

MONROE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 10, 2019
MINUTES

5:30 p.m.

Public Open House – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Monroe City announce the availability of the Draft Supplemental Watershed Plan and Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA) for the Sand Hollow Debris Basin Rehabilitation Project within the Monroe-Annabella Watershed in Sevier County, Utah.

Bobbi Preite with McMillin Jacobs Associates and KC Savage with NRCS reviewed the draft supplemental watershed plan and environmental assessment (Plan-EA), which was provided to those in attendance and attached with minutes.

Ms. Preite explained that a significant number of damaging floods inundated portions of Monroe City necessitating construction of the Sand Hollow Debris Basin. The basin was installed in 1971 under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL 83-566) to reduce flood, sediment and erosion damages. The debris basin is categorized as a high hazard dam which attenuates flood flows and provides sediment retention.

The Project Purpose and Need:

Purpose

- Provide watershed structure rehabilitation for the Sand Hollow Debris Basin
- Improve flood prevention for up to and including a 500-year event
- Meet current NRCS and Utah engineering standards for a high hazard structure.

Need

- Decrease flooding to developed lands
- Decrease the risk of dam failure for the people and property downstream of the dam

Ms. Preite stated there is currently funding available through the federal Watershed Rehabilitation Program (Public Law 106-472) to assist project sponsors with rehabilitation of aging dams built under the Public Law 83-566. Monroe City is the sponsor of the Sand Hollow Debris Basin and responsible for dam safety and meeting the current dam safety requirements.

Project alternatives included in the detailed study:

No action alternative-

Actions that would be undertaken by the sponsor if no federal funds were available.

- The sponsor would improve the dam to meet Utah dam safety engineering standards.

Rehabilitation Alternatives-

Alternatives to meet the purpose and need for the project.

- Dam Raise Alternative (Preferred Alternative)
- Excavation Alternative
- Dam Raise and Excavation Combination Alternative

As each alternative was discussed Ms. Preite and Mr. Savage answered questions from those in attendance. Mr. Savage explained that this is only a draft and comment cards were distributed for the public to express their concerns and ask questions. Ms. Preite stated that there will be a comment period ending December 27, 2019 for anyone who wants to comment on the project. These comments will be reviewed and addressed in the Final Plan-EA.

Mayor Parsons thanked Ms. Preite and Mr. Savage for their information presentation to the Council and public concerning the rehabilitation of the Sand Hollow Debris Basin, and reminded those who desired to make comments on the project to either submit them tonight on the cards provided to Ms. Preite or bring them to the City office.

7:00 p.m.

1. The regular meeting of the Monroe City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnny Parsons at 7:00 p.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Washburn. A prayer was offered by Councilmember Mathie.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Johnny Parsons

Councilmembers:

Janet Cartwright

Perry Payne

Joe Anderson

Fran Washburn

Michael Mathie

Public Works Director Devin Magleby

City Recorder Allison Leavitt

Utility Clerk Marisa Mathie

4. Consider a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held November 12, 2019

Councilmember Mathie moved to approve the November 12, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Payne. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Payne, Anderson, Washburn and

91 **Mathie. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 5-0**

92
93 **5. Citizen input –**

94
95 John Bohman submitted a detailed document of his concerns with the posted 40mph speed
96 limit located on Main Street from about 400 N to the north end of our City limit. Mr. Bohman stated he
97 feels this is too fast and would like the speed limit reduced.

98
99 Mayor Parsons informed Mr. Bohman that Main Street is a state highway and Utah Department of
100 Transportation (UDOT) has jurisdiction over the speed limit and other items listed in his statement of
101 concerns that pertain to Main Street.

102
103 Mayor Parsons assured Mr. Bohman that the Council will review his list of concerns and then follow up
104 with a representative from UDOT to express his concerns.

105
106 Mr. Bohman asked about yield signs being replaced with stop signs along 300 E. Public Works Director
107 Devin Magleby stated the signs will be replaced as the City crew replaces street signs in this area.

108
109 Mr. Bohman thanked the Council for their efforts in addressing his concerns.

110
111 Mike Ginsburg asked the Council if more cross walks could be painted across Main Street to provide a
112 safer environment for pedestrians crossing main street. Council stated Main Street is a state highway
113 and UDOT will need to be contacted about this request.

114
115 Frank Dimick with the South Sevier Senior Citizens Center Board explained to the Council that the board
116 is trying to raise \$33,000 for the kitchen renovation project. They currently have \$28,000 and are
117 requesting a \$5000 donation from the City so that they can meet their goal and the required amount of
118 money needed to earn the highest possible point score in the Community Development Block Grant
119 application.

120
121 Mayor Parsons stated he would review the budget with City Recorder Allison Leavitt to see if funds are
122 available. Mr. Dimick stated that the project does not need the funds immediately, so if need be it can
123 be budgeted in the 2020-2021 budget year.

124
125 **6. Approval of December 2019 warrant register, November 2019 cash disbursements,**
126 **adjustment journal and aging utility report.**

127
128 **Councilmembers approved and signed the December 2019 warrant register, November**
129 **2019 cash disbursements, adjustment journal, and aging utility report.**

130
131
132 **7. Business**

- 133 a. Eagle Scout Project Report- Van Dotson -Flag project at cemetery

134
135 Van Dotson, Eagle Scout reported to the Council that his Flag Project at the cemetery is now completed.
136 The estimated cost of the project was \$1078.00 however he was able to complete the project for a total
137 of \$260.00.

138
139 Mayor Parsons stated that he heard a lot of good comments from the public about the flags being
140 displayed on Veterans Day at the cemetery.

141
142 Mr. Dotson explained that to show his appreciation and say thank you to the City Council and Parks
143 Superintendent Bob Lee he would like to give each of them a copy of "Promises of the Constitution",
144 which he purchased with his own money.

145
146 Council thanked Mr. Dotson for completing his Eagle project in a fine and timely manner.

147
148 b. Consider renaming Monroe City Community Center -Lion's Club- Darrin Toone

149
150 Darrin Toone, representing the Monroe Lion's Club, explained to the Council that the Lion's Club would
151 like the Council to consider changing the name of Monroe City Community Center to include Robert
152 "Bob" Nilsson's name.

153
154 Mr. Toone stated that Mr. Nilsson was instrumental in the building of the community center
155 expansion along with many other projects benefiting the City, and that members of the Lion's Club feel
156 renaming the Community Center to include Mr. Nilsson's name would be an acceptable way of honoring
157 Mr. Nilsson and his contribution to the City.

158
159 Mayor Parsons stated that the Council recognizes that Mr. Nilsson has contributed a lot to our
160 community and does not desire taking anything away from the him, however we have had a lot of
161 citizens donate their services to our community.

162
163 Mayor Parsons asked the Councilmembers to express their thoughts on the suggestion to change the
164 name of the Community Center.

165
166 Councilmember Payne stated that the first building was built by volunteer members of the riding club,
167 then the building was converted into the Community Center with a grant the City received and the
168 addition was done by the Lion's Club, which Mr. Nilsson played a major role in. Councilmember Payne
169 stated he does not agree with changing the name but would support a plaque with his name on it.
170 There have been many who have donated their time, talent and equipment to building the
171 Community Center.

172
173 Councilmember Anderson stated he agrees with Councilmember Payne. Not only have we had
174 volunteers donate to the building of the Community Center but also the pavilion and feels a plaque
175 would be appropriate.

176
177 Councilmember Washburn agreed to comments already made.

Councilmember Mathie stated he does like the idea of recognizing those in our community that have contributed their efforts and expense. It's just a question of comparable contributions and is it appropriate or necessary to rename the whole building. A few projects have been named tonight, so there may be more we are missing.

Mr. Toone agrees that there are many volunteers that should be recognized and expressed concern of leaving others out.

Council discussed the possibility of creating a plaque listing many of the volunteers who have contributed over the years.

Mayor Parsons asked the Council to think about a way to recognize those in the community that should be recognized for their contributions, and asked Mr. Toone to visit with members of the Lion's Club for their suggestions and the Council will discuss the matter at our next Council meeting.

c. Consider acquiring Michael Taylor property in the Sand Hallow Debris Basin

Mayor Parsons explained that Michael Taylor had requested a meeting to discuss his property that is located within the Sand Hallow Debris Basin. During the meeting Mr. Taylor explained that his sister had purchased this piece of property at a Sevier County tax sell for him while he was out of the area. When he returned and examined the property deed he realized this was unusable land and has not paid any of the annual property taxes.

Mr. Taylor explained that after attending the property owner information meeting on the rehabilitation of the debris basin that maybe the City may like to acquire this property. The City would have to pay the back taxes totaling around \$300.00.

Mayor Parsons explained that the gate to the debris basin is located on this property and that Mayor Nilsson had attended the tax sale to try and purchase this property for the City but was outbid by Mr. Taylor's sister. Mayor Nilsson and the Council at the time felt like this would be better for the City to own this property versus a private citizen, since this is an access to the basin and unusable.

Mayor Parsons explained that during his conversation with Mr. Taylor the option of the City possibly giving Mr. Taylor a single space in the cemetery in exchange for the property was discussed. Mayor Parsons explained to Mr. Taylor this would need to be a Council decision and would be a business item on the agenda for the December 10, 2019 City Council meeting.

Mayor Parsons stated that Mr. Taylor said he would visit with his family concerning this offer and get back to him. As of tonight, Mayor Parsons has not heard back from him.

Councilmember Payne stated that he thinks that the City owning this property would help alleviate problems in the future.

222 Mayor Parsons asked the Council for a motion giving permission to proceed in acquiring this property
223 from Mr. Taylor.

224
225 **Councilmember Payne moved to acquire property owned by Michael Taylor 1-M3A-73, located**
226 **In the Sand Hallow Debris Basin for exchange of the City paying the accrued property taxes**
227 **and a single burial lot in the Monroe City Cemetery. The motion was seconded by**
228 **Councilmember Anderson. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright,**
229 **Payne, Anderson, Washburn and Mathie. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 5-0**

230
231 d. Consider Monroe View Red Hill Park project-Dave Coe

232
233 Dave Coe reported to the Council that he is working with Monte Bona, Mormon Pioneer National
234 Heritage Area (MPNHA) on securing \$25,000 in grant monies.

235
236 Mayor Parsons explained that City employees have prepared bids for the cost to install power lines and
237 gravel the road leading to the Red Hill area.

238
239 Mr. Coe explained that before the MPNHA would release their funds we must show bids totaling at least
240 \$50,000. Mayor Parsons stated that the bids for the road and power lines exceeds the \$50,000.

241
242 Once the funds are secured from MPNHA Mr. Coe will proceed with applying to Sevier County and the
243 Outdoor Recreation program for additional funding.

244
245 Councilmember Mathie asked Mr. Coe if the money we receive from MPNHA needs to be spent or do
246 we save it and use with the other grant money. Mr. Coe explained that the Outdoor Recreation grant
247 favors projects that have numerous organizations involved, so the donation from MPNHA will be
248 considered as the cash portion for the other grants.

249
250 e. Consider Workers Compensation Policy for 2020

251
252 Council reviewed the current workers compensation insurance policy proposals from the Utah Local
253 Government Trust (UGLT) and Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency.

254
255 The proposal from the UGLT shows a 23% decrease with an experience modifier of 1.38, which is
256 based on past worker compensation claims. Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency proposal does not
257 include the experience modifier factor because being a new policy there have been no claims paid. It
258 was discussed that if claims were to be paid both insurance companies would make premium
259 adjustments.

260
261 In reviewing the proposal, it appeared that Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency had higher payroll figures
262 than UGLT, therefore this made the UGLT premium appear lower. Corey Sorenson, with Sorenson-
263 Leavitt Insurance Agency, calculated the premium with the same payroll figures as the UGLT had used
264 and presented this new information to the Council.

City Recorder Allison Leavitt explained that the premium is determined by actual payroll amounts, and at the end of each year an audit is performed, and adjustments are made as needed. UGLT proposal only included a total premium based on payroll figures the proposal did not show individual rates per class as the Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency proposal did.

Councilmember Anderson asked Mr. Sorenson if this was an annual policy or if the City would be obligated for a certain amount of time. Mr. Sorenson explained that this is renewable every year and the City would only be obligated for a year at a time.

Councilmember Anderson stated that being this is an annual policy and Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency is a local business he would like the City to accept their proposal for the 2020 workers compensation insurance coverage.

Councilmember Anderson moved to accept Sorenson-Leavitt Insurance Agency worker compensation insurance coverage policy. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mathie with payroll adjustments noted. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Payne, Anderson, Washburn and Mathie. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 5-0

f. Consider Annual meeting schedule

Council reviewed the 2020 Monroe City Annual Public Meeting schedule and felt no changes were needed.

Councilmember Mathie moved to approve the 2020 Monroe City Annual Public Meeting Schedule as proposed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Payne. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Cartwright, Payne, Anderson, Washburn and Mathie. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 5-0

g. Consider date for City Council and Employee recognition dinner

Monroe City will be holding a recognition dinner to thank Councilmembers Anderson and Washburn for their years of service on the Council, Employees Daniel Peterson and Bob Lee for their years of employment with the City and welcome new Councilmembers Erica Sirrine and Dane Buchmiller.

Council determined the date would be January 13, 2020, City Recorder Leavitt will prepare invitations and Mayor Parsons will prepare main course.

8. Other Business

a. Staff Reports

City Recorder Allison Leavitt

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No further business.

Public Works Director Devin Magleby

*Demolition on the building at 70 W 100 N should be starting soon.

*Salvaging does not appear to be feasible.

b. Department Business-Council
Councilmember Cartwright –

*Met with Cemetery Sexton Bob Lee and Public Works Director Devin Magleby about the expansion of the Cemetery. Stated a lot of good ideas were discussed and Mr. Magleby will move forward on creating a plan. This project is on the City's capital improvement project list to go before the Community Impact Board for assistance in the funding cycle for June 1, 2020.

Councilmember Payne –

*Will discuss and review with Public Works Director Devin Magleby electric department employee's wages and make necessary adjustments if needed due to Power Superintendent Petersons retirement.

Councilmember Anderson –

*Distributed a document from the State Library giving specifics of what our local library does for our community.

Councilmember Anderson stated it is very impressive of what our local library offers to our citizens and he feels many do not understand what all the library offers.

Councilmember Washburn –

No further business

Councilmember Mathie –

*Does not make sense that the speed limit is 40mph as you come into town and then drops to 30 mph. Asked if this was a UDOT standard or if there is a procedure that UDOT uses to determine speed limits.

Public Works Director Devin Magleby explained that in the past when UDOT does a study the speed limit is increased, because they base it off the speed that most drivers are maintaining in the area.

Mayor or Councilmember Mathie will visit with UDOT Engineer Robert Dowell, citizen of Monroe, to discuss the speed limit issue and possible crosswalks.

*After the last storm some of the culverts are developing ruts and water pooling from the drainage. This is a concern because the Council assured the citizens when we increased property taxes to redo the roads the drainage issues would be addressed.

Would like to identify the problem areas and take necessary steps to ensure that the roads are not being damaged due to improper drainage.

Understands budget is tight but with proper planning we should be able to correct problems as they arise.

*Parks Superintendent Bob Lee asked if the City has any say on the Sevier County Sheriff Deputy's giving more tickets to those breaking the law, such as speeding.

Councilmember Mathie stated we cannot require them to issue tickets verses warnings, but we could express our concerns and request they issue more tickets.

City Recorder Allison Leavitt will contact our local deputy representative, and request of him to come to our next Council meeting.

*Parks Superintendent Bob Lee expressed his concerns that the City is growing and with a limited number of employees it is going to be hard to accomplish all that needs to be done.

Mayor Parsons stated that he understands this and is hoping that within the next six months the City will be able to hire additional help.

Councilmember Mathie stated that this is the reality of future planning we are increasing in our facilities and what is required. The parks are increasing, roads maintenance increasing, along with maintenance of our power grid.

Everything is increasing in demand and in use and we need to start planning and realize we are going to have to increase our number of employees.

Mayor Parsons-

*Thanked all the employees and Councilmembers for the work they have done over the past year.

*Thanked Councilmembers Anderson and Washburn for their time spent on the Council and the service they provided our community.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Mathie moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 5-0

396
397 The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020,
398 starting at 7:00 p.m. at Monroe City Office.
399
400 Approved this 14th day of January, 2020
401 *Allison Leavitt*
402 Monroe City Recorder
403
404