

MINUTES  
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 19, 2014  
6:30 P.M.

Mayor Korry Soper in chair and presiding. Roll call showed Councilmembers Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett and Vaun Mickelsen present. Jason Vernon was excused and Ryan Phelps was expected to arrive later in the meeting. The Mayor welcomed all attending and invited them to stand and join him in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Soper recognized Emily Bradley, Miss Manti 2013. Miss Bradley talked of her desire to organize a community dance on April 4<sup>th</sup> to benefit the city Sports and Recreation Department. She asked the council for their blessing to use the city park in the event that the fairgrounds pavilion area was unavailable. Without hesitation various councilmembers voiced their support. The Mayor thanked Emily for her efforts on behalf of the city and noted the good job she has done serving as Miss Manti during the past year.

The Mayor recognized Michelle Palmer, Chairperson of Arbor Committee. Palmer announced that Manti was again designated as a “Tree City USA” for 2014. She also explained that the committee is organizing an Arbor Day event for April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and asked the council to supply 2 or 3 trees to plant at the event. The council unanimously supported her request. Palmer then referenced a tree inventory report, prepared by the state DNR forestry division. Palmer mentioned several points in the study including the estimated replacement value of city-owned trees at over \$2 million. Palmer then recommended to the council that several Chinese Elm trees be removed along the western edge of the cemetery. Some discussion ensued. Administrator Kent Barton said that he felt the removal of the trees should occur and felt it is a project the city crew could handle in the off season. Palmer also referenced a list of trees that she developed that were good choices for our elevation and climate. Mayor Soper suggested that we create a link to the “Friendly Tree List” on the city’s website. Cory Hatch, a member of the Arbor Committee, joined Palmer at the podium and reported on the recent tree certification seminar that he had attended. Hatch explained that he completed the course training and will need to schedule an exam in Draper to receive his arborist certification. The Mayor congratulated Hatch on completing his training and thanked both he and Palmer for their dedicated efforts to improve our community.

Mayor Soper recognized JoAnn Otten. JoAnn thanked the Mayor and Council for their time. She then proceeded to explain the terrible tragedy that had come to her family as a 6 month old granddaughter Miley White was severely shaken and abused by her own father Gary Hansen. Otten recounted the sad and heart wrenching events and her granddaughter’s struggle for survival. She explained that while Miley was not expected to survive, she has made miraculous progress but is permanently brain damaged, is legally blind and may never walk. JoAnn then told the council that she feels the need to make the public aware of the risks and damage that can occur to children through “shaking” and other forms of abuse. She asked the council to consider a resolution recognizing and supporting April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Without hesitation, Mayor Soper called for a resolution, number 2014-03-19, recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and vowing to support efforts to stop this horrible practice. Vaun Mickelsen made that motion, which was seconded by Darren Dyreng. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett and Vaun Mickelsen Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

JoAnn thanked the council members and Mayor for their time and attention regarding this issue. She in turn was thanked for her efforts in this cause.

At 6:55 councilmember Ryan Phelps joined the meeting in progress.

The Mayor recognized Jana Kaye Smith, representing the Sanpete County Public Health Department. Smith explained that she was there to discuss pending legislation with regard to regulating electronic cigarettes. She told the council that the electronic devices are currently free from regulation, which is a big concern for health departments as the cigarettes pose great health risks, especially to the youth, which are the target of much of the industry’s marketing efforts. Smith entertained several questions from council members and also explained that she has met with both local school districts to educate school leaders about the issue. She said both districts have developed or are considering policies with regard to the devices. Smith thanked the council for its time and also pointed out that Manti is one of the few communities in the county that does not have a tobacco policy. She suggested that the council consider adopting a policy and offered to assist in providing examples of policies other communities are using.

Mayor Soper invited Rick Christensen to approach. Christensen explained that he is a contractor and developer and had been approached about the possibility of building a home in a partially undeveloped area at approximately 100 North and 500 East. The parcel in question contained enough property for three building lots but there is no existing street into the parcel. Additionally, the width into the parcel is less than required under current code. Christensen also asked about the possibility of having one of the lots front along 200 north; that street which is a pseudo private lane is only 15 feet wide. Discussion ensued after which the members of the council seemed to be in agreement that any development on the parcel would be subject to our subdivision ordinance and would require that a street with full curb and gutter be developed. The Mayor suggested to Christensen that he develop a detailed and defined proposal of the development, which could then be presented for consideration to the Planning Commission and Council. Christensen thanked the council members for their time, and they in turn wished him well.

The Mayor asked councilmembers if any desired to discuss the proposal for engineering services with regard to developing specifications and managing the bid for improvements to the city building to add a courtroom / council room. Members of the council indicated that they were ready to go to a vote. The Mayor called for a motion to accept the \$6,850 proposal by Jones and DeMille to provide engineering services for the city; specifically to develop specification and manage the bid process for improvement to the city building for the addition of a court / council room. The motion was made by Ryan Phelps and seconded by Jason Maylett. Councilmembers

voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The Mayor asked if any member of the council desired to discuss proposed adjustments to the east side buffer area road plan which the council had considered at the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. After no further discussion was requested, the Mayor called for a motion to accept the adjustments and presented on the documents prepared by Jones and DeMille (attached). Darren Dyreng made that motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

Mayor Soper directed that discussion concerning a possible sign ordinance for the city be tabled for a future meeting.

The Mayor asked if any member of the council desired to discuss renewal of the Fire Protection Agreement with Sanpete County. After no discussion was requested, the Mayor called for a motion to accept the renewal of the Fire Protection Agreement with Sanpete County as presented. The motion was made by Vaun Mickelsen and seconded by Jason Maylett. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

Moving to council member reports Jason Maylett reported that Fire Chief John Jensen, had requested 4 pagers and 30 batteries at the cost of approximately \$1,700. Kent Barton explained that he believed there was money in the department budget to cover the expense. Maylett also reported that the department was enjoying the use of the old Boys club building, which has been converted for use as a fire training facility. Maylett continued by reporting that the council may want to consider removal of the fence in the old tennis court area. Kent Barton agreed to review with his staff and neighboring property owners and come back with a recommendation. Maylett also asked about formation of a Recreation Committee and questioned whether or not the economic Development Committee was still functioning. It was determined that reorganization of both committees needs to be addressed. Finally, Maylett reported that there appeared to be a large piece of auto repair equipment like a lift installed at a home in a residential area. Barton agreed to have his staff investigate the issue.

Councilmember Dyreng requested discussion in closed session with regard to a personnel issue.

Vaun Mickelsen recognized the good work the Arbor Committee is doing to benefit the community.

Ryan Phelps reported that the Youth City Council had attended recent training meetings in Logan at the USU campus. Phelps also reported on several issues from the Library including the desire of the staff and board to conduct a yard sale to benefit the library during the Mormon Miracle Pageant. Some discussion ensued and several council members registered concern that the yard sale may detract from other downtown merchants. Kent Barton agreed to get more information about the yard sale plans. Phelps also reported on repairs and improvements underway at the library, and required upcoming personnel replacements.

Mayor Soper reported on his recent trip with the UMPA delegation to Washington DC to discuss electric power concerns with elected leaders. Soper said that the Obama administration has made it very difficult to produce coal-fired power and that we would need to find other alternatives going forward. He reported on progress with natural gas and other technologies but painted a somewhat dismal picture of our being able to maintain the relatively low power rates that we have enjoyed for many years. Mayor Soper also talked about the recent Mayors' and Commissioners' meeting he attended, and from that meeting shared the following:

- Plans to reconfigure and combine several National Guard units in the state. Said a possible combining of Manti and Mt. Pleasant units may be about 8-10 years out.
- Chris Stewart will be in Ephraim this Friday from 10-12 to address questions from area constituents.
- Relayed concerns from Sheriff Nielson that Federal Employees (Forest Service) have been issuing tickets on non-federal land.
- State reimbursement for housing of inmates at county facilities has been raised by \$1 per inmate per day.
- \$36 million appropriated for expansion of the Gunnison Prison.

Mayor Soper then asked the Council if any corrections were needed for the draft version minutes of the regular Council Meeting of March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Several typographical changes were noted after which the Mayor called for a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Jason Maylett made that motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "aye": Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

Administrator Kent Barton reported on the following:

- Appeal Authority Larry Lunnan is scheduled to hear two appeals on April 14<sup>th</sup>, from Nate Christensen and JR Christensen Investments.
  
- UDOT plans for Highway 89 widening from 800 North to Keller Lane
  - Bid opening is April 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Expect work to be completed by September 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Two lanes will be added (one each direction)
  - Full turning lanes to be added at 800 North and Keller Lane.
- Provided updates on pageant dinner plans
  - Has received final approval from the National Guard to hold the dinners at the Manti Armory.
  - Will need to acquire additional tables and chairs
  - Need for additional committee members
- Upcoming Conferences
  - UMPA – March 27 – 29
  - ULCT – April 9 – 11
- UDOT Transportation meeting planned for May 13<sup>th</sup>, from 9 – 11 am
- Stated that he had issues dealing with personnel and property negotiation for discussion in closed session.

The Mayor called for a motion to move into closed session to discuss property negotiation and personnel matters. Ryan Phelps made that motion, Vaun Mickelsen seconded. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The bills were presented for payment. Following review by the Mayor and Council, Councilmember Mickelsen moved that they be paid as presented and as money becomes available. Seconded by Councilmember Phelps. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

General Account

John Allsop	\$ 579.44
AJ Mower	313.43
Utah State Treasurer	1,584.71
Pam Lund	1,200.00
American Library Association	66.00

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Korry L. Soper, Mayor

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Kent Barton, Recorder/Administrator