

**SALINA CITY CORPORATION
COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

COUNCIL AND STAFF PRESENT:

Mayor Dustin Deaton

Dwayne Brown, excused

Becky Lopshire

Jed Maxwell

Skyler Duckworth

Earl Taylor

Sherri Westbrook, City Recorder

Police Chief Eric Pratt, excused

VISITORS PRESENT FOR COUNCIL MEETING:

Mayor Dustin Deaton called the regular city council meeting to order at 7:02 pm at the Salina City Hall, welcomed everyone present and led the pledge of allegiance. **Earl Taylor** offered the opening prayer.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes February 10, 2016, was tabled.

Approval of Work Meeting Minutes February 10, 2016, was tabled.

Approval of Public Hearing Minutes November 5, 2015, was motioned for approval by **Jed Maxwell**. **Skyler Duckworth** seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0. **Becky Lopshire** abstained.

Approval of Bills Submitted for Payment was motioned by **Earl Taylor** including the two additional bills for the Blackhawk. **Jed Maxwell** seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

VISITORS:

AGENDA TOPICS:

Mayor Dustin Deaton, Heber Williams property, Mayor Deaton stated that this item was covered at the last meeting with Charles Billingsley and the finding of the easement. City received a letter from Mr. Williams somewhat threatening inverse condemnation. Williams believes that the city has devalued his property because there had not been a copy of the easement found. Billingsley did find a copy of the easement that was put in place in 1960. A copy of this easement will be sent to Williams. Attorney David Blackwell will review the letter

from Williams and the easement and advise.

Mayor Dustin Deaton, Update on water right exchange between Salina City and Lost Creek Irrigation, Mayor Deaton informed the council that he went to a hearing on the change application for Lost Creek. This issue has been lingering since 1937. This was being protested by Delta's water rights attorney. The hearing went well and there should be a formal notice within 30 days.

Mayor Dustin Deaton, 1980 South and storm drain issues regarding Trek West property; Dan Baugh contacted Mayor Deaton trying to negotiate the road issues etc. Baugh is not the owner of the property. The property owner, PCG, will be working with the city on this. The property for the water tank has been purchased and recorded. The bid opening was held and the details will be given at the next council meeting once all the figures are confirmed. Two drillers submitted bids for the well. Eleven contractors obtained bid forms for the tank and six actually submitted bids. The lowest bid actually came in lower than the projected budget.

Mayor Dustin Deaton, Horse Power Fleet Services; New Trucks, Mayor Deaton explained that the city looked into a new option for police vehicles. Currently the city has two Dodge four door gas pickups that are two years old with approximately 36,000 miles. A dealership has quoted \$10,000.00 plus the trade of one of these trucks. The city also has one Ford F150 that is one year old and has 14,000 miles. The quote to trade this truck would be \$6,000.00 plus the trade. Horsepower Fleet Services will rent to the city four door, mega cab, Dodge diesel pickups for one year, not to exceed 34,000 miles for a rental fee of \$2,000.00 per year. The city would then have to insure the vehicles while they are in use by Salina City. After one year Horsepower Fleet Services will trade the truck for a new one. The vehicles are under full warranty and tax and license is covered by the rental company. There is not a requirement to replace tires unless they are ruined. The only cost would be \$2,000.00 plus the cost of installing the police equipment for an estimated cost of \$1,500.00 or less per truck, per year. The city council reviewed this option in a budget work meeting and decided to go this route to save the city some money. There was also a truck ordered for the Blackhawk Arena because that truck lost the engine and it would cost \$2,000.00 for a used engine plus the cost to have the engine installed. The city also looked at the option of getting another truck for city use for employees or council members for training, etc. In the long run it will be cheaper than paying the .59 per mile for employees to drive their own vehicle. Mayor Deaton has volunteered to forfeit his wages to cover the cost of the truck for the year; this is still under discussion. The city is looking at different options to dispose of the current police trucks. Citizens may be concerned when seeing the trucks as the company supplying the trucks requires extra options on the trucks in order to hold the resale value. Sevier School District will be reimbursing Salina City for 80% of the cost of one vehicle for the School Resource Officer.

**Police Chief
Eric Pratt:**

**Planning and Zoning
Chairperson,**

**Maintenance Supervisor
Troy Pollock excused**

COUNCIL MEMBER BUSINESS,

Earl Taylor, Municipal Franchise Tax, Taylor stated that he has some information on the Franchise Tax that has been discussed previously by the city council. According to estimates provided by the utility companies, if Salina City were to adopt the Municipal Energy Tax it could potentially collect \$20,000.00 per year from Rocky Mountain Power based on a 1% tax. Salina City can collect up to 6% which would generate \$120,000.00 per year. An estimate for Questar Gas based on a 1% tax would be \$8,210.00 with a 6% tax generating an estimated \$49,260.00 per year. **Mayor Deaton** explained that there has been a law change for municipalities to budget for an amount to cover the retirement of employees in case the Utah Retirement System went bankrupt. This law went into effect this last year. Salina City has been advised by both the auditors and the State of Utah Auditors office that it needs to repair the cash flow deficit to cover this potential expense. In order to do this, Salina needs to increase its annual budget. One option would be to raise property tax which is not something the council would like to do. Taylor suggested looking into the option of franchise tax through utility billings. Salina City is one of very few cities/towns that do not collect this Municipal Energy Tax. The council would like to look at the options after reviewing the budget. Recorder Sherri Westbrook informed the council that this is not an immediate process. An ordinance must be passed and filed with the State of Utah Tax Commission. The start date for collecting the tax by the utility companies is the first of the quarter. Salina City may be able to start collecting this tax by July 1, 2016.

Becky Lopshire, Balloon Festival, Lopshire stated that the annual Eyes to the Sky Balloon Festival is scheduled for June 17, 18 & 19, 2016. Salina City has been a sponsor for the Balloon Festival at a cost of \$3000.00. There was a meeting with Paula Martin, Malcolm Nash, Commissioner Mason, Skyler Duckworth, Mayor Deaton and Lopshire. They discussed some different options for the festival for this coming year. One of the suggestions was to move the location to 100 W and be able to hold the concert at the Middle School. The fire department would be able to sell food from the fire house and the swimming pool would also be close. **Becky Lopshire** motioned to sponsor the balloon festival for \$3000.00. **Earl Taylor** seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Dwayne Brown, excused

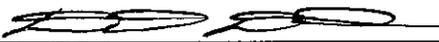
Skyler Duckworth,

Jed Maxwell motioned to move into Variance Meeting at 7:42 pm. **Earl Taylor** seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Jed Maxwell, One foot variance at 552 W Birch Circle, Maxwell explained that he has purchased a home located at 552 W Birch Circle. The city code states that the home must have a ten foot setback on one side of the home and a twelve foot set back on the other side of the home. This particular house has twenty one feet on one side. Maxwell would like to add a garage and that would reduce the setback to that side to nine feet. The other side of the home has a setback of twenty two feet. He is asking for a one foot variance to add the garage. He stated that he met with Planning & Zoning and they approved the variance so he is now asking for city council approval. **Earl Taylor** motioned to grant the one foot variance at 552 W Birch Circle. **Skyler Duckworth** seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Jed Maxwell motioned to leave Variance Meeting at 7:43. **Skyler Duckworth** seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Jed Maxwell motioned to adjourn the city council meeting at 7:43 p.m. The motion was seconded by **Skyler Duckworth**. Motion carried 4 to 0.

Date 4/13/16 Mayor 

Date 4/13/16 Recorder 