

MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
August 27, 2024

Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Archived audio is at www.utah.gov/pmn and video is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4xAU4Rch10 and www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyzstuyrBx8.

Regular Meeting Attendance and Call to Order:

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Mona Pompili led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Luke Wojciechowski, Jason Taylor, Colin Topper, Tawny Knuteson-Boyd and Kaitlin Myers attended. Also in attendance were Interim City Manager David Everitt, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Community Development Director Michael Black, Parks, Recreation and Trails Director Brianna Bowker, Arts & Special Events Director Kelley McInerney, Code Enforcement Specialist Mona Pompili, Transit Coordinator and Grant Writer Richard Lory, Police Chief Lex Bell, Assistant Police Chief James Blanton Jr., Assistant Engineer Mark Jolissaint, Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and 15 members of the public.

Amendment to the Agenda:

Mayor Langianese requested a change in the order of the agenda to move an Executive (Closed) Session to the first item of business. Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to approve an amendment to the agenda. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive (Closed) Session:

Motions and Votes: Councilmember Myers moved to convene an executive (closed) session to discuss reasonably imminent and/or pending litigation. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Langianese convened the executive session at 5:35 p.m. Councilmember Topper moved to end the closed session. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Langianese ended the closed session at 5:57 p.m.

Workshop: Capital Asset Planning

Mayor Langianese reconvened the regular meeting at 6:04 p.m. Interim City Manager Everitt updated Council on capital assets planning. He presented priorities including buildings, parks, structures, and paved active transportation infrastructure such as roads and sidewalks, curbs and gutters, as well as sewer, water and stormwater, vehicles, equipment and information technology (IT). He explained any asset over \$5,000 was included in the plan to comply with audit requirements. Everitt mentioned various components of the planning effort, to include preservation and restoration of existing assets, additive elements, and new assets. He went over previously-approved projects, including the Kane Creek Boulevard reconstruction, downtown dispersed parking, Mill Creek repaving, the pedestrian bridge near the Episcopal Church, Dark Sky-compliant lighting, the pond enclosure at Old City Park, upgrades at the Moab Recreation and Aquatics Center (MRAC), land acquisition for active transportation routes, and arterial and minor connector street improvements. Everitt went on to explain about needed capital improvements regarding flood issues, including short-term needs on the Millcreek Parkway and creek bed stabilization, medium-term projects such as a possible detention basin near Power Dam, and long-term projects such as possible bridge replacements.

Everitt explained the capital planning process considers existing master plans such as the General Plan, the Unified Transportation Master Plan, and others. He spoke about prioritization and funding elements. Councilmember Myers mentioned community concerns regarding cost estimates. Councilmember Taylor brought up mid-year reprioritization. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd mentioned personnel needs for the City to accomplish the elements of the plans. Bonding was discussed.

Public Comments:

Katherine Holyoak spoke about the town's history of flooding. She mentioned there had been three or

four 100-year floods recently and damage including mud-filled homes. She likened it to the town having heart attacks and urged Council to make flood mitigation a priority.

Councilmembers Taylor and Topper left the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Department Update:

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Director Bowker presented an update on aquatic center visitation and compared non-resident versus resident usage, with residents defined as being from Grand and northern San Juan Counties. She spoke about improvements at the pool, staff certifications, schedule changes, major mechanical and structural concerns, pool leaks, roof issues and other replacements and upgrades. Councilmember Myers expressed appreciation for keeping the public apprised. Bowker reported on ongoing progress in the Swanny Park playground project, the Old City Park fence, fall sports, and parkway access. She briefly mentioned the artist residency and the upcoming Arts Festival.

Presentation: Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA)

Lanette Denton spoke about the Recovery Day Proclamation and the statewide observance of recovery awareness. She spoke about the purpose of USARA and her appreciation of community support including a grant from the City. Mayor Langianese read the Recovery Day Proclamation.

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Myers moved to approve the consent agenda, as follows: Recovery Day Proclamation, a letter of support for the Southeastern Utah Associations of Local Governments grant proposal for Buildings UP funding, approval of minutes for the July 23, 2024, Regular Meeting and the August 6, 2024, Special Meeting for the Truth in Taxation Hearing, and approval of bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$1,397,793.00. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 with Councilmembers Knuteson-Boyd, Myers and Wojciechowski voting aye.

General Business:

Mill Creek Stabilization Contract—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Community Development Director Black described the contract for stream bed stabilization. Assistant Engineer Jolissaint explained the scope, including the temporary work done and the permanent work to be completed.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to award the construction contract to Harrison Oilfield Service, Inc. for the Stabilization For Mill Creek At 500 West project in the amount of \$510,451.30 and authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement and Notice of Award. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 with Councilmembers Knuteson-Boyd, Myers and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Red Rock Retreat Car Show Special Event Permit—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Chace Clavell of the C-10 Club requested approval for a special event featuring classic GM trucks to benefit the local search and rescue team. He presented coordination and proposed size of the event. He emphasized details such as vendor licensing and the intent to provide a no admission fee family-oriented and alcohol-free event on May 17, 2025. Arts & Special Events Director McInerney clarified options for dates and discussion ensued regarding dates and impacts on neighbors. Councilmember Wojciechowski stated his support for a relatively quiet event and the support for the search and rescue team.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to approve the Red Rock Retreat Car Show Special Event Permit. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Updates: Interim City Manager Everitt announced his appreciation of staff for their response to the recent flood. Mayor Langianese also thanked Council for their participation.

Mayor and Council Reports:

Councilmember Myers expressed gratitude for the staff, especially over the summer months. She reported on a housing task force meeting and noted the housing authority was moving to the old Free Health Clinic building on 500 West. She said Amy Weiser is the new County Planner. She spoke about responses to a recent housing survey. She also reported on meetings of the homeless council and the LGBTQIA+ coalition. She said September is Pride Month. She concluded by reporting on a meeting of the Colorado Association of Ski Towns in Durango and noted a project there to convert a motel to workforce housing.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd spoke about a meeting of the housing authority. She also expressed appreciation to the public works department and the County crews for their flood response. She concluded by noting the passing of former Utah Senator Karen Mayne.

Councilmember Wojciechowski announced local homeless numbers are up. He reported on statistics from Seekhaven and on a meeting of the Grand Water and Sewer Special Service Agency. He concluded by expressing appreciation to the staff after the recent flood.

Mayor Langianese reported on the County’s Trails to Tomorrow plan and the local business summit. She said she spoke with Congressman John Curtis about earmark funding for mitigate flood damage in Moab. She said she also spoke with staff from Senator Mitt Romney’s office. She said that, based on public feedback, she would soon meet with Grand County Commission Chair Jacques Hadler to request mitigation funds from the County’s Transient Room Tax fund.

Adjournment: Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to adjourn. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder