

Minutes of the Salem City Council Meeting held on August 5, 2020 in the Salem City Council Chambers.

Work Session: 6:00 p.m.

1. FIBER DISCUSSION

John Bowcut is going to talk about building the fiber project. He went through the proposal from uptown and discovered that the proposed debt burden is substantial. We are going to minimize the debt burden and offer three options. Depending on which one you go with, the payments differ. John showed the three options and explained he feels most comfortable doing the middle option which is a \$5 million revenue bond with a three year delay. We would build instead of hiring it out. The labor cost overall from uptown was \$4,688,306.00 and if Salem does it ourselves it would be a total of \$3,998,939.00. Salem's build savings is \$689,367.00. John proposes we hire a plant supervisor, cable technician (4 full time temporary positions), and four contract laborers (1 supervisor, 3 laborers). They need to be familiar and know our system well anyways, so the best way is for us to do so and learn the system as we're doing it. The labor cost would come from the bond money. For the capital equipment costs (what he is suggesting we buy) is a boring machine, power rod pusher, bucket truck, 2 pickups, fiber trailer, fiber splicer, fiber testing tools, and the expense of office remodeling. We'd purchase these items with the bond money. John would rather use old sewer treatment building as an office for now, rather than building one right away. SFCN has agreed to help with construction and equipment. We will be able to use SFCN's equipment until ours is delivered, as long as it's available. They also might be able to help with the initial fiber link, but the pricing hasn't been determined yet for their help. Spanish Fork is interested in our success and they are willing to help wherever they can.

John Bowcut is now going to explain how to run the fiber project. We as Salem City would run the fiber and do all of the system design and engineering in house, such as building active node switch stacks, the necessary servers, manage our own data switches, customer installs, customer service calls (with the help of SFCN when able to), service installs, and fiber installs. Salem fiber employees will complete the install in the home and perform all testing. Scheduling will be handled in google calendar and sheets. We will need help from the city finance department (Jeff Nielson) so the customer should be able to sign up for Salem fiber services just like all other utilities.

Salem fiber part time employees will respond to service calls Monday through Saturday 8am-10pm. After hours phone calls will be routed to Salem fiber full time employees. We will pay an on call premium, and take calls and do on-sight service calls after hours. We also can negotiate a deal with SFCN to help with after hour service calls. They are willing to discuss how we could structure this. John is also willing to take calls.

John explained the bond capital expenditures to us and feels confident with moving forward. He asked if the council is ready to move forward with this, and they agreed, so next council we will do the bond process and start.

A resident asked how we install, if we'd have to dig up roads and John stated we are going to use boring. With fiber, you will actually get what you are paying for.

MEETING CONVENED AT: 7:17 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 De Graw

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Linda Grange, George Reid, Ken Meads, Jan Ward, John Bowcut

1. VOLUNTEER MOTIVATIONAL/INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

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

2. INVITATION TO SAY PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilperson Tim De Graw 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 REPORT

There was not a member representing the Youth Council present tonight.

4. SF/SALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

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

5. APPROVE MAG (MOUNTAINLAND ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT) AGREEMENT FOR SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHESES

We have an agreement every year with Mountainland Association of Government that we need to renew. They provide the senior citizens lunches and any money that is donated to us for the food, we then send to MAG. Because of Covid, we have been paying for it because we don't want to be exchanging cash, but normally it's all covered.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder to approve the MAG senior citizen lunches.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

6. APPROVE AMENDED UTAH COUNTY OFFICER INVOLVED CRITICAL INCIDENT PROTOCOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT

Chief Brad James said in December 2019, he presented to the council a Utah County Officer Involved Critical Incident Protocol contractual agreement that was approved by the City Council. Since that time the protocol has been invoked and investigations have been conducted. With the invocation of the adopted protocol it became evident that some updates are needed. He has attached the suggested updates that include grama requests, incorporating a small fee to fund trainings, and stating evidence gathered at the scene will be booked and held at the Utah County sheriff's evidence facility. The updates have been reviewed by all parties in the agreement. The Utah County Attorney's Office, other City Attorneys as well as Salem City Attorney Vaughn Pickell have had an opportunity to review these updates to the contractual agreement. Chief feels these changes are minor. Mayor Christensen asked for an example of a critical injury. Chief James listed a few examples such as death, shooting involving an officer, etc.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen to Approve Amended Utah County Officer Involved Critical Incident Protocol Contractual Agreement.

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Tim De Graw

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

7. APPROVE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE INC. CONDUCTED ENERGY DEVICES

Chief Brad James stated officers for several years have carried a Conducted Energy Device (TASER) as a less lethal device. These devices are intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual, while minimizing the risk of serious injury to a subject and the officer. Currently officers are carrying devices that are old, (some non-functional), out dated and are no longer serviceable by Axon Enterprise resulting in a need to update to a newer version. The newer version (Taser 7) has added features including the activation of the officer's body camera when the Taser is turned on.

Chief went over the costs and contract which is a 5-year period, including a warranty. He is willing to take the funds for this out of his current equipment budget. The cost is for 11 new Tasers, one for each officer. Mayor Christensen asked how many departments does Chief know of that uses these, and Chief answered saying every department that he knows of, uses Tasers. Mayor is glad to hear that.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Tim De Graw to Approve Contractual Agreement with Axon Enterprise Inc. Conducted Energy Devices

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

8. APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH VINEYARD CITY FOR BUILDING INSPECTION

George Reid started his career here in Salem and is happy to be able to be back and help. He is now Vineyard City Building Inspector and is willing to offer his departments help with inspections as long as they are available. Steve Cox, our current building inspector says we won't be able to get a better deal for help than this. This agreement will be a yearly renewal. Steve is asking the council for approval. This will be just to help when Steve is in need of assistance with building inspections, until we can get our new hire certified and trained.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to Approve Agreement with Vineyard City for Building Inspections

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

9. APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2020

Mayor Christensen noticed when reading through the minutes, some of the stuff he was saying got credited to Seth. He asked if it matters, and Jeff Nielson said it should be fine.

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to Approve Minutes of June 17, 2020

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

10. APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2020

MOTION BY: Councilperson Delys Snyder to Approve Minutes of July 15, 2020

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

11. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

The council discussed some of the expenses and the amount for payment.

AMOUNT: \$1,603,314.04

MOTION BY: Councilperson Sterling Rees to Approve Bills for Payment

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

12. CHIEF BRAD JAMES, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

Chief Brad James was contacted by Trooper Bradford from the highway patrol asking if the city council would like a demonstration involving different scenarios showing what challenges police officers are faced with on a regular basis. Chief asked if the Mayor and City Council would be interested in it and what direction he should give to Trooper Bradford. Mayor Christensen and council are for it and suggested we do it with the south Utah County Mayor's group during a regular scheduled meeting.

Chief James stated we have not had the political unrest like we are experiencing now in our country, since the Vietnam War. He has sent two officer to training to learn how to deal with political unrest demonstrations. They will now help other officers by sharing their knowledge. Chief doesn't see these situations going away anytime soon. He feels it will be the new normal.

Chief James mentioned our Fire Department went out to the Eagle Mountain fire recently and did a fantastic job. Salem Ambulance recently assisted Spanish Fork with coverage during their annual city celebration and rodeo.

13. STEVE COX, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIRECTOR

Steve Cox mentioned that Wyatt Cloward is shooting for September to take the building exam, Steve encouraged him to spend more time in the code book and offered to have him go out and get trained with him.

14. ATTORNEY VAUGHN PICKELL

Attorney Vaughn Pickell wanted to mention that SESD has several motions pending and the judges are going to do a hearing on August 27, 2020. When he gets more information he will pass that on. Mayor Christensen asked how it'll affect him and if he has to be there. Attorney Vaughn stated he doesn't have to be there but it will be online with Judge Powell.

15. JEFFREY NIELSON, CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY RECORDER

Jeff Nielson said tomorrow the Board of Water Quality will determine to do the bond closing on the 12th of this month for the PI metering project. The fiber bond will be on next council meeting.

Jeff mentioned the auditors were here last week for the first round and will be back in October.

Councilperson Tim De Graw mentioned to Mayor Christensen as we start to go down the road beginning the fiber, he thinks it would be great to have some frequently asked questions and some information available on the website. We could have John discuss what's exciting about fiber and link it on the website. Mayor Christensen said it would definitely help answer questions that we've been receiving frequently. Tim thinks it will also help advertise.

Councilperson Tim also said he would love us to put together some online content or classes for people to come ask questions and see what to look for regarding suicides. Mayor said he'd love to bring awareness and offer something but it's a really hard subject. He instead thinks a general mental health class would be great for the city and give them a chance to come together and learn. Jeff Nielson said we are limited on staff to do all the online tasks and are running thin on what we can do. He doesn't have the time to come up with the content, because it's time consuming.

Matt Marziale mentioned that while senior citizens was up and running Mindy looked for presentations from different people. Some of the topics that have been discussed there would be great to add to the website, but we do have resources and contacts to bring people in to film it and post it but that doesn't change the fact that we are busy and overwhelmed.

16. MATT MARZIALE, RECREATION/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Matt Marziale said the Woodland Hills Trail/Road project is going Monday through Thursday. There are signs that it will be closed. With those signs up, we are getting a lot of calls. With Bruce being out of town, Matt touched base with the engineer and Utah County and those calls can be forwarded to Utah County. We need to decide how to channel the traffic. The plan is to encourage them to take Elk Ridge Drive to get home, since they can't take Woodland Hills Drive. They are thinking it'll be a three day project but they requested advertising through Thursday in case of whether or any delays.

Councilperson Howard Chuntz asked what ever happened with the complaining from the people about the fence. Matt said the complaints are still there, and they are feeling that the wall that was promised to them was a six foot wall. Right now they have lost some of the six feet. There is about 11 to 12 inches from their walls. They will make it so the wall is back to six feet and so nobody can hop it.

Matt said the date is set for the sewer plant open house to see how it works. It's roughly 3 weeks away but he can't remember the actual date. It's either at the end of the month or beginning of September right before city council. Bruce has more information on that.

Matt Marziale mentioned that 3 residents have called saying they have no water or water pressure. It's an annual call. The residents by the cemetery when watering at the same time, take a lot of it. Every year we have done this, and we are going to start again today, instead of watering at night, we will water the ball parks during the window where we have asked residents not to which is during 10am-6pm.

17. TED BARNETT, ELECTRICAL DIRECTOR

Ted Barnett was asked to be excused from tonight's meeting.

18. BRUCE WARD, ENGINEERING

Bruce Ward was asked to be excused from tonight's meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

19. MAYOR KURT CHRISTENSEN

Mayor Christensen is looking at salaries and the budget right now to work on them.

20. COUNCILPERSON STERLING REES

Councilperson Sterling Rees said just an FYI the UMPA Summer Social is postponed until September but we will have a regular meeting in August.

21. COUNCILPERSON SETH SORENSEN

Councilperson Seth Sorensen mentioned we wrapped up the first round of summer sports and he thinks it was good for the kids mentally and emotionally to get out and be around other kids. Now we are looking at fall sports and they will start soon.

22. COUNCILPERSON HOWARD CHUNTZ

Councilperson Howard Chuntz did not have anything to add to tonight's meeting.

23. COUNCILPERSON DELYS SNYDER

Councilperson Delys Snyder said the South Utah Valley Solid Waste is working on a new design for a transfer station and its moving forward. She mentioned that she would like to get the word out about what you can and cannot recycle, and where to take it. She also stated that they will do shredding and don't charge for it. She is wanting to add tips and education about recycling in the newsletter each month.

Councilperson Delys Snyder said senior dinners and the library are doing really well. Mayor Christensen got a few letters thanking the library for all they do and said they're doing a great job.

24. COUNCILPERSON TIM DE GRAW

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

ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY: Councilperson Howard Chuntz to Adjourn City Council Meeting

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Seth Sorensen

VOTE: All Affirmative (5-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:09 pm.

Jeffrey Nielson, City Recorder