

**MINUTES OF THE HELPER CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**  
**in the Council Chambers**  
**19 South Main Street**  
**Helper, Utah 84526**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Lenise Peterman

**Council Members:**

David Dornan  
Robert Olson  
John Serfustini-Absent  
Cole Stapley  
Edward Chavez

**City Staff:**

City Recorder: Zack Tonc  
Deputy Recorder: Melissa Parker

**Citizens:** Gary Burnham, Charlene Burnham, Roman Vega, Hollie Stapley and Joelle Amaya.

**Public Comment:**

No public comments.

**COMMENT FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD**

City Recorder Tonc stated that they decided not to make a comment, at this time.

**DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE VIBES SEASONS.**

Kim Kuehn joined via telephone, Kim Kuehn stated she is looking for a proposal to have a contract with Helper City. She stated some sponsors for Helper Vibes like to know if there is a contract in place. Council Member Dornan stated that he has a hard time signing a 10-year contract, he did not want to burden future Council Members or Mayors with a commitment this Council has made. Kim Kuehn stated that any event of this magnitude needs some stability, she would like the stability to say "We are on Main Street for 5 years". Most cities have signed a 4-5-year contract, Council Member Dornan asked why there is a need for a 10-year contract this year, but not last year. Kim Kuehn stated sponsors like to know that their investment is true, with the knowledge that they will not be canceled. Kim Kuehn stated the contracts are just solidifying the dates, times, and venue of the event. Council Member Dornan asked if a 2-year contract would be acceptable to Kim Kuehn. Council Member Robert Olson asked if 3-5 years would be a reasonable agreement, Kim Kuehn stated she is looking at 4-5 years. Council Member

Dornan stated a critical thing for him is that Kim Kuehn is in charge of Helper Vibes, if she leaves the contract would be null and void. Council Member Stapley asked Kim Keuhn to speak to the economic value and impact it has brought to Helper. Kim Keuhn stated when you bring people to Main Street, we are utilizing all the Main Street businesses, all the Airbnb's, all of our hotels, marketing Helper not only regionally but statewide. Council Member Stapley asked if we could add a clause in the contract that states after 2 years we would like to reevaluate and renegotiate.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENTS.**

Mayor Peterman stated that Jean Boyack has decided to exit Planning and Zoning, Dixie Marvidikis has served as the vice-chair for the last several years and has agreed to move into the role as Chair, Gary Burnham will be the vice-chair, CJ McManus will replace Jean Boyack on the Planning and Zoning board.

Council Member Chavez moved to approve the possible appointments to the Planning and Zoning Board. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>   | <u>No</u>    | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |              |              |               |

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF LOCAL CONSENT FOR MYSTERY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM ON APRIL 13, 2024.**

Hollie Stapley stated she is a member of the Museum Board, she would like consent to apply for a beer/liquor license for the Night at The Museum Event on April 13, 2024. Museum Director Vega stated that last year at this event they made over \$2500 dollars, his hope for this year is the money they make this year be used to finish the HVAC that was started last year, they need \$3000 dollars to finish that.

Council Member Dornan moved to give consent for Mystery Night at The Museum to obtain a beer/liquor license. Council Member Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>   | <u>No</u>    | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |              |              |               |

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF LOCAL CONSENT FOR BALANCE ROCK EATERY & PUB FOR A MURDER MYSTERY DINNER.**

Mayor Peterman stated Cindi asked if she needed to be present, and Mayor Peterman told Cindi she did not need to be present. Council Member Chavez asked if Cindi did this last year, Council Member Dornan stated it was all done within Balance Rock, and Mayor Peterman stated it is done on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Council Member Chavez moved to approve the local consent for Balance Rock Eatery & Pub for a Murder Mystery Dinner. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>   | <u>No</u>    | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |              |              |               |

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2024-03 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING UAMPS MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE.**

Mayor Peterman stated she has selected Public Works Co-Director Romero and Public Works Co-Director Hansen as our UAMPS representatives. Council Member Dornan stated UAMPS would like to provide us power when or if our contract with Rocky Mountain Power expires.

Council Member Chavez moved to approve resolution 2024-03 a resolution appointing UAMPS member representatives. Council Member Stapley seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>   | <u>No</u>    | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |              |              |               |

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING LCWF GRANT FOR LOCUST STREET PARK.**

Mayor Peterman stated last year Michelle Goldsmith applied for this grant, and we recently found out it was awarded for \$50, 0000, unfortunately, it requires a match of funding. As of today, Michelle

Goldsmith does not have the cash match or the in-kind match. Mayor Peterman stated this is the same grant that the City Council approved to go after to redo the plaster at the pool and replace bleachers at Gardner Field. Council Member Olson asked what the pricing for the bleachers, windscreen, and plastering of the pool, Mayor Peterman said it is a \$204,000 project.

Council Member Chavez moved to approve resolution 2024-03 a resolution appointing UAMPS member representatives. Council Member Stapley seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>   | <u>No</u>    | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>     | <u>_____</u> | <u>_____</u>  |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |              |              |               |

**DISCUSSION OF PAY INCREASES AND THE ADOPTION OF AN APPROPRIATE PAY SCALE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

Mayor Peterman stated Council Member Stapley has been collecting information, Council Member Stapley stated he asked for information and received a lot in one area and not enough in other areas. Council Member Stapley stated he would like to look at the Carbon County total compensation package, to get those numbers. Helper City currently pays 100% of benefits for the Police Department, other police departments do not pay the full 100%. Mayor Peterman stated she spoke to Carbon County and got some numbers from them. She will speak to Wellington City as well and would get the numbers from their PD as well. Council Member Stapley stated they are still gathering information and would like more time for fact-finding.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED PERSONNEL POLICY WITH APPROPRIATE CHANGES.**

Mayor Peterman stated she does not think the Council is ready to adopt the policy, she wanted to know if there was any feedback from Council. Council Member Stapley asked if everyone is being drug tested and if we are paying for it. City Recorder Tonc stated, that all full-time employees are drug tested, and have a background check done. He also stated Helper City does a background check on part-time employees as well because it doesn't cost Helper City to do them. Council Member Chavez stated he would like to see in the policy, that random drug screening be added. Council Member Stapley said it was built into the policy, City Recorder Tonc stated we are not currently doing random testing. City Recorder Tonc stated he would like the Council to decide what increments that sick and vacation time can be used. Council Members stated they think leaving it at hour increments is the best for the employees. City Recorder Tonc also questioned which code for PER DIEM they would like to use, he stated the IRS code is the easiest code to use, and Council Members decided the IRS code is what should be used. City Recorder Tonc suggested changing the Police Department Holiday pay schedule, he stated

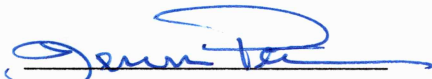
that the police department is currently paid 12 hours of holiday pay, if they work on the holiday they get paid their 12 hours of regular pay and 12 hours of holiday pay for the same day. Council Member Stapley asked Sargent Draper if he thought the Police Department would like to have the pay or have an extra floating day to use at a later date, Sargent Draper stated with the Police Department being so small, it is hard to take time off. Council Member Stapley asked Sargent Draper how he felt about moving 4 of their sick days to PTO, Sargent Draper and Public Works Co-Director Hansen said they would prefer that.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Council Member Chavez moved to adjourn. Council Member Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows:

| <u>Council Member</u> | <u>Yes</u>    | <u>No</u>     | <u>Absent</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Dornan</u>         | <u>X</u>      | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |
| <u>Olson</u>          | <u>X</u>      | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |
| <u>Serfustini</u>     | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | <u>X</u>      |
| <u>Stapley</u>        | <u>X</u>      | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |
| <u>Chavez</u>         | <u>X</u>      | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |
| <u>Motion passed</u>  |               |               |               |

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Helper City Council meeting held on Thursday, February 28, 2024.

  
 Lenise Peterman  
 Mayor

  
 Zack Tonic  
 City Recorder

Approved on May 2, 2024