

MINUTES OF THE HELPER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, October 19, 2023
at 6:00 p.m.
in the Council Chambers
19 South Main Street
Helper, Utah 84526

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Lenise Peterman

Council Members:

David Dornan
Michelle Goldsmith
Gary Harwood
Malarie DeVincent
Amanda Wheeler – Absent

City Staff:

City Recorder: Zack Tonic

Citizens: Olivia Dudding, Joelle Amaya, Aurelio Rodriguez, Bradley Marston, Marilou Kundmueller, Travis Wilson, and DJ Romero.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 5, 2023.

Council Member DeVincent moved to approve minutes from October 5, 2023. Council Member Harwood seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, DeVincent, and Harwood all voted yes.

DISCUSSION ABOUT JANET ST. UNDERPASS WITH BRADLEY MARSTON.

Bradley Marston introduced himself and asked the council for their support in fixing the Janet St. Underpass. His background is in risk management. Bradley Marston would like to work on making Janet St. Underpass safe for all residents in Helper. He

suggests having an engineering analysis done on the Janet St. Underpass and forming a committee to make it safe. He has concerns with the chemicals and fuels that are shipped on the rails, if the structure of the underpass is compromised a derailment could remove Helper from the map.

Mayor Peterman responded the State's Historic Architect came down and evaluated the underpass. The hope was that we could get the underpass deemed a historic landmark, and UP shut it down. When the architect evaluated the underpass he did not seem concerned with the structure of the underpass. Mayor Peterman asked Bradley Marston how much would an engineering analysis cost.

Bradley Marston stated an engineering analysis would cost about \$5,000 to \$8,000. The analysis would be a good place to start. Then reach out to UP and see what we can do in partnership with them.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT OF OLIVIA DUDDING AS THE POET LAUREATE.

Mayor Peterman stated we started a Poet Laureate program and then COVID hit and the program went on hold. She would like to present Olivia Dudding Rodriguez for appointment as the Poet Laureate.

Olivia Dudding Rodriguez introduced herself and her poetry background. She answered questions from the council concerning her poetry background.

Council Member Goldsmith moved to approve the appointment of Olivia Dudding Rodriguez as the Poet Laureate. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, DeVinent, and Harwood all voted yes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF PURCHASING LIGHTS FOR NEW TRUCKS.

Mayor Peterman asked DJ Romero to speak on the new lights. DJ Romero stated the new trucks need to have caution safety lights on them, and this is the best quote he was able to find.

Council Member Harwood moved to approve purchasing lights for \$2,500 for each of the two new trucks. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the

council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, DeVincent, and Harwood all voted yes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A \$1.50 RAISE FOR BILLIE HEILESEN.

City Recorder Tong stated he is proposing a raise for Billie Heilesen. The wage increase is to bring up the starting pay in the office.

Council Member Goldsmith moved to approve a \$1.50 raise for Billie Heilesen. Council Member DeVincent seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, DeVincent, and Harwood all voted yes.

VIBES SEASON REVIEW.

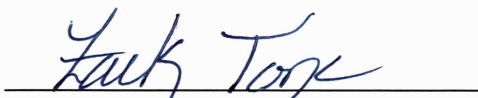
The agenda item was skipped.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Council Member DeVincent moved to adjourn. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, DeVincent, and Harwood all voted yes.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Helper City Council meeting held on Thursday, October 19, 2023.


Lenise Peterman
Mayor


Zack Tong
City Recorder

Approved on November 2, 2023