

MINUTES
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2011
6:30 P.M.

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

Mayor Madsen said there was a quorum present and led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Mayor Madsen recognized Mike Tillack, ZAN Officer.

Mike presented a recap of the 2010 animal control activities and reviewed elements of same. He indicated there seems to be an increased number of dogs in the community and this is an ongoing problem from both enforcement and licensing.

Mike noted some problems with scheduling of the euthanasia class he has been authorized to attend. It now appears the class may be held in St. George or in Colorado. The Mayor directed that he follow up with attending this training when it is scheduled.

Mike reported that the annual dog clinic is scheduled for February 19th and considerable advertising is planned to alert citizens to this service.

He then made note of the drainage and runoff problems on the north end of the Manti City Building and expressed his feeling that this needs attention now. Following some discussion the Mayor directed that Mike acquire bids for necessary work to give the Council an idea of costs attendant to the project.

Councilmember Thompson stated there are a considerable number of dogs running at large in the community and Councilmember Christiansen inquired if animal shelters are used. Some discussion ensued.

Mayor Madsen stated there had been discussion of a dog facility to be co-located with the Sanpete County jail and any action in that area would wait consideration by the new Sheriff.

Councilmember Christiansen inquired if the bat problem at the library had been taken care of. Mike said the project has been completed and he is very satisfied with the work that has been done.

Mayor Madsen complimented Mike on the work he has accomplished.

2. Mayor Madsen recognized Gary Keddington, Manti City Financial Advisor and Audit Coordinator.

Gary presented a copy of the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 to the Mayor and each member of the City Council.

He then reviewed specific elements of the report, noting that this is a "clean audit" which is a true rarity and spoke very well of the office staff and the quality of financial records maintained by City staff.

Gary then made reference to specific pages which address the general fund, the enterprise funds and an observation relative to the MIBA building account.

Gary mentioned the possibility of interest rates increasing and if there are major projects planned by Manti City, bonding sooner than later may prove advantageous.

Mayor Madsen expressed her thanks to Gary and referenced a special report he provided relative to swimming pool operations with special reference to the increased sales and use of the pool with increased income enjoyed by Manti City.

3. Mayor Madsen referenced the request for meter reading compensation adjustment and requested the Council review same.

Councilmember Christiansen felt that a six-month probationary period before consideration of an increase is necessary.

Councilmember Justesen said that with an income rate of \$12.50 to \$20.00 per hour depending on skill levels and dedication he felt the current rate being paid is very competitive.

Councilmember Soper felt that Manti City should try to keep trained readers to cut down on errors and rereads and problems for both the office and the electric department.

Following considerable general discussion Councilmember Thompson moved to increase the meter reading fee to \$150.00 per month following a three-month evaluation and with the recommendation of the electrical superintendent, seconded by Councilmember Soper. Councilmembers voting "aye": Loren Thompson, Korry Soper, Vaun Mickelsen, Galen Christiansen and Alan Justesen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

4. Mayor Madsen recognized Nate Christensen, a property owner in Manti and briefly backgrounded the Council on the history on property owned by Mr. Christensen.

Mr. Christensen referenced a letter provided to each of the elected officials (a copy of which is attached to and made part of the minutes) requesting a change of ordinance or granting of a variance to allow change of use.

Councilmember Thompson said he felt there may be problems with the Council addressing this item as it had gone through the proper process.

Councilmember Justesen expressed his views that he felt the City should accommodate special properties as this would keep the properties from being vacant lots.

Councilmember Mickelsen said that if a property can be productive, then a change or allowance should be granted.

Considerable general discussion ensued after which Councilmember Mickelsen moved to refer to the Planning Commission the matter of the zoning ordinance relative to property size, historic structures and lots of less than ¼ acre for their recommendation as to action, seconded by Councilmember Christiansen. Councilmembers voting "aye": Vaun Mickelsen, Galen Christiansen, Loren Thompson, Korry Soper and Alan Justesen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

5. Councilmember Christiansen inquired as to the schedule of the recycling yard and the City Recorder said he would follow up and advise.

Councilmember Christiansen had some questions relative to the voucher ledger which were addressed.

6. Councilmember Thompson reported on the Ambulance Association meeting noting that the Association will be purchasing fuel directly with their credit card. This met with Council approval.

Councilmember Thompson reported on the Library Board meeting noting that the Board plans to do the Home Show again for 2011. The Council concurred.

Councilmember Thompson made note of the new internet policies now adopted and placed in the library, the celebration planned for February 14th for the number of books read, the completion of approximately 50 percent of the rock work project on the library and plans for the Ladies Literary Club Authors Day on February 3rd.

7. Councilmember Soper reported that a grant has been received by the fire department in the amount of \$4,500.00 for the purchase of wildfire fire shelters needed by the department. This constituted considerable savings to Manti City.
8. Councilmember Mickelsen reported on the flood channel and recommended that as soon as possible, trees broken by the ice flow be removed from the channel to prevent damage of the channel during spring run-off.
9. Mayor Madsen made note of the following items . . .
 - a. A number of compliments were received about City crew operations for snow removal, removal of snow on Main Street and removal of Christmas trees and broken tree limbs from the community.
 - b. Several phone companies have GPS capabilities and this may be something the City would want to investigate.
 - c. A talent show is planned in Manti for February 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Manti High School auditorium. She encouraged all Councilmembers to attend.
 - d. Made note of the Rural Water Association meeting March 1st through 3rd in St. George and noted several Councilmembers should plan to attend.
 - e. Based on the Rural Water Conference the March 2nd council meeting may be changed to a different date.
10. The minutes of the January 5, 2011 council meeting were reviewed and following review Councilmembers Mickelsen moved the minutes be approved as presented, seconded by Councilmember Justesen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Vaun Mickelsen, Alan Justesen, Korry Soper, Loren Thompson and Galen Christiansen. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.
11. The City Recorder noted there will be a financial report presented in February relative to the mid-year position and that in all probability, barring unforeseen developments, compensation for City employees could be considered by mid-year 2011 based on current financial positions.
12. Councilmember Justesen moved the Council adjourn from regular session and reconvene in executive session to discuss property items, seconded by Councilmember Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Alan Justesen, Vaun Mickelsen, Galen Christiansen, Korry Soper and Loren Thompson. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

REGULAR SESSION RESUMED FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

13. The bills were presented for payment and following review Councilmember Thompson moved the bills be paid as presented and as money becomes available, seconded by Councilmember Justesen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Loren Thompson, Alan Justesen, Vaun Mickelsen, Korry Soper and Galen Christiansen. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

General Account

Kendra Sorensen	\$ 200.00
Target Pest Control	4,936.00
DL Bown Masonry	15,000.00
Justin Aagard	40.00
Utah State Treasurer	912.08
Danetta Stickert	100.00
Amber Jarvis	30.00
Ephraim City	159.93
Marsha Salas	200.00
Utah League of Cities and Towns	910.00
Justin Aagard	40.00

Natasha R. Madsen, Mayor

William A. Mickelson, Recorder/Administrator