

MINUTES  
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
6:30 P.M.

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

The Mayor recognized JoAnn Otten, representing the Friends Board of Directors of the Sanpete County Justice Center. Otten explained to the council the services that are provided by the justice center. She also stated that in 2 ½ years since the center opened they have served over 140 children. She expressed regret at that number and said as Sanpete communities, we need to do better. Otten explained that one of the key responsibilities of the “Friends’ Board” is to raise funds to help build public awareness of the problem that child abuse is and to provide education for prevention of child abuse. She stated that Miss Sanpete County, Marlee Meacham, is working with the center on her platform “The Strength to be Gentle” to help stop child abuse. Otten then explained efforts to educate high school kids about the problem. She also discussed an upcoming golf tournament the center has planned as a fundraiser to help with those education efforts. Finally, she stated that the center is seeking cash donations from the communities in Sanpete County, whose children the center serves, in an effort to eradicate this ugly practice. Otten then presented a banner to the Council stating that April is “Child Abuse Prevention Month” and asked if the city would display the banner during the coming month. The Mayor thanked Otten for her efforts to help improve our communities by creating a safer environment for all of our kids. Several members of the Council echoed that Mayor’s appreciation to Otten for the important work she is doing. The Mayor then told Otten that they could count on a donation from the City of Manti and asked City Administrator, Kent Barton, to make a provision for the contribution in the upcoming budget, and that the Council would determine an amount to contribute. Otten thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

Mayor Soper recognized Fred and Angie Taukei’aho, owners of Fred’s Sports Grill in Manti. The Taukei’ahos explained that they were there to request permission from the Council to continue to use their residential property at 393 N Main as an extension of their Main Street restaurant for the serving meals to Mormon Miracle Pageant visitors, as they have done for many years. Mr. Taukei’aho said they have a high demand due to their proximity to the Pageant area. He also stated that his staff are trained and hold all the necessary safe food handling permits and insurance. He went on to explain that he employs many youth in the community and this eight day event allows their employees to work additional hours. He also noted that they are a year-round operation providing services and jobs in the community and that they donate to several community events

including the Miss Manti Pageant, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and the annual East Egg Hunt. Some discussion ensued and the Taukei-ahos entertained several questions from the Mayor and members of the Council. The Mayor then said that he fully supported their request due to the fact that it is “an extension” of their Manti restaurant business; that it is temporary and event specific; and that there have been no complaints from surrounding neighbors. He then asked how the Council felt about granting the request of Fred and Angie. The consensus was unanimous that permission be granted for this year’s pageant. The Mayor thanked Fred and Angie for their service and support in the community and wished them well.

The Mayor then recognized Cory Hatch, Water and Sewer Supervisor. Hatch reported on the following:

- Water usage in town is down by approximately 1.5 million month since last year. He suggested that much of the savings may be due to system leaks that have been identified and repaired during the past year.
- Spoke of planned service extension for Southwest Farms turkey facility expansion. Explained that water for construction of the expansion is being drawn and metered from a nearby fire hydrant and would be paid for by Southwest Farms.
- Currently working with Twin D Company to schedule cleaning of sewer main lines in the southwest quadrant of the city.
- New service installation planned for Ambulance Facility on 100 East.
- Sprinkler pipe removal at cemetery in highway widening area.
- Debris basin cleaning at the mouth of the canyon.
- Stump grinding for trees removed at park. Two smaller oak trees being relocated, one to the South Park, and the other near the restrooms within City Park.
- Reviewed new home development and planned extension of services north of town on 200 West at approximately 1100 North.

Councilmember Maylett asked if our water system had the capacity to add the new services planned. Hatch answered affirmatively. Mayor Soper stated that the Fire Chief, John Jensen, had inquired about retrofitting the city’s water tanker truck for use in fighting local area range fires. Hatch said that the truck was currently in for repairs but he would make inquiry with Dale Nielson. Kent Barton said he would get John Jensen and Dale Nielson together to review needs and then make a determination and recommendation to the Council.

Mayor Soper then explained that under Utah Code, communities are required to have a policy exempting elected leaders from participation in retirement compensation provided they serve less than 1,000 hours during the calendar year. The Mayor then read a corresponding proposed policy and after some discussion asked for a motion to adopt it. 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.

Moving to Continuing Business, the Mayor asked members of the Council how they felt about the donation request from the Discovering Potential Through Arts Creativity Dance group. Discussion ensued with several members of the council expressing concern about using taxpayer funds to fund private tuition. After additional discussion the Mayor asked the Council to review the city’s current donation policy and come prepared to discuss at the next Council Meeting.

The Mayor then asked if any members of the Council had items for discussion.

Councilmember Maylett reported that the remodel for the City Building Court and Council Room is complete, with the exception of Audiovisual upgrades. The Mayor said we will plan to meet in the new chamber for the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 Council Meeting. Kent Barton reported that the Judge, Clerk and Prosecutor have toured the space and given their approval to move Court activities beginning on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. Mayor Soper then said he would like to host an open house for the community to see the new space prior to the April 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

Vaun Mickelsen asked if the city was planning a “spring cleanup” for the community. Kent Barton stated that with all the projects that the crew has underway and scheduled, it would be difficult to do without involving a lot of overtime expense. Being that we just provided pickup throughout the community last September, Barton suggested not scheduling another at this time. The Mayor and Council concurred.

Mayor Soper then reported on the following:

- Upcoming April 1<sup>st</sup> Six County Leadership Summit.
- Attended Capitol Hill Rally in Washington DC with other board members and staff of UMPA, where they met with Senators Lee and Hatch as well as representatives of all 5 members of the Utah congressional delegation. Among issues of concern they discussed with the elected leaders were:
  - Emission requirements for coal-fired plants
  - Tax exempt bonds
  - Electrical grid security
  - Support of modular nuclear power generating facilities
  - The need to develop other power generating resources if Washington continues its “war on coal”.

Mayor Soper then asked if there were any changes noted for the draft version of the minutes from the previous council meeting. After no changes were noted, the Mayor called for a motion to accept the minutes from the regular council meeting of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 as corrected. Vaun Mickelsen made that motion, which was seconded by Jason

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

Administrator Kent Barton then reported on the following:

- UDOT planning to start Main Street widening project from 100 East to 800 North on or about Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- In preparation for the road widening, the power crew has removed the power poles along the east side of the street adjacent to the LDS Temple property. Eventually those poles will be relocated to the west side of the highway adjacent to cemetery property
- Advised the Council that Jane Braithwaite has requested that verbiage be added to upcoming city utility bills requesting donations for the planned improvements to the southwest corner of the cemetery, which her group is spearheading. The Mayor asked how the Council felt about the request. Discussion ensued and concerns were raised by members of the council that the utility bill not be used as a vehicle to solicit donations to the city. After additional discussion, Mayor Soper stated that it appeared the consensus of the Council was that we not allow the request.
- Advised that Utah League of Cities and Towns Spring Conference is planned for April 8 – 10 in St. George. He asked that all members of the Council let him or JoAnn Otten know if they plan to attend.
- Referenced annexation Policy documents which he included in the packet and stated that in accordance with the Council’s desire to annex all or part of the city’s 150 acres south of Manti, he has started contacting adjoining property owners who would potentially be affected by a potential annexation.
- Stated that he had items dealing with property negotiation and legal matters for discussion in closed session.

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

#### RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

The bills were presented for payment. Following review by the Mayor and Council, Jason Maylett made the motion to pay the bills and adjourn. Vaun Mickelsen seconded. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Ryan Phelps. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm

General Account

Manti Post Office	\$ 494.29
Kenny Keller	464.03
Blake Demill	464.03
Utah State Treasurer	200,000.00
Utah State Treasurer	1,087.08
Mike Tillack	50.00
Justin Aagard	40.00

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Korry L. Soper, Mayor

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Kent Barton, Recorder/Administrator