

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on May 2, 2018 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

**Work Session:** 6:00 p.m.

## **1. FY 2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Jeff Nielson reported that when comparing property taxes in Utah County Salem is in middle. He stated that each year the state determines this based on the home values. He stated that some cities are establishing a tax rate based on property taxes and the next year if the state lowers it they keep it the same. That way it stays at one level, and the same budget amount. Jeff stated in comparing our utility rates with other cities we are about in the middle also.

Jeff advised that he will get a disc with the budget on it to the council by the end of the week. He explained that way they will have a couple of weeks to review it. He then went over the tentative budget. There was a discussion about the Arrowhead Springs Development and how it will impact the city once they move forward with that project. Jeff stated that the mayor and council haven't had a raise in some time, he said if they would like to look at that to let him know. Attorney Junior Baker stated that even though it is hard for them to talk about, they need to consider doing an increase, it is overdue and they have earned it. He stated that they could do a comparison with other cities. He stated that they will have to have a public hearing if they decide to do an increase. Mayor Christensen asked if they could get a comparison. Jeff replied that he has one and will put it with the budget. Jeff stated that Kerry had received a grant for the library for a new system that will allow patrons to check books in and out by themselves. Councilperson Sterling Rees asked if we were good with the car rotation. Mayor Christensen stated that after some discussion they have decided to only purchase trucks. Chief Brad James stated that there is better resale value with trucks. Councilperson Craig Warren asked if we were up to date on the rotation. Chief James replied that we were. Mayor Christensen stated that he needs help with the raises for city employees. He stated that we will still use the formula that is in place, but that he wants to have the council work with the department heads on evaluations and recommendations for raises. Councilperson Warren stated that an ordinance for a city manager had passed and asked how we address that. Attorney Baker stated that we can leave it as an unfilled position. Jeff stated there is still a lot to discuss with the budget and asked when the council would like to meet to discuss it again. He mentioned starting the next council meeting at 5 p.m. so that there is time to go over it. The council decided to meet then.

## **2. AGENDA ITEM DISCUSSION**

**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

**STAFF PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Whitney Wagner, Sadie Stewart, Whitney Graham, Heather Youd, Derrick Brinkerhoff, Jen Watson, LaVar Robinson, Duane Nielsen

**1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE**

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

**2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Miss Salem, Sadie Stewart, 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. PAM RALEIGH – CITIZEN REQUEST/HEALTH & WELLNESS OF YOUTH**

Jeff Neilson stated they had contacted him and were not ready to present yet, so they will be at the next council meeting.

**4. APPROVE ORDINANCE UPDATING REFERENCES TO THE STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE**

Attorney Junior Baker stated as he was doing some research he noticed that the state had adopted a new fire construction code. This is just to update our ordinance to reference what the state law is now. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Craig Warren to approve the ordinance updating references to the state construction code.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## 5. APPROVE SURVIVAL SPOUSE BENEFIT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Brad James stated Salem City would be required to provide 100% of the premium costs for health insurance for the surviving spouse and for the children up to the age of 26 of a Salem police officer involved in a line of duty death. Participation in the Public Safety Surviving Spouse Trust Fund would allow Salem City after 12 months to defer the health insurance costs to the trust fund. He mentioned that we have been participating in this program since it began. A few legislative changes recently require Salem City to resubmit its request for participation. The two main changes are, the legislature has started requiring all employing agencies with one or more eligible public safety employees to participate and it now reduces the waiting period for an employing agency to tap into the trust fund from 24 months to 12 months. He stated that the cost is \$95 per officer. He mentioned that in the past the fire department was not included because they are not part of URS. They are now offering it for volunteers, but he does not know what the cost for them would be. Attorney Baker stated that they would want to know the cost before they gave direction on it. He doesn't think we will have a firm price, but we should ask for an estimate. He stated that his personal opinion would be to offer it if the cost was good. Councilperson Craig Warren asked if we could still vote on this tonight. Attorney Baker replied that we can vote on the agreement and then fill out the attachment as to who is covered, it is the same contract.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the Public Safety Trust Fund Agreement.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## 6. APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR WATER SMART GRANT

Bruce Ward stated this is a resolution that allows the city staff to apply for the Water Smart Grant from the Bureau of Reclamation for \$300,000. He commented that the application is due next Tuesday. He mentioned that part of the requirement is that we would have to match the funds and we have that ability. The feedback from the bureau was that we would have more opportunity to be considered applying for the smaller grant than the million-dollar grant that we applied for last year. Councilperson Howard Chuntz stated that he has a concern with the language in the agreement stating that we will use the money to fully fund the metering of our city, since it will cost a lot more to fund the whole metering project. Attorney Baker stated that the grant will just get us started. Councilperson Chuntz stated that line one says fully funded, he recommends changing that wording to partially funded.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen to approve the resolution for the water smart grant with the change of wording from fully to partially.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Cristy Simons.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## 7. APPROVE SLURRY SEAL BID FOR CEMETERY PARKING LOT

Matt Marziale stated that this is a non-budgeted item, he asked Jeff to explain where the money will come from. Jeff stated that when a cemetery plot is sold we collect a \$19.40 perpetual fund fee, the

money in this fund is to be used for upkeep to the cemetery. We currently have \$55,000 in this fund. Matt is proposing we slurry seal the asphalt at the cemetery to give it a longer life. He would like to get this done before Memorial Day. He has received 3 bids, and the lowest was from M & M Asphalt for \$22,560.00. Councilperson Chuntz asked if this fee is paid every year. Jeff replied it is not, it is a one-time fee when a cemetery plot is purchased. Matt recommended to the council that we approve the bid from M & M Asphalt.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Howard Chuntz to approve the slurry seal bid from M & M Asphalt Services in the amount of \$22,560.00 with the striping included.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Craig Warren.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## 8. APPROVE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CREW INCENTIVES

Chief James stated that we are fortunate to have very dedicated volunteers in both our Ambulance and Fire Departments. He stated that some of our volunteers are more dedicated than others and this incentive is to show our appreciation for what they do. The proposed incentive program would be for an EMT- \$100 per month when filling 10 shifts or more (Intermediate), an EMT-B \$ 75 per month when filling 10 shifts or more (Basic), or a FR - \$50 per month when filling 10 shifts or more (First Responder). This incentive program would help encourage a little more participation from all of our EMTs and show our appreciation for them. Councilperson Warren asked how long a shift is for them. Chief James replied they are 12-hour shifts. The mayor stated that we have some members that are doing the majority of the shifts, he hopes this would help us have more trained people. He looked at the last 6 months and the most we would have paid is \$1100 a month. He hopes this would encourage some of the others to do more. Chief James stated that it might encourage some to complete more training. He stated it is a nice recognition for them. It was mentioned that when they are on call they have to stay in town. Chief James stated that he had talked to Jeff and we do have the money available to do this. Mayor Christensen stated that we need to start somewhere and he recommends we do this.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Sterling Rees to approve the volunteer ambulance crew incentives.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Cristy Simons.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

Chief James said he appreciates the support from the mayor and the council.

## 9. APPROVE TENTATIVE BUDGET FY 2018/2019

Jeff stated this is approval for the tentative budget, it shows that we are working on it. He commented that they have had good meetings with the directors.

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Cristy Simons to approve the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## 10. PI WATER DISCUSSION

Matt stated that tomorrow notice would be sent to residents that the PI water is on. He mentioned that the canal does not have water in yet so we are filling our ponds with water from our wells. Once the water is in the lines the crews will be out and about town looking for any issues. Councilperson Warren asked how confident they were that the canal would have water in soon. Matt stated that the Salem Canal Company has water in their canal so the High Line should be in soon. Mayor Christensen asked how the water was allocated. Matt stated that we have shares and we have never been told we are out of water, although it could happen. The mayor asked if we are entitled to a certain amount of water. Matt replied that we are charged for the water we order to be delivered by the canal. Mayor Christensen stated that we are changing our watering schedule to odd and even days, and we are doing away with the no watering on Tuesday. Everyone should have 3 days a week that they do not water. The challenge is months that have 31 days, so the 31<sup>st</sup> would just be considered a no watering day for everyone. Councilperson Cristy Simons asked if we are informing people or if we will be enforcing those restrictions. The mayor stated that we need to start somewhere since we are in a drought. He thinks this is a good solution for both water and the pressure. He said that 90% of people will try to do the right thing. Matt stated that we are still enforcing the no watering between 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and he and Wade will watch for that. Councilperson Sterling Rees asked how people will know if they haven't read the newsletter. Matt stated that it will be on the Facebook page, he mentioned that he still has the spots for the signs that we had up last year. He can have new signs made and put them up there. He commented if he or Wade notice someone watering on the wrong day they could put a flyer on their door with the information on it. Councilperson Simons stated that they had talked about the new restrictions at seniors and they were ok with the changes. Chief James mentioned that he has had residents express concern that they will have to set their sprinklers every week. Councilperson Warren thought that it was odd homes would do Monday, Wednesday, Friday and even homes would do Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday with no one watering on Sunday. Councilperson Rees stated that the odd even days is awkward. Bruce stated that most clocks have an odd even day or every other day setting. He said that there are programs out there that offer a 50% reimbursement on a new clock if yours doesn't have these features. Most people just haven't used that feature before. Councilperson Simons stated that her grandma's clock had the feature, people just need to take time to look. The mayor said that conservation takes time. Bruce said he will have the link posted on the website about the reimbursement program for certain clocks. If you look on the Central Utah Water Conservancy District website, you will see people don't need to use as much water as they do. Jeff stated that he sets his mom's timer every week after checking the weather and it doesn't take that long. Matt stated that we will spell it out clearly on the website and there is still no watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The mayor asked if there were any other questions. Jen Watson asked why we are doing this. The mayor replied it will help save water and should help with pressure issues that we have had. Matt asked for direction on the bigger users like churches, schools, and the city. The mayor told him to divide them up between the even or odd. Matt stated he would do that and get a copy of when they water to the mayor.

## 11. APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2018

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen to approve the minutes of April 18, 2018.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Cristy Simons.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## **12. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

Councilperson Howard Chuntz had a question on the bills. He stated there are two charges from Codale on the same day for the same amount. Jeff replied that sometimes things are ordered for different subdivisions at the same time. He said he will look into it.

**AMOUNT:** \$607,230.76

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

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

## **13. YOUTH COUNCIL**

Whitney Graham reported that things are winding down for them for the year. She mentioned that applications for the new youth council are due on Friday May 4, 2018. You have to be sophomore to senior age for the next school year to be on the council. She thanked the mayor and council for all of their support. Mayor Christensen stated that they are thankful for the youth council they do a lot for the city.

## **14. CHIEF BRAD JAMES, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR**

Chief James stated that he hopes the council has gotten to see all the news coverage Sergeant Smith has received. The Daily Herald did an article, Channel 4 did a segment on him called behind the badge, and KSL radio did an interview on how to protect yourself from identity theft. He is following up on the Great Utah Shake Out, they checked out the infrastructure, and had employees report to their supervisors. They coordinated with the schools. The thing they found was a deficiency with communication. There is some money in the budget that they would like to use to purchase a bank of 10 radios that would be handed out by department heads in the event of a disaster. After finding the communication problem Chris Reed has offered the use of his \$75,000 worth of equipment if we would be interested. Chief James stated that it would be good to have a contract put together with him and have it tied up before we need it. Councilperson Chuntz stated that he would want to see the terms of the contract. Chief James replied there is no contract yet, but if the council wants him to move forward he will work with Attorney Baker on it. Councilperson Warren stated it would be a good thing to look into.

## **15. DAVE JOHNSON, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIRECTOR**

Dave Johnson did not have anything to report tonight.

## **16. ATTORNEY JUNIOR BAKER**

Attorney Baker did not have anything to report tonight.

## **17. JEFFREY NIELSON, CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY RECORDER**

Jeff stated that the exchange parking area has been set up outside the building and the cameras are up and going. He stated this information will be in the next newsletter.

## **18. MATT MARZIALE, RECREATION/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Matt did not have anything to report tonight.

## **19. CLARK CROOK, ELECTRICAL DIRECTOR**

Clark Crook was excused tonight.

## **20. BRUCE WARD, ENGINEERING**

Bruce stated that he is ready to send out an RFP (Request for Proposal) on the masterplan for culinary and PI water. He stated that if anyone is interested in reading the detailed scope of work to let him know. He stated that there is \$181,000 in the fund to go towards this, that money was collected from developers in lieu of water so it is not coming from taxpayers.

He reported that the sewer plant will begin to advertise for bids on Sunday. On May 9, 2018 the pre-bid meetings will be held, one at 10 a.m. and one at 2 p.m. Councilperson Seth Sorensen asked if the new tariffs and steel prices would make things worse than we thought. Bruce replied that he can't say for sure. On May 30, 2018 bids will be due, then the bids will be evaluated. He stated that on June 27, 2018 they will need to go to the Water Quality Board for final funding. He asked that the mayor, Councilperson Sorensen and Councilperson Chuntz attend that meeting. He stated that we will close in the middle of July and that Jeff will need to have the one million dollar check ready at that time. Jeff stated that on the front page of the webpage we are updating the information about the sewer plant project to keep residents informed about what is happening.

Bruce stated that he handed out flyers about a project Arive Homes would like to build. It is a 55 and older development up by 80 South and Canal Road. They would like to hold a neighborhood meeting to see how the neighbors feel about a project like this going in up there. He is asking for direction from the council to see if this is something that they would consider, if they would not then it doesn't make sense to move forward with the meeting. The council felt like this seemed reasonable unless the neighbors have issues with it. He will tell them to move forward with the neighborhood meeting. He asked if the mayor and a couple council members would be willing to attend. Councilperson Chuntz and Councilperson Simons stated that they would attend.

He introduced a new landscaping incentive, this is to change how people landscape and keep the incentive simple. They were thinking a \$250 one-time rebate if you Xeriscape 15% of your yard. He stated this would be for new and existing homes. Residents would put in an application that would go through the staff, they would need to create an inspection form. He will work with Attorney Baker on it if the council wants to move forward. They did.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **21. MAYOR KURT CHRISTENSEN**

Mayor Christensen asked the new Miss Salem Royalty to introduce themselves. Sadie Stewart stated that she was the new Miss Salem and her platform is hold on to your wheel power don't drive distracted. Whitney Wagner stated she is the First Attendant. Whitney Graham stated that she is the Second Attendant.

The mayor mentioned that the city employees are great.

## **22. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES**

Councilperson Rees stated that they will talk about electrical later. He asked the new Miss Salem Royalty if they would be willing to sing the national anthem at the Memorial Day Program. He said they usually have the contestants sing, but since the pageant was held earlier, he wanted to make sure they were willing to do it. They stated they will. It will be held on Memorial Day at 8 a.m. at the cemetery.

## **23. COUNCILPERSON CRISTY SIMONS**

Councilperson Simons stated that the community theater held tryouts for Hello Dolly and had about 70 people show up to audition. She mentioned that tomorrow at 5 p.m. they would hold opening day at the ballpark at Loafer View. They had about 800 sign ups for baseball and softball and had about 66 teams. She stated the recreation department is busy with track, soccer, gymnastics, grass volleyball, and sign ups for about 10 camps they will hold this summer, they work more hours than most realize. She stated that the seniors program is going great. They had a discussion about the PI water and the new restrictions. They try to keep them up to speed with what is happening in the city. She mentioned that the Handicap Fishing Day would be held on Tuesday May 8, 2018 at 9 a.m. Matt stated that about 1400 to 1500 kids will be at the pond fishing that day. Chief James stated that last year they parked 72 buses. He said every kid leaf with at fish.

## **24. COUNCILPERSON HOWARD CHUNTZ**

Councilperson Chuntz commented that he had made arrangements to have a wetted spring. He said as they had heard from Jeff, that Kerry had received a \$20,000 grant to be used specifically for a program that will allow library patrons to electronically check in and out books. He stated that it will save man power once they have installed chips in all the books. He mentioned that Kerry had attended training to help get a vision for the library. They are looking at getting things ready and better for the library auction at Salem Days.

## **25. COUNCILPERSON SETH SORENSEN**

Councilperson Sorensen stated that they had extended the time the green waste yard would be open for a couple of Saturdays. It will be open for one more Saturday, then they will close it. He introduced Heather Youd, the chamber director. Heather reported that they will hold a ribbon cutting at Cassie's Cookies on May 14<sup>th</sup>. They held a ribbon cutting for Tabitha's Way, they have revamped the building and it looks great. The business of the month is Advanced Spinal Care, they will celebrate that on Monday May 7<sup>th</sup>. She mentioned that the golf tournament had been pushed back until next week because of the weather. On May 10<sup>th</sup> they will have a ribbon cutting for Wal-Mart pick up at the Wal-Mart Super Center. She stated that the walk for life would be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, she invited the mayor and council to have breakfast at 8:15 a.m. or lunch at 12:15 p.m. on one of those days. She stated that this is an activity where local fifth graders go and hear from different veterans at the park. Councilperson Simons stated that Salem schools would be attending on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>.



**26. COUNCILPERSON CRAIG WARREN**

Councilperson Warren did not have anything to report tonight.

**27. CLOSED SESSION – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Craig Warren to move to a closed session for potential litigation discussion.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Seth Sorensen.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

**ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MOTION BY:** Councilperson Craig Warren to adjourn city council meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Howard Chuntz.

**VOTE:** All Affirmative (5-0).

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT:** 9:00 p.m.

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Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder