

MINUTES
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 7th, 2016
6:30 P.M.

Mayor Korry Soper in chair and presiding. Roll call showed Council Members Gary Chidester, Darren Dyreng and Vaun Mickelsen present, along with City Administrator Kent Barton. Councilmembers Jason Maylett and Jason Vernon and were out of town and excused. The Mayor invited all present to stand and join him in reciting the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

The Mayor invited Blake DeMill, Power Superintendent, to report first, as he had another meeting to attend afterwards. DeMill reported the following:

- ∞ Electric service removed from the old Ambulance Building in preparation of the planned demolition of the building later this fall.
- ∞ Set-up support for the county fair.
- ∞ 3-phase electrical service extended north of the city to the area of Shand’s Knoll.
- ∞ Completed another section of line replacement in the canyon between the two power plants.
- ∞ Further investigation with upper plant transformer suggests that a repair may be possible which would cost \$7,000 rather than a \$25,000 replacement.

Mayor Soper asked about progress with the 6-Mile project (being constructed by B&B but tying into Manti’s grid). Blake stated that most of the line and wire is completed but that he has heard there are some delays with the construction of the hydro plant itself. The Mayor thanked Blake for his report and for the work he and his department do for the city.

Mayor Soper then invited Mike Tillack, ZAN Officer, to make his report. Tillack distributed a written report summarizing his recent work with zoning and animal control efforts. Tillack said that with the recent cooling trends, he is seeing more calls for skunks. Tillack also reported that in the last month he has placed 37 orange tags for city right-of-way violations adjacent to city streets. Tillack said that all but one of the 37 have been cleaned up or removed and that the other has since received a citation and will be addressed in court.

Councilmember Dyreng said that he has recently received multiple complaints of auto repair businesses being operated in the residential zone. Tillack stated that he is aware of two such operations and is in the process of “dealing” with them.

The Mayor thanked Tillack for his report and then invited Ernie Augustus to address the Council.

Augustus approached the podium and stated that he has been a resident of Manti for over 30 years and during such time has frequently walked through the streets of the city for exercise and enjoyment. He related an incident that happened earlier in the summer when he was attacked by a pit-bull near the intersection of 300 South and 300 East streets. He related graphic details of the

incident, which included the dog's grabbing his by his pant leg. He said was able to get away from the dog's grasp but was afraid to run. Augustus stated that the dog continued to harass him growling and barking at him until a passerby noticed the situation and was able to drive his vehicle between the dog and Augustus allowing him to get into the vehicle. Augustus then became very emotional as he described a "primal fear" that he felt during the attack and which he had never felt at any time prior in his life – even while working around hardened criminals in the prison system. He said that memories of the attack continue to haunt him. Augustus said he reported the incident immediately to 911 and then returned to the location in his vehicle and waited for over an hour before an officer was dispatched to the scene. He said he was told the dog would be "put down" and was surprised to see that it has since been returned to the owner. Augustus said that citizens should be able to walk the public streets of the city without the fear of being attacked by dogs. He said he had studied state law and feels that the city is being lax in enforcement of free running dogs – especially vicious dogs.

When Augustus was finished with his comments, The Mayor invited Colette Thompson to address the Council. Thompson stood and explained that her son was accompanying her as her husband had another obligation. She then went on to explain that she was very familiar with the dog described by Augustus and which is owned by a woman living at the home on the southeast corner of the intersection at 300 South and 300 East. Thompson stated she and her husband frequently walk past the area en route to their son's home (½ block north of the intersection). She said it was her son Loren who had rescued Augustus the morning he was attacked. Thompson said she feared for her grandchildren who have to walk past the area when they come to visit her home. She said is lives in fear that the dog may get loose again and attack on of her grandchildren or another citizen. Thompson went on to say that there is a big "dog problem" in the community that needs to be addressed. She said that she and her husband enjoy walking frequently and have had to change their route as home owners have acquired dogs that are not contained and run at them barking as they pass by. She said that citizens should not have to be afraid to walk the streets or have to avoid certain streets because dogs are not contained. She stated: "We need to make Manti safe, our children need to be able to walk the streets of our town".

After Thompson finished her remarks, the Mayor noting others in the group asked if anyone else desired to speak. Sylvia Mason stood and related that she was recently attacked while walking towards the Canyon along 500 South street. As she walked, a large brown dog ran towards her barking. As it got closer, she reached for her pepper spray but before she could get it the dog jumped at her and grabbed her arm. She was able to scare the dog off and later called the dog's owner who denied that his dog was loose and treated her rudely. Mason said that dogs should be contained by their owners so that the general public does not have to walk the streets in fear.

Mayor Soper asked Loren Thompson if he had any comments regarding the issue. Thompson stood and said that due to his work, he is probably out on the streets of town as much as anyone. He said dogs running at large is a big problem and must be dealt with. He suggested that with only one animal control officer in place that the rest of the city crew should be tasked to help

with the issue to help get the problem under control. Thompson also said we need to be more forceful with citations. He said his own neighbor's dog is running at large 90% of the time. He also said that we need a sheriff's department that will respond when attacks are reported. Thompson pointed out that an ordinance, which was more restrictive than our current ordinance, was overturned by the vote of the citizens under referendum.

Discussion ensued at this point during which time the mayor and all three council members present voiced concern about the problem and expressed their support in addressing this problem for the benefit of all citizens in the community.

Mr. Augustus asked why the dog that attacked him was still at large and why nothing had been done about it. Augustus said: "that dog needs to be put down". Mike Tillack answered, saying that the owner has been cited and will be going to court. Mayor Soper added: "Putting an animal down must go through the judicial process".

Darren Dyreng stated: "We are committed to change our ordinance to address the dog problem and make our community safer".

The Mayor asked if anyone else desired to make comment about the issue. Seeing there were none, he thanked the group for voicing their concerns and promised that increased enforcement of our current ordinance will occur, and that the Council will study possible changes to our animal control ordinance that will improve the problem.

The Mayor then noted the proposed Drivers Qualification Policy included in the packet and asked Kent Barton to explain. Barton explained that the Utah Local Governments Trust, who is our auto policy insurer, has recommended that all cities adopt a policy similar to the one in the packet. Barton said the policy, which allows the cities to monitor driving records of employees driving city vehicles, protects the cities and the insurer from drivers who are deemed to be unsafe due to traffic violations such as speeding or even driving under the influence. Barton said that after study of the issue, he is recommending that the Council adopt the policy as presented in the packet. The Mayor asked if any discussion was desired. Some discussion ensued after which the Mayor called for a motion to create the Driver Qualification Policy as presented in the packet. Vaun Mickelsen made the motion, which was seconded by Gary Chidester. Councilmembers voting "aye": Gary Chidester, Darren Dyreng and Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

The Mayor then asked if there was any discussion desired pertaining to continuing business. Seeing there was none, he asked if any Council Members had items to report. Seeing none, the Mayor advised the council of and Rural Utah Survey, an online survey being conducted by the Governor's Office of Economic development, which is available for community officials to respond to. The Mayor said that he had completed the survey and encouraged members of the Council along with the City Administrator to complete it.

The Mayor then reported on the following items from the recent UMPA Board meeting:

- ∞ Recent decreased energy costs are building our rate stabilization fund.
- ∞ Open House planned for the recently purchased West Valley gas generating power plant on September 28th. The Mayor indicated the open house would occur throughout the day and that members of the Council were invited and encouraged to attend anytime during the day.
- ∞ Smokestacks at the old Provo coal-fired plant have been removed. Construction on a new gas-fired plant will begin on October 3rd.
- ∞ Next year's annual conference is planned for April 20th – 22nd at the Zermatt in Midway.

Mayor Soper then asked if there were any changes noted for the draft version of the minutes from the council meeting held on August 3rd, 2016. Seeing that no errors were noted the Mayor called for a motion to accept the minutes of the August 3rd, 2016 Council Meeting as presented. Gary Chidester made the motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "aye": Gary Chidester, Darren Dyreng and Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

Administrator Kent Barton then reported on the following:

- ∞ Advised the Council that the purchase closing had occurred for the Rasmussen property, which has been acquired for the site of the future sports complex.
- ∞ Gave a progress report of the Sports Complex Development Committee. Stated that they would be meeting again next week and then would report to the Council at the September 21st meeting.
- ∞ Reported on progress with the Safe Routes to School grant application being developed together with the South Sanpete School District Assistant Superintendent and the city.
- ∞ Advised the Council that UDOT is planning to roto-mill and resurface Manti's Main Street next summer. Any planned utility work along or under the street will need to be completed by December. No cutting of the road for utility work will be allowed for 2 years after the resurfacing is completed.
- ∞ Stated that he had one item dealing with property negotiation for discussion in closed session.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Soper called for a motion to move into closed session to discuss a property negotiation issue. Vaun Mickelsen made the motion, which was seconded by Darren Dyreng. Councilmembers voting "aye": Gary Chidester, Darren Dyreng and Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

The bills were presented for payment. Following review by the Mayor and Council, Darren Dyreng made the motion to pay the bills and adjourn. Vaun Mickelsen seconded. Councilmembers voting "aye": Gary Chidester, Darren Dyreng and Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

General Account

Zions First National Bank	\$278,653.00
Utah State Treasurer	653.00
Miller's Bakery	82.94
Cory Hatch	140.12
Manti High School	25.00
Kent Barton	527.81
Vision Landscape, Inc.	1,050.00
PTIF	1,000.00
JoAnn Otten	101.72
Kennedy Francks	47.46
JoAnn Otten	53.74
Dog Face Equipment Sales	18,150.00
Robert Hannon	111.82
Mel Clark, Inc.	14,665.00
Baltizar Alcada	166.46
Utah Municipal Power Agency	113,907.94

Korry L. Soper, Mayor

Kent Barton, Recorder/Administrator