

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
NOVEMBER 24, 2020
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Joe B Lyman

Kd. Perkins

Cheryl Bowers

Logan Shumway

Logan Monson

Robert Turk

City Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

City Economic Development Specialist:

Pratt Redd

City Police Chief:

JJ Bradford

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Others Attending: David Johnson, Paul Rogers

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kd Perkins

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Monson moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the November 6, 2020 meeting. Councilmember Turk seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Perkins

Councilmember Bowers

Councilmember Shumway

Councilmember Monson

Councilmember Turk

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

A. Terry Ekker presented the Project Report

Storm Drain Project

The project is substantially complete, reported Mr. Ekker. The contractor is working through final punch list items. Final acceptance of the project is anticipated for the end of the month.

Transportation Master Plan

The final draft is being prepared by Jones & Demille. Currently staff is working with property owners along the 800 North corridor between 100 East and Grayson Parkway. When an agreement is reached, the plan will come to Council for review.

Water Conservation Plan Update

A draft is near completion and will come to Council next month. The plan will need to be finalized by the end of the year.

Water Treatment Plant Membrane Filter Replacement

The filter module filter replacement process will begin in December.

Blanding Dam Site Feasibility Study

Jone & Demille Engineering has started the study. A technical memorandum will be completed in about 3 months.

B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report

Ms. Palmer told Council that the finances of the City are well within budgeted amounts. Sales tax is up 31% from 2019.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Resolution 11-24-2020-2 Appointing Blanding City Manager - Mayor Lyman

Mayor Lyman discussed the process taken in the selection of a new City Administrator. He then introduced David Johnson and asked for Council support in appointing him as the City Administrator.

Councilmember Shumway moved to approve Resolution 11-24-2020 Appointing David Johnson as the Blanding City Administrator. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

**Councilmember Shumway
Councilmember Monson
Councilmember Turk
Councilmember Perkins
Mayor Lyman**

Those voting NAY **Councilmember Bowers**

“ I am very passionate about ensuring that the City makes the best decision possible when hiring people and that decision is made without bias for last name or standing in the community. But is based upon the best fit for the position. I have concerns regarding the hiring process for this position and therefore, I cannot vote to appoint Mr. Johnson.

“A City manager is crucial to the City of Blanding, we have only had 5 City Managers in the history of our City. I see the City manager like the CEO or executive of our city. In my career, as an executive, I have completed literally thousands of interviews and hired many high level executives and management positions. This process should be done carefully and with thorough review of all qualified applicants to ensure that the person who best fits this role is chosen. Normally when hiring an executive level position it would also include an interview pool of 5-10 people and then a 2nd interview for the top candidates. Although we had 5-6 candidates who were qualified, we interviewed only two people and no second interviews were held for the position. While I supported interviewing the 2 people who did receive an interview, I will never know if we did a thorough review of candidates because we did not interview the many that were qualified. It’s important to note that if Mr. Johnson is approved by Council, I will give him my full support, however I cannot in good conscience support this appointment, when I don’t believe a thorough hiring process was completed.”

C. Resolution 11-24-2020-1 A Resolution Authorizing The Steel Solar Project Transaction Schedule Under the Master Firm Power Supply Agreement with Utah Association of Municipal Power Systems And Related Matters - Terry Ekker

Mr. Ekker explained that the Steel Solar Project will add an additional 646 kilowatts to the City's portfolio with UAMPS. The cost will be \$31.45 per Megawatt. When asked how it compared to other power sources, Mr. Ekker responded it is cheaper. The power will be available beginning in December 2022. The agreement will be in place for 25 years.

Councilmember Monson moved to approve Resolution 11-24-2020-1 A Resolution Authorizing The Steel Solar Project Transaction Schedule Under the Master Firm Power Supply Agreement with Utah Association of Municipal Power Systems And Related Matters. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Shumway
Councilmember Monson
Councilmember Turk

**Councilmember Bowers
Councilmember Perkins**

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

D. CARES Act Distribution - Mayor Lyman/Kim Palmer

Mayor Lyman and Ms. Palmer shared information and answered questions regarding the suggested CARES Act funding distribution. Funding must be spent before December 30th. Council was supportive of the items on the list and directed staff to move forward in purchasing the equipment on the list.

E. Resolution 11-24-2020-3 Mid Year Budget Adjustment - Kim Palmer

Ms. Palmer shared information regarding the necessary budget adjustments and the salary adjustments that had been previously discussed. Two options for salary adjustments were shared, option A would include the COLA increase and the compensation plan increases, option B included only the COLA increase. Council discussed the two options and additional budget adjustments.

Councilmember Perkins moved to approve Resolution 11-24-2020-3 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment. Councilmember Turk seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

**Councilmember Shumway
Councilmember Monson
Councilmember Turk
Councilmember Perkins
Councilmember Bowers**

Those voting NAY

None

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

F. San Juan Interlocal Agreement - TRT - Mayor Lyman

Mayor Lyman shared information regarding the ongoing communication with Mack McDonald regarding the TRT funding. He told Council that research is being conducted to verify claims made that the process of the County disbursing TRT to the City is illegal. Currently that claim has been found to be false. Mayor Lyman concluded by saying he will continue working to resolve the situation.

G. Tree For All/Christmas Fair Event - Mayor Lyman

Council discussed the request by the Christmas Fair organizers to use the Wellness Center for the

event. Paul Rogers, event representative, told Council that organizers have been working with the San Juan Public Health Department to ensure all COVID-19 protocols are followed. It is anticipated there will be 24 vendors. The fair is scheduled for December 5th and 6th.

6. INFORMATION

Councilmember Turk moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Shumway seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE	Councilmember Shumway
	Councilmember Monson
	Councilmember Turk
	Councilmember Bowers
	Councilmember Perkins

Those voting NAY	NONE
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

Council entered an executive session at 8:20 p.m.

Councilmember Monson moved to leave an executive session. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE	Councilmember Shumway
	Councilmember Monson
	Councilmember Turk
	Councilmember Bowers
	Councilmember Perkins

Those voting NAY	NONE
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

Council re-entered an open session at 8:44 p.m.

Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Turk seconded the motion. Mayor Lyman repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE	Councilmember Shumway
	Councilmember Monson

**Councilmember Turk
Councilmember Bowers
Councilmember Perkins**

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Lyman declared the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

By: _____

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder