

**Rockville Town Council
Regular Meeting
August 14, 2019
Rockville Community Center, Town Hall**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** – Mayor Pam Leach called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following members of the Rockville Town Council were present: Terry Bell, Barry Sochat, M. Honer-Orton, and Jeff Ballard. Town Clerk, Vicki S. Bell, recorded the meeting.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Leach led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Barry Sochat **MOVED** to approve the agenda for August 14, 2019. Jeff Ballard **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH AN AGENDA ITEM** – No conflicts of interest were declared.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were given.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. **REPORT ON ROCKVILLE/SPRINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT – Deputy Chief Spendlove** – There were no calls from Rockville last month. In Springdale there were 11 medical calls and 6 fire calls. They assisted the Park with 4 calls: 2 fire and 2 medical calls. The crew were up in the Park today tending to a fire. Luckily it was just some lint in one of the dryers.
2. **REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION BY PLANNING CHAIR JOYCE HAMILTON** – Chair Hamilton reported there were two issues up for discussion at this month's meeting. The first was the Butch Cassidy 10k/5k Fun Run. We approved their Temporary Use / Special Event Permit. They're continuing to hold participation at 450 runners. They will be on the same route. Port-a-potties will be in three locations. And it's been a good community fundraising event that's looked forward to and we approved the permit.

The second item was consideration and possible approval of a building permit application for a home remodel for Eric Brantley, and we did approve that as well. We had two conversations with Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Gildea who said he considered it to be a remodel, not a new construction, and since it was grandfathered in, he did not see how he could require sprinkler systems or road improvements. So, we approved that as well and encouraged Eric to investigate the possibility of fire suppression for his house.

M. Honer-Orton asked the date of the Butch Cassidy race and Chair Hamilton responded November 9th.

3. **REPORT ON HEMP FARMING IN ROCKVILLE BY RESIDENT SHERRY TERESA AND MELANIE MADSEN** – Melanie reported their grower is present as well; his name is Travis Terry. He and his family all work on the farms. Hemp is in the cannabis family. Melanie reported they received licensing for each plot of land and Melanie personally had to go through a background check. They do have partners who have put their property, machinery and manpower into this. Next year there will be another partner, which they're excited about. And they're hoping others within Rockville will join. Travis obtained a GPS of each field and gathered soil samples throughout the fields. The state did soil test of all the samples. They are part of a test program.

Sherry Teresa reported that CBD oil has tremendous medical benefits. The World Health Organization has weighed in on it. The FDA has approved it for epilepsy treatment. It is being tested for PTSD patients. The FDA research has not caught up with the growth of this industry. We don't know what appropriate dosages are for people or animals.

Industrial hemp cannot reach more than .3% of THC, the psychoactive constituent of marijuana. The CBD oil has non-psychoactive affects and can actually reduce psychoactive affects. They're talking about it now as an opioid medicine to reduce that desire for opioids.

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew hemp. Our money was printed on hemp. The first several drafts of the Declaration of Independence were printed on hemp. The War of 1812 was fought over hemp, because France blocked England from receiving Russian hemp, and it was so essential at that time to the sailing industry for ropes and sails. Henry Ford had a car made mostly out of hemp. William Randolph Hurst and Dupont, they invested heavily in timber and petroleum. In the 1920-30's they had the power to make hemp illegal. That's really scary when you think about where we could be today. Hemp could replace plastics. You could build houses out of it. It's in oil paint. It can replace trees in terms of paper products. It's biodegradable in about 80 days.

We are growing primarily for the CBD oil because that's the market right now. Unfortunately, China's been doing it for thousands of years, so they have the market on the fiber and other parts of the plant.

There's hemp-crete. Concrete is one of the biggest contributors to CO2. Hemp has the ability to reduce that. Hemp is fire-proof and bug-proof. The Dutch have been building hemp homes since the 1700's. There are 47 states now legally producing industrial hemp. With the 2018 Farm Bill, it made it legal to make CBD from industrial hemp. Marijuana is still a Category 1 substance and is still illegal. You can't produce CBD from marijuana and sell it.

Melanie Madson clarified there are some licenses issued in Utah to grow higher THC in their CBD oil. Users will need a medical card to obtain. It is a very good pain killer and it can completely replace opioids. Mayor Leach clarified and Melanie agreed, the medical grade CBD oil is not what they're producing. Linda Brinkley asked if Melanie was referring to the eight licenses issued for medical marijuana and Melanie responded yes.

Sherry Teresa said she has references to the laws and she will give the power point presentation to Joyce. We're trying to grow organically, which is very difficult. This is my second farming experience and it's really tough. Mayor Leach asked who is regulating what is being grown. Travis said once they give the GPS coordinates of where they're growing, the Utah Department of Agriculture has unlimited access to enter and exit the property at any time they see fit. We give them a time frame. Right now, we're entering the flowering phase, where they can detect the levels of THC. The Utah Department of Agriculture will come and check our levels. They choose the plants and they test in their laboratory. If the THC levels are within range, they'll let us know "all is well". And they will test again after harvest. If the THC is between .3 to 1%, they work with us to lower the THC levels. But if it's above 1%, the crop is destroyed, and we all get arrested.

Travis continued that Utah is actually the first state in the United States that is actually looking out for its citizens by making it mandatory that every single product that hits the shelves with CBD oil has a full laboratory analysis and that it's declared on the label, so you clearly know what you're getting. If you buy from outside the state, you literally have no idea if it's truly CBD. They call it hemp oil or any plethora of other names to make you think its medicinal or beneficial, but without true lab testing, you don't know. Utah is requiring the label clearly define what content is in there, how much is in there.

Mayor Leach clarified, so you grow it, you harvest it, you dry it, and then you sell it to someone else to process it, correct? Travis agreed. Mayor Leach asked if they have contracted with a processor. Travis responded they're in talks with at least two, shopping around for the best value and a good relationship. Mayor Leach asked how the harvest takes place. Travis said they remove the entire plant and allowing it to air dry. Utah state law says it must stay on the property while it dries, unless they get another permit. And the flowers are cut off once it reaches a certain dryness level. And once it's dry enough that it will not mold, you can bag it up and send it to the processor. The only usable part that we're growing is the flower. The leaves, stems, that's all going through a wood-chipper and getting mulched back into the soil.

Melanie says they are looking for American companies seeking the fiber. China has been using the fibers, in textiles, so a lot of the athletic fibers are now from hemp, and it's very popular. So, we're seeking big outdoor retailers here in the US who want the fiber.

Barry asked how water intense is hemp? Travis responded a hemp plant will require 12" of water throughout the entire growing season. Melanie said it's highly renewable. Travis said they're using drip irrigation, so watering is absolutely minimal. We're using about 30% of what you would use for alfalfa. Sherry Teresa said she has 14 acres, so she has hours of irrigation water and she's only using two and she's sending the rest downstream, when people remember to turn off my valves ("sorry about that" – this directed to Jeff Ballard who had to turn her water off). We put water in the duck pond, put some natural nutrients in it, and water from that.

Barry asked if this is a good climate for growing hemp. Travis responded this is an experiment. According to the growers he's talked to, we're growing it in one of the warmest climates Travis knows of. There are growers in Pahrump. Our elevation helped here. It seems to grow fine. M. Honer-Orton asked about field drying and Travis responded the quality deteriorates somewhat, so provided we have enough manpower, the product will be moved to a shady area on the property, some type of a shade house.

Mayor Leach asked how long from planting to harvest? Melanie said they were late planting because they had to prepare the soil. Travis said you can plant any time after the last chance of frost, right around Mother's Day and harvest should be complete at the latest the first week of October. It's one crop a year.

Melanie said they are required to post a sign on each of the properties with the license number, and it basically says this is hemp; this is not marijuana; you will not get high using this product. Hopefully that keeps people from trying to experiment and steal from our field.

Barry asked about pests. Travis said there were some hemp mites and he's seen some limited sucking insects. He sees multi-colored squash bugs on the plants, but he doesn't see them eating anything. And he found a weird worm today. And of course, deer, they love it. Melanie said there was a 60 acre farm out near Enterprise, 30 acres were eaten and ruined by Mormon crickets.

Barry asked if this operation is normally run outdoors as opposed to a greenhouse. Travis says it goes both ways, probably primarily outdoors. Medical marijuana is grown indoors. There's not enough money in hemp to expend the resources it takes, the electricity for lighting, to grow hemp indoors.

Barry asked where he got seed to guarantee he has a pure hemp strain. Travis bought his through a company called Centennial State Distributors. They're well known and well respected. They tell you the whole parentage of this plant and how it's been bred. They provide the full chemical analysis of the flower that those seeds came from.

Mayor Leach asked if they are all female plants. Travis responded that as the males come up, they give them a quick death. We don't want to pollenate the flower, because that reduces building the CBD reserves. Barry asked if they would buy new seed each year. Travis responded they are letting some go to seed. They're leaving a few males, so they have a small seed stock for next year. They will be hand pollinated. Optimally, they can reach 8', but Travis believes these will only reach 6-6.5 feet. They're not going to grow much taller once they start flowering.

Mayor Leach asked if it was an annually renewed license. They responded yes, January through December.

Mayor Leach invited the audience to ask questions. Tydon Oler asked if the plant is a little high on THC levels, marginally so, if there are things you can do to correct that. Travis explained that hemp flowers throughout the plant and Melanie said the THC is in its highest concentration at the top. Melanie said Utah is very good with their farmers. We're using seeds with a pedigree. Travis said the tester will take some of the top flower, a portion of the middle flower and a portion of a lower flower, each from multiple plants. And they take all those and average out to get their results. Colorado has a very poor reputation for testing only the top plant and destroying the crop.

Barry asked if others do this, is there a chance of pollen drift. Travis responded hemp pollen is known to travel up to 20 miles. If you're growing for seed, that's a higher risk. If you do get any cross pollination, it's typically just a seed or two here or there.

Mayor Leach asked about the hemp plants producing an odor that can drift over a community. Melanie responded not unlike alfalfa. Travis explained that like a basil plant, unless there's some physical contact, it will not smell like a skunk farm.

Sherry Teresa said they are State and Federally licensed. She can't believe how hard it is to grow. We have no intention of going into medical marijuana. We're staying with industrial hemp. You can smoke it and you will not get high, but you will get sick.

Mayor Leach asked if she could come see the operation. Melanie invited everyone to come to Craig Hirschi's former home. Mayor Leach said she lives pretty close to Sherry Teresa's and would like to see where they will be drying. She asked when they would be harvesting and Travis responded its completely up to what the chemical analysis says, but we'd like to push it out to the end of the first week of October.

Sherry Teresa explained if you're really successful, you can have up to 2,500 plants per acre. We don't have that, but we hope to get there. But it is very labor intensive. Mayor Leach asked how much dried flower weight per plant. Travis said it can go from an ounce per plant to a pound of flower. This is his first time (growing hemp), but that's what he read in his research. The goal is a pound per plant.

Barry asked if they've considered natural predators for crickets, like chicken or geese. Melanie responded early on they talked about a guinea fowl because they pluck up the bugs right away. We decided not to do that this year. Hemp grows quickly, takes up space, chokes out weeds, and we expect it to be a very eco-friendly crop. What came on our seeds from Colorado (we have a few other sources of seeds in our plant) what came on the seeds was an automatic dose of hemp mites. And hemp mites were genetically engineered by our government to address the illegal marijuana plants. They only have one crop they eat and that's cannabis.

Linda Brinkley said Sherry did a great job on the history of hemp. Linda studied it in the 60's. Throughout history, it's been globally, historically, a major thing. It bit the dust because of politics. Melanie said there were hundreds of medicinal uses. The medicine woman carried a plant with her wherever she went.

Sherry Teresa suggested we view a YouTube video titled "Hemp for Victory". It was produced in 1942 by the War Department and it's a phenomenal history of hemp.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AN APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD FOR FUNDING TO RENOVATE THE HVAC SYSTEM IN THE ROCKVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER – Jeff Ballard**
MOVED to go into Public Hearing and Terry Bell **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye

M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Leach explained we have received bids to replace our historic HVAC system in the Community Center. We will be taking that to the CIB in October. M. Honer-Orton asked if we will take all bids or just one. Mayor Leach responded the application is with one bid. Terry Bell asked if this was a 14, 16, or 18 SEERS.

There were no public comments.

- 2. ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING** – Terry **MOVED** to go out of Public Hearing. Barry Sochat **SECONDED** the motion

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

- 3. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON AN APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD (CIB) FOR FUNDING TO RENOVATE THE HVAC SYSTEM IN THE ROCKVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER** – M. Honer-Orton inquired about the two Mitsubishi split systems for the foyer and kitchen. Clerk Bell responded the installers figured they needed to put one on the partition wall just going into the kitchen and in order to get the bathroom, one over the door. Terry asked if you can use more than one air compressor. Mayor Leach said she went online, and her research indicated you could have two Mitsubishi units and one air compressor. Clerk Bell says we're not stuck with this; it is only a bid. M. Honer-Orton thought one unit could handle both of those rooms. M. Honer-Orton suggested if you put the Mitsubishi on the north wall of the kitchen, that should take care of both rooms. Terry said you have to keep in mind the heat needed to keep the pipes from freezing in either the kitchen or the bathroom. M. Honer-Orton asked if the other two are placed on the east wall, will that affect our historic look. Jeff suggested it would not be any worse than the air conditioner sitting out there now. M. Honer-Orton said she did approve the application. Barry asked what will happen to the old one; it stays. Clerk Bell reported the first company quoted \$10,000 just to take the old system out. Mayor Leach addressed the 14 SEER Terry inquired about earlier. Mayor Leach suggested it would be so much more efficient than what we have now. Clerk Bell said they did discuss how often the building was used and that may be why they suggested the 14 SEERS. Terry said it's a five-ton air handler. Jeff said that's pretty big. Terry said that's what's in his home. Terry Bell **MOVED** to approve the Town's application to the CIB. M. Honer-Orton **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 10, 2019 REGULAR MEETING** – M. Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve the minutes and Barry Sochat **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

- 5. APPROVAL OF THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2019** – M. Honer-Orton asked about check 2190. It was paid to UDOT as a \$7,000 overage. Clerk Bell explained that we knew there would be expenses over the amount of the Federal funding that was given to us (for the bridge restoration). Terry Bell said it was lower than he expected, and Clerk Bell explained there would be one more bill yet to come in October. We expected to pay \$14,000. Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to approve the expenditures. Barry Sochat **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

V. TERRY BELL – Terry went to the DTEC meeting and they've done an air quality study. The PM2.5s are the ones they're concerned with now and that comes primarily from automobiles and wood stoves. We are in range with those. But the problem is – we're probably going to have to get our car emissions checked – they put up a monitoring station in Santa Clara and it was constantly over the .07 parts per million of ozone reading. Last year they moved it to Hurricane. Right now, that one is registering at .069. And once you have to start emissions controls, you can't go back. The ozone here is caused mostly by the greenery. M. Honer-Orton said there's nothing they can do about the haze. Terry responded they did some studies and most of that comes from Vegas and California.

The airport is on track to be done in October. They dug through about four different colors of clay before they got down to the blue clay.

The Washington County Solid Waste met on Monday. We have cancelled the contract with Rocky Mountain Recycling. They owe us about \$110,000 and we owe them about \$65,000, so they will pay us back the difference in monthly payments. So now Republic will do the waste & the blue cans. They will have to build a transfer station, which will take about 90 days. So, for the next 90 days, all the recycling is going into the landfill. After that, all of it will be taken to Vegas. We can no longer recycle paper. We can recycle #1 and #2 plastics, not plastic bags. Aluminum cans and corrugated cardboard can be recycled. We will be paying \$128 per ton; we've been paying \$50. A company gave a proposal to put solar panels on 25 acres of the landfill. They need to find someone to sell the power to. They're going to put pipes in the landfill and pump steam into them to create enough gas to sell as natural gas. They say its too dry here to occur naturally.

BARRY SOCHAT- The mosquito board met the other day. They found mosquitos infected with West Nile Virus at three sites in Washington County, mostly down in St. George. A person has become infected in Washington County. Symptoms are flu-like, with achy joints. Five percent or so can get brain swelling, which is not good. If you go out in the evening, you should wear long sleeves. Barry would like to put solar lights on the bridge. Barry swept the bridge because he wants to avoid getting splinters.

M. HONER-ORTON – She continues to call Allan Lee about repairing the Town's sidewalks. CERT team is reactivating under Police Chief, who was active with CERT in St. George. He has assigned Sargent Jason Shafer to assist. The new CERT training is online. It's 9 hours for the classroom work and two Saturdays for the practical skills part of the class. Barry and she were discussing a grant from Rocky Mountain Power to provide solar generation for the town. If we have agreement from the Council, we would like to apply. From what I read, it's a grant, no match required. But they don't guarantee they'll fund the entire project. Barry thinks he can get Zion Forever to donate the property. We have Rockville property that's BLM behind M.'s house that could be used for solar panels. Barry said this could give us back up power. We have until 2032 to build this and we would become a 100% renewable town. Rocky Mountain Power is using this as a buy out to get rid of the existing coal plants. Pam clarified what Terry was saying, that Rocky Mountain Power provides the money to build the system, but if you hook up to it, you're still paying for the solar power at a higher rate. Barry says when the power is shut off because of the red flag warning days, we would have a backup power source. Mayor Leach said she has no objection to further research. Jeff asked what kind of an eyesore would be created. Barry said it would not be visible from Rockville, but it would be from the Park. Other members of Council agreed to let Barry and M. download the application and continue researching the opportunity.

JEFF BALLARD – There was a good turnout for our roadside cleanup on the 27th. He put some curve signs on Grafton Road. Mayor Leach inquired about the No Parking signs and Jeff said he just needed to get that done.

MAYOR LEACH – Reported that she had a successful visit with the CIB last week. They approved our additional funding request to complete our road repair work. Vicki and Jeff have been working on an advertisement to seek bids. We hope to get the work completed next year.

The Council of Governments (COG) has been appointed as the overseer of the transit system, so our next meeting is next Thursday, and we'll meet once a month. They hope to decide which type of buses they will be using at the next meeting. New buses are probably a year and a half to two years out from date of ordering.

The Park has two electric buses running in Springdale. When they tested them on a holiday weekend in the Park, they were very pleased with how they operated. Jeff said he thinks they have A/C in them too. Mayor Leach confirmed they do have air conditioning.

Rockville Daze event will be October 12th. Barry and Megan are working on getting items for our drawings. M. asked Mayor Leach to contact the Zion Pizza Noddle and said she would ask Jane to go to the Candy Company. M. reported there was a \$1,400 photograph donated; she thought we should auction it. Mayor Leach thanked everyone who volunteered for road clean up, Shirley Ballard trimmed the rose bush next to the Post Office, so the stop sign is visible. Jeff and Shirley have been filling potholes around town. We had a very nice display at the fairgrounds. We will get \$100 for participating.

Ryan completed the railing down by the river access and it looks really nice. Allen Lee pulled the barrier back out of the way, so we now have a very safe way to get down to the river and locals are using it. Thank you to Commission Gil Almquist; he built the stairs for us as a private citizen. Sunroc donated the blocks.

Regarding the Bridge, Lochner is still working with Wadsworth Brothers and the wood decking company. They are scheduling a time to replace the running boards and the header on the south end of the bridge. They haven't decided if they will use concrete for the header or some other material to fill that void. They're looking at a better grade of wood for the running boards. The running boards installed were to Lochner's specifications and are not holding up as expected.

2. STAFF REPORT AS NEEDED: Clerk Bell thanked Jeff for taking care of the drinking fountain in the park.

Mayor Leach asked Joyce to confirm we would have music at Rockville Daze and asked if it was the same couple as last year. Joyce responded yes, it will be Mike and Elaine Moulton. Barry said that's the same day as the Beer Festival. Mayor Leach responded yes, but that is in the evening and Rockville Daze will be earlier in the day.

Adjournment: Barry Sochat **MOVED** to adjourn. Terry Bell **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Terry Bell – Aye
Barry Sochat – Aye
M. Honer-Orton – Aye
Mayor Pam Leach – Aye
Jeff Ballard – Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Minutes prepared by:

Joyce Hamilton
Deputy Town Clerk

APPROVED



Pam Leach, Mayor

The foregoing minutes were posted in the cabinet of the Rockville Town Office by Ucker S. Bell at approximately 9:00 AM on 12 Sept 2019 and on the Rockville Website.





Rockville Town Council
Regular Meeting
August 14, 2019 6:00 p.m.
Rockville Community Center
43 E. Main Rockville, UT 84763

PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR THE RECORD

NAME

ADDRESS

Britt Ballard

Hurricane

Sherry Teresa

PO Box 1001 Springdale

Joyce Hamilton

Rockville

Tyler

Rockville

Linda Brinkley

"

Glenn Mack

35 Senebuse Lane Springdale

Travis Terry

Washington, UT

Amber Terry

Washington, UT

Merlin Spender Hurricane Valley Fire

Hurricane