

UINTAH CITY



2191 East 6550 South – Uintah, Utah 84405

(801) 479-4130 Fax: (801) 476-7269

Office Hours M-W 9:00-5:00 Th-F 9:00-1:00

Mayor Gordon Cutler

UINTAH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Planning – Robert Guillier

Council Members:

TUESDAY, November 17th, 2020

Building Inspector-Jeff Monroe

Jerry Smith

Michelle Roberts

7:00 PM

Treasurer – Mike Ulrich

Kristi Bell

Dave Boothe

MINUTES

Sheriff – Lt. Butler

Fire Chief –

Attendees: Mayor Cutler; Jerry Smith; Kristi Bell; Michelle Roberts (by phone); Dave Boothe; Darinda Wallis; Jolene Sturzenegger; Robert Guillier; Mike Ulrich; Jeff Holden; Lt. Butler; Marc Sacco; Kirsten Stuart; Dallas Tallant; KSL cameraman

MEETING MINUTES:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Cutler called the meeting to order for November 17th, 2020.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Kristi Bell.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Council members are required by law to file a public disclosure statement with the City Recorder listing business interests and investments that could create a conflict of interest with the duties of the Council Member. When a matter in which a Council member has a business or investment interest appears on the Council agenda, the Council member must publicly disclose that interest.

Mayor Cutler asked the Council if they had any conflicts of interest with tonight's agenda; there were none.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT (2 minutes per person):** (00:04:03)

- Dallas Tallant expressed how grateful he is for the Uintah Fire Department to have given him his start in his fire career, and he hopes it does not go away so that he can continue to volunteer with the department.
- Marc Sacco expressed thanks for what the City Council has done and researched, to come to a decision tonight regarding the future of the Uintah Fire Department. Marc thanked the Council for their support while he has been on the department.
- The foyer and the outside of City Hall were checked for any others who may want to express public comment, and there were none.

3. **APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES HELD October 20th, 2020 AND CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES HELD OCTOBER 28TH, 2020:** (00:06:14)

Presenter: Mayor Cutler

- Jerry Smith motioned to approve the City Council Meeting minutes from October 20th, and the City Council Work Session Meeting minutes from October 28th, 2020.
- Dave Boothe seconded the motion.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; the motion passed.

4. **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT TO COUNCIL:** (00:07:15)

Presenter: Robert Guillier

- Robert Guillier reported on the Planning Commission Meeting from October 27th. Robert stated the CUPs are getting streamlined and cleaned up to better serve the community in the best way they can. Robert advised the two items that came up in the last meeting were a public comment regarding vehicles speeding in Uintah, and a discussion of cul-de-sac ordinance changes in Uintah. The ordinance change will be discussed later in this meeting, and Robert wanted to advise that the recommendations with these changes are given from discussions that have been had with the Fire Chief and Fire Marshall in regards to safety.
- The Council had no questions at this time, and thanked Robert and the Planning Commission for their service to Uintah City.

5. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ORDINANCE NO. 262-20: AMENDING CUL-DE-SAC REGULATIONS:** (00:09:54)

Presenter: Dave Boothe

- Dave Boothe expressed his appreciation for the Planning Commission's professionalism at their meetings. Dave explained that in regards to this ordinance, these changes are being done to be more uniform in the length of cul-de-sacs, and to create them to be more in line with fire code.
- Dave Boothe motioned to accept Ordinance No. 262-20, an Ordinance of the City of Uintah City, Utah, Amending the City Code in Title Ten; Chapter 5; Subtitle 3(j); Streets; Providing for Repealer, Severability and Establishing an effective date (Cul-de-sacs).

- Jerry Smith seconded the motion.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; Dave Boothe – yes; Kristi Bell – yes; Mayor Cutler – yes; Jerry Smith – yes; Michelle Roberts – yes.
- The motion passed.

6. **TREASURERS REPORT:** (00:12:14)

Presenter: Mike Ulrich

a. Invoice Register

The invoice register is a listing of bills that were paid during the month.

The invoice register is reviewed and approved each month per guidelines from the state and our auditors in order to stay in compliance with the laws of the state financial code. The invoice register for October 2020 was reviewed. There were no questions.

Kristi Bell motioned to approve the invoice register for October 1st, 2020 through October 31st, 2020.

Seconded by Michelle Roberts.

Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.

All in favor; Dave Boothe – yes; Kristi Bell – yes; Mayor Cutler – yes; Jerry Smith – yes; Michelle Roberts – yes.

The motion passed.

b. Transaction Register

The transaction register is a listing of any changes that are made during the month to customer accounts in the ENTERPRISE ACCOUNTS; water, storm water, or garbage. The changes are credits given, charges reduced or added, or late fees removed. These changes to accounts are reviewed and approved by the council as directed by the state and our auditor to stay in compliance with the laws of the state financial code.

The transaction register for the period of October 1st, 2020 through October 31st, 2020 was reviewed. There were no entries on the October 2020 Transaction Register.

c. Transaction Reversal Report – Court

The transaction reversal report is a listing of any changes that are made during the month to customer accounts for the court. The changes are credits given, charges reduced or added, or late fees removed. These changes to accounts are reviewed and approved by the council as directed by the state and our auditor to stay in compliance with the laws of the state financial code. The Transaction Reversal Report for October 2020 was reviewed.

There was no motion made to approve the transaction reversal report for the period of October 1st, 2020 through October 31st, 2020 because there were no transactions for that time frame.

d. Budget

Mike Ulrich reported that we are now four months in to this budget, and doing well. Mike advised that Uintah City has now received its third and final installment of CARES money from the State; and payments have been made from that to Weber County to assist Uintah businesses. The City has also used a portion of the money that was allotted to us towards COVID related items; and the monies we have not used, will be given back to the County for local businesses. Mike mentioned that he noticed tonight that the Planning Commission had a double entry in the salary portion of the budget, and he will go in and correct that, but accounts are on target.

Jerry Smith asked if there was a report given by the County that gave details on the CARES money that was dispersed. Darinda Wallis had a copy of this and advised that Uintah businesses had been given 250K through this program.

7. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** (00:18:06)

Presenter: Jeff Holden

- Jeff Holden reported he had the first snow removal last Sunday; more so on the East side/bench, Combe Road. Jeff advised Michelle that salt has been picked up for the roads. Jeff stated the Cottonwood Drive project has been started and is going well, and that Cottonwood Estates has been being cleaned up. Jeff informed the Council, and Marc Sacco, that the contractors cleaning up Cottonwood Estates did run over a fire hydrant; there was a report filed with the Sheriff's Office and Jeff should have it fixed next week. Maintenance has been being done on summer machines now that they are not being used, and are out for the season.
- The Mayor asked about the tree in the river. Jeff advised it was removed by those doing the Cottonwood Drive project, using one of their excavators.
- Jerry Smith asked if it is anticipated that new equipment will be needed next year; Jeff does not believe it will be needed at this time.

8. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: (00:23:43)

Presenter: Chief Marz

- Chief Marz was not present; Marc Sacco reported on the fire department. Marc reported that there were two calls for smoke in the area, but they were cancelled before Uintah fire had a chance to respond. Marc reported on costs of wages and savings to the city, having Uintah Fire, and stated he has not had a report from the City since August 2020, so he cannot report on fiscal (he moved). Marc stated there was no interaction/opportunities for public relations, primarily due to COVID. Marc advised that Uintah Fire will continue to provide service through the transition to Weber Fire District, should there be one, but hopefully there will not be one.

9. SHERIFF'S REPORT: (00:25:52)

Presenter: Lt. Butler

- Lt. Butler reported a total of 65 calls for the month of October in Uintah. Of those 65 calls, 23 reports were written, 39 of them were priority calls, and 13 of them required more than one deputy to respond. There were 28 traffic citations issued for Uintah in October. Lt. Butler also reported that there was an assault on an officer as well in October, that resulted in a taser being deployed. There was also one DUI for the month and two traffic accidents. Lt. Butler reported that staffing for the Sheriff's Office is down a bit due to officer involved shootings, as well as deputies being on leave due to assaults on officers and injuries sustained in those, and some COVID quarantines; but the Sheriff's office has now been staffed with another K9, totaling four canines in all.
- The Mayor asked if policing has changed at all with the spikes in COVID cases and Lt. Butler replied that it has not, but that they are just masking up and taking those measures to stay safe.
- Lt. Butler also reported suicides have increased, with about 7 over the last week alone.
- Michelle Roberts asked if the power point presentation could be shared, that was shown at the luncheon last week; Lt. Butler said he could send it out.

10. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 20-1117; A RESOLUTION OF THE UINTAH CITY COUNCIL, UINTAH UTAH; EXPRESSING OUR INTENT AND REQUESTING ANNEXATION INTO THE WEBER FIRE DISTRICT; AND ESTABLISHING THE SERVICE AREA TO BE ANNEXED: (00:33:07)

Presenter: Mayor Cutler

- Mayor Cutler opened discussion on this item in response to Dallas and Marc's public comments, and wanting to reiterate that this is not a referendum on the personnel of the Fire Department; stating there is nothing but the highest respect for their willingness to come and train, and their dedication to be here when they can – that this is not about the people of the Fire Department. Mayor Cutler explained that with potential costs adding up for equipment, etc., and with Chief Sacco moving, this has presented a good time to review the future of the Uintah Fire Department. Mayor Cutler further explained that in no way is Weber Fire District trying to take over Uintah Fire Department, gave an explanation of how talks came about on this possible annexation, and gave a timeline of steps that will occur if this resolution is approved this evening.
- Jerry Smith asked if a vote for this would give Uintah City citizens an opportunity in the future to all vote on this, and the Mayor stated that there would be if there was enough opposition to annexing, once the process is started with Weber Fire District; if not, then the annexation would just move forward.
- Michelle Roberts asked for clarification on citizen's being given the opportunity to vote on this annexation. The Mayor advised that if there were to be 10% of the registered voters that sent in/gave opposition to Weber Fire District's process, that this would then trigger this matter being on the voting ballot next year. The Mayor stated he was not sure how to word this right, but if 10% of the land owners by area were to object to the annexation process with Weber Fire District, then it would go to an election as well. Michelle asked if it would be possible to make the information available to the citizens, regarding how to oppose the decision to move forward with the annexation, if this is approved tonight; the Mayor's response was that it would be possible depending on how Weber Fire District moves forward and their timeline.
- Dave Boothe spoke next and said that his is a hard decision for him. Dave stated he joined the Uintah Fire Department in 1981 when he moved into the community, and for the next 32 years he served. Dave stated as he went through his 32 years of service, he realized that just like life, everything changes over time and nothing remains the same; sometimes these changes result in the need to step back and address issues. Dave touched on some of these issues being a change in equipment that is needed, turnover with volunteers, a change in the rules and regulations of the volunteer stations, and certifications required. Dave stated that none of the Council has ever said that they are taking this vote lightly, but have decided that they needed to get in and look at all of the options in regards to the future of the Fire Department, and that they have to do what they have been elected to do, and that is what they feel is best for the citizens of the community. Dave reiterated that they have high respect for the Volunteers of the Fire Department; the time that they have put in and their loyalty and that they are appreciated. Dave stated again that whichever way this vote goes tonight, it is not a reflection on the Fire Department or its volunteers; it is just what they feel is best for the community at this time. Dave thanked the volunteers again and expressed that he wished they were all present, so that he could pass that along.

- Kristi Bell spoke and thanked all of those who have taken time providing the Council with needed information. Kristi stated the decision tonight hasn't been taken lightly by anyone and that circumstances with COVID restrictions have made meeting difficult, but she believes they have been able to do their due diligence before arriving at making a decision tonight. Kristi stated she recognizes and shares in the sentiments of the history of the Uintah Fire Department. Kristi thanked the volunteers for the countless hours given and for being an example of what is good in this world. Kristi explained that after much time reviewing information given by both Uintah Fire and Weber Fire, that she has been able to come to the best decision that she was elected to make. Kristi touched on the change that has evolved through the years as well; where once Uintah Fire was formed to protect Uintah because help was too far away, we have other departments who are now responding in minutes to Uintah. Kristi stated she feels that there is strength in numbers, and we can now band together with other municipalities, combining our budgets, to fund a fully functional fire department that is fully staffed and equipped - providing the citizens of Uintah with a professional service is now a viable option. Kristi expressed that fire protection is about safety, and with the current volunteer instability, little to no desire in residents becoming volunteers, and multiple vacant leadership roles, the development of any sort of new plan in a timely manner is unlikely; the change to Weber Fire District would offer a positive change in structure with immediate improvements to safety for our citizens. Kristi stated Weber Fire District offers many services, and to build a department that could match the services provided by Weber Fire would cost more than joining the District itself; offering anything less to our citizens could possibly put their safety in undue jeopardy. Kristi further expressed that as an elected official, providing citizens the most services possible for their money is her goal; as a citizen, she wants the most qualified person to show up in her time of need. Challenging as it may be, Kristi stated that sometimes we have to separate sentimental feelings from facts to provide the best services to Uintah. Kristi asked current volunteers, that if annexation does occur, to consider accepting offers to continue their service to Uintah; training and continuing career development with Weber Fire District.
- Jerry Smith thanked Chief Sacco for his time rendered, and willingness to serve this community, and wished him well.
- Michelle Roberts apologized for not being here in person to look them all in the eye and thank them for their service. Michelle stated this decision is very hard for her because she has a lot of emotions and sentimentality for the Fire Department, with her father having been a volunteer firefighter in Uintah. Michelle expressed she shares the sentiments of her fellow council members in that what they were elected to do was to make the most financially correct decision and the best decision for the safety of our citizens; unfortunately, it is not the decision she wanted to make. Michelle thanked all of the volunteers for their time and service.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there were any other comments, and there were none. Mayor Cutler stated that per their training, the Mayor is not to make a motion or second it, and asked for a motion to be made at this time, either for or against this resolution.
- Dave Boothe motioned to accept Resolution No. 20-1117; A Resolution of the City Council expressing our Intent and Requesting Annexation into the Weber Fire District; and establishing the service area to be annexed.
- Jerry Smith seconded the motion.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; the motion passed.

11. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCEPTING THE FOUR (4) YEAR EXTENSION OF OUR AGREEMENT WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT AS STATED IN THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2016: (00:54:35)

Presenter: Kristi Bell

- Kristi Bell explained this is really just an extension of Uintah City's contract with Waste Management. The City has had a good response from the citizen's, with the services provided by Waste Management, and there have been very few complaints. This agreement is set to renew for another four years. The trash rates are staying the same, but the recycle rates are set to rise by \$1.10.
- Jerry Smith praised Waste Management for the service they have provided Uintah City.
- Dave Boothe stated he appreciates the fact that Waste Management has their own recycling plant, and that we can trust that our recycling efforts are making a difference.
- Kristi Bell motioned to accept the four-year extension of our agreement with Waste Management as stated in the terms of the agreement dated November 18th, 2016.
- Jerry Smith seconded the motion.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; the motion passed.

12. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 20-1117-G; A RESOLUTION OF THE UINTAH CITY COUNCIL, UINTAH UTAH; AMENDING, ADOPTING, AND SETTING FEES FOR THE UINTAH GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION: (00:57:11)

Presenter: Kristi Bell

- Kristi Bell touched on this in the prior discussion and pointed out that the fees are notated in this resolution.
- Kristi Bell motioned to approve Resolution 20-1117-G; A Resolution of the Uintah City Council, Uintah, Utah; Amending, Adopting, and Setting Fees for the Uintah garbage and recycling collection.
- Dave Boothe seconded the motion.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- Mayor Cutler touched on the price increase of \$1.10 for recycling.
- All in favor; Dave Boothe – yes; Kristi Bell – yes; Mayor Cutler – yes; Jerry Smith – yes; Michelle Roberts – yes.
- The motion passed.

13. **COUNCIL COMMENTS TO PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (00:58:55)

- Mayor Cutler stated he address the public comments when he spoke on agenda item number ten, and asked the council if they had any comments; there were none.

14. **COUNCIL REPORTS:** (00:59:20)

- There were none.

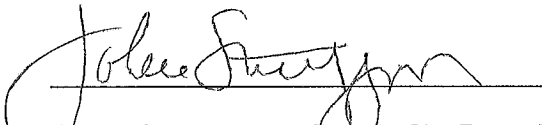
15. **MEETING ADJOURNMENT:** (00:59:30)

Dave Boothe motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Kristi Bell.

All in favor; the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED by City Council this 1st day of December, 2020.


A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jolene Sturzenegger", is written over a horizontal line.

Jolene Sturzenegger, Deputy City Recorder