

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on August 19, 2020 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

Work Session: 6:30 pm.

1. AGENDA ITEM DISCUSSION

Bruce Ward explained that Jack Sheen isn't ready to build his two lot subdivision yet so he's asking for another six months. Bruce stated he doesn't know if there is a limit to how many extensions we can allow, but he said he doesn't think it will do us harm if we extend.

Attorney Vaughn Pickell said there isn't a limit to how many times we allow extensions.

Bruce Ward brought up the citizens request regarding the wall. He stated that we have a video of the finished project. Joseph Santos is the one who completed this, and is here to answer any questions. Councilperson Howard Chuntz asked if the height of the wall which is six inches, will allow pooling of water. It will not. We installed two storm drains with the council's approval. The wall was required by the city and the county paid for it, but it's on private property so the homeowners will be responsible for any upkeep or fixing. We as a city council feel that road base against the wall is a better option than all the water against it. The main complaint is that it's no longer six feet in height, so the homeowners and residents feel it's causing damage and loss of privacy.

Matt Marziale stated there are no longer any blockages or bellies in the sewer. It's all cleaned up and fixed.

John Bowcut said there are improvements on the website he's creating and he encourages you to take a look.

MEETING CONVENED AT: 7:00 p.m.

CONDUCTING: Mayor Kurt L Christensen

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Kurt L Christensen
Councilperson Sterling Rees
Councilperson Seth Sorensen
Councilperson Howard Chuntz
Councilperson Delys Snyder
Councilperson Tim DeGraw

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeffrey Nielson, Finance/Recorder
Vaughn Pickell, City Attorney
Chief Brad James, Police Chief
Ted Barnett, Power
Matt Marziale, PW/Recreation
Bruce Ward, City Engineer
Steve Cox, Building Dept.
Brylie Haveron

OTHERS PRESENT

Joseph Santos, Glen Tanner, Angela Hansen, Jan J. Ward, Jacque Crouch, Jack Sheen, Jonathon Ward, William Burk, Steve Anderson, Linda Grange, Cheyenne Sheldon, Kerry Burnham, and Tyler Barney

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

Mayor Christensen asked if anyone would like to give a motivational or inspirational message. Steve Cox stated he would like to offer a motivational message in the form of a prayer.

2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Christensen 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

There was not a member representing the youth council present tonight.

4. SF/SALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

There was not a member representing the SF/Salem chamber of commerce present tonight.

5. APPROVE LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS

Kerry Burnham with the library had the new members introduce themselves. Cheyenne Sheldon mentioned she moved here in June from Mona. She was Miss Juab which she loved, and she is excited to be doing this. Angela Hansen is excited for this opportunity because she loves to read. Councilperson Delys Snyder wanted to recognize the people that are currently helping and thanked them.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder to approve library board members

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

**6. JACK SHEEN- APPROVE SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT BOND
EXTENSION FOR A MINOR SUBDIVISION**

Jack Sheen said he is getting closer and closer to starting, but hasn't yet. The contractor like most had some issues in the spring due to COVID and he is asking for an extension on time.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve subdivision final plat bond extension for a minor subdivision for a 6 month period of time

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

**7. CITIZEN REQUEST- KRISTINE WRIGHT (WOODLAND HILLS DRIVE
TRAIL)**

Kristine Wright was on Zoom and wanted to share her thoughts/concerns about the Woodland Hills Drive Trail. She mentioned that she was speaking for herself and 11 of her neighbors. She also said several of the council members have already received a letter regarding this. They are worried about the 12 inches of dirt because it was not engineered as a retaining wall. She sent a picture to Jeff Nielson showing that the weight from this is causing the wall to lean inward. She stated she appreciates the help and empathy from Bruce Ward and Vaughn Pickell. Her main concern is loss of privacy. She understands the concept but feels that there was a loss of communication from the city. Kristine had a conversation with Matt Marziale and he felt she would be happy with the wall because she now won't have the 10+ inches of water in her yard, but he never mentioned that there would be 12 inches of gravel and dirt along the wall. She is very familiar with what her wall looks like because she spends a lot of time gardening right there and she immediately noticed cracks. She and her neighbors didn't know this was going to happen and feel blindsided that they didn't know what was going to happen. Councilperson Tim De Graw appreciates her concern, and assures her our engineers feel that the wall can handle what's been done and that it won't be a problem. It is on private property so the homeowners can do additional fencing if they'd like. Legally they can go up to 7 feet from the bottom of the wall to the top of their side. Steve Cox said it will require a permit if it's over the 7 feet. Kristine asked if there was any way to waive that permit fee, because she wouldn't have needed to put anything up if the city didn't put in this concrete wall. Mayor Christensen said he would be interested in working with her on that. Kristine doesn't want to be demanding, but she feels frustrated with this situation. The reason for the placement, is for the kids to walk along the path to be safe while going to and from school. The school district doesn't want the kids crossing anywhere but at the light for their safety. The county approved this design, and the trail walkway was requested by Nebo School District. The goal was to have a path for people to able to commute without having to have a car.

8. CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF SALEM CITY, UTAH, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT MORE THAN \$7,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF FRANCHISE AND SALES TAX AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS FEE REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2020; AND RELATED MATTERS

Jonathon Ward with Zion's Bank mentioned that rates are still low. We will need to hold a public hearing which will be on September 16, 2020. This hearing is not a debate or a question and answer but rather a chance for the public to be heard. This helps finalize the bond. Subject to the hearing we will be ready to go and do the bond with hopefully still low rates. Councilperson Howard Chuntz said he thought we were asking for the \$5,000,000 and not the \$7,000,000.00. John said that is correct but we are just asking for the authorization up to \$7,000,000.00 in case things come up and we need the extra but we do not have to spend the full amount of \$7,000,000.00. Mayor Christensen asked when we could lock in a rate and John said after the public hearing so he is thinking sometime in October. John stated he is happy to answer any questions and Mayor said we have already discussed this and answered questions.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen for Consideration for Adoption a Resolution of the City Council of Salem City, Utah, Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of not more than \$7,000,000 Aggregate Principal Amount of Telecommunications, Franchise and Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2020; and Related Matters

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

9. APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2020

Mayor Christensen asked if there were any questions on the minutes or if any of the council members would like anything changed and there wasn't.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to Approve Minutes of August 5, 2020

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Tim De Graw

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

10. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Mayor Christensen said that all the bills looked how they are supposed to.

AMOUNT: \$519,738.81

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

11. CHIEF BRAD JAMES, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Chief Brad James said during last council he talked about participating with Trooper Bradford from the Highway Patrol for the demonstration of what officers are going through. He said they have selected Tuesday September 29, 2020. Chief just wanted to give us a heads up. Mayor Christensen said he is excited and it sounds fun. Chief mentioned they are estimating about 2 to 2-1/2 hours for this event and he isn't sure on a time but would assume somewhere around 4:30 or 5:00 pm.

12. STEVE COX, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIRECTOR

Steve Cox mentioned building is going and is still busy. The local agreement with Vineyard has been done and they met this morning going over things. Wyatt Cloward is doing well and calls him quite a bit for information.

13. ATTORNEY VAUGHN PICKELL

Attorney Vaughn Pickell did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

14. JEFFREY NIELSON, CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY RECORDER

Sent out the budget for July and forgot to add the rest of the pages. He will send out the bond and we have to keep spending lower. Pi and fiber bond. When do we start on PI? Delys asked. Bruce said shortly.

15. MATT MARZIALE, RECREATION/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Matt Marziale did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

16. TED BARNETT, ELECTRICAL DIRECTOR

Ted Barnett did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

17. BRUCE WARD, ENGINEERING

Bruce Ward stated there will be an open house for the new sewer plant on September 2, 2020 right before city council from 4-6 pm. Mayor Christensen asked if they are doing a public open house, and the council would like to open it to the public.

Ted Barnett heard that several residents are upsizing their routers because of COVID. A lot more people are working at home instead of in office so it's causing a need for a bigger router. Fibertale and other companies have been in Salem quite a bit doing boring because of these upgrades.

Councilperson Tim De Graw asked how much of our infrastructure is ready to accept our fiber. How much of the city is ready to go? John Bowcut said he would say about 30% underground. He said the overhead will be quick and easy. He mentioned we are going to have to switch between overhead and underground because of how it is currently.

Councilperson Sterling Rees asked what the timeline will be and John Bowcut reminded him it's a three year build.

COUNCIL REPORTS

18. MAYOR KURT CHRISTENSEN

Mayor Christensen reported the employees are doing great and everything seems to be on task.

19. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Sterling Rees did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

20. COUNCILPERSON SETH SORENSEN

Councilperson Seth Sorensen stated we are now moving into fall sports. Tennis starts Friday. Some of the adult leagues are starting up on Loafer. He feels the sports are all going good.

21. COUNCILPERSON HOWARD CHUNTZ

Councilperson Howard Chuntz said he is just glad to hear we are moving forward with the fiber program.

22. COUNCILPERSON DELYS SNYDER

Councilperson Delys Snyder wants to acknowledge Kerry from the library and asked if she would like to say anything about the library. Delys asked if our usage is down because of COVID. Kerry ran a report today and since the first of June until now, we have had 16,000+ checkouts and last year we had about 89 checkouts. The library is still allowing people to come in. We allowed adults to sign up for the reading program this year and gave away some big grand prizes. Kerry feels that the kids read a lot this summer and enjoyed doing so. Mayor Christensen asked if the use would go up with school starting, and Kerry hopes that is the case. During COVID we have only had 4 computers running rather than nine because of having to space 6 feet apart. She mentioned that the kids are provided with a Chromebook from the school district so she doesn't know if there will be a need for them to use the library computers like they have in the past.

In September of last year, we had a storytelling festival and we are talking about trying to do it again this year. She has talked to authors that are willing to come tell stories.

A lot of people have been donating books and they have about 100 boxes full. Kerry said she wants to do a book sale but she's trying to figure out how to do it without people touching them all.

Ted Hanks gave us his complete collection of all his photographs and newspaper articles. They get digitalized and are on the website. Jeff Nielson's daughter has done an amazing job putting that together and Kerry would love more information on Salem's History.

Councilperson Delys Snyder mentioned that we are doing about 110 senior dinners and said the seniors love it. They drive up in their car and we hand the prepared food to them through their window. She said this is one of their only chances to get out and socialize so they enjoy it.

23. COUNCILPERSON TIM DEGRAW

Councilperson Tim De Graw did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to Adjourn City Council Meeting

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Tim De Graw

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:03 pm.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder