was given by Pastor Steve Barsuhn of the Rocky Mountain Bible Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2017 work session was made by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Councilmember Farr and unanimously approved.

AGENDA

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES

New Hires – Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works

SCHEDULED DELEGATION

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

Request Authorization to Enter into a Real Property and Easement Purchase Agreement

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Vincent thanked those in attendance for showing their support. He thanked the citizens of Brigham City for the opportunity to serve them. There has been a lot accomplished in the last four years, none of which could have been done without City staff and the support of the citizens. He said he was blessed to work with a fine City Council and expressed appreciation to them. They have worked on tough issues.

Although at times there have been disagreements, they always try to make decisions they feel are in the best interests of all citizens.

In 2015, the City went from purchasing electricity from Rocky Mountain Power to the open market. The City has contracts securing prices through 2022. The City needed to find long term power generation for an electric source. During 2016, all elected officials attended many hours of training to understand what sources of electricity are available. The Council considered hydro, nuclear, natural gas and other generation sources. The Council felt that a small modular nuclear reactor project may be the most promising. They are evaluating this and other options as they become available.

Due to the enormous amount of snow this year, crews have been out around the clock, including Christmas Day, working to keep the streets cleared. With a snow pack that is presently at 180%, we need to recognize the blessing of having a storm drain system to accommodate the water. Since the flood of 2005, the City has spent approximately \$4M on improvements to the Box Elder Creek and other critical infrastructure. Because of these improvements, Brigham City is in a better position to avoid flooding than some of our neighboring communities. Staff is currently adjusting the level of the Mantua reservoir to make room for more water in anticipation of the spring runoff. These winter storms require us to spend a significant amount of money on snow removal efforts and cause a great impact on the Street Department budget.

Mayor Vincent said law enforcement continues to be a focus of his. There are a great group of people serving in the Police Department. 2016 was a difficult year for staffing law enforcement throughout the State of Utah. The department has been down as many as six officers, which is over 20% of the workforce. We have put a lot of effort into recruiting new officers and four of the six available positions are now filled. In addition, a new narcotics detector K-9 was added to the Police Department. Officer Ethan Jorgensen works with him. In other communities throughout the country police officers are considered the bad guy, but people of Brigham City appreciate our officers and the work they perform. They received a huge outpouring of support from citizens who wanted officers to know their work is appreciated.

There was a tragedy in Brigham City with the death of Trooper Ellsworth. While he was not a member of the Brigham City Police Department, he was a part of the law enforcement family, as well as a citizen of Brigham City.

Economic Development continues to thrive in Brigham City. The Love's Travel Plaza and Holiday Inn Express are under construction and are looking to open sometime in late winter or early spring. He thanked the Brigham City Planning Commission for their work in getting the Brigham City logo included as part of the Love's sign.

Niagara Bottling has begun construction on their building and will begin recruiting and hiring in the near future. This project will bring high-paying jobs to Brigham City.

In 2016 there were a lot of construction projects which resulted in an increase in building permit fee revenue.

Maintenance of the City's power system and other infrastructure is a high priority for the City. They change out 30-40 power poles annually. Most of the poles that are changed out are over 40 years old. The East Substation was upgraded to give the City more capacity for potential load growth in the area.

The 500 North waterline was one of many waterline replacements made in 2016. This was done as part of a program which replaces the aging infrastructure based on specific problem areas and the original installation dates.

The 1100 South storm drain project was completed. The storm drain system is relatively new, so new areas are in the process of being completed.

Public Works and the Electric Department completed the 1100 South 1200 West intersection project. The 1200 West artery will open up another area for development opportunities.

The Fire Department responded to 2,543 calls in 2016, an increase of 14% from 2015. The Department hired three full-time paramedic firefighters and one full-time captain/paramedic. The significance in hiring paramedics is that they are able to administer medicine to injured people, which could not be done previously.

The IT Department made significant upgrades to the emergency operations center, adding a sound and video system that can be used to help monitor the City in an emergency event. In addition, the City is now using the latest GPS technology which allows staff to create mobile apps that are accessible via computer or smart phone. Staff began mapping out all fire hydrants and storm drain grates throughout the City.

Volunteers have developed a tremendous trail system around and near Mantua Reservoir. A number of Eagle Scout projects continue to expand the trail. The GIS Division has worked on mapping and taking photos of these trails. These maps and photos can be viewed on the City's website using an interactive web map.

In March the City joined the national campaign for Meals on Wheels. There were many different fundraising events including Bingo, fun runs, raffles and more. All together \$10,000 was raised for Meals on Wheels in the community. Volunteers donated more than 16,000 hours helping to ensure that the Meals on Wheels and other programs at the Center run successfully.

There were a total of 32,570 pool admissions which was an increase from 32,216 in 2016. In 2016 the pool closed at 6:00 PM allowing for additional private party rentals. There were nine more private parties than in 2015. A senior rate was also implemented which allows people over the age of 60 to enter the pool for a discounted price.

The Recreation Department serves approximately 10,000 people per year and offers 129 programs. The new championship pickleball courts and restrooms at Reese Pioneer Park were made possible through private donations and a lot of volunteer work. The Department continues to offer activities for the young and those with a youthful heart.

The City now has a more modern, user-friendly utility bill. The bill now contains a graph that shows the past year's usage, allowing customers to see at a glance how their current bill compares to a year ago. The processing and mailing of the bills has been much smoother and customers receive their bill sooner. The new company is saving the City approximately \$3,500 per year.

The City continues to be in good financial shape. With the strong economy over the past couple of years, the City has experienced higher than expected revenue. Also due to the strong economy, it has been difficult to fill all budgeted employee positions. These two factors have caused us to save more funding than is allowed by state law. The elected officials of the City will deal with the excess funds during the preparation of the upcoming budget.

The City focus this year is "Leave it Better Than You Found it." This focus allows employees to work toward making the great things they are doing even better.

Mayor Vincent said it has been a blessing to work with the councilmembers. He appreciates them and their thoughtfulness toward the citizens, as well as their hard work and dedication. He expressed appreciation to the employees for their efforts and hard work. They are dedicated to Brigham City. He said he loves Brigham City, and that is why he ran for office. Every decision he makes is thought through, studied out, and prayer is involved. In his office is a picture of George Washington on his knees. That is the way this country was founded, *"In God We Trust."* He felt that this is something the federal government struggles with.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES

New Hires, Public Works, Fire Department, Police Department

Iain Murray and Levi Weston were recently hired as part-time Firefighter EMTs. Justin Law was also recently hired as a Grounds Maintenance Worker.

Chief Nelsen presented recently hired Police Officer Stephen Johnson with his badge.

SCHEDULED DELEGATION

Bear River Health Department Annual Report

Allena Pierce came to the table. Ms. Pierce gave the following statistics of services rendered in the last year:

- ◆ 108 confirmed TB cases
- ◆ 61 mammogram vouchers provided
- ◆ 31 people tested for Zika virus
- ◆ 430 temporary food permits issued
- ◆ 17 food truck permits issued
- ◆ 496 Bike to Work Day participants
- ◆ 188 way finding signs placed
- ◆ 588 tons of tires removed from a Snowville property

The National Diabetes Prevention Program was introduced in 2016. It is a yearlong program that provides a lot of health tips to prevent diabetes.

The Health Department teamed up with a Health Department in the southern portion of the state. They walked toward Brigham City; and the local Health Department walked toward them, figuratively, to see who can get their quickest. They are encouraging employees to be more active. This year they also introduced a Mayors Walk. Six mayors in Cache Valley participated and encouraged citizens to walk with them.

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program has been a successful program they have promoted for many years.

The Health Department recently received funding to participate in an overdose prevention grant. They were provided with 66 Naloxone kits. This reduces opioid overdose. These kits were distributed throughout the district, which were then distributed to substance abuse counselors and the Sheriff Departments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Juliana Larsen, Brigham City – Ms. Larsen thanked the Council for their decision to monitor the snowpack and water in the Box Elder County Creek. The water the Larsens have had run off so far compared in years past, would probably have flooded a lot of their fields and animals.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Peterson participated in a UTOPIA meeting via phone. It is going in a positive direction. They are moving forward and moving in the right direction. He attended the League of Cities and Towns' Legislative Policy Committee meetings. The League is working hard on behalf of the cities. There are many bills that will affect cities.

Councilmember Jensen attended the Republican Dinner. She entered the raffle and won Jazz tickets. She helped serve at the Eagle's First Responder Dinner. She saw the Chief and several Brigham City officers there. She didn't see anyone from the Fire and Ambulance Departments, but she was not sure whether they got the message or not. They are going to try and do that every year. Some Highway Patrol officers were also in attendance. She has been working with Kristy Law and staff on Sesquicentennial Events. They are currently working on the Theatrical Event. She went to the first casting meeting and saw Joe Batzel work on the first script. It will be a good play. She attended the Senior Advisory Board. The big push is the March Meals on Wheels Campaign fundraiser. She handed out papers asking the Council for service. They will ask the councilmembers to serve the meals. Those councilmembers with businesses could maybe help support in prizes or even a \$250 support for the evening on Bingo night.

Councilmember Farr attended a United Way Board meeting. They would like to have the April Board meeting in Brigham City. This would be a good time to host them and let them know Brigham City has a lot of nice things to offer. CERT started a new program this week. He thanked the City employees. There were some pot holes in their neighborhood and his neighbor asked him if he had any say in that. He did not. It is nice that employees are mindful of fixing potholes throughout the City after such a harsh winter.

Mayor Vincent expressed appreciation to his wife for her support. He's one of those individuals with several dreams, and she is always behind him.

NEW BUSINESS

Request Authorization to Enter into a Real Property and Easement Purchase Agreement

Mr. Roberts and Dave Burnett came forward. Mr. Roberts stated that for several years the City has discussed looping some of the substations to connect them together. This is because when there is a substation that is connected to two other substations, it is better than just having it connected to one substation. If one goes down, there needs to be another one that can handle the capacity of the one that went down, and not burden either substation for over 50% of what it can use. If there is a substation connected to two, a greater portion of capacity can be used.

The Council made this a priority 3-4 years ago and has put \$300,000-\$600,000 in the budget for a loop line project. This program agreement is part of that project. It will also provide an area for a future substation to provide power on the west side of the freeway. They would also like power poles to cross over the freeway in this area. There is one area in which Brigham City is connected to Rocky Mountain Power. It is a single point of failure. If this area were to lose power, the entire City would be out.

The agreement refers to a plan to purchase property in the area. It also includes a right-of-way over the railroad grid. It is approximately 13.62 acres for \$151,800. The money would come from the money that has been set aside for the loop line project.

Councilmember Jensen asked if the City has acquired all the rights-of-way. Mr. Roberts said not all of them. They are working with three of the remaining property owners. Councilmember Jensen asked if it is a positive move, and if they could stop the City moving forward. Mr. Roberts felt confident with two of the three. The City is in negotiations with the third. The Mayor said he has been working with them. He felt confident.

MOTION: Councilmember Peterson made a motion to approve the authorization to enter into a real property and easement purchase agreement, seconded by Councilmember Bott. Voting was unanimously in favor.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

A motion to adjourn to a closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange or lease of property was made by Councilmember Bott and seconded by Councilmember Jensen. A roll call vote was taken with all councilmembers voting aye. The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 7:57 p.m.

The Council returned to an open meeting at 9:25 p.m. and adjourned.

The undersigned duly appointed Recorder for Brigham City Corporation hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true, accurate and complete record of the February 16, 2017 City Council Meeting.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2017.

Mary Kate Christensen
Mary Kate Christensen, Recorder