

**MINUTES**  
MANTI CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017  
5:00 P.M.

Mayor Korry Soper in chair and presiding. The roll call showed Council Members Gary Chidester, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Jason Vernon present, along with City Administrator Kent Barton. Councilmember Darren Dyreng was unable to attend and excused. The Mayor invited all present to stand, and led them in reciting the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

The Mayor then recognized Dale Nielson, Public Works Director, and invited him to come forward to make his report to the Council. Nielson then reported on the following:

- Projects completed at the Sports Complex including the extension of water and sewer lines into the complex and preparations to pipe and bury the Brigham Field Ditch along the western boundary of the complex.
- Annual chip sealing project recently completed.
- Library repairs due to a water leak have been completed. Pointed out that the building is an old building and as repairs were being made, other issues were found and addressed which delayed the completion of the repairs.
- Excavation work has begun on west Union Street, in preparation for the widening of the street adjacent to the elementary school. Included in the project will be the installation of a retaining wall, sidewalk and curb and gutter, along with the widening of the street.
- Booths were recently loaned to the county and set up at the fairgrounds for the use of vendors at the upcoming county fair.
- Culvert installation project at the sports complex.
- Repair made on the Middle Fork Spring line has restored water from that spring into the culinary system.
- Materials to upgrade and repair deficient guardrails along City Creek have been purchased. Repairs are scheduled to begin in the coming weeks.

The Mayor expressed appreciation to Dale for his work and his report. He then invited Blake DeMill, Electrical Superintendent to make his report.

DeMill then reported on the following:

- Moving of electric utilities in the area of the Main Street between 400 and 500 North streets.
- Streetlight and power poles replaced, which were damaged by construction crews while doing the Main Street project.
- Electrical utility work at the Fair Grounds arena in preparation for the upcoming county fair.
- Six new residential services recently installed; 4 in the city limits, 2 in the surrounding buffer zone.
- Standby generator unit now back on-line at the “Upper Power Plant”.
- LED light bulb replacement underway on decorative light poles in the business district along Main Street.
- Newly hired electrical department apprentice is working out well.

Mayor Soper thanked Blake for his efforts and then recognized Jacque Sorenson, President of the Manti Ladies' Literary Club. Sorenson approached the podium and recognized approximately a dozen members of the literary club who were in attendance along with her. Sorenson made mention of the fact that the Manti Ladies' Literary Club is the oldest such organization in the entire western United States. She then talked about the importance of the public library in our community and related that Manti's Carnegie Library has been in existence for over 100 years. She then went on to say that the building is old and has issues, which will need to be addressed in order to preserve the building for the ongoing benefit of the community. Among the issues she reported have occurred and will need ongoing vigilance included the following:

- Bat control.
- Mold from water leaks.
- Termites.
- Plumbing issues.

Sorenson then explained that state funding; necessary for the operation of the library, could be in jeopardy if the maintenance of the building (which is owned and maintained by the city) is not kept up to standard. Sorenson then made recommendation that a policy be developed to improve communication, which defines responsibilities between city administration and library personnel, who report to a board of directors comprised of local volunteers. Sorenson then suggested that the policy should include the following:

- Communication requirements (between city staff and library staff and board).
- Maintenance calendar for the building.
- Cleaning schedule for the building.

Sorenson then made suggestion that the city could do a better job in recognizing the work that volunteers do for and on behalf of the library and thanked the Mayor and Council for their time.

The Mayor thanked Mrs. Sorenson for her attendance at the meeting, support of the library and for presenting the concerns that she shared. He then invited Jack Rapier to come forward to present his request to the Council.

Mr. Rapier then came forward and explained that he desires to build a fence along the side yard of his home near 500 South and 300 West streets. Rapier said that a mature tree exists on the property line between his home and the city-owned right-of-way adjacent to 300 West street. Rapier asked for a variance or permission to move his fence about 6 feet into the right-of-way so that he can still enclose his yard without removing his tree. He said that if street widening or utility placement were ever required with the enclosed area he would be willing to remove the fence. He showed a diagram and photo of the area in question. Rapier said that after being denied permission to construct the fence by the city administration office he went to the city Planning Commission where he was told he would need to seek relief from the city's Appeal Authority or the City Council. After hearing Rapier's request and some brief discussion, Mayor Soper advised Rapier that it appeared his options would be to either remove the tree and place the fence on the property line or appeal the decision by the city offices to the city's Appeal Authority. Rapier said he would like to appeal the decision and was subsequently advised that there is a fee associated with filing an appeal. Kent Barton, City Administrator agreed to make contact with both Rapier and the Appeal Authority to schedule a time to conduct the appeal. Mr. Rapier expressed thanks to the Council for consideration of his request.

Noting that neither Cathy Whitaker nor James Valko were in attendance to address the Council, Mayor Soper then advised that Brent Rasmussen had agreed to serve on the Planning Commission, filling the seat vacated by Mr. Greg Sterner, whose term on the commission recently expired. The Mayor then called for a motion to appoint Brent Rasmussen to the Planning Commission and asked if the Council desired any discussion. After brief discussion expressing support of the proposal to appointment Mr. Rasmussen, Jason Vernon made the motion to appoint Brent Rasmussen to the Planning Commission. Gary Chidester seconded. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Gary Chidester, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The Mayor then stated that the Council needed to consider amending the minutes of the May 17<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and asked Kent Barton to explain the amendment. Barton then explained that one page of the minutes, which contained the presentation of the tentative budget by Barton and subsequent acceptance of the budget by the council, had been inadvertently omitted from the version of the minutes that were placed in the June 12<sup>th</sup> budget for acceptance by motion of the Council. After review of the omitted page and brief discussion, the Mayor called for a motion to amend the minutes of the May 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to include the page previously omitted. Jason Maylett made the motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Gary Chidester, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

The Mayor then directed councilmember to the draft version of the minutes from the previous council meeting and asked if councilmembers noted any corrections. Seeing none, the Mayor called for a motion to accept the minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 council meeting as presented. Vaun Mickelsen made the motion, which was seconded by Gary Chidester. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Gary Chidester, Jason Maylett, Vaun Mickelsen and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

Seeing there was no continuing business, the Mayor asked if any members of the council had items for discussion. Jason Maylett asked if the pothole repairs throughout town had been scheduled. Dale Nielson answered that the repairs would likely occur in September. Maylett pointed out that potholes on 800 North near the entrance to the football stadium parking lot and on 850 North near the cemetery intersection with highway 89 should be added to the list. Soper then added that a drain near the southeast corner of Main Street and 600 South needs to have black top added around it to prevent erosion.

Gary Chidester then reported on the progress of the steering committee called by County Commissioner Steve Lund to explore zoning conflicts around the Manti Ephraim Airport. After going into some background and mistrust that exists between members of the airport board and landowners adjacent to the airport, Chidester stated that Commissioner Lund has recommended that Manti and Ephraim councils determine together what zoning they desire for the airport area, and then come back to the steering committee with a joint proposal. Discussion ensued during which time Jeannie Stressing, a resident of the county who lives near the airport suggested that the airport board is not being honest with their statistics concerning the economic uses of the airport – suggesting that the board chair is drastically overinflating the current economic value of the airport. More discussion ensued and it was agreed that perhaps a joint work meeting between the Manti and Ephraim councils would be a good idea.

Resident Cathi Call, who was in attendance earlier in the meeting with members of the Manti Ladies Literary Club, re-entered the meeting and announced that notice of the meeting had not been provided to the Sanpete Messenger and said the Messenger would expect a recording of the meeting be provided to them. JoAnn Otten, Deputy Recorder, who was present in the meeting, indicated that she believed notice had been provided to the Messenger.

At this point James Valko arrived and asked if he could address the Council, as he had understood that the meeting would start at 6:30 rather than 5:00. The Mayor invited James Valko to address the Council with his concern. Mr. Valko came forward and said the city's animal control official recently told him that he was only allowed a total of no more than 3 cats, and that all of his cats would need to be licensed. Discussion ensued and Valko was advised that while the ordinance does limit residents to 3 cats, the city neither requires or issues cat licenses. More discussion ensued during which time Valko suggested that since his conversation with the animal control officer, some of his cats had been poisoned. Kent Barton told Valko that no city employee or official would ever poison an animal and assured Valko that the city had not poisoned his cats. At various points in the discussion Valko claimed that that he owned one cat and at another point claimed to have 6 cats. He did say that he believes the cats he feeds, which are feral cats that he has spayed or neutered, are beneficial to the neighborhood for rodent control. He also said that he doesn't believe that his cats defecate in his neighbor's yards as was claimed by the animal control official. After additional discussion, the Mayor thanked Mr. Valko for bringing his concern to the Council.

Administrator Kent Barton then reported on the following:

- Referred to a thank you note from resident Scott Mickelson, thanking the volunteer fire department for the recent rapid response to a fire on his property. Barton noted that the note was accompanied by a \$300 donation for the use of equipment for the fire department.
- Gave a brief update on the construction progress of the sports complex and advised the council that after a meeting with the engineer, contractor and sub-contractors involved with the sprinkler system installation and hydro-seeding the decision was made to wait until spring to hydro-seed as it would give the trenched areas more time to properly settle – lessening the chance of uneven playing surfaces. Some discussion ensued and there was consensus that the decision to wait for seeding made sense.
- Reminded the Council of the upcoming Utah League of Cities and Towns annual conference in mid-September.
- Gave an update on the Main Street project including the decision by UDOT that 11 pedestrian ramps were rejected in the final inspection, and were required to be removed and replaced due to the design specs not being followed correctly by the contractor.
- Advised of annual Manti Mountain ATV Run which was sponsored last week on August 17-19, and was a successful event with about 70 enrollees.
- He then noted that he had a personnel matter for discussion in closed session.

At 6:30 p.m., Mayor Soper called for a motion to move into closed session to discuss an issue dealing with personnel. Gary Chidester made the motion, which was seconded by Vaun Mickelsen. The Mayor then called for a vote by roll call with Councilmember Gary Chidester voting “aye”, Councilmember Jason Maylett voting “aye”, Councilmember Vaun Mickelsen

voting “aye” and Councilmember Jason Vernon voting “aye”. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

#### RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

#### General Account

Miller’s Bakery	\$ 78.15
Utah State Treasurer	608.91
Cory Hatch	34.00
Sanpete County Recorder	126.00
Jones & DeMille Engineering	20,926.59
Harward & Rees	247,321.29
Todd Alder	20,425.00
Becky Jewkes	25.00
Miller’s Bakery	62.82
Cory Hatch	141.25
Pam Thomson	136.18
Sanpete County Fireman’s Challenge	500.00
Universal Industrial Supply	1,321.61
Steve Roberts	29.46
Bryan Bies	6.04
Justin Aagard	60.00
PEHP	23,794.14
Trevor Woods	315.00
James Elmer	135.00
Braylen Hunt	135.00
Mountain America Credit Union	465.00

Utah Recovery Systems	150.00
Utah Recovery Systems	180.00
Lynnzie Williams	160.60
Harward & Rees	461,206.95
Jones & DeMille Engineering	29,995.67
Todd Alder	38,475.00
Utah State Tax Commission	11,030.58
Utah Municipal Power Agency	113,345.22
Justin Aagard	40.00
Cory Hatch	189.07
Bankcard Center	13,086.92
Justin Aagard	20.00

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Korry L. Soper

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Kent Barton