

Gunnison City Council Public Hearing and Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 6, 2021, 7:00 PM
Gunnison City Hall, 38 West Center
Gunnison, UT 84634

Present: Mayor Lori Nay, Councilmembers: Robert Andersen, Shawn Crane, Stella Hill (Absent), and Rod Taylor, City Recorder Steven Jenson, City Treasurer Jodi Henline, Police Chief Seth Hendrickson, City Accountant Gary Keddington, and citizens Jay Clayton, Blake Donaldson, and Leigha Harris, also several unidentified citizens from Centerfield.

Presiding: Mayor Lori Nay

Invocation: City Accountant Gary Keddington, CPA

Presentation of Audit Report with Proposal Approval to Accept Gary Keddington CPA, Keddington & Christensen

Mayor Nay reported that the zoom meeting that was taking place with Gary was acquired through money that was from the COVID-19 grant from the State. Gary reported that it was good to see the Council even if it was everyone wearing their masks and wanted to just go over the audit with them and some of the things that the auditors found during the city audit. The accounting policies and procedures were not questioned during the audit. There were just a few things that needed to change that were not done at the time of the audit. Gary asked if everyone had received a copy of the audit either electronically or a hard copy. The council responded back that they had not as of yet, to which Gary responded he could check into that, and send it electronically as well as a few hard copies as well.

Some of the findings that were found were ones that had to do with looking to make sure the city was in compliance with State budgetary and fund balances, justice court, retirement, fraud risk assessment, restrictive taxes open and public meetings. The first finding that they had was that the Pool was over budget for the year. Gary had reported that to the Council several times that year and that finding was not anything new. There was also a finding on the Cash Management of the City. There is a report that has to be filed with the State Government twice a year. The report for June 30 2020 has been prepared, however, was not filed within the proper time frame. When that was found out Steven filed the paperwork that same day. Also, the minutes for the City Council meetings are to be prepared and posted with the State Public Notice website within 3 days of adoption and approval. That was not done with the dates that were pulled by the auditors. Gary reported that it was not even a requirement that Steven knew about that was needing to be done. That is something that is now known and will be completed in the future.

The last finding that the auditors found that had nothing to do with the State filing and another learning experience for Steven was the Federal Withholding. It was being pulled out of the payroll each pay period; it was just not being sent to the Federal Government each quarter with a 941 form. It was completed once that was found to be lacking. That was all of the findings that the auditors found and then Gary asked the Mayor and Council if there were any questions. There were no questions on the findings or the audit in general. Gary suggested that when the audit is sent to the Council that they read the Managements Discussion and Analysis which is the very first section of the audit. It is good because it is a comparison of this year to last year.

Gary then went on to talk about the revenues and how he wants to come to the next meeting in January in person and go over how the financials are doing and how the City is doing for the first 6 months of the new budget year. In October of 2020, Gary was able to come and let the Council know where the numbers were and that the Sales Tax was doing better than was expected. Some of the B&C road money has gone down. Then Mayor thanked Gary for his report and how it has been interesting how spending has gone up during the pandemic. Councilmember Shawn Crane asked when the audit would be received. Gary said that he would check up with them and then send it out as soon as possible. He would ask for 6 to 10 hard copies for the Council and also for the Public.

Discussion and Proposed Vote for Tami Larson (assistant to Judge McIff) as Court Clerk to fill vacancy created by Pam Barrus' planned departure from that position – Mayor Nay

Pam Barrus had sent an email to the Mayor giving her two weeks' notice to finish working as the Court Clerk as of Dec 31, 2020 and had arranged for Tami Larson to take over the office until a decision could be made on a permanent basis. Tami is already working with different cities in the County and would have no problem helping out with Gunnison City. She will be mainly working off site and that would save the City some money each month. She will be working with the public online as well as over the phone, and will be taking Pam Barrus' lap top so that she has the needed files and software to be up to speed right away. Fines will continue to be paid either online or at City Hall as they have been in the past. There are signs up informing the public that if they have any questions, they can call Tami on the phone or by email as well. She will be paid \$800 a month and will be on the payroll and paid every two weeks as was Pam. Councilmember Rod Taylor asked if Tami need to come into the office at City Hall. Mayor Nay responded that she would on days Court would be held or if there was a need to grab a file. In that way, there is still a need for the Court to have that office space for Judge McIff.

The Mayor asked City Treasurer Jodi Henline if she had been authorized by the court to take the money from the public for court fees and fines. Jodi reported that she was not sure but she does keep the money separate from city funds and that she had met with Judge McIff and Tami earlier. It was then put to the Council to see if they wanted to make a decision on keeping Tami Larson as the Court Clerk going forward. Councilmember Taylor asked if the Library would use Pam on a part time basis as well. The Mayor reported that Pam was still working at the Library and that the Court would now be separate from using employees. It was hopeful that Court proceedings would start soon this month or next.

Councilmember Taylor made the motion to approve Tami Larson as Court Clerk to fill the vacancy created by Pam Barrus's planned departure. Councilmember Andersen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 with Councilmember Stella Hill absent.

Open to Public for Questions that deal with City Business - Mayor Nay

The Mayor mentioned that there were several members in the audience at the meeting tonight that she did not recognize. She mentioned that also there was not an agenda item for the issue that she believed that many were there to speak on and that only business pertaining to Gunnison City would be addressed. She then opened the floor to any citizens of Gunnison City that had any questions to speak for 90 seconds or no more than 2 minutes and then 5 minutes will be given for public comment and council response.

Leigha Harris who is a Gunnison City resident since 2013 got up to ask a question as to the hiring process of city employees. She was a little confused as to why Carl Wimmer was not hired for the Chief of Police position with Gunnison Valley Police Department. She was wanting more information as to the hiring process and what went into the decision of choosing from the candidates as well. The Mayor began by stating that Gunnison Valley Police Department is a unified police department with Gunnison and Centerfield Cities. They were created as a unified police department 4 years ago. Because they are unified, they are a separate government agency, they have a separate governing board. Leigha then asked if both City Councils from Gunnison and Centerfield made the Police Board. Councilmember Taylor responded that there was one representative from each city council that were appointed to the board and acted separately from the City Council. It was then asked when the Police Board met and how to get on the agenda? It was reported that Tami Wineger was the one to contact or Keith Garf was also the board chairperson and could get that item on the agenda. The Police Department is housed in Gunnison City Hall and rents office space from the city of Gunnison. There was a question as to have the dates updated online that the fire department allows control burns. Councilmember Mellor reported that he will have Fire Chief Jed Hansen contact Steven Jensen to update that on the city website.

There were no other questions or concerns that were brought up at that time from the public.

Discussion and Proposed Approval of Ordinance 2021-1, City Council Meeting Schedule for 2021

The Mayor started the discussion with reporting that there were items already on the agenda for January 20th meeting and would like to move City Council meetings for the month of February from Wednesday to Thursdays. That way Councilmember Stella Hill would be able to attend meetings due to conflicting events on Wednesdays. Then for the rest of the year, meetings would be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. July would be just the 3rd Wednesday due to 4th of July. Then in December the second meeting of the month would be at noon to accommodate any emergency business before the end of the holidays and year.

Councilmember Rod Taylor made the motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1, City Council Meeting Schedule for 2021. Councilmember Robert Andersen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Proposed Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 16, 2020

The Mayor asked if the Council had had the opportunity to view the City Council Meeting Minutes for December 16th. Councilmember Taylor was having problems getting them to come up on his lap top. With the help of Councilmember Shawn Crane, he was able to find them. The Council took some time to quickly look over the document of the minutes and found them to be good. The Mayor asked if this caught up the city on the minutes and it was reported that we were close. Councilmember Crane asked if he was not at the meeting, could he still vote on the approval. It was decided that he would have to abstain from the vote.

Councilmember Taylor reported that the Tree Trimming on Main Street section of future items, the businesses were not contacted, it was a couple of contractors that were giving bids. The money being used to pay the contractors would be coming from the extra that was not used with the changing out of the street lights on Main Street. There is only one bid that has come in so far, there was another oral bid, however, it was higher than the one in writing. Kurt Jensen was the one that the lower bid and he would be doing it later

when the streets were dryer and the snow could be cleared from the streets. Kurt will contact Donald Childs and schedule a good time for that to move forward and have the city pick up the fallen limbs and haul them off, that way the city can save more money. Councilmember Robert Andersen reported that he also was not at the Dec 16th meeting and it would be Councilmember Taylor and Councilmember Mellor to vote on approving the minutes.

Councilmember Mellor made the motion to approve the minutes to the Council Meeting for December 16, 2020. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Proposed Approval of Bills and Adjustments

The Mayor reported that a couple of former employees were not taken off the life insurance policy with the TRUST account and that has been updated and a refund was going to be coming back to us. Also, we would be submitting a few claims with Travelers on the vandalism of the solar panels and also with the Sorensen Well Pump that went out because of excessive Surges on-site.

Councilmember Andersen made the motion to approve the bills and adjustments. Councilmember Mellor seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

City Business and Future Items

Water Update – Gunnison City Resident Jay Clayton asked what the situation on the City Water for next year irrigation. It was reported by Councilmember Mellor that there are 7 ½ inches of snow in the mountains that just to be average there needs to be 30 inches of snow. The City will be hurting if we do not get more snow this season.

Trails – Council Mellor mentioned that the trails committee would be meeting later and had some ideas of how to honor Dwight Inouye with his passing and being such a pillar in the community. There is also another possible donor to help with more construction with trails on the G-Hill.

Planning & Zoning Commission Renewal Terms – Councilmember Taylor asked the Mayor if she had been able to talk to any of the member of the commission that were up for the term renewal. She reported that it was on her list to do. She then mentioned that with Jay Clayton in the audience she was needing to meet with him privately and see where he stood on continuing to be a part of the commission. He reported that he had been there for 4 years and jokingly said that no one liked him and want him there. Everyone laughed and the Mayor stated that she wanted him to think about staying on for another term.

City Retreat – The Mayor suggested that the Council/Mayor along with the City Employees have another retreat like last year. The retreat was held on the campus of Snow College in Ephraim. She thought it was a good way to build team unity and to have everyone on the same page. The question was then asked about a date in mid-February or beginning of February? Councilmember Crane suggested it might be better to wait until the end of February or even into mid-March to give time for the pandemic of COVID-19 to pass.

Public Hearing for Sidewalk & Roads – The Mayor informed the Council that the next Council Meeting on January 20th would be the public hearing for the CIB application with input on what roads and sidewalks are needing to be improved or replaced throughout the city. One of the projects that will be worked on will be the sidewalk along 200 East. It has become a major road for the public to travel and has become unsafe for pedestrians walking along that street going to and from school.

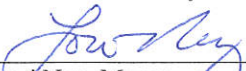
Adjourn

Councilmember Crane made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Andersen seconded the motion. The motion unanimous.

8:15 p.m. Adjourn



Steven Jenson, City Recorder



Lori Nay, Mayor

1-20-2021
Approval Date