

PERRY CITY COUNCIL
MEETING PERRY CITY OFFICES
November 10, 2022

7:01 PM

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Kevin Jeppsen presided and conducted the meeting. Council Member Nathan Tueller, Council Member Toby Wright, Council Member Blake Ostler, and Council Member Ashley Young.

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Council Member Dave Walker

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Robert Barnhill, City Administrator
Chief of Police, Scott Hancey,
City Attorney, Bill Morris
Shanna Johnson, City Recorder

OTHERS PRESENT: Danny Henriquez, Cory Bennion (Mosquito Abatement)

ON-LINE: Nelson Phillips (BENJ), Melanie Barnhill

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeppsen welcomed everyone and called the City Council meeting to order.

ITEM 2: PROCEDURAL ISSUES

A. Conflict of Interest Declaration

None

B. Appointment

- **Utopia Board Member to Represent Perry City**

Mayor Jeppsen thanked Todd Christensen for serving Perry City for five years on the Utopia board and said that they will be making an appointment for that board seat this evening. He then proposed to the council to appoint Robert Barnhill, the City Administrator as the Utopia board member.

MOTION: Council Member Tueller made motion to appoint Bob Barnhill to represent Perry City on the Utopia Board. Council Member Wright seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Young, Yes
Council Member Walker, Absent
Council Member Ostler, Yes
Council Member Wright, Yes
Council Member Tueller, Yes

Motion Approved. 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

ITEM 3: PRESENTATION

A. Box Elder County Mosquito Abatement Report by Cory Bennion

Mr. Bennion presented an annual report and notice of a property tax increase. He thanked everyone for letting him serve the city for the past 21 years. Then he said it has been a challenging year and mentioned that mosquito season is July 24 through the end of August. He explained they had a tough season due to long dry spell that ended with late monsoonal rains. He indicated this dramatic change in the season caused their maintenance schedule to be off. He said the district had been responsive in treating for special events or as requested but it was operating under difficult conditions. He pointed out to treat the mosquitos they fog the area using trucks, ATV's, and aerial drones. Then if needed they may use an airplane to spray but it is extremely expensive. He then commented that there was a District Director, Randy Sessions, who has been there for 22 years and is a wealth of knowledge if they need more information about mosquitos.

He also noted that because of rising costs the last few years have been challenging. He remarked that their last tax increase was in 2016. He said their spraying material cost and treatment have increased by 25% during this time. He mentioned they had a Public Hearing for a tax increase on Election night and the final decision will be in the December 6, meeting. He said they did have a few citizens attend to express their thoughts and he reported they were not combative comments. He said to cover costs the Box Elder Mosquito Abatement District is proposing to increase the property tax revenue. He said for example, the increase to a resident that has a \$404,000 house will change from \$35.55 to \$44.44 which is \$8.89 a year or for a \$404,000 business the tax will go from \$64.64 to \$80.80 which is \$16.16 per year. If the proposed budget was approved the Box Elder Mosquito Abatement District would increase its property tax budgeted revenue by 25% above last year's property tax.

Mayor Jeppsen asked if there was an automated schedule for spraying mosquitos or if it is by request only. Mr. Bennion said they do have a schedule. He pointed out that Box Elder is the second largest geographically and the wettest county in the State of Utah. He also noted that they can't spray on or near the bird refuge that is the largest source for mosquito growth within the county. He explained that mosquitos may travel approximately 25 miles per night looking for a blood meal. He highlighted that they are able to track data via GPS tracking on the spray treatments and this helps with their control. He said there are four trap areas in Perry City where they collect mosquitos to test for West Nile virus. He said treatments based on trap counts are checked each week. He said he was happy to report that there haven't been any human cases of West Nile this year. He noted that in addition to the scheduled spraying they do individual spray requests. He said even though they had the highest amount of calls for individual or special request this year they were able accommodate all requests.

Mayor Jeppsen requested that the Box Elder Mosquito Abatement District provide the city articles about mosquito prevention so we may put the information in the Perry City newsletter. Mr. Bennion said that the residents do have an important role in helping to prevent mosquitos and he will get this information to them.

Council Member Wright asked what made this year more different for the Box Elder Mosquito Abatement District than any other year. Mr. Bennion explained that because we had a long dry time at the beginning and throughout the majority of the summer, then we received a lot of rain quickly they couldn't keep up with spraying all the wet areas. Mr. Bennion said for your information it is only the female mosquitos that bite. They then discussed further why they can't spray around the bird refuge.

In closing, he thanked them for having him there and then mentioned he was in his 21st year of serving. He said he is at the end of his four-year term and will be happy to serve another four years again unless Mayor Jeppsen wants a change. Mayor Jeppsen said he appreciates Mr. Bennion's service and him giving them this report.

ITEM 4: ACTION ITEMS (Roll Call Vote)

A. Resolution 2022-18 PTIF Account Authorized Individuals

Ms. Johnson said that Ms. Eddington retired and the city needed to update the Certification of Authorized Individuals form for the City's Public Treasury and Investment accounts. She said this update requires a resolution be brought before the council. This resolution lists the authorized persons for the public treasury investment fund accounts. Said explained these accounts contain the property and sale tax, etc. that come from the state, which stay in the accounts unless there is a need for use. She said the authorized individuals have been updated to Tyra Bischoff and herself, Shanna Johnson as the people on the state provided form and once approved it is ready to send back to the state.

MOTION: Council Member Wright made a motion approve Resolution 2022-18 PTIF Account Authorized Individuals. Council Member Tueller seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Young, Yes
Council Member Walker, Absent
Council Member Ostler, Yes
Council Member Wright, Yes
Council Member Tueller, Yes

Motion Approved. 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

B. Resolution 2022-19 Towing Sandbox Agreement

City Attorney Bill Morris said he received a call from the Attorney General's Office and they said Perry City needed to participate in a towing sandbox agreement. He explained that the city police department has a need for towing services such as when someone gets in an accident, DUI's, or illegally parked vehicles. He said the towing industry is very competitive so the state created a towing sandbox agreement through the Utah Office of Regulatory Relief. He said that we were piggy-backing off of Brigham City and using the same towing provider. He said Brigham City went into the Sandbox Agreement with the state and now Perry City also needs to sign on the agreement. He said the resolution is before them along with a copy of the amended agreement. Council Member Tueller asked why Perry City Police Department originally signed on this agreement. Chief Hancey

said there are disputes of the statutory definitions and this helps and protects the police department. Mr. Morris said going through the Office of Regulatory Relief is the easiest way to handle the stress and liability on this issue.

Council Member Tueller asked if there is only one company they will work with. Chief Hancey said the officer will only need to call TowPro (who dispatches many different companies) and they will manage the paperwork and logistic to get the tow truck needs of the officer. Mayor Jeppsen asked who pays the cost. Chief Hancey said that Brigham City pays for the TowPro LLC service and the tow operator also passes on a service fee to the automobile owner; however, Perry City will have a fee for this service.

MOTION: Council Member Wright made the motion to resolution 2022-19 Towing Sandbox Agreement. Council Member Young seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Young, Yes
Council Member Walker, Absent
Council Member Ostler, Yes
Council Member Wright, Yes
Council Member Tueller, Yes

Motion Approved. 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

ITEM 5: MINUTES & COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORTS (INCLUDING COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS)

A. Approval of Consent Items

- October 27, 2022 Work Session Minutes
- October 27, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes

Ms. Johnson said the regular council meeting minutes were just received and haven't be proof read and not available to for approval.

MOTION: Council Member Wright made a motion to only approve the October 27, 2022 Work Session Minutes. Council Member Young seconded the motion.

Motion Approved. All Council Members were in favor.

A. Mayor's Reports

Mayor Jeppsen said he and Mr. Barnhill met with the Brigham City mayor and City Administrator concerning borderline adjustments on the north side of Perry. He said the fire contract we have with Brigham City was also discussed. This contract will need to be budgeted in our next year's budget process.

B. Council Reports

Council Member Young and Council Member Ostler both said they didn't have anything to report.

Council Member Wright commented that he voted on Tuesday and was not very happy about his options.

Council Member Tueller asked if next year they could follow up on the UTA tax. He also asked if they may tackling it and or have a path forward for it. Mr. Barnhill responded that it was on pause while they were working on getting money for other specific projects but they may revisit this path. Mayor Jeppsen asked if anyone knew the deadline to get it on the ballot, but said he will check with Mr. Morris and do something on it. Council Member Ostler asked if the transit money had been approved and if it was in the (city account) bank. Mr. Barnhill said the funds have been approved by the county but is not in our bank. He said he has been working with the county on this issue and is in process.

They discussed if they may re-appropriate these tax funds. Mr. Morris explained the state sales tax program and the options the city's legislative body may access. Council Member Tueller then asked several questions regarding the tax process and Mr. Morris answered that sales tax is set by the State; the city cannot increase the sales tax rate only property tax.

C. Staff Comments

Chief Hancey from the Police Department said he needed to notify the council their intent to purchase certain items. He said that law enforcement may request surplus military equipment from the Federal Government. He disclosed that the Police Department has four riffles that they have received from the LESL program. He explained it was recently mandated that the department heads notify the governing bodies for military equipment they may request in the future. In order to use the program he said he have to declare these things (items). He then presented a list of items that will be requested for the council to review and to give notice to all the council members.

Mr. Barnhill said he didn't have anything comments.

Ms. Johnson mentioned that Public Works Director, Zach Allen wasn't able to attend the meeting but will be at the next meeting. She indicated that they all should have received an invitation to the Perry City holiday dinner. This holiday party is for city staff and elected officials and will be on December 15, at 6:00 p.m. She also asked that they please let her know by November 30, if they will attend the party. She noted that there would be one more council meeting on the second Thursday in December to close out this year.

Planning Commission Report

None.

ITEM 6: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Tueller proposed to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Wright second the motion.

Motion Approved. All Council Members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Shanna Johnson, City Recorder

Kevin Jeppsen, Mayor

Anita Nicholas, Deputy Recorder