

October 2024 City Council

The regular meeting of the Fountain Green City Council was held at 7:06 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2024, in the Fountain Green City Hall, 375 N. State Street.

Attendance – Kerry Farnsworth, Rod Hansen, Kim Johnson, and Jacob Littlefield. Excusing Alyson Strait.

Presiding – Mayor Mark Coombs.

Prayer – Rod Hansen

Pledge

Comment. Bob Hansen thanked City Officials on behalf of the Lion's Club for supporting their various activities, the use of city facilities, and the \$500 annual donation.

Yvonne Hansen also thanked city officials on behalf of the DUP ladies. She wanted to thank the Fire Department for allowing them to use the fire station to do their artifact inventory. They have finished the inventory and have turned in their grant.

She expressed her concern about installing a heating and cooling system, especially the heating system with the colder weather coming. Mayor Coombs explained to her that he is still waiting for two other bids. It will be on the November city council agenda.

Yvonne introduced Annette Hansen as the new DUP captain. Annette is concerned about the deterioration of the adobe brick on the outside of the DUP due to water from the sprinklers hitting the building (especially on the north side). She asked if the sprinklers could be moved away from the building.

Annette also wondered if residents building new homes realized they could either put a culvert or create a dip at the end of their driveway, creating a channel for water instead of having it run into the road.

Mayor Coombs replied that the Lion's Club activities (and a request for new members), as well as the idea of a waterway channel, could be included in the quarterly newsletter, on Facebook, and the city website.

1. Minutes. Rod Hansen motioned to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2024, Emergency Flood Meeting. Seconded by Kerry Farnsworth. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

Kerry Farnsworth motioned to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2024, city council meeting. Seconded by Jacob Littlefield. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

2. Transportation Plan. Garrick Wilden and Devin Fowles (newest employee) of Jones & DeMille Engineering (J&D) wanted to give a final overview of Fountain Green City's Transportation Master Plan. After opening the link, Garrick pointed out the dashboard's tabs: Home, Project Overview, Socioeconomics, Maps, Documents, and Definitions.

He explained that the heart of the Transportation Master Plan is the mapping. This folder includes the following subsections: Roadway Classification, Roadway Surface Area, Recognized City Streets, Roadway Safety and Crash Data, Average Daily Traffic, Active Transportation Plan, Sidewalks (Safe Sidewalk grant money will be available July 1, 2025), Transportation Improvement Plan, and Intersections.

Michelle will send the link to Curt so he can let J&D Engineering know where to add the new stop signs, he just installed. She will also send the link to the Planning and Zoning members. Garrick also made it known that the Transportation Master Plan is not set in stone and can be updated at any time. For now, J&D Engineering will take care of the updates.

Rod Hansen motioned to adopt the Transportation Master Plan presented by Jones & DeMille Engineering. Seconded by Jacob Littlefield. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

The Water and Sewer Master Plans are about finished and will be presented in the same manner.

Mayor Coombs wanted to add an agenda item (new Library Director).

Library Director. Taryn Collard introduced herself as the new Library Director. Mayor Coombs explained that by having a Library Director, the library will have access to state and federal funding. It will also allow the residents of Fountain Green to access the state library.

The Mayor wanted to add one more item to the agenda that will have to be ratified in November's City Council meeting.

Fountain Green City Venmo. Rod Hansen motioned to approve opening a second account specific to Venmo with Utah Heritage Credit Union. Seconded by Kim Johnson. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

3. Police Report. The County is behind a month due to an issue pulling police reports. They are working to fix the problem. Mayor Coombs reported that the "Lend-a-Book" house at the park was vandalized. Mr. Probst, who initially installed it, is going to fix and repaint it. One of the neighbors did get a picture of the kids who vandalized it and turned it over to the sheriff's department. They are currently going through the juvenile system. Mayor Coombs will follow up with the Sheriff's Department.

4. Fire Department. Todd reported –

*Old Fire Station is cleaned out.

*Open burn starts November 1st. Residents can burn in an open space but still need to call Todd.

*Two new individuals have joined the Fire Department who also want to do EMS.

5. Chapter 5. Appeals Authority. Kerry Farnsworth motioned to accept Chapter 5 – Appeal Authority, as presented by the Planning Commission Chair. Seconded by Rod Hansen. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

6. Chapter 10 – Subdivisions. Mark Wood, Planning Commission Chair, explained that they've made progress on Chapter 10 – Subdivision Ordinance but it still needs work. They will have the attorney from the League of Cities and Towns review it, make the necessary changes, and then bring it back to the city council in November, hopefully finishing it by the due date in December.

7. Planning Commission Term End Report. The Fountain Green Planning Commission secretary has reviewed the terms of the current planning commission members and reports that no terms are ending, but there is one member who has three unexcused absences. Mayor Coombs asked Mark Woods to remind him that if he is going to be absent, he needs to call or text the Planning Commission secretary.

8. Planning Commission Report. Jacob reported that there was an auxiliary building permit granted to Jim and Laura Beagley in October's Planning and Zoning meeting. He also requested clarification on what City Officials wanted the Planning and Zoning to research in regards to External Detached Auxiliary Units. City Officials explained that they wanted them to look at the possibilities of allowing these types of units and still comply with the Land Use Ordinances. Mr. Woods felt like they could have something ready to present at the next city council meeting.

9. City Report and Traffic Control. Curt reports –

- *One Burial. Curt explained that it was a hard one to dig because of tree roots. Rod brought up a point about the possibility of issues with roots from the trees on the east side of the cemetery. He asked city officials to keep it in the back of their minds.

- *Quarterly Residuals were submitted to the state.

- *Lead and Copper Rule Revision was submitted.

- *Water and Sewer Master Plans. J&D Engineering is about finished with both Master Plans and would like to schedule a time to review them with City Officials. Michelle will send a link for both plans, at least a month before, so they could at least be familiar with them. A work meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. before the December 19th City Council meeting. They would also like to review the Aquifer Regeneration Permit Application at the same time.

- * Curt expressed his concern about the health of the sewer system being compromised after the flood. He contacted RH Bordon about getting an acoustic assessment done to determine if any of the sewer lines had excessive sediment and needed to be cleaned. The quote, to assess the entire system along with manhole inspections, was \$22,000. All agreed that it needed to be done. Rod wondered if the city could apply to the state for help to cover the cost since it was caused by the flood.

Mayor Coombs reported that the city did receive \$150,000 which includes a \$50,000/match (can be in-kind) to help with flooding issues. The Mayor's number one priority is to first use the money to help residents by reimbursing them for new installs on Furnaces, Water Heaters, A/C Units, and Duct Cleaning. He explained the process – If flood-affected citizens bring their paid invoice(s) to the city, they will be reimbursed from that paid invoice. The city will only reimburse invoices that are from a licensed contractor. After the residents have been taken care of, the city can focus on the sewer system assessment/cleaning and the repair of the bridge at the cemetery. Jeff Gallagher recommended that after the city takes care of their citizens, see what money is left over, then go back to the state.

Sanpete County will reduce property taxes for residents who had excessive flood damage (only with an assessment). Citizens can call the county to get more information.

*BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) Sampling. J&D Engineering asked Curt if, while they were doing the sampling, they could measure from the manhole lid down to the invert.

*Set 40 meters last month.

*Meters are all read. Antenna wires are striped and ready to go. Half of them are ready to be put back in the ground.

*Late Notices went out for people who are behind on their bills which did include an explanation of the new policy.

*The Chart Recorder that was talked about for David Angh's water issue was put on the fire hydrant for three days, and for three days it didn't fluctuate at all. Curt is still working on isolating problems as they come up. City Officials want to make sure it's not an issue on the city side.

*Road Base. Thirty loads of road base have been delivered and spread out on the shoulders of the roads with 10 more loads coming. Once those are spread out, other spots can be looked at. Curt thanked Rod for the use of his tractor.

*Roger put 6 loads into the cemetery and 4 going to the head house.

Roger has also volunteered to help rebuild the bank by the wash at the cemetery. Scott Collard donated the use of his backhoe, and the city will pay for the fuel.

*Shop. Thanks to Jacob for adding more lights in the shop. Dominion Energy will come to the shop (\$25.00), to assess it, and then can recommend what kind of measures need to be made to reduce the gas bill.

*New Grader. Rod went and looked at the new grader and reported that it looked like it was in good condition. They are servicing it and replacing the two front tires

*Old Grader. Roger will get the old one ready to sell.

*Bridge to the Cemetery. The bridge at the cemetery will need to be replaced but for now, it is safe. Jones & DeMille will be a good resource to help with the project.

*Sewer ponds. They didn't get a lot of water from the flood and by the time it got to them. That is why doing the Acoustic Assessment is important, it will tell us where the problems are located.

10. City Bills. Rod Hansen motioned to approve the city bills. Seconded by Jacob Littlefield. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

11. Miscellaneous. Rod had asked about the current loans that the city carries, and which ones will be paid off in the next few years. Michelle provided a schedule to city officials and explained which of those are earmarked for the city hall's annual loan payment.

The Mayor stated the state came down and checked with citizens who were affected by the flood to see if any of them were interested in a low-interest SBA loan. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest, so that is not an option.

The Mayor also saw a news report on new legislation that is trying to be pushed through; override city ordinances so you can build on any size of property within the city. The Utah League of Cities and Towns is trying to fight it but they may lose or have to compromise. The issue is being monitored carefully.

Rod Hansen motioned to move into a closed session to discuss Real Estate. Seconded by Jacob Littlefield.

A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

Rod Hansen motioned to open the closed session at 9:15 p.m. Seconded by Jacob Littlefield. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

Rod Hansen motioned to adjourn the closed session and move back into the general session at 9:30 p.m. Seconded by Kerry Farnsworth. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

Kerry Farnsworth motioned to adjourn the general session. Seconded by Rod Hansen. A roll call vote was taken, Kerry – yes, Rod – yes, Kim – yes, and Jacob – yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.


Michelle Walker, City Recorder

