

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKSTON

October 15, 2019  
7:00 P.M.

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Town Council Meeting held at the Clarkston Town Hall, 50 South Main, Clarkston, UT

Attendance: Mayor N. Craig Hidalgo  
Councilmembers: Elaine Goodey, Ryan Thompson,  
Lloyd Bytheway, N. Sparks

Kristi Hidalgo, Town Clerk

Public Attendance: Jeanine Nielsen, Seth Nielsen, Bunny Arnold, Jill Ashcroft, Jill Lee, Sari Jardine, Randy Jardine, Glenda Dawson, Gail Dawson, Loren Mortensen, Bonnie Bagley, Bruce Bagley, Mylind Fawcett, Ollie Lou Dahle, Bob Dahle, Frances Ravsten, Kathy Ravsten, Reggie Ravsten, Jill Godfrey, Scott Archibald-Sunrise Engineering

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hidalgo called the Clarkston Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember E. Goodey led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered Reverence to begin the meeting.

Mayor Hidalgo addressed the minutes of the Clarkston Town Council Meeting held October 1, 2019. Councilmember R. Thompson motioned for the Clarkston Town Council to approve and adopt the minutes of October 1, 2019. Councilmember L. Bytheway seconded the motion. All in favor "Aye". Motion carried

2. NEW BUSINESS

Scott Archibald – Sunrise Engineering – New Water Meter Reader System Proposals –  
Mayor Hidalgo informed the citizens present of the water meter reader situation. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the Town Hall computers were recently updated from Windows 7 to Windows 10. The town had to update to Windows 10 because Caselle, the government accounting software used by the town, will no longer support Windows 7 beginning January 1, 2020. Because of this update the Water Meter Reader does not work. It is outdated and Badger Meter, Inc. will no longer support that meter reader. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the only option the town has is to secure bids on and purchase a new Water Meter Reader System. Scott Archibald agreed that Clarkston Town had been caught in the upgrade cycle. Mr. Archibald explained the three major components of the water meter. The brass part is the actual water meter that water flows through, it has some disc and gears inside of it that sends out a pulse. That pulse is then read by the register or head unit, which is then picked up by the transmitter so when the Water Operator drives around reading meters it is transmitted to the hand held reader and records the number of gallons of water used by that meter. Mr. Archibald reported that he secured three bids to upgrade the system and the documentation includes sometimes replacing all three

components or just one or two of the components. Mr. Archibald handed out copies of the three bids to the Council.

**See Attachment A**

Mr. Archibald stated that the life expectancy of the sending unit or water meter is 15 years and Clarkston's current water meters are 15 years old. Mr. Archibald said that as the meters get older they aren't as efficient in registering the gallons used. Mr. Archibald discussed the following bids:

- Badger Meter Inc. – 2 options  
Option 1 - \$8,196 - New reader equipment, subscription and licenses, plus annual renewal fees (\$1,260). This option gets the system up and running there would be no purchase of any new components. Mr. Archibald reiterated that the water meters have reached their life expectancy and will begin to fail.  
Option 2 – Cellular – \$36,400 plus a monthly fee of approximately \$250  
This option would require new transmitters at \$130 per meter plus a Cellular Hosting fee of \$.89 per meter each month.
- Neptune Technology Group Inc. – 2 options–  
Option 1 - \$36,420 – Keep the current sending unit or meter and replace the other two components  
Option 2 - \$72,150 – Package Deal – It is a complete meter reading system for 250 meters
- Ferguson Water Works – The Mueller System - \$65,000 – Cost to replace all three components for 270 meters

Mr. Archibald stated that the above costs are just for equipment they do not include installation. Councilmember L. Bytheway commented that if the brass meters did not have to be replaced it would be easy to replace the other two components. Mr. Archibald agreed that it would be much simpler. Mr. Archibald concluded that he has had great success with Neptune. He is not as familiar with Ferguson Water Works but the Mueller brand is a very trusted brand. He hasn't had a community put in a Mueller System yet. Councilmember N. Sparks wondered if replacing water meters would alleviate the need for the Water Operator to drive around the town to get meter readings. Mr. Archibald stated that unless the cellular option is installed the Water Operator would still need to drive around to wake up the transmitters to get the meter readings. Mayor Hidalgo stated that there is a lot to consider and the Council would need to determine which direction to go.

Randy and Sari Jardine – Urban Deer Control – Sari Jardine handed out a written statement on her findings.

**See Attachment B**

Randy Jardine stated that everyone in town knows that we have a problem with deer. Mr. Jardine said that his wife, Sari Jardine, called the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) to see if they would do anything about it and they will not. The state won't do anything except help cities and towns set up a program to eradicate the deer. The problem is too big, state wide, for the state to address it any longer and relocating is too expensive and doesn't work. The deer have to be eradicated (killed) and the program to do this has to be administered by the town. The state is looking at tags for a "primitive hunt". Mrs.

Jardine stated that the DWR told her that a town official needs to contact Gage Madson at 801-476-2740 and he would help the town initiate a plan to take care of the deer problem. Mr. Jardine declared that if the problem doesn't get addressed it will only get worse. Mr. Jardine stated that they have lost, fruit, vegetables, and even their trees have been eaten by the deer.

Mayor Hidalgo stated that he contacted Nolan Krebs, a North Park Police Officer, who does exactly what Mr. Jardine is talking about, he eradicates deer for municipalities. Mr. Krebs has been doing this for the last ten years. Mayor Hidalgo stated that he asked Mr. Krebs if he would be interested in helping Clarkston Town and he didn't say no. Mayor Hidalgo confirmed that the State of Utah, the DWR and also Cache County won't help cities or towns with urban deer control. The DWR mandates that if deer are captured they are put down, not relocated, and cities and towns pay for the disposal of the deer. To build a trap, and more than one would be needed, costs \$500 and the deer can only be trapped between August 1 and November 15. Mr. Jardine stated that if a program is set up and tags are provided then there wouldn't be a problem with disposal of the deer, people would use the meat. Mayor Hidalgo stated that he would like to know how the rest of the community feels about this. Mr. Krebs recommended hiring archers to come in but cautioned that you tend to get unfavorable press when that happens. There are people in the community that love animals and would not be happy about eradicating them. Mr. Krebs also confirmed that tags can be obtained from the DWR and that each person taking a deer has to have a tag in order to take it. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the town can hire a citizen to do this but they have to be approved by the DWR and the town carries the liability. If anything goes wrong the town is liable and can be sued. Mayor Hidalgo acknowledged that there is a lot for the town to consider regarding this issue. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the reason they stopped relocating deer is because it is expensive and they have found that 55% of the relocated deer die. Mayor Hidalgo assured all present that he understood their frustration and concerns with the deer and thanked Randy and Sari Jardine for bringing information forward concerning it. Mayor Hidalgo stated that he would give Gage Madson a call and discuss program options. Mayor Hidalgo reiterated that the Council needs input from all aspects of the town before a decision is reached. It would have to be determined to what extent the town is willing to go. Destroying the deer and giving the meat away is the least expensive way to go. Mayor Hidalgo concluded that this poses significant risk and liability for the town and wondered if the town was willing to take that risk.

Mayor Hidalgo turned the time over to the public for comments or questions.

#### Public Comment

Bob Dahle- Mr. Dahle wondered what the mortality rate is from fall to spring with the deer that is in town. Mayor Hidalgo responded that Mr. Krebs told him that the deer come down from the mountains because of drought or severe weather and fawn and then they stay while the fawns grow. The fawns decide they like it down here and so they stay

and the population of deer in the community keeps growing and they never make it back to the mountains.

Sari Jardine – Mrs. Jardine commented that the DWR person she talked to said that the state was looking at getting tags for a primitive hunt. Mrs. Jardine feels that it would be a good thing to get tags and maybe even sell the tags, if the DWR would permit that, to get money back to compensate the town. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Mr. Krebs told him the DWR would only give tags for the number of deer the town plans to kill. No one can take a deer without a tag. If there is a herd of 20 deer in town the town could ask for 20 tags. Then 20 people can take those deer for meat. Mrs. Jardine asked Mayor Hidalgo to find out how Clarkston Town could get on the list to get tags. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Mr. Krebs keeps a list of towns that want to get tags. Mrs. Jardine commented that since Mr. Krebs has been eradicating deer for the last ten years does he feel that it has been taking care of the problem? Mayor Hidalgo replied that Mr. Krebs believes that the rate of deer is down in the areas he has done this but it is a continuous problem and expense. Mrs. Jardine wondered about the cost for liability insurance to implement an urban deer control program. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the Town Clerk Kristi Hidalgo called the town's insurance company, The Utah Local Governments Trust Insurance Agency, and was told that the town would be fine with the coverage we already have. It wouldn't cost the town more for insurance if an urban deer control program were to be implemented.

### 3. DEPARTMENTS

Fire Department – Mayor Hidalgo informed the Council that the Fire Department was awarded a FY 2020 EMS Per Capita Grant from the State of Utah for \$3,302. The grant money will be used to purchase 9 new pagers. The total amount is a little more than the grant so the balance will be covered from their budget.

Council of Governments (COG) Meeting Information – Mayor Hidalgo reported that he attended the Cache County Council of Governments Meeting where they reviewed presentations from municipalities requesting funding for road projects. Mayor Hidalgo applauded how well the Clarkston Town Governments have done the last several years in providing road repairs and upgrades without any assistance. Mayor Hidalgo stated Clarkston Town has been able to keep the towns roads in better aesthetic condition than many communities within the county and haven't received any outside monetary assistance to do it. Mayor Hidalgo stated that one thing Clarkston Town is lacking is a transportation plan that is registered with the State of Utah. After a transportation plan is developed and registered with the State of Utah Clarkston Town could then request funding from the State of Utah for road projects.

Water System Fence - Mayor Hidalgo stated that Trenton Town started fencing North Fork Springs without talking to Clarkston or Newton about it. Mayor Hidalgo said that Clarkston Town Water Operator Bryan Goodsell notified him that a fence was being constructed, that the collection box was not included in the fencing and part of the fence was placed on private property. Mayor Hidalgo stated that he reminded Mayor Payne of Trenton Town that North Fork Springs is owned by all three towns, Clarkston, Newton, and Trenton and that no one had informed Clarkston or Newton about fencing North Fork

Springs. Mayor Hidalgo stated that it was his understanding that a waiver had been applied for and granted from the State of Utah Division of Drinking Water stating that a fence would not be required if certain conditions were met. Mayor Hidalgo stated that Trenton Town applied for and received a \$5,000 grant to fence North Fork Springs without his knowledge and Mayor Rhodes of Newton Town was not aware of it either. Mayor Hidalgo stated that he asked Water Operator Bryan Goodsell to coordinate a meeting with Mayor Payne and the Water Operators from all three towns to determine how to move forward on fencing the springs. Mayor Hidalgo asked Councilmember L. Bytheway to contact Mr. Goodsell and find out when the meeting was scheduled so he can attend it as well.

Councilmember R. Thompson – Youth Halloween Activities – The Youth Council will be sponsoring the following Halloween Activities:

- Clarkston Monster Run - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 6:00 p.m.  
Hot chocolate and Apple Cider will be served.
- Clarkston Youth Halloween Movie – The Visit  
Saturday, October 26, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. For Youth ages 12-18  
Clarkston Community Center  
Drinks/Popcorn/Candy will be available for purchase
- Hotdog roast before the movie for Youth 12-18

Councilmember E. Goodey – Town Employee Christmas Party - The Town Employee Christmas Party will be held Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember E. Goodey asked the Town Clerk Kristi Hidalgo to provide her with a list of people to invite to the party.

Animal Control – Kennel License Cap - Councilmember E. Goodey proposed placing a cap on the number of Kennel Licenses issued for Clarkston Town. Councilmember E. Goodey feels that there are a lot of Kennel Licenses in Clarkston. Mayor Hidalgo stated that the Animal Control Officer told him that Clarkston has more dog businesses in town than any other town in the valley. Councilmember E. Goodey stated that Hyrum City put a Kennel License cap at twelve and Clarkston Town has that many already. Councilmember E. Goodey believes that this is something the town should consider in the future. Mayor Hidalgo asked Councilmember E. Goodey to contact Hyrum City and find out how they executed a Kennel License cap. Councilmember E. Goodey agreed to do so.

Emergency Preparedness - Councilmember E. Goodey, reminded the Council that there is a FEMA class scheduled to be taught October 18-19, 2019 at the Smithfield Fire Department. It is on Recovery from Disaster: The Local Government Role. Councilmember E. Goodey reported that she has not been able to find anyone to go to the meeting. Councilmember E. Goodey stated that she thinks that a totally different committee needs to be formed to deal with recovery from a disaster. Councilmember E. Goodey read the following from information provided about the class: A recovery may commence while the Emergency Response is still on-going; however recovery activities

usually require different knowledge, skills, and abilities than the response activities and are usually performed by a different team of people. This course identifies the types of local government officials who may serve on a disaster recovery team and describes their roles and responsibilities as a member of that team. Councilmember E. Goodey reiterated that there should be another committee formed to deal with recovery from a disaster and that the committee should be made up of professionals. Mayor Hidalgo wondered if Councilmember E. Goodey contacted Will Lusk the Cache County Emergency Management Manager for insight on best emergency preparedness practices and training specific for Clarkston Town. Councilmember E. Goodey stated that she had not contacted Mr. Lusk. Mayor Hidalgo encouraged Councilmember E. Goodey to contact Mr. Lusk. Mayor Hidalgo feels that the town should communicate with the Cache County Management Team and get recommendations from them on emergency preparedness and disaster recovery. They are a great resource and should be utilized.

Councilmember L. Bytheway – Water Department – Utah Rivers Council Update – The Utah Rivers Council is a grassroots organization dedicated to conservation and stewardship of Utah's rivers and sustainable clean water sources for Utah's people and wildlife.

Councilmember L. Bytheway handed out some literature provided by the Utah Rivers Council. The following are some highlights Councilmember L. Bytheway discussed:

- Utah is caught in a water waste cycle that leads to runaway government spending. Utah water conservancy districts have been collecting property taxes from homes and businesses that reduce the price water consumers pay in their monthly water bills. Cheap water prices lead to the overuse and wasting of water by residents. The proportion of Utah Water Districts collecting a property tax is 88%. The proportion of Western Water Districts Outside of Utah collecting a property tax is 29%. Councilmember L. Bytheway stated that Washington County Water District receives more money from property tax collections than it does from water sales. That's why water users in St. George have extremely cheap water rates.
- Large water users aren't paying their fair share of Utah water costs. Schools, universities, government buildings, golf courses, etc. are exempt from paying taxes yet collectively use billions of gallons of water.
- Bear River Development Project – The purpose of Bear River Development is to provide additional water to the Wasatch Front region and in particular to residents in Salt Lake, Weber, Davis, Box Elder and Cache Counties. The project would divert water from the Bear River through the construction of a 90-100 mile pipeline. There are proposed reservoirs that would be built: Weber Bay, Cub River, and Fielding.
- Division of Water Resources killed a Conservation Bill. During the 2019 Legislative Session the Utah Division of Water Resources opposed HB 143, a bill to encourage water conservation across the state of Utah. This opposition by the agency was to keep water use high enough to justify the \$2+ billion in new

spending for the Bear River Development. Councilmember L. Bytheway stated that the Bear River Development Project won't be a benefit to Clarkston at all.

Councilmember L. Bytheway concluded that the Utah Rivers Council is a group that would like to see that our rivers aren't completely turned into lakes.

Councilmember N. Sparks – Cemetery Department – Councilmember N. Sparks reported that there have been people damaging property out at the cemetery so she is going to get the fencing put back up to close off the parking lot and No Trespassing signs will be posted.

Cemetery Lighting – Councilmember N. Sparks stated that she had been in contact with Tech Electric about moving the light from the damaged light pole to the restroom/maintenance building. The parts are ordered and as soon as they get them in they will come out and get that done so that the damaged pole can be removed.

LUDMA - Councilmember N. Sparks reported that LUDMA Commission approved a Residential Building Permit at 165 S 200 E. The permit was to remove an existing trailer home and replace it with the same size trailer home. Councilmember N. Sparks stated that Tayler Jensen the Countywide Planner came to the meeting and talked about options for being able to control growth and protect Clarkston as a town. Mr. Jensen recommended mapping areas where the Council would like the growth to be and then get citizen input on it. Mr. Jensen also talked briefly about annexation and how he could assist the commission in planning for the future growth of the town. Councilmember N. Sparks stated that the LUDMA Commission reviewed the Planning and Zoning Permit Checklist. The checklist should be approved and implemented within the next month or two. The checklist allows each building permit application to go through the same checklist. That way there isn't any leeway one way or the other. Everybody goes through the same checklist and it will be available for citizens to look at if they want to be able to make sure what they are asking for will be approved.

#### 4. RELEVANT BUSINESS

Next Meeting – The next Town Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday November 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

#### Public Comment -

Gail Dawson – Mr. Dawson stated that if a dog dies in your front yard the Animal Control Officer will come and get it. If a cat dies in your front yard the Animal Control Officer will not come and get it. Mr. Dawson wondered why that is. Mayor Hidalgo replied that Animal Control will not pick up cats, raccoons, skunks, or anything of that nature.

Glenda Dawson – Mrs. Dawson thanked Mayor Hidalgo and the Town Council for the service that they give.

Sari Jardine – Mrs. Jardine wondered how many water meters there were in Clarkston. The Town Clerk Kristi Hidalgo stated that there are approximately 280 active water meters.

5. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember L. Bytheway motioned that the Clarkston Town Council Meeting adjourn. Councilmember R. Thompson seconded the motion. All members present voted “Aye”. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Kristi Hidalgo  
Clarkston Town Clerk

