

Town Council Meeting

December 11, 2024

Elected & Appointed Officials Present: Mayor Neil Brown, Councilmembers: Hale Robison, Curtis Thomas, Grant Lundberg, Eric Hazelet

Staff Present: City Recorder Lucinda Thomas, Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston, City Attorney Josh Nielsen, Fire Chief William McMullin, Police Chief Rod Hurst

Public Present: Tia White, Aubree Nielsen, Jake Styer, Corey Carter, Phillip Miller, Lane Allred,

1. Call to Order – Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:08pm

- a. Councilmember Grant Lundberg gave the opening prayer.
- b. Councilmember Eric Hazelet led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes for November 20, 2024

- a. Councilmember Curtis Thomas made a Motion to approve the minutes for November 20, 2024. Councilmember Hale Robison Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
 - ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
 - iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
 - iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
 - v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet - yes

3. Approval of Expenditures

- a. Councilmember Grant Lundberg made a motion to approve the expenditures in the amount of Thirty-six thousand eight hundred fifty-eight and six cents (\$36,858.06). Councilmember Hale Robison Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
 - ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
 - iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
 - iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
 - v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet - yes

4. Approval of Work Orders

- a. **Approval of a work Order in the amount of \$5000.00 for 3 handheld Motorola APX900 portable radios for the fire station.**
- b. Mayor Brown asked Chief McMullin to give his report now and explain the request for the work order
- c. The State had announced over a year ago that they would be moving over to a new radio system and the department was under the impression that some of their radios would be able to transfer over. However, many of the older radios would not transfer over to the new system. This is a problem that is affecting all of the small communities in the area.
- d. He stated that he is applying again for the AFG grant for more radios in addition to the radios that they are requesting today. He talked about the state wildland fire portion. He stated how he knows this bill has gone up some but this is definitely worth the money because it is basically a fire insurance policy so that the town wouldn't get stuck with a huge bill if we had a wildfire that started in Genola. In the past they allowed the city to count some of their other expenditures to count towards their payments including PPE, open houses, etc. But that list of approved transactions have gone down significantly. Now they are requiring more hands on time. They are looking at renting a shredder and then going and doing more prevention and mitigation, and this would be very hands on prevention work. He is still unsure if they will count the mowing of the roads that the public works already does.
- e. Councilmember Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to approve the purchase of the radios up to \$5000. Councilmember Grant Lundberg **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.

- i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
- ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
- iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
- iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
- v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet - yes

5. Commission & Staff Reports

- a. **Police Chief Report** – Chief Hurst stated that it had been a slower month, 39 cases which included 4 animal problems, 1 property damage, and the rest were extra patrols. There were 12 citations, with 15 total offenses.
- b. **Fire Chief Report** – was done during the work order
- c. **Planning Commission Report** – was excused from the meeting because the planning commission meeting was canceled.

PUBLIC FORUM – there was no one signed up for the public forum.

6. Discussion and possible action with Tia White regarding first responders' mental health support plan.

- a. Dr. Tia White who is a social worker, started specializing in first responder social work. She explained how she starts working with Peer Support, and how she focuses on the first responder. The state now requires that each municipality have a mental health counselor available to all first responders. Dr. White is who other municipalities in our area have used and she explained her methodology. She explained that she would set up a rate and we would only have to pay if the city was actually using her services. She explained that she has worked with lots of first responders in the career and now specializes with them. She also teaches at UVU. She explained that no work would be done by interns unless it was at a later time when she has students who have actually been first responders and understand the responsibilities that the job comes with.

7. Discussion and possible action on a new legal counselor.

- a. Tonight's purpose is to interview the two candidates that have put it in to be the legal counsel for the Town of Genola. The council will have the opportunity to ask each candidate questions, regarding their experience and their proposals. He requests that each candidate introduce themselves and explain their proposal. The council will later in the meeting go into a closed session and discuss the candidates in greater detail.
- b. The first was Josh Nielsen and his wife Aubree Nielsen. Josh introduced himself and stated that he had been working for Genola for over ten years. Recently he has started his own firm with his wife. He used to be apart of Anderson Nielsen, he has recently taken a full-time position with Spanish Fork City and has separated from that firm. He has continued to function as the legal counsel for Genola while working for Spanish Fork. He stated that this change did complicate his ability to serve the town in his availability especially in the criminal aspect. Josh has still been doing all of the civil side of the work. Since this change his wife Aubree who is also an attorney has been doing the criminal side of the town's legal needs. He mentioned that he is more available at night and does most of his work at night just like he has been doing for the past six months. He does feel that it is very easy to separate the two as there is very little overlap but he and his wife could also easily discuss cases and take care of things together. There proposals would have a fixed monthly rate for criminal work and a per hour rate for the civil work. Ms. Aubree Nielsen introduced herself and explained her approach to dealing with defendants and also protecting the Town.
- c. The Council then invited Phillip Miller to introduce himself. His main background is in real estate and lives in Thistle Utah. He stated that he currently works for a title company and does a lot of real estate help for them. He hasn't had any experience in prosecution but feels that it is easy to pick up and handle. He would have a wide-open availability and has good access to cell and internet access. He has a fee schedule with a flat rate for attending meetings and then an hourly rate on top of that. He has built his practice around being fair to his client and to himself.

112 **8. Discussion and possible action on a new building inspector.**

- 113 a. One of the building Inspectors who put in an application showed up and they gave him a chance
114 to introduce himself and company site serve professionals. He encourages the council to look at
115 a firm so that the company would have adequate insurance and ease of having a back-up from
116 the company. It was questions where the business is in Mount Pleasant if he lived close enough
117 to Genola, as the Town doesn't want to pay large amounts of travel time. Mr. Allred stated that
118 the business is in Mount Pleasant however, he lives just north of Mona in Juab County and
119 mainly works from home. He stated that he does do most of the building inspections in Juab
120 County as well.
- 121 b. Mayor Brown would like to have the proposals cut down to three candidates and then have them
122 invited to our January Meeting for interviews.
- 123 c. They went over the different proposals and cut out a couple based on their location and whether
124 they were licensed. They determined to invite Site Serve, Iron Shore, and Staheli and associates
125 to come back for interviews next month.

126
127 **9. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2024-10 appointing a representative for the**
128 **Utah Lake Authority.**

- 129 a. They have historically been the Mayor and most of the representatives have been the Mayor of
130 the respective towns. Mayor Brown stated that he is willing to serve.
- 131 b. Councilmember Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to appoint Mayor Neil Brown and approve
132 Resolution 2024-10. Councilmember Hale Robison **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
- 133 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
134 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
135 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
136 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
137 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet - yes
138

139 **10. Council Comments**

- 140 a. **Mayor Neil Brown** – He reported that he would like to go into closed session and discussion the
141 legal counsel position and excuse Attorney Josh Nielsen after council comments. He had a
142 report for new assignments with the addition of Eric on the council. Eric Hazelet, will be Fire
143 Department and act as treasurer, Hale Robison will stay on roads, Curtis Thomas will be mainly
144 Water, with Grant Lundberg continuing with Town Celebration and Recreation.
- 145 b. **Councilmember Grant Lundberg** - reported that the Rodeo Committee was exploring the idea
146 of adding additional seating.
- 147 c. **Councilmember Curtis Thomas** – He wondered what it would take to get the lot in front of the
148 fire station filled in with more RotoMill. There were questions about who could do it, they
149 determined that this would need to be something that should be looked at in the summer when
150 the whether is warmer.
- 151 d. **Councilmember Hale Robison** – He reported that Chris is ready for winter and ready for snow.
- 152 e. **Councilmember Eric Hazelet** – he would like to look at how Sales Tax is distributed to the cities
153 after it is collected. He has spoken with Lucinda about that briefly. He would like to see if the
154 correlation between business licenses and how much sales tax comes back to the city. Lucinda
155 did report that she talked to someone at the Utah State Tax Commission. In her conversation
156 they noticed an error where no sales tax from amazon was being paid to Genola it was going to a
157 different community. They will get that fixed. She showed the council how much they received
158 from the state in Sales Tax revenues. She reported that they told her that unless they have a
159 state license the business licenses wouldn't affect our sales tax revenues much.

160
161 **11. Councilmember Grant Lundberg made a Motion to go into a closed session held at the public safety**
162 **meeting, to discuss hiring of legal counsel. Councilmember Eric Hazelet Second and the motion**
163 **Passed** all in favor.

- 164 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
165 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
166 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
167 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes

- 168 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet – yes
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170 **12. The Council then went into a closed session to discuss the legal counsel position at 8:43pm,**
171 **and excused the audience including Town Attorney Josh Nielsen.**
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173 **13. Councilmember Curtis Thomas made a Motion to close the closed session. Eric Hazelet Second**
174 **and the motion Passed all in favor.**
175 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
176 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
177 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
178 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
179 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet – yes
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182 **14. Councilmember Curtis Thomas made a Motion to come out of closed session. Councilmember Eric**
183 **Hazelet Second and the motion Passed all in favor.**
184 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
185 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
186 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
187 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – yes
188 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet – yes
189
190 **15. The council then came back to an open meeting at 9:05pm**
191
192 **16. Mayor Neil Brown made a Motion that the Town hire Josh Nielsen and Aubree Nielsen as the legal**
193 **counsel for the Town, noting that they will need to work out the details of the contract.**
194 **Councilmember Grant Lundberg Second and the motion Passed.**
195 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
196 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
197 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
198 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – No
199 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet – yes
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201 **17. Motion to Adjourn**
202 a. Councilmember Hale Robison made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Eric
203 Hazelet Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
204 i. Mayor Neil Brown – yes
205 ii. Councilmember Grant Lundberg - yes
206 iii. Councilmember Hale Robison - yes
207 iv. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – No
208 v. Councilmember Eric Hazelet – yes
209
210 b. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:09pm
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212 Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston
213
214

215 Minutes Approved on: January 15, 2025
216

Lucinda Thomas

Lucinda Thomas City Recorder