

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on May 16, 2018 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

Work Session: 5:00 p.m.

1. FY 2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mayor Christensen asked the council to get with the directors to do the employee evaluations. He stated he had met with Chief Brad James and Jeff Nielson and finished the evaluations for their departments. He mentioned that the range sheet really helped him and he gave a copy to the rest of the council. He also handed out blank evaluation sheets. Jeff advised that if they would like an emailed copy they could ask Heather and she would get one to them. Jeff asked if a date could be set to have the evaluations and recommendations due. It was decided they would be due on June 4, 2018. The mayor stated that with meeting with the directors, none of them asked for a raise, they were more concerned for their staff. Jeff handed out the budget sheets. He stated that at the last council they had gone over the general budget. The water department needs a new truck, this will be split between the water and PI Fund. They will also need to hire a new employee to replace Dennis Jensen when he retires. Jeff reported that we need to have a discussion on the power line buy outs, we need to be able to provide service to all of our residents that may currently have power through SESD. It was discussed to have the water fund help pay for the Maple Canyon Well power since the well is theirs. Councilperson Sterling Rees stated that he doesn't want to see the whole power reserve fund depleted for this project. If something happened we wouldn't be able to cover it. Jeff asked if they just wanted to whittle away at what we can a little out a time. Councilperson Rees replied that's what he thought we were doing. Jeff said we just need to do it as quickly as possible. Bruce Ward mentioned getting a note on it for 3 to 5 years, we could always use the loan option to keep the reserve funds. Councilperson Howard Chuntz stated we could split the difference and keep some in the reserve. Councilperson Rees stated that he would like to see something left. The mayor stated that there is no way this will all be done this year, but we need to be working on it to protect our boundaries. Bruce commented this may be the most important thing to do right now. Jeff mentioned that recycling has gone up from \$36 a ton to \$60 a ton. There was a discussion to change the recycling fee, but if recycling numbers go down the fees go up. After some discussion it was decided to raise the rate ten cents on each can, garbage and recycling. A raise for the council was discussed to get them more in line with other cities. Matt Marziale mentioned the need for hiring some additional employees. We need a storm drain supervisor, a replacement for Dennis when he retires and the sewer plant will need one additional employee. One of the employees at the sewer plant will need to have Level 4 certification, we need to start looking at that.

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
Matt Marziale, PW/Recreation
David Johnson, Building Dept.
Allison Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT

Bren Smith, Mike Smith, Jon Ward, Natalie Hutchinson, Tara Davis, Janice Carson, Raul Carson, Janie Christensen, Evelyn Christensen, Jen Watson, William Burk, Dean Ingram

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

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

2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Kurt 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. MIKE SMITH – CANDIDATE FOR UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF

Mike Smith stated that he is running for Utah County Sheriff. He thanked the council for letting him come tonight, he would like for them to be able to put a face with the name. He introduced his wife Brenda, they have been married for 25 years and have 5 children ranging in age from 23 years old down to 11 years old, so they are experiencing all the joys that go with those ages. He has been in law enforcement for 24 years, working for the Pleasant Grove Police Department. He has held every position you think of when you think of a police department, and right now he is the Chief of Police in Pleasant Grove. He served 18 years on the SWAT team, and as a reserve deputy for the Utah County Sheriff's Office.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Emergency Services Administration and attended and graduated from the FBI National Academy. He commented that he brings a unique perspective from working with elected officials. He has a strong belief in the power of policing. He will bring to the sheriff's office the knowledge as a police chief and how to help the sheriff's office work with cities. He asked if the council had any questions. Mayor Christensen commented that he had heard positive things about Mike and wished him good luck. Mike stated that he was leaving some cards in case the council have any questions for him. He would love to gain their support and make Utah County one of the safest places to live in the nation.

4. DEAN INGRAM – PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL FOR SELMAN RIDGE SUBDIVISION LOCATED AT 1375 S. LOAFER CANYON ROAD

Bruce Ward reported this is a preliminary plat approval for Selman Ridge subdivision located at 1375 S. Loafer Canyon Road. It is located by our substation and Orchard Farms Subdivision. There was a lot of discussion at DRC about improvements that will need to be done to the bridge over the High Line Canal, it is a dangerous one lane bridge that has a lot of traffic daily. Planning and Zoning recommended approval with the conditions that were set in DRC. Bruce stated that there are some options like an impact fee agreement or a connector fee agreement to help with the cost of the improvements to the bridge. They are talking to the High Line Canal Company and the Bureau of Reclamation about their part in this. He said it is a good opportunity to get the bridge fixed. Staff recommends approval. Councilperson Sterling Rees asked about the road where the substation is. Bruce replied that he envisions a 3 way stop there. Councilperson Cristy Simons asked who owns the property north of the Selman's property and if they would be landlocked. Bruce replied it is city property and we would require a 25 foot paved easement for access to it. Mayor Christensen commented that he likes the whole thing. He said there is one lot that could straighten out the canal and that might be worth more than the lot ever would be. Dean Ingram stated that they are working on everything south of that and up to the property. He asked if those improvements could be done in a middle phase so that he doesn't have to take on the bridge first. The bridge improvement is a big number and he would like others developing up there to help with a connectors agreement or impact fee reimbursement. Mayor Christensen mentioned that he had attended a meeting with Central Utah Water Conservatory and he talked to some other cities about the bridge and they felt like they had paid about a third of the number that we thought it would take to fix the bridge for similar projects. Dean is asking if this will have to be done up front, just because the numbers are still unknown. Bruce said there are too many moving parts to this and the preliminary plat approval is just the starting point. William Burk asked if these will be single family homes. Bruce replied it is an R-15 zone with single family homes. He stated that a lot are bigger, nicer lots and that it will be a very nice subdivision. The mayor mentioned that someday the canal will be piped and have a nice trail over it.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the preliminary plat for Selman Ridge subject to the conditions from DRC and Planning and Zoning.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

5. APPROVE VICTIM ADVOCATE AGREEMENT WITH UTAH COUNTY

Chief Brad James said he hopes the council had the opportunity to review the staff report. Salem City needs to change our victim advocate provider agreement. He talked to several agencies and Utah County victim advocate services appear to be the most logical provider. They have the ability to provide this service 24-hours day with multiple advocates available, including one who is bi-lingual. He stated that there is \$7500 in the budget for this purpose and he is asking for approval of the contract.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons to approve the victim advocate agreement with Utah County.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

6. APPROVE BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT WITH SPANISH FORK

Attorney Junior Baker stated that the mayor probably needs to note a conflict on this issue. He said this is a piece of property owned by the mayor that he would like to move into Salem. It is a logical thing to do since everything else on this side of the road is in Salem. Attorney Baker stated that they need to talk with Spanish Fork City, and if they are alright with it then we will need to do a resolution. He stated there is no action that needs to be done on this issue tonight. If both cities agree to this change it will be fairly quick and inexpensive. He stated he will bring a resolution to the next council meeting. Councilperson Rees asked why it was in Spanish Fork boundaries. Mayor Christensen replied that the previous owner of the house had Spanish Fork utilities. Attorney Baker recommended doing a motion to waive a conflict of interest for the legal department since they represent both Salem and Spanish Fork.

Councilperson Rees, acting as Mayor Pro Tem, asked for a motion.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to waive any legal conflict of interest so that Attorney Junior Baker can act as counsel on this issue.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

7. APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2018

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to approve the minutes of May 2, 2018.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

8. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

AMOUNT: \$241,170.97

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to approve the bills for payment.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Cristy Simons.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

9. YOUTH COUNCIL

Councilperson Howard Chuntz stated that he had attended the youth council senior farewell and year end luncheon. He reported they are holding interviews for new members and then they will be working on getting ready for Salem Days.

10. CHIEF BRAD JAMES, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Chief James mentioned that it is National Police Law Enforcement Week, they have been spoiled by the citizens of Salem and received a lot of goodies. He appreciates his officers and had a mug made for each officer, they turned out very nice. He stated that they had put the information about the exchange zone on their Facebook page and have had 5000 hits on it. The reaction from citizens has been that it is a cool idea. He hopes they will use it. He mentioned that this information will be in the June newsletter. The council thanked him for their mugs.

11. DAVE JOHNSON, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIRECTOR

Dave Johnson did not have anything to report tonight.

12. ATTORNEY JUNIOR BAKER

Attorney Baker did not have anything to report tonight.

13. JEFFREY NIELSON, CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY RECORDER

Jeff handed out the one-page summary of the April budget. He stated that everything looks good. If anyone has any questions to please let him know. He thanked the council for going over the budget for next year. He thanked all the directors and council for their time. Councilperson Seth Sorensen thanked Jeff for going over the budget with him. Mayor Christensen stated that he appreciates Jeff and the work he does.

14. MATT MARZIALE, RECREATION/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Matt Marziale reported the roads crew has been extremely busy, they are doing a lot of improvements in May, June and July. He mentioned that they will be doing an HA5 overlay on some of the newer subdivisions, this is paid for by the developer and helps the asphalt last longer. The reason he mentions this is because citizens see this being done on newer roads and wonder why their road isn't being done first. He said that they will be patching and working on the roads. James is sending him a copy of the roads they will be working on and he will get this list to the council. He said he and Bruce will be bringing back the Center Street project findings to the next meeting. Bruce asked if they could put the road list on the web page. Matt replied that was a good idea. Jen Watson asked if they were aware of the sink hole on 100 East and if they know what is causing it. Matt replied there are 6 of them around town, they are caused by water that flows underneath them. They will fix these by filling them in with concrete and then topping them with asphalt.

15. CLARK CROOK, ELECTRICAL DIRECTOR

Clark Crook stated that he did not have anything to report tonight. Mayor Christensen asked how things were looking getting a line out to the charter school. Clark stated that he had sent the letter on April 27, 2018. They met with us and we went over the area. Attorney Baker asked when we wanted to take that over. The mayor mentioned coordinating with the school. Attorney Baker stated that they will need to pick a date and then send a certified letter. Clark stated that SESD will need to make some adjustments, he has met with Brook and went through that. Mayor Christensen asked if Brook was good to work with. Clark said that he was, but that no decisions are made by either of them.

16. BRUCE WARD, ENGINEERING

Bruce stated he had a legal question, we have had trucks hauling dirt using 750 East and 600 South, is there anything we can do to stop this. These roads are not designed to be truck routes or to be used continuously for 80,000 pound trucks. He talked to Chief James and what they are doing is not illegal. He stated that they are using our roads and are not even hauling to a project that is in our town. Attorney Baker replied there are things we can do. When H.E. Davis had a pit they hauled from we just talked to them and that seemed to solve the issue. Bruce stated that is where he started. He called the company and the trucks were still coming, so he called the church, since it is their project, and now it has stopped. Mayor Christensen asked where the dirt was going. Bruce replied it was coming from Mapleton and going to Woodland Hills, and it was nonstop. Councilperson Rees asked if they are not using Woodland Hills Drive because of the roundabout. Chief James replied that the trucks are too big and cannot go through it. Matt stated that the trucks are using roads that we have designated as safe sidewalks for the school, 100 to 200 kids use this route in the morning and afternoon. Bruce asked for direction on having some designated truck routes unless you are hauling to a certain project in Salem. Chief James stated that the Davis' trucks were going through occasionally but this was happening all day, multiple times a day. Attorney Baker stated that we can designate truck routes in the city. Bruce stated that they will come up with something and bring it back to the council.

Bruce mentioned that he had attended the Mt. Nebo technical meeting and they are working on updating the ground water management plan. When he gets a cost for he will bring it to the council so they can decide if they want to participate. Councilperson Chuntz stated that they will be inviting the State Engineer to the next Mt. Nebo Water Agency meeting. They are trying to plan for future water needs. He is glad to report we are having wonderful spring weather, so things are looking better. Bruce stated the wells are in good condition, they will continue to monitor them. Mayor Christensen stated that Salem Pond is down. Bruce replied that as the High Line canal gets lined Salem Pond will probably continue to decrease.

Bruce reported that Utah County is in the final stages of the planning the connector road from out by the freeway to Elk Ridge Drive. Chief James asked if he had a project start date. Bruce replied that they will be surcharging the wetlands this summer, and construction should start next summer.

Bruce stated that he and Nyle have been working on the annual report for SUVMWA. He thanked the mayor, Councilperson Chuntz and Councilperson Simons for attending the neighborhood meeting for Arive Homes. He stated there were a lot of good questions asked at the meeting. About 2/3 of the people that attended were in favor of the project.

Councilperson Seth Sorensen commented that he lives in the area and most of the neighbors would rather see something like this instead of having it remain the way it is.

Bruce announced that the sewer plant was put out for bid last week. The Prebid meeting has been held. The bidders have requested to have the bid deadline pushed back to June 6, 2018. He will have those numbers at the next council meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

17. MAYOR KURT CHRISTENSEN

Mayor Christensen stated that the employees are good. He asked that the council to get the evaluations done.

18. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Rees stated the Memorial Day program will be held on May 28, 2018. He thanked the chief for helping finding the speaker, it will be Ralph Hughes, he is a retired lieutenant. He asked if anyone had a contact number for the American Legion Post 68. Attorney Baker replied that he should contact Keir Scoubes on the Spanish Fork City Council, he is on the Veteran Council and will have that information. Councilperson Rees mentioned the program would be held at 8 a.m. at the cemetery.

19. COUNCILPERSON CRISTY SIMONS

Councilperson Simons stated that last night they held Opening Day at the ballpark. It was a good event with about 600 people attending. Tony Dever threw out the first pitch, she started one of the first softball teams in Salem. Councilperson Simons stated that Jen will be out of the office for several weeks and that she has things organized for the staff, but she will be missed. She mentioned everyone is working hard on Salem Days. Mayor Christensen asked when the next meeting for Salem Days will be held. Matt replied that Mindy Lemon will be setting up a date, he will let the mayor know.

20. COUNCILPERSON HOWARD CHUNTZ

Councilperson Chuntz mentioned that Kerry and the library staff are working the library auction.

21. COUNCILPERSON SETH SORENSEN

Councilperson Sorensen stated that the green waste is now closed. They kept it open for a couple extra weeks, but it is now full. He mentioned that the chamber had held a ribbon cutting at Cassie's Cookies. He stated that the chamber is moving out of the Spanish Fork City Office. They are targeting home business, at a reduced rate, to help get them involved and to make some revenue.

22. COUNCILPERSON CRAIG WARREN

Councilperson Craig Warren was excused tonight.

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to adjourn council meeting.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

VOTE: All Affirmative (4-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:13 p.m.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder