

MINUTES
MANTI CITY
PUBLIC HEARING
AUGUST 18, 2010
6:15 P.M.

Mayor Natasha R. Madsen in chair and presiding. Roll call showed Councilmembers Korry Soper, Loren Thompson, Alan Justesen, Galen Christiansen and Vaun Mickelson present.

A roll call of citizens present is attached to and made part of the minutes.

Mayor Madsen welcomed those present and stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to accept public comment relative to a proposal by Manti City to vacate a Manti City street located at 100 East Street between 400 and 500 North.

She requested that individuals state their name and address and that comments be limited to two minutes.

1. Don Tibbs, 380 East Union, Manti – He is very much in favor of abandoning and selling 100 East Street to the LDS Church. He mentioned that he had been in the stake presidency for 10 years in the early 80's and that the LDS Church had wanted to purchase 100 East Street at that time as the protesters were a problem for the Pageant.

2. Shannon Miller, 103 East 300 North, Manti – Provided four emails from concerned citizens to the Mayor and Council (which are attached to and made part of the minutes) and said she is in favor of vacating and selling the property. She said she lived near this area and traveled 400 North Street everyday. Shannon noted that UDOT had safety concerns relative to the access to Highway 89 and therefore closed access this area.

Shannon said she is President of the Central Utah Pioneer Heritage Foundation and the changes that have been made in the access to Highway 89 have benefited this project. She also expressed concerns relative to the cattle driveway and hoped that accommodating the moving of the cattle would be worked out prior to any decision.

Shannon said she has been involved in many civic projects in Manti City and felt the vacating and selling 100 East would benefit Manti City financially and may help cease any anticipated tax increases. It would also improve beautification in Manti City and improve economic development in the community.

3. Karen and Vern Buchanan, 366 East 300 South, Manti – they endorsed Shannon Miller's comments.

4. Chip Thompson, 30 South 100 East, Ephraim – Provided a letter from the ACLU and Mayor Madsen requested he read same which he did (a copy attached to and made part of the minutes).

Chip expressed his concerns in violating individual's 1st amendment rights and freedom of speech. He noted that their ministry endorses careful dialog during the Pageant and if this property is vacated and sold they lose their voice for public dialog

He said that religious groups have attended the Pageant for years in a mostly uncontentious manner and if the property is sold these rights would be hindered.

5. Kevin Christensen, 1119 East 970 South, Ephraim – said he was employed by Sanpete County Economic Development and he expressed the same opinion as Shannon Miller. He felt this would benefit the

community as it would bring money into the community and also save money on maintenance of the road. He did agree that freedom of speech is very important but did not feel this would infringe on these rights.

6. Archie Brugger, 177 North 200 West, Manti – he was very aware of the freedom of speech issue and felt this would not limit any dialog during the Pageant. He envisioned the possible development that the LDS Church would accomplish and felt this would add much value to the community He was in strong support to vacate and sell 100 East Street.

7. Jeff Lamb, 111 East 200 South, Wales - As a member of the Cattlemen's Association they had meet with Manti City and representatives of the LDS Church real estate division and there are issues in moving the cattle driveway. He advised that the Mayor and Council think carefully about the cattle movement prior to any action.

8. Timothy Oliver, 412 North Peach Street, Santaquin – Had attended Pageant since 1988 and has seen the evolution of crowd involvement and movement. He felt that his First Amendment Rights would be violated unless the LDS Church could guarantee these rights are protected by allowing all religions access to proselyte.

9. Glen Johnson, 170 North 100 East, Manti – Expressed strong protest against the vacating and sale of 100 East Street. He said he used this street three to five times per day for years. He realized UDOT had made arrangements to close the access to Highway 89 but felt this was not necessary. He also said a cattle driveway must be supplied for the Cattlemen's Association.

10. Mike Barclay, 536 South 200 West, Manti – Said there is plenty of room on 400 North Street for proselyting and felt this could be worked in a reasonable fashion. He also felt that an alternate route could be found for the cattle driveway.

11. Laurie Bishop, 67 West 300 North, Manti – Agreed with comments made by Mike Barclay.

12. Mattie Kilmer, 498 North 400 West, Manti – Concurred with comments made by Shannon Miller and Kevin Christensen. She also felt this benefit the community economically and also beautification of the north end of Manti. She was very sensitive to the Cattlemen's Association and moving of the cows.

13. Jeff Lamb, 111 East 200 South, Wales – Very concerned that if the cattle driveway is moved that individuals owning property adjacent to the drive would request it be moved away from their property.

14. Timothy Oliver, 412 North Peach Street, Santaquin – Felt that 400 North Street is less populated during the Pageant and the flow of traffic is considerably less than on 100 East Street. This would also deny his right of freedom of speech if unable to proselyte on 100 East Street.

15. Russell Faatz, west of Manti – Is a member of the Cattlemen's Association and uses the stock driveway. If this area is sold, another route must be provided and suggested that a portion of the money received be used in supplying an alternate cattle drive route.

The hearing adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Natasha R. Madsen, Mayor

William A. Mickelson, Recorder/Administrator