

Minutes of the
BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL
July 11, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Official notice of the City Council Meeting was given by posting an agenda at City Hall and on the Bountiful City Website and the Utah Public Notice Website and by providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: Davis County Journal and Standard Examiner.

Fiber Open House – 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Present:	Mayor Pro Tem	Jesse Bell
	Councilmembers	Millie Segura Bahr, Kate Bradshaw, Richard Higginson, Cecilee Price-Huish
	City Manager	Gary Hill
	Asst. City Manager	Galen Rasmussen
	City Engineer	Lloyd Cheney
	City Attorney	Clinton Drake
	Finance Director	Tyson Beck
	IT Director	Greg Martin
	Water Director	Kraig Christensen
	Streets Director	Charles Benson
	Police Chief	Ed Biehler
	City Recorder	Shawna Andrus
	Recording Secretary	Maranda Hilton
Excused:	Mayor	Kendalyn Harris

Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Bell called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

BOUNTIFUL FIBER OPEN HOUSE

Mr. Gary Hill presented information about the Bountiful Fiber Project then opened the meeting up for questions at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was closed at 6:59 p.m.

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Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Present:	Mayor Pro Tem	Jesse Bell
	Councilmembers	Millie Segura Bahr, Jesse Bell, Kate Bradshaw, Richard Higginson, Cecilee Price-Huish
	City Manager	Gary Hill
	Asst. City Manager	Galen Rasmussen
	City Engineer	Lloyd Cheney
	City Attorney	Clinton Drake
	IT Director	Greg Martin
	Streets Director	Charles Benson
	Water Director	Kraig Christensen
	Parks Director	Brock Hill
	Police Chief	Ed Biehler
	Assistant Police Chief	Dave Edwards
	Police Lieutenant	Andrew Smith
	Police Lieutenant	David Gill
	City Recorder	Shawna Andrus
	Recording Secretary	Maranda Hilton
Excused:	Mayor	Kendalyn Harris

WELCOME, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND THOUGHT/PRAYER

Mayor Pro Tem Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Ms. Lexi Bell and Mr. Lincoln Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Ms. Emi Hellewell, Bountiful Central Stake Young Women President, offered a prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public comment section was opened at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Gary Davis (2814 South 500 West) reported on the success of the annual 24-hour field day event for HAM Radio operators. There will be another event on August 12 at the park next to the library in Centerville. He invited everyone to come attend the pancake breakfast and see what the radio operators can do.

Ms. Joyce Vitalo (1857 South 400 East) raised her concerns about a neighbor’s home that does not fit into the neighborhood.

Ms. Denise Egbert (1866 Oakmont Drive) echoed Ms. Vitalo’s concerns about the same home.

Mr. Steve Meyer (460 East Spring Creek Drive) expressed his appreciation for City employees for responding so quickly to water and street disasters. He told the Council that they should be very proud of those crews.

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2 The public comment section was closed at 7:11 p.m.
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4 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD JUNE 27, 2023**

5 Councilmember Bradshaw made a motion to approve the minutes and Councilmember Price-
6 Huish seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw,
7 Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
8

9 **COUNCIL REPORTS**

10 Councilmember Bradshaw reported that the SDRD Board voted to propose a 125% tax
11 increase, and it passed five votes to three. She said that she and the representatives from Woods Cross
12 and Centerville voted against it. She wanted everyone to be aware that there will be a Truth in
13 Taxation hearing about it and encouraged people to attend and to make their voices heard.

14 Councilmember Price-Huish reported that the BDAC had a successful Summerfest in June,
15 and that there are many fun classes and events still upcoming. Notably there will be a family art night
16 on July 31.

17 Councilmember Bahr thanked Councilmember Bradshaw for her work on the SDRD Board.

18 Councilmember Higginson thanked his fellow Councilmembers for the representation they
19 give to Bountiful on the various boards and committees they sit on. He also reminded everyone that
20 they can call and have the mosquito abatement district spray for free at their homes this summer.

21 Mayor Pro Tem Bell reminded everyone that the Handcart Days parade will begin at 9:00
22 a.m. on Saturday and fireworks will be that evening. He thanked all of the volunteers who make
23 Handcart Days possible. He also reported that the Summer Concert series is ongoing on Friday nights
24 at 400 North Park.
25

26 **BCYC REPORT**

27 No report was given.
28

29 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF:**

30 **A. EXPENDITURES GREATER THAN \$1,000 PAID JUNE 19 & 26, 2023**

31 **B. MAY 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT**

32 Councilmember Higginson made a motion to approve the expenditures paid June 19 &
33 26, 2023, and Councilmember Bahr seconded the motion. The motion passed with
34 Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”

35 Councilmember Higginson made a motion to approve the May 2023 financial report
36 and Councilmember Bahr seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers
37 Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
38

39 **RECOGNITION OF MS. KATHY LOVOI – CHIEF ED BIEHLER**

40 Chief Ed Biehler explained that Ms. Kathy Lovoi recently retired from the Police Department
41 after giving 35 years of service to Bountiful. He said that she sacrificed a lot and showed true
42 dedication to the department and helped train three police chiefs, including himself. He said he owes
43 her a debt of gratitude for everything she did for him personally and for all of the Police Department
44 employees.

45 Ms. Lovoi expressed how grateful she was for the opportunity she was given to work at the
46 Police Department. She also thanked the Council for their unwavering support of the police officers

1 which has been felt and appreciated by everyone there. She told the Council that the leadership at the
2 Police Department is fantastic and it has been great to watch Chief Biehler take over and get his team
3 assembled.

4 Mayor Pro Tem Bell thanked Ms. Lovoi and expressed his gratitude for her years of service.

5
6 **CONSIDER PRELIMINARY AND FINAL APPROVAL FOR THE HEALING GARDEN**
7 **PLAT A OF THE BOUNTIFUL CEMETERY – MR. LLOYD CHENEY**

8 Mr. Lloyd Cheney explained that the healing garden at the cemetery is an option for those
9 who choose to be cremated and have their urn placed in a permanent location, like a granite boulder
10 or a bench, etc. He said that Plat A is laid out much like a subdivision plat, it simply applies to burials
11 instead of homes. Cemetery staff will keep a record of each improvement in each of the lots and who
12 is using them. Mr. Cheney said that they believe 225 spaces is a conservative number, that it will
13 probably yield more than that.

14 Councilmember Price-Huish said she thinks it has been done so beautifully and thoughtfully
15 and shared her appreciation of the Parks and Cemetery Staff who worked on this.

16 Mr. Cheney gave credit to Mr. Brock Hill who is a landscape architect and put a lot of time
17 and energy into designing this garden.

18 Councilmember Price-Huish made a motion to grant preliminary and final approval for the
19 healing garden Plat A at the cemetery and Councilmember Bahr seconded the motion. The motion
20 passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”

21
22 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF AN INTERNATIONAL HX CAB AND**
23 **CHASSIS FROM THE BOUNTIFUL CITY LANDFILL AND A 16’ DUMP BODY FROM**
24 **WILLIAMSEN-GODWIN TRUCK BODY COMPANY IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF**
25 **\$197,551 – MR. KRAIG CHRISTENSEN**

26 Mr. Kraig Christensen explained that the Water Department budget for this year included the
27 purchase of a dump truck replacement. The Landfill had purchased a truck, but it did not have enough
28 power to meet their needs so they offered it to the Water Department. The Water Department agreed
29 to take it and then got two bids for dump beds. The low bid was from Williamsen-Godwin Truck
30 Body Company. Staff recommends approving the purchase from the landfill and from Williamsen-
31 Godwin for the dump truck replacement.

32 Councilmember Bradshaw offered her kudos to the department heads who coordinated with
33 one another so well to save the City money and find needed vehicles when it can be difficult to do so.

34 Councilmember Bradshaw made a motion to approve the purchases for a truck and dump
35 body and Councilmember Higginson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers
36 Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”

37
38 **PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF**
39 **SALES TAX REVENUE BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$47 MILLION TO**
40 **FINANCE ALL OR A PORTION OF THE COST OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING AND**
41 **IMPROVING A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK IN BOUNTIFUL CITY – MR. GALEN**
42 **RASMUSSEN**

43 Mr. Galen Rasmussen explained that a public hearing must be held to receive input regarding
44 the issuance of sales tax bonds prior to them being issued. No other action is required beyond holding
45 the hearing.

1 The public hearing was opened at 7:34 p.m.
2

3 Mr. Ray Naud (144 Viewcrest Circle) voiced his concern that fiber optic technology will
4 become outdated and make this city-wide project obsolete. He also said he feels other providers can
5 provide fast enough internet speeds to meet the needs of residents. He said he would like the bond to
6 be on the ballot, even as a non-binding advisory question.
7

8 Mr. Scott Bradshaw (24 East 1400 South) said that he had UTOPIA fiber when he lived in
9 Centerville and that it was great. He is excited to have it in Bountiful because he thinks those speeds
10 are needed by the residents.
11

12 Mr. Jay Holt (132 W Sterling Drive) said that he feels fiber is the best solution, because 5G
13 wireless providers will get saturated and slower if everyone tries to use them. He said that UTOPIA is
14 the best option and he does not want to see any more delays with this project, especially because
15 every city surrounding Bountiful already has fiber. He said he feels the Utah Taxpayers Association
16 is misleading people with their petition and that it is wrong.
17

18 Mr. Steve Meyer (460 East Spring Creek Drive) said he believes having Bountiful own the
19 fiber network is a great asset for the City and its residents and that not having fiber in Bountiful is a
20 disadvantage to property owners here. He believes Bountiful has the experience necessary to run it.
21 He said he hopes it does not get delayed any further because he knows how important that time-value
22 of money is.
23

24 Mr. Vaun Andrus (2238 Penman Lane) said that he is happy to defer to the wisdom of the
25 City Council members on this issue because they are the best ones to make an informed decision. He
26 said he has been satisfied with their research of and their approach to the issue. He voiced his concern
27 about misinformation being spread by signature gatherers.
28

29 Mr. Paul Child (69 Viewcrest Circle) expressed his concern that the fiber network will
30 become a “dinosaur” and the City and its residents will be saddled with the debt. He asked the
31 Council to be cautious and to consider if the network will last longer than the bond.
32

33 Mr. Jason Holt (3233 South 75 East) said he finds it shameful that Century Link only
34 provides fiber to some houses. He said that he uses it and it works really well, but that he plans on
35 switching to Bountiful Fiber once it becomes available. He feels that the Utah Taxpayers Association
36 is clearly a lobbyist group and they do not represent him. He thinks Bountiful Fiber carries the
37 promise of universal availability, and he would like to make the current providers actually compete
38 for customers.
39

40 Ms. Holly Keddington (122 Viewcrest Drive) expressed her appreciation for the Utah
41 Taxpayers Association for raising awareness and trying to put the bond on the ballot. She said she
42 should have a say in the biggest bond the City has issued in 65 years, because it will affect her taxes.
43 She expressed her concern that only 40% of homes will subscribe to Bountiful Fiber, but that if the
44 majority of the people want it, they can vote for it on the ballot. She also said she does not feel
45 Bountiful has the experience to run a fiber network.
46

1 Ms. Connie Hadden (1821 Oakmont Drive) thanked the Utah Taxpayers Association for
2 helping give her a chance to vote on the bond. She advised waiting another year or so for interest
3 rates to go down. She said she feels a fiber internet network is a want, not a need. She feels there are
4 plenty of providers in town who offer internet for less than the fiber network will cost people and she
5 hopes people will vote no on the bond.
6

7 Mr. Ike Bradshaw (36 East 1400 South) said he is currently lucky enough to have fiber
8 internet and that it is wonderful. He said he feels Bountiful City is good at looking toward the future
9 and that they are doing so now, investing in a smart thing. He expressed his trust of the City Council
10 and said he got a vote when he voted for them.
11

12 Ms. Linda Child (69 Viewcrest Circle) said that the bond is concerning to her because there
13 are still many cities who are obligated to pay UTOPIA Fiber millions of dollars from many years ago
14 when they failed to get the subscription rate they needed to pay for the network.
15

16 Mr. Rusty Cannon (President, Utah Taxpayers Association) said that they have been fighting
17 against UTOPIA and government-owned fiber networks for over 20 years. He stated that their
18 opposition to this project is based solely on the risk to taxpayers and is in keeping with their core
19 principle that “government should never be in the business of business.” He disputed the claim that
20 they are swayed by big businesses or “dark money”. He said there has been no secret agenda or effort
21 to mislead people about the petition. He asserted that there is a way for cities to put revenue bonds on
22 the ballot and that it was done just last year in Kaysville for their fiber network bond. Taxpayers
23 voted it down and now a private company is building a network there. He still feels there is a risk in
24 this project, and if the take rate is insufficient, the general fund will be drained paying for the debt for
25 the next 30 years. He said that this will be on the ballot in November. He feels government owned
26 broadband networks have inherent flaws that limit their success.
27

28 Mr. Nathan Long (945 East 500 South) said that he does not have anything against fiber, it is
29 not antiquated or on its way out, but he does not think government should be involved in it. He feels
30 residents should not be burdened down with a government-sponsored program when they don’t want
31 to use it. Government should not step in and drive private companies out of business. He feels that if
32 the City feels that good about it, they should let the residents have a vote.
33

34 Ms. Brooke Freebairn (400 East) expressed her desire to see the project come to fruition and
35 asked people to please consider their neighbors who do not currently have access to fiber internet.
36 She feels that community means helping your neighbors have their needs met. She said there are big
37 issues for many residents whose needs are not being met. She said she believes the Council has done
38 their due diligence and they have made a good decision.
39

40 Mr. Gary Davis (2814 South 500 West) expressed his support of the fiber project.
41

42 The public hearing was closed at 8:12 p.m.
43

44 Mr. Gary Hill commented on some of the statements that were made. He said there is no
45 authorizing language in state law to place the revenue bond on the ballot, but that there is an option to
46 put a non-binding opinion question on the ballot. He said that just because Kaysville did it, does not

1 mean it was legal for them to do that. Mr. Hill said that the City anticipates needing a 35% take rate
2 to break even, but that they feel very comfortable they can achieve a higher take rate than that. He
3 said that the City Council has talked repeatedly about the risks involved if the take rate is not met;
4 there will be a general fund to pay for the investment, but once 35% is achieved the City will pay
5 itself back. It is not free from risk, but neither was the power plant or the landfill or Town Square.

6 Mr. Hill said that since 2009, no bonding done by UIA (UTOPIA) has required any tax
7 dollars to pay for it. The original UTOPIA cities used a different method that simply did not work.
8 After 2009 they switched their model and every city since then has seen high enough take rates for
9 the projects to pay for themselves. The Council was very skeptical of using UTOPIA at the start of
10 the process, but now they feel very confident that they will be the best partner.

11 Mr. Jason Burningham was invited to explain more about those pre-2009 cities who are still
12 indebted to UTOPIA. He explained that UTOPIA is now building them out and they are starting to
13 catch up and move toward self-sustainability.

14 Councilmember Bradshaw thanked everyone who came to the meeting and spoke both in
15 favor of or against the project, and to all who sent emails and texts and who called. She said she feels
16 the Council owes the people an accounting of how they conduct themselves and how they use the
17 taxpayers' assets. She feels the Councilmembers are the beneficiaries of the people who served
18 before them and must be good stewards for the people who will serve after them. She expressed her
19 gratitude for the people who thought to build the power plant and the landfill and the trails and parks,
20 etc. She said she looks forward to this fiber network being completed and that it will be a great asset
21 to the City of Bountiful. She then invited everyone to seek good and accurate information, saying
22 they can always call or text her.

23 Councilmember Bell expressed his appreciation for his colleagues and the time they have
24 spent debating and discussing this project. He said that above all, they want service that is reliable
25 and accessible to everyone. He said he hopes they will be able to move forward on it soon.

26
27 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 624 P-TIER HIGH**
28 **LIFT LOADER FROM HONNEN EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,377 – MR.**
29 **CHARLES BENSON**

30 Mr. Charles Benson explained that the Streets Department needs to replace one of its loaders.
31 The loaders are critical to operations year-round but especially for loading the trucks during snow-
32 plow season. The new loader can lift about a foot higher than the older models, which is nice to have
33 because the new trucks are higher as well. The Streets Department plans to keep the 2015 loader as a
34 backup and sell the 2000 loader at auction. This purchase is part of the 10-year capital plan for
35 equipment replacement and is recommended by staff.

36 Councilmembers Higginson and Price-Huish both thanked Mr. Benson for keeping this
37 purchase within budget.

38 Councilmember Price-Huish made a motion to approve the purchase of the loader from
39 Honnen Equipment and Councilmember Higginson seconded the motion. The motion passed with
40 Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”

41
42 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A ONE-TON DUMP TRUCK CHASSIS**
43 **AND BODY FROM YOUNG CHEVROLET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$63,956 – MR.**
44 **CHARLES BENSON**

1 Mr. Benson explained that it is also time to replace one of the one-ton service trucks with a
2 dump body. He said they had a hard time finding one, but Young Chevrolet had one that will work at
3 an excellent price. This purchase is part of the 10-year capital plan and is under budget as well.

4 Councilmember Higginson made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck body and
5 chassis and Councilmember Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed with
6 Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
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8 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A GLOBAL V6AIR VACUUM**
9 **SWEeper TRUCK FROM DAWSON INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS IN THE**
10 **AMOUNT OF \$354,606 – MR. CHARLES BENSON**

11 Mr. Benson explained that street sweeping is one of the vital clean-up functions of the City,
12 but wear-and-tear on the equipment is overwhelming. They requested quotes from several
13 manufacturers but only received one viable quote back from Dawson Infrastructure Solutions. The
14 Streets Department currently has another Global sweeper and Mr. Benson said it performs well and
15 has been a good piece of equipment for them.

16 Councilmember Price-Huish asked what the life expectancy is for the sweepers. Mr. Benson
17 said they feel fortunate to get five or six years out of them.

18 Councilmember Bradshaw made a motion to approve the purchase of the sweeper and
19 Councilmember Higginson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr,
20 Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
21

22 **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL FROM ALL STAR STRIPING FOR THE**
23 **2023 PAVEMENT STRIPING CONTRACT AT THE UNIT PRICES NOTED IN THE BID**
24 **TABULATION – MR. LLOYD CHENEY**

25 Mr. Lloyd Cheney explained that the City stripes about 19 miles of roadway every year. The
26 City has used All Star Striping in the past and staff is happy they were the low bid this year.

27 Councilmember Price-Huish noted that the striping this year will also be for the active
28 transportation lanes on Bountiful Boulevard, which is exciting.

29 Councilmember Bradshaw made a motion to approve the proposal from All Star Striping and
30 Councilmember Price-Huish seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr,
31 Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
32

33 **CONSIDER PURCHASE OF “DAD” THE DRAGON FROM THE ARTIST IN THE**
34 **AMOUNT OF \$30,600 – MR. GARY HILL**

35 Mr. Gary Hill explained that the dragon statue currently sitting in Town Square on lease has
36 received a warm welcome from the residents, so it is being proposed that the City purchase the statue.
37 The purchase price is \$30,600.

38 Councilmember Bradshaw expressed her support of the purchase.

39 Councilmember Price-Huish asked if Mr. Hill would explain the public art fund to everyone
40 briefly.

41 Mr. Hill said that the Council adopted a policy a few years ago that allocates 1% of all capital
42 fund projects to go toward public art. The current balance is about \$130,000, and it has been a great
43 way to slowly accrue money for art around town.

44 Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve the purchase of “Dad” the dragon and
45 Councilmember Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr,
46 Bell, Bradshaw, Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”

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2 **ADJOURN**
3 Councilmember Higginson made a motion to adjourn the regular session and Councilmember
4 Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Bradshaw,
5 Higginson and Price-Huish voting “aye.”
6
7 The regular session was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.
8


Kendalyn Harris, Mayor


City Recorder