

MINUTES  
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
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 excused. The Mayor welcomed all attending and asked them to stand and join him in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Soper recognized Joe and Eloise Liddell, with the Manti City Arts Council who have organized and directed the Manti Community Theatre. The Liddell's explained that they had received a Manti Improvement Committee grant for \$1,500 for the replacement of worn out curtains in the Eva Beal Auditorium. Then, after learning that the cost for new curtains would be much more than anticipated, they located curtains under the stage, cleaned and hung them. They reported that the replacements were working well. They then asked if the Council would consider letting them use the \$1,500 for an electric piano as they had been transporting their own piano for the theatre. After brief discussion, the Mayor announced that he felt he had a consensus of the Council to allow their request.

Councilmember Jason Vernon joined the meeting in progress.

Joe Liddell then asked if the city could provide a secure location for the storage of the piano inside the building. Kent Barton assured him that it could be done. The Mayor thanked Joe and Eloise for their tireless service in the community for the enjoyment of the citizens as well as the development of our young people.

The Mayor welcomed Doug Dyreng and Dale Bryan Henningson with the Manti City Economic Development Committee, who reported progress of the development of a city logo and brand. They reported on their efforts, which includes identifying community assets, developing a vision and mission and soliciting input from the public, including school children. They hope to have the new logo selected and ready to roll out by May of 2015. Discussion ensued after which the Mayor and Council expressed support for the project and time frame. Mayor Soper then thanked Dyreng, Henningson and other members of the committee for their efforts.

The Mayor welcomed Blake DeMill, Power Superintendent, who reported on the following:

- Placement of Christmas decorations
- Planned Hotline School for Kenny Keller and Kyson Worwood
- Kenny Keller to take Journey Exam on December 4<sup>th</sup>
- Removal of trees at City Park
- Planned tree removal at the city cemetery
- Plans to "re-conduct" the "Farm Line"
- Replacement of power pole on River Lane downed by a recent rain storm
- Placement of "Light Parade" banner

The Mayor thanked Blake for the work of he and his department.

The Mayor directed that discussion to the possibility of applying for CDBG funding to assist with a needed community improvement project. Discussion ensued. Kent Barton explained that in order to apply for funding, we would need to hold a public hearing to solicit input from citizens of the community. More discussion ensued after which the Mayor stated that he felt it was the consensus of the Council to move forward with a hearing. He directed Kent Barton to plan a hearing prior to the next council meeting.

The Mayor directed that discussion turn to a review of the city's financial statements and invited Kent Barton to lead the discussion. Barton went through the statements and explained the current state of revenues and expenses compared to projections. Barton went through the general fund as well and the enterprise funds (water, sewer and power). Barton addressed several questions from members of the Council as he went through the various financial statements. He reported that there were no real surprises in either expenses or revenues, with the exception of a \$20,000 repair for the overhaul of the bucket truck engine, which was not budgeted but will need to occur in December or January.

The Mayor asked if any members of the Council had issues to report.

Darren Dyreng stated that he had a legal issue for discussion in closed session.

Jason Vernon reported on the airport improvement project from the recent Manti Ephraim Airport Board Meeting:

- Runway resurfacing delayed until next year when weather warms
- Airport will remain closed until resurfacing completed
- New fuel tanks in place
- Pilots' lounge nearly complete
- Drilling of new water well to commence next month
- Instrument approach 50% complete
- Planning underway for "re-opening" including fly-ins, etc.

Vernon stated that he had a personnel issue for discussion in closed session.

Ryan Phelps reported on enhancements at the library including planned monthly classes geared around technology.

Mayor Soper reported on the following from the recent Sanpete County Mayors' and Commissioners' Meeting:

- Don Watts of Rocky Mountain Power attended the meeting and addressed power issues affecting the county.
- Dell Smith, representing Congressman Chris Stewart attended and assured the group that Stewart does not support the closure of coal mines in our state. Smith also advised the group that IPP will continue to produce power from its coal-fired unit, while adding a gas-fired unit. Smith also addressed the recent Keystone Pipeline vote.
- Gary Bringhurst discussed county landfill issues, including the possibility of adding a transfer station at the Chester Landfill. He reiterated concerns that cities aren't calculating payments correctly to the landfill and said if self-corrective measures do not occur the rates may increase.

- The Mayor announced that the Lighted Christmas Parade Committee is ready for their event the night after Thanksgiving and he shared the promotional posters that the committee has developed.

Mayor Soper then asked if there was any public comment desired.

Nate Christensen of Manti approached and held in hand a nuisance letter that he had received from the city asking that he move rocks and bricks that he had placed on city property in front of his residence. He went on to express his displeasure with the letter, which explained that failure to comply could result in the issuance of a citation. Discussion ensued between the Mayor, members of the Council and Christensen. It was explained to Christensen that the policy of the city is that proper grades must be maintained for the drainage of water and that the only improvements approved on city property between a homeowners property and the road is grass, gravel or asphalt. Christensen was told to contact the city office regarding what changes would need to occur in order to avoid a citation.

Leonard Stull approached and asked what had prompted the recent discussions by the Council with regard to a possible “Landlord Ordinance” he wondered who had suggested that Manti has a landlord problem. It was explained that a group of citizens had addressed the Council at a meeting a few months earlier. Stull asked if he could obtain a copy of the minutes from that meeting and was directed to the city office to obtain the minutes.

Mayor Soper then asked for any corrections to the draft version of the minutes from the November 5<sup>th</sup> council meeting. Two typographical changes were noted, after which the Mayor called for a motion to accept said minutes as corrected. Ryan Phelps made that motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Darren Dyreng, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen, Ryan Phelps and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

Administrator Kent Barton reported on the following:

- Reviewed a recent meeting with Ken Bullock and Cameron Diehl of the Utah League of Cities and Towns and their request that the city pass a resolution of support for a proposed sales tax increase to be used solely for transportation purposes.
- A committee has been formed and is regularly meeting at the state capitol for the discussion of rental standards and good landlord practices.
- Referenced copies of nuisance letters that were included in the packet.
- Municipal Code Online agreement has been executed for the purpose.
- Reference Ambulance facility drawings in the packet and pointed out that the designs are about 60% complete.
- Stated that he has not heard back from Nancy Bean regarding insurance for use of the office area in the sewing plant.
- Gave an update of a recent meeting with Jane Braithwaite and Jay Cluff concerning cemetery improvements. Reported that additional improvements have raised the project estimate to \$130,000 and that the committee has only raised 11% of that amount. Cautioned the Council on allowing any improvements to begin before the funds are in place.
- Explained that a light parade float will be prepared for the Mayor and members of the Council who are available to ride in the parade.

- Stated that he had items dealing with property negotiation for discussion in closed session.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm

General Account

Justin Aagard	\$ 40.00
State of Utah	25.00
Utah Municipal Power Agency	68,266.25
Justin Aagard	40.00
Bankcard Services	1,191.33
Bert Murdock Music	961.61
Manti Post Office	491.07

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Korry L. Soper, Mayor

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Kent Barton, Recorder/Administrator