

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on March 6, 2019 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

Work Session: 6:30 p.m.

1. BLOMQUIST HALE PRESENTATION

Chief Brad James invited representatives from Blomquist Hale to come and discuss their employee assistance program. He stated as they start the budget process, this is something he is interested in discussing for the employees of our city. He introduced Shawn Morris and Robin Axtail. Shawn stated Blomquist Hale works with a number of cities in Utah County, they also work with Nebo School District. They primarily deal in helping with life struggles, personal or on the job. Life challenges seem to be increasing. They also deal with the emotional needs of public safety and first responders. He mentioned that Robin works in the Utah County area and has worked closely with some public safety departments making sure they get the support that they need. He stated this is a great service to offer to all employees. Jeff Neilson asked if it was counseling. Shawn replied that is what they mostly do, they can also do training on certain topics. Councilperson Howard Chuntz asked what the cost was for this service. Shawn replied it depends on the number of employees enrolled. Councilperson Sterling Rees asked if these services would be covered under health insurance. Shawn replied there are a lot of exclusions with insurance, and most the time they will not pay unless there is some kind of diagnosis, so this is a very different kind of benefit. There is a real value in having somewhere to get support when you are having life difficulties. Chief James stated he will work with Blomquist Hale on the pricing, he commented every employee has struggled with something and it would be nice to have someone to help them deal with that. As the public safety director, he knows the police department, the EMS and the fire department have all struggled with some kind of traumatic event that they could use some help with. He has things that haunt him to this day. He would like all of his officers to have a wellness check. This is the first time he has met Robin but he has heard about her and the good things she has done for other departments. Councilperson Seth Sorensen commented that he has been involved with Blomquist Hale through the school district and they provide a great service. Robin stated that she works with Orem City, and they have had a tough year. They were able to send someone over there to help everyone involved. She mentioned that some cities have mandatory sessions for their officers. They thanked the council for letting them come and Chief James for inviting them. The council thanked them.

MEETING CONVENED AT: 7:00 p.m.

CONDUCTING: Mayor Kurt L Christensen

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Kurt L Christensen
Councilperson Cristy Simons
Councilperson Seth Sorensen
Councilperson Howard Chuntz
Councilperson Sterling Rees
Councilperson Craig Warren, Excused

STAFF PRESENT:

Jeffrey Nielson, Finance/Recorder
Junior Baker, City Attorney
Chief Brad James, Police Chief
Clark Crook, Power, Excused
Matt Marziale, PW/Recreation
Bruce Ward, City Engineer
David Johnson, Building Dept., Excused
Allison Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT

William Burk, Mitchell Batty, Trey Stephens, Braxton Batty, Kirk Rogers, Corben Rogers, Ethan Moser, Thomas Barrett, Andrew Thomson, Abe Moody, Nicole Marsh, Bailey Robinson, Quaid Hutchinson, Olivia Reynolds, Samantha Slater, Casey Satteson, Cheyenne Satteson, Cecily Scott, Maddi McNaught, Jaquel Bennett, Janae Bennett, Blake Collins, Christian Hawkins, Brock Jensen, Allie Taylor, Dalton Holman, Kylie Hall, Mickey Hall, Heather Youd

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

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

2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Andrew Thomson 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. GRAMA APPEAL – BRADY EAMES

The mayor asked if Brady Eames was present. He was not. The mayor asked for a motion to table the GRAMA request until Brady was present.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to table the GRAMA appeal until Brady Eames was present.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

4. APPROVE SURPLUS FIRE EQUIPMENT

Chief Brad James explained Fire Chief James Ealey is cleaning out the fire station. He has some old unusable equipment and would like to place it on surplus, most of it is garbage or salvage metal. There is a 30 year old Kingsman cutter and spreader, some miscellaneous pagers and chargers, and about 400 feet of booster cable. Their recommendation is to place these items on surplus to clean up the fire station.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to approve the surplus fire equipment.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

5. APPROVE PURCHASE TRACTOR – PARKS/CEMETERY

Matt Marziale reported they have 3 bids to replace the tractor that is used at the cemetery. They use it for spraying, fertilizing, tilling, snow removal and aeration. The bids are from John Deere for \$32,707.22, Kabota for \$30,989.32, New Holland WM50 for \$32,900. The John Deere tractor was the middle bid, but is the preferred tractor by the staff and also has a two year warranty where the others only have one. He asked if there were any questions. Councilperson Howard Chuntz asked if the money for the tractor was budgeted. Jeff Nielson explained it would be paid for through the assigning of funds they are doing tonight.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the purchase of the John Deere Tractor for the parks and cemetery departments for the amount of \$32,707.22.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

6. APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ASSIGNING FUNDS

Jeff summarized recommendations of assigning of funds to different projects.

New Funds to Assign for FY 2019 Budget

(Note to stay in compliance would not use more than \$700,000)

Building at City Shops for Storage (Police, Float, Parks) \$ 57,000

Library Addition Project \$ 75,000

City Park in R-8 Zone by Revere Heath (property donated) \$ 65,000

Money toward Roads \$ 58,000

Veteran Memorial at Cemetery (New) \$ 10,000

Tractor for Parks Dept \$ 35,000

Funds for Power Capital Improvements/SESD Costs \$ 200,000

Building for Power Department \$ 200,000

Total New Funds for Assignment \$ 700,000.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to approve the recommendations of assigning funds as Jeff proposed.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

7. APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2019

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to approve the minutes of February 20, 2019.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

8. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

AMOUNT: \$473,214.91

MOTION BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons to approve the bills for payment.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

9. YOUTH COUNCIL

Olivia Reynold reported the new mayor for the youth council is Sara Rigby. She mentioned next month they will be volunteering at the elementary schools and will be reading with the students. The council thanked them for their involvement in the community and all they do.

10. SF / SALEM CHAMBER

Heather Youd mentioned at Bills and Bagels they had a good discussion on the tax reform bill. The March business of the month is Grifols Biomat they will celebrate next Wednesday the 13th. March 7th they will have a ribbon cutting for Jeff Wolf Studios. IHC is holding a topping off celebration on the 12th at 11:30 a.m. at the hospital site, you can sign the beam on Saturday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Spanish Fork Big O is under new ownership, there will be a ribbon cutting on the 14th. March 20th they will have the noon networking luncheon at the High Chappal Building at the fairgrounds in Spanish Fork, Envision Utah will be there. On the 28th there is a ribbon cutting for Star Chic Boutique.

11. CHIEF BRAD JAMES, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Chief James did not have anything to report tonight.

12. DAVE JOHNSON, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIRECTOR

Dave Johnson was excused.

13. ATTORNEY JUNIOR BAKER

Attorney Junior Baker did not have anything to report tonight.

14. JEFFREY NIELSON, CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY RECORDER

Jeff asked the council to get their tax forms turned into him. He went over how the rank voting sample turned out. He said that he understands it, but it is complicated to explain. He reminded the council we have until the end of April to decide if we want to do it. The mayor asked what the advantages were. Jeff replied the person with the majority vote wins. Councilperson Chuntz asked if they would hold a primary. Jeff replied they would not if they did rank voting. Jeff stated there is a lot of controversy about rank voting, he asked the council to think about it for the next few weeks.

15. MATT MARZIALE, RECREATION/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Matt stated yesterday the roads crew opened Salem Canal Road back up, they had it closed to redo the sewer line. The asphalt that was laid isn't very smooth, so they will come back when the weather is warmer and make it smooth. They held a Salem Days meeting last week, the theme this year will be "Let the Good Times Roll" They are looking for a chair for the parade, Abbie Higginson has done it for many years and is willing to help but not be the chair. They also need to decide on the chairs for 2020, so they can be involved this year and watch what needs to be done. The chairs this year are Jill and Steve Bird. Councilperson Chuntz asked if they had asked for volunteers in the newsletter. Matt replied they hadn't, if they don't have anyone by the time the next newsletter goes out, he will put it in there.

16. CLARK CROOK, ELECTRICAL DIRECTOR

Clark Crook was excused.

17. BRUCE WARD, ENGINEERING

Bruce Ward did not have anything to report tonight.

COUNCIL REPORTS

18. MAYOR KURT CHRISTENSEN

Mayor Christensen stated that he had went to Washington D.C., along with Councilperson Sterling Rees, to attend the American Public Power Association legislative rally. It was a good thing for him, and the best part was working with other mayors and the relationships that were built.

19. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Rees mentioned for the students attending that he and Mayor Christensen had attended the American Public Power Association legislative rally in Washington D.C. They attend meetings there and addressed issues and lobbied to have them pass or not pass in the legislature. He mentioned this year they met with both senators and our congressman, it was good to meet all of them and they were very welcoming. It was a great experience to

be in the nation's capital, and he would recommend going if they ever have the opportunity. He reminded the council about the UMPA meetings in St. George on March 20, 2019. He will not be able to attend the council meeting that night. The mayor asked if they should cancel the March 20th council meeting.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons to cancel the March 20, 2019 council meeting.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

20. COUNCILPERSON CRISTY SIMONS

Councilperson Cristy Simons did not have anything to report tonight.

21. COUNCILPERSON HOWARD CHUNTZ

Councilperson Chuntz stated he and Bruce have been following a bill on mandatory metering for secondary water, they will watch for grants to help with funding for metering. He mentioned he has a meeting next week with SUVMWA. He commented the water from the Central Utah Water project may be available sooner than anticipated.

22. COUNCILPERSON SETH SORENSEN

Councilperson Seth Sorensen stated he has been receiving a lot of updates and pictures from Mike about the sewer plant.

23. COUNCILPERSON CRAIG WARREN

Councilperson Craig Warren was excused.

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to adjourn council meeting.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 7:34 p.m.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder