**SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, September 3, 2015, 7:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Robert Buckner, Tom Brunner, Stephen & Yvonne Wright, Mike & Carla Nelson, Mike & Jyll Okelberry, Paul Bryner, Joseph Fuchsel, Joan Durfey, Tom Allred, Doug Lowe-Messenger, Cheryl Brewer- Pyramid, Russell Allan, Mark Spencer, Tennessee & Kimberly Stewart, Carl Sedlak, Kent Kummer, Cherrie Barrow, George Olson, Lori Youngblood, Boyd Mickel, Leslie Mickel, Pam Anderson, Dave & Lurlynn Potter, Keith Chandler, Margie Monnett, Fern Law, Michelle Chandler- Recorder  
**Expression of Choice:** Robert Buckner presented a commemoration of Wayne Dyer, on the importance of having love inside instead of hate.  
**Roll Call:** Council Members Keith Coltharp, Neil Sorensen, Doug Durfey, Keith Christison, and Scott Allred; Mayor Jack Monnett.

**Department Reports**

***Council Member Durfey*** A) stated that he has some Minutes posted on the website. B) Reported that he will meet with Utah Valley University on the results of the City Survey, and will present the results in the next City Council meeting. The analyses will be input in the general plan, and there will need to be a public hearing before updating the general plan.

***Council Member Coltharp*** *A)*reported that he is waiting for Janet Hansen’s reply to get her input on repairs of the Hansen Crypt. B) Concerning the audit of the City’s books, Greg Ogden suggested changing the dollar thresholds for the bid-selection process. C) Recommended that the City workers pour the concrete floor on the pitcher’s mound and paint the bleachers. D) Stated progress on the hydro, with zero downtime. E) Presented the monthly financial statements- Utah Public Treasurers’ Investment Fund (PTIF) and General Fund balances. He commented that the budget is a little tighter than in years past. F) Coltharp read a letter stating that, during the Barnes administration, no information concerning the City’s financial condition was given, except during the annual budget hearings where that information was extremely limited. Few people attended the hearing, there was a lack of transparency, and important financial information was withheld. Coltharp’s platform for office was to disclose extensive and detailed financial information monthly in Council, and to take on an oversight role regarding auditing. This year two budget hearings were held, giving detailed financial information to the public. Coltharp commented that the City is in the midst of possible litigation; and, at the advice of the City attorney, cannot release much of its information. He stated that Pam Anderson attended our latest budget hearings, as well as last year’s hearing, and received comprehensive financial data. She has received more transparency and financial disclosure every month by the current administration than during the 8-year Barnes administration where she served four years as a Council member. Anderson stated on KUTV “Get Gephardt” that she just wanted to see the expenses, revenue, and finances of the City. She is a key player in dividing the City, and the Gephardt program was very one-sided. Coltharp closed with expressing that the men on the Council are honorable, and are not there for personal gain. He called to have us stand together and set aside petty differences. *Carl Sedlak* expressed his gratitude that Council Member Coltharp is here with his much-needed professional accounting experience.

***Council Member Sorensen*** reported that: A) the water samples passed. B) The culvert on 9th North and 5th East has been extended and the waterline replaced on Main Street. C) Chip and Seal will occur the first of next week. D) One water pump is down, but two out of three are working. E) We are getting 60 gallons per minute of water from the spring. F) The Fire Department has responded to two fires. We need new volunteer members. G) The Forest Service will have us remove a couple of dead trees at the picnic area, which could be used for a wood fence around the air conditioners at the Old School, instead of chain link, where it’s a historical building. H) The City has spent thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours, responding to public statements and Government Records Access Management Act (GRAMA) requests. We have a job to clean up that was started in the previous administration under Eldon Barnes. Sorenson mentioned that we have dozens of GRAMA requests that take hours to respond to, causing the City to be behind on work coming out of the office. He dropped onto the Council table a large binder of 1,832 photo-copied pages, which contained the response to a single GRAMA request through Gephardt and Pam Anderson. I) On the previous Council, Sorensen didn’t know about the bucket truck and other vehicles purchased. An ambulance was bid out, yet the bids were not opened in a public meeting. Barnes received one bid on two generators, and sold them for $11 apiece. J) Sorensen’s daughter’s boyfriend worked for the City, and that was considered nepotism by the administration. Yet Dahl’s daughter, Alysia, worked in the office directly under her mother’s supervision, and Barnes claimed personal responsibility as a way to get around nepotism. K) Accusations continue to be made against Sorensen using his office for personal gain, despite the State Auditor’s and Attorney General’s offices both clearing him. He first hired Mt. Pleasant in 1978, and has personally paid all invoices. He is not staying silent about the matter any longer, and will bring up all issues publicly in Council. L) Sorensen brought up the issue of the former administration’s use of the City gas card. One statement listed five fuel fill-ups in a personal vehicle on the City’s account. Barnes said he would check with Dahl, and then reported that he authorized the purchases. M) Sorensen was able to purchase a scrap trailer for the City from Federal Surplus, costing $67, which everyone on the Council knew about. Now the City has been able to sell the trailer, through the proper bid process, for $1,900. N) The former administration hired an electrician and gave him one year to get his Journeyman Lineman certification. The City paid for all of his schooling, and three years later he was working for the City and still wasn’t certified. 0) Sorensen responded to accusations of the Monday morning staff meetings being “secret meetings”. The meetings are allowed under State law, and the Council members over the departments are there to guide employees. P) Regarding the “Coyote Chronicles” and other anonymous letters that have split the town, the City has contacted the County Attorney and the State Attorney General’s Office. *Sorensen* added that everything will be dealt with in public, at the okay of the attorneys. ***Mayor Monnett***commented that the things that were brought forth tonight had to be said, as it is important to get the truth out.

***Council Member Christison*** reported that A) The sewers are in good shape. B) The Old School is drying out from water in the basement. C) The Old Firehouse and Daughters of Utah Pioneers (DUP) building are being upgraded, shored up, roofed, and the stone mason has replaced a few stones. To be done are: rewiring by Winona Electric, sealing the stonework and painting. D) According to the sewer ordinance, anyone within 300 feet of the sewer needs to hook up. Christison will get with Jim Bennett to find out who needs to hook up, and discuss it in Council next month. *Carl Sedlak* thanked Christison for his service.

***Council Member Allred*** reported that A) Kevin Thompson, Sports and Recreation Director, will start a co-ed pickle-ball league in town. B) Sign-up sheets for other sports are in City Hall. C) Friends of Historic Spring City (FOHSC) is moving forward with another grant pitch to the Community Impact Board (CIB). *Yvonne Wright* reported on a) The Plein Air art competition. b) Dixie Earl is the chairperson over the School-Bell Run 5K Saturday morning. Proceeds will go toward the Old School restoration. c) Constitution Day starts Thursday, September 17th. d) FOHSC will be painting the pink room at City Hall.

***Mayor Monnett*** commented on the anonymous letters and rumors that if anyone has questions to call the Council, email, or ask the source rather than passing on rumors*. Lori Youngblood* stated that the U.S. Government passed a law that the Constitution should be taught in schools. She reported on the upcoming Constitution Week and classes on the origin and meaning of the Constitution and the proper role of the Supreme Court. *Alan Youngblood* spoke of an upcoming 8-hour seminar,“The Making of America”, which will cost between $10 and $15 per person.

**Open and Award Accounting-Software Bid Proposal**

**Council Member Coltharp** reviewed the need for a new accounting-software provider, as Caselle has been difficult to work with. There was only one bid, Kyle Walker of Pelorus Methods, as Caselle and Pelorus are the only two providers available. Greg Ogden, independent auditor, has recommended the City switch to Pelorus. The conversion will cost $5,000 and will be $900 quarterly for support and maintenance. Caselle was costing $285 per month. Coltharp suggested that the cost should be recovered quickly. He reported that Pelorus maintains over 100 clients in the state, and all were former Caselle clients.

**Motion: Council Member Sorensen motioned to award** the accounting-software bid to Pelorus. **Council Member Durfey seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Intermountain Power Project (IPP) Update and Agreement**

***Kent Kummer,*** Spring City Lineman, explained that the existing Power-Sales Contract with IPP has been in place since 1981, and amendments need to occur. IPP was built by 36 municipalities, 11 co-ops, seven cities from California, and one big investor. Former California Governor Schwarzenegger’s executive order called for no coal in the portfolio by 2017. What we want in the IPP Agreement is for the words ‘natural gas’ to be replaced with ‘alternative fuel’, and to be defined in the amendments. Kummer reported that larger cities had their lawyers look over the agreement, as well as lawyers at Intermountain Power Association (IPA). Beaver, Ephraim, Lehi, Logan, Mt. Pleasant, Price, Parowan, and Bountiful have all signed, and he recommends we sign the amended agreement.

**Motion: Council Member Coltharp motioned to approve** the IPP Update and Agreement.

**Council Member Sorensen seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Grant Searches**

***Cherrie Barrow*** identified for the Council the problem concerning grant searches as being project maturity; funds need to be set aside to match grants. Barrow explained that sidewalks are a liability, and we should try Six County Association of Governments for sidewalk grants. She expressed the need for community support in the grant process. Barrow stated that low and moderate-income housing needs to be addressed. She suggested working with Kevin Christensen of Sanpete County Economic Development, who reported that our greatest resource and potential is that we are a national historic city and should develop a site for visitors. Grant money is available for the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA), and Christensen and Monte Bona want to help us. The DUP Spring Monument would be our biggest draw, as well as the DUP Museum and the Old Firehouse could have kiosks with historical information. *Doug Lowe* of the Sanpete Messenger reported that a $10,000 grant was awarded to Ephraim from the MPNHA. In discussing signage, **Council Member Allred** stated that there is $10,000 in the budget for signs that we could match. He reported that John Stevens has the digital designs for signs prepared. *Carl Sedlak* brought up the Department of Agriculture’s Rural Energy Program with grants for those in agricultural businesses.

**Improvement of Area Surrounding Spring Monument**

**George Olson,** architect, volunteered to help design the improvements to the area surrounding the DUP Spring Monument. He created the digital graphics showing the landscaping, pavers, sidewalk, and patio area on the north end of the Sinclair station, to tie into the monument and stay within the historic designation. **Council Member Coltharp** stated that Don Thompson owns the Sinclair station, and Deborah Dahl, Manager, will present to him any painting and improvements they will need to take care of. *Joan Durfey* reported that she has a paper from the Division of Water Rights stating the owners of the Stoddard Ditch, and it is unfair to give water free from the spring while residents pay for water. She also mentioned that the spigot used to be lower so that only a small amount of water could be taken. Durfey reported other issues at the spring such as more people there late at night, no public restroom, parking issues. *Kimberly Stewart* noted that the monument already exists and is on City property; it is simply a matter of beautification and is an asset to the City. **Council Member Durfey** clarified that the area is deeded to the City, all the way to the property line, and is a public right-of-way.

**Safe Routes to School**

**Council Member Durfey** reported that the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) has $2 million in total grants for the State. Durfey and Mayor Monnett met with Principal John Thomas, and it was determined that sidewalks would be the most beneficial for safe access to the school. The plan is to extend the sidewalk on 4th East and construct sidewalk on 5th East. Jim Bennett and Council Members Durfey and Sorensen will go to the school next week and estimate materials costs. If materials are higher than our estimate, we have to cover the costs. UDOT will handle the bids. *Pam Anderson* suggested looking into electronic, flashing speed sign.

**Spring City Citizen-Corps Report**

**Keith Chandler** has started contacting those who are Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained in our area. He reported that there are over fifty people trained in town, and he is planning a meeting so they can interface. He also announced a Harvest Festival on October 10th that won’t come out of the budget; it is all volunteer. There will be skills demonstrations such as iron smithing, a potluck dinner, pumpkin carving and the Stewart’s wagon.

**Public Comments**

*Robert Buckner* reported that FOHSC will conduct a volunteer effort on Saturday, September 19th to prep and paint the Senior Citizens’ Room. Alison Anderson will bring framed prints of historic buildings to hang. *Boyd Mickel* commented that there are stray dogs in town, and he is putting up snares and will shoot them. Mickel also commented on households without sewer. He cited the Algiers, and added that the County Health Department gave permission to Dave Allred and Duane Allen (between 2002 and 2006) to put in septic tanks and not require sewer hookups unless there is a problem. ***Council Members Sorensen and Christison*** commented that it goes against the ordinance. *Joan Durfey* added that anyone who is within 300 feet of the sewer line must comply, but Eldon Barnes required it of his neighbors without being in compliance himself. She added that there are grants available to help. *Yvonne Wright* commented on the upcoming Primary Election and her concern of rumors being spread without proof. She wanted facts about whether former mayor Eldon Barnes, who is running for City Council, is complying with the ordinance concerning sewer hookup, and submitted a GRAMA request for the information. She received a copy of the sewer ordinance, which requires connection within 60 days when the sewer is within 300 feet of the owner’s property line. She cited Utah Code 10-8-38, which gives Spring City the right to shut off the water from the premises until the person has hooked up to the sewer at their own expense. She commented that Barnes took office in 2004. Aaron Hooper moved in and payed $6,300 for sewer hookup, which brought the system within 300 feet of Barnes’ property. At City Council Meeting on March 15, 2007, the sewer extension and letters from concerned citizens about sewer hookups were on the agenda. Wright has concerns about an individual being elected to the Council who is not willing to abide by the ordinances. *Carl Sedlak* questioned why the BYU Capstone Project was not on the agenda, and **Mayor Monnett** responded that it needs to come through the Power-Advisory Board. Sedlak stated the Council should consider a line item in the budget for grant matching funds. **Council Member Coltharp** replied that we cannot arbitrarily put unidentified items in the budget. He added that we can hold a public hearing anytime we need to and go through a budget amendment. Sedlak reported that the Power Board had its first meeting, wherein George Kenzy agreed to be chairman. **Council Member Durfey** commented that the Council has bent over backwards to allow public comments, when it is actually the Council’s meeting. *Dave Potter* appreciates the openness of the City and their transparency. He commented that the reality is that we are a small city with a small budget and limited resources, but are doing a wonderful job. *Kimberly Stewart* said that we haven’t had a grant writer before, and should direct our efforts toward where we have funds. *Pam Anderson* stated that she spoke with Dixie Earl, City Treasurer, in July and had found the previous dog-licensing resolution. She wants her refund now in cash or a check, as does Leslie Mickel and Vickie Mickel. *Tennessee Stewart* requested safety cones on Main Street during the Art Festival, and will get with Jim Bennett.

**Approval of Minutes  
Council Member Christison motioned to approve** the amended minutes of March 18, 2015. **Council Member Durfey seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Council Member Durfey motioned to approve** the minutes of August 20, 2015, as amended. **Council Member Christison seconded the motion. All were in favor.**Council Member Durfey requested that the minutes every month be combined in one PDF for the website. Council Member Allred asked that the July minutes be on the agenda for approval.

**Payment of Bills  
Council Member Coltharp motioned to accept** the payment of billsas of last Council meeting.  **Council Member Sorensen seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Adjournment  
Council Member Coltharp motioned to** adjourn at 9:45 pm.

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|  | Michelle Chandler Spring City Recorder |