

**Gunnison City Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 7:00 PM
Gunnison City Hall, 38 West Center
Gunnison, UT 84634**

Present: Mayor Lori Nay; Councilmembers Robert Andersen, Shawn Crane, Stella Hill, Justen Mellor, and Rod Taylor; City Recorder Steven Jensen; Brandon Stocksdales from the National Parks Service, and citizens Ron Christenson, Blake Donaldson, Dr. Dwight Inouye, Connor Saulter, Michelle Hill, JoAnn Taylor, and Public Works Director Donald Childs.

Presiding: Mayor Lori Nay

Invocation: Councilmember Shawn Crane

Vote to approve the expansion of the Gunnison Valley Animal Clinic

Councilmember Taylor made the motion to approve the expansion of the Gunnison Valley Animal Clinic. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Discussion and proposed approval of new business / Day Care Business License – Marci Childs

Marci Childs has purchased the day care on Gunnison Main Street and plans to reopen it as Childs Play Learning Center. She said she has already got her state licensing for it. Childs has been doing childcare in her home for almost ten years. Councilmember Taylor said Marci has met with the Planning and Zoning committee and they have recommended her to be approved by the council.

Councilmember Taylor made the motion to approve Marci Childs for a business license for her day care. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Public Hearing 7 to 7:30 pm – Proposed Approval of the G Hill Area Plan into the City's General Plan – Mayor Nay

Councilmember Justen Mellor made a motion to go into public hearing. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed with at 5-0 vote.

The Mayor brought up Brandon Stocksdales the City's National Parks Service representative to give an overview of the G-Hill plan. Stocksdales explained that Gunnison has applied for two grants through the Utah Recreational Trails Program and he announced that the City was awarded both grants. The Motorized Grant Application will bring in \$18,000. That will secure a ten-year lease for the larger G-Hill area and protect and improve some of the motorized trails. The other grant will bring in \$21,875 to purchase the immediate land around the G-Hill. The total amount Gunnison will receive from the grants is \$39,875. The City has also received or will receive \$22,000 from STLA, \$4,000 from the Trails Committee, \$14,000 from the City that was set aside in the form of grants, and \$2,000 that was raised at a car show. The City will purchase the 20 acres that surround the G-Hill and lease about 280 acres. The Mayor then opened the meeting up to the public. She said those wishing to speak must come to the microphone and are limited to two minutes. She also asked that comments are kept impersonal and kept to the subject at hand.

Citizen Ron Christenson said he is an advocate of this project. He was born and raised here and has been here for 44 years. He is happy to be part of this committee.

Citizen Blake Donaldson asked what the 20 acres would cost. The Mayor responded that STLA would charge \$1,750 an acre plus closing costs for a total of \$37,000. He also asked how much the City will have to pay after the grants and was told they will match the \$2,000 from the car show and \$12,000 beyond that. Donaldson asked where the \$12,000 will come from. The Mayor told him it is the original City money that came from the state grant. Donaldson remarked that the newspaper said there was a 79-page plan on this project. He said he called the City offices and asked for a copy and they did not have it. He asked how you can have a public hearing when people can't see the plan. Councilmember Mellor said he would email him a copy. Donaldson said there are a lot of people who would like to see it and asked why it hasn't been published.

Councilmember Hill said the book (plan) has been at the work meetings. There may not be copies of it but it has been here so if Donaldson has not had a chance to look at it, he must have missed a meeting. Donaldson asked what meeting that was and Hill told him a work meeting where the papers were out for anyone to look at.

The Mayor said basically, it talks about concepts and ideas of what they'd like to do; it's not a concrete plan.

Dr. Dwight Inouye said he has worked with Citla with the School Board and Boy Scouts over the years. Their charge is to make use of the public lands in the proper way and said he thinks it is reasonable to approach the Governor and say that this is part of our county and we don't need to pay \$1,700 an acre.

Councilmember Mellor asked the young kids in attendance to come forward and share their views on it.

Connor Saulter said as a member of the Boy Scouts he does a lot of bike riding and thinks it would be great to have bike trails up there.

Dr. Inouye said if we get the land for free, we can use the money to make the trails. He said that Ephraim and Richfield have each received \$300,000 to build mountain bike trails. The Mayor said now that the City has retained ownership, they will be applying for those kinds of things next year.

Scottsdale explained the different kinds of grants needed for trails in the future and how he will be able to help the City get them. He said he will be able to come up with a plan to help while minimizing the burden on the community. He will look at ways to do that. Citizen Michelle Hill, who is also on the trails committee, said they are working on getting permanent lighting on the G-Hill. The lighting can be used for G-Day, 4th of July, and other occasions. She also said that the traditions of lighting the G as a community is so fun and brings the community together.

Councilmember Stella Hill said that money raised from the auction at the 4th of July went to the G-Hill project this year and people knew that when they donated. She asked Councilmember Mellor to remark on that.

Councilmember Mellor said he has heard many positive comments on the G-Hill project. Over \$20,000 was raised at the auction this year; all of it going to the G-Hill.

Councilmember Crane said he did some number crunching and so far they've come up with \$97,875. That is a rough estimate. He also said that kind of money would be hard to imagine if this was something the community didn't want to see go forward.

Councilmember Rod Taylor said his concern is the financial status of the City. He said we're heavily in debt and the City has borrowed from the General Fund for the last three years, to the tune of a half a million dollars, to balance the budget. He said he applauds the volunteerism, because that is the way to do things.

Councilmember Hill made a motion to go close the public hearing. Councilmember Crane seconded the motion. The motion passed with at 5-0 vote.

Councilmember Mellor made a motion to approve the G-Hill Area Plan into the City's General Plan. Councilmember Andersen seconded the motion. The motion passed with at 4-1 vote. Taylor voted against.

Discuss possible change to swine ordinance for inclusion within city limits – Councilmember Rod Taylor

Currently, there are no pigs allowed in Gunnison City limits and a few weeks ago some Gunnison citizens asked the Council to reconsider this. Councilmember Taylor said the City needs to decide whether to change the ordinance or leave it the way it is. Right now, pigs, emus, peacocks, ostriches are not allowed. Councilmember Andersen said he thinks we're better off leaving it as it or we're going to open a can of worms. The Mayor said she spoke with a lot of people, and most of them thought it was okay if it was a pet pig but not if it's a pig to raise for slaughter. Councilmember Taylor suggested that it could be approved for a particular zone such as an A1 or RR1 zone. The Mayor asked if the Council is in agreement that no swine be allowed in the city limits but a pet pig, such as a pot belly pig, would be allowed in the A1 or RR1 zone. Councilmember Andersen said it would be easier to just say, "No pigs in city limits." Taylor said if there is an ordinance change, there has to be a public meeting about it and it has to go through the Planning and Zoning. The Mayor asked if there would be enough support for this change at a public hearing and Council Members Crane and Andersen both said to leave it the way it is. Councilmember Hill agreed. The Mayor said that at this point she'll put it on hold and will talk to the citizens who are requesting a change to the ordinance.

Update on Fire Department – importance of ISO ratings and wild land fire planning – Councilmember Justen Mellor

Councilmember Mellor said Fire Chief Jed Hansen tested all the valves on the hydrants. He explained that International Standard of Operation (ISO) affects the insurance policy of everyone, especially commercial. Gunnison's tested at a 6 but may be able to score a 4. In the flow tests, Gunnison is above the minimum. As far as emergency preparedness, the fire department is on task. Mellor reported that the fire department has done all that is required of them for the ISO. There was not one place in Gunnison that failed. Mayor Nay reminded everyone about what happened in the north end of the county a few years ago when a fire started and all the towns sent in a bill to the state. The state said that it wasn't their responsibility but the responsibility of that city. There was no way that city could have handled it. The fire would have bankrupted that city. So now, the legislature determined that every city needs to pay into a wild land fire protection plan. Gunnison City would get billed either \$2,600 or they mitigation matters that would go toward that amount. This year's mitigation matter has been taken care of when the fire department removed the tamaracks.

Pressurized Irrigation Update regarding water shortage with plan determined for resident use – Council and Mayor Nay

The Mayor asked city employee Donald Childs to come forward so the Council can ask his questions about the pressurized irrigation. Donald reported that the pond if filled up to 3.3 acre feet, so it has another 3 feet to go before it's full. It took three days to fill up to 3 feet. Councilmember Taylor asked what the City is getting out of Peacock. Donald replied 2 acre feet per day. Mayor Nay asked if a full pond will be enough water for the entire town if they divide the town in half for watering days. Donald said he'll just have to see how it goes. If people water like their supposed to, he may not have to shut it off. He said the problem is the people who water every day. People should only be watering twice a week. Donald suggested the west side water Monday evening at

6 p.m. to Tuesday morning at 6 a.m. and Wednesday evening to Thursday morning. Then the east side would water Tuesday evening until Wednesday morning and Thursday evening until Friday morning. This would allow the pond to fill up on the weekends.

Councilmember Taylor suggested a once a week per side watering schedule.

The Mayor said the choice is between watering once a week per side of town or twice a week per side of town.

Donald said he would try the twice a week schedule and see how it goes. If residents water like they're supposed to then they should be able to continue to water twice a week.

Councilmember Andersen said the high school would like to put in another line to water the ball fields so they can water with culinary when they run out of irrigation water. The Mayor said she doesn't see a problem with this since it is revenue for the City.

Councilmember Rod Taylor made a motion to the pressurized irrigation water schedule. The west side of town will water Monday night at 6 p.m. to Tuesday Morning at 10 a.m. and Wednesday night at 6 p.m. to Thursday morning at 10 a.m. The east side of town will water Tuesday night at 6 p.m. until Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. and Thursday evening at 6 p.m. until Friday morning at 10 a.m. There will be no watering on the weekends. Councilmember Andersen seconded the motion. The motion passed with at 5-0 vote.

Citizen Blake Donaldson spoke up with a suggestion to put meters on everyone's pressurized irrigation. This, he said, would keep people from misusing their water.

Steven Jenson said he would post the new watering schedule at the bank, the post office, the newspaper, the radio, and on the city website. Jodi will send out a text message letting everyone know the new schedule.

Discuss Work Space grant opportunities and possible renovation of downstairs space for this purpose – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay said she is working on this. She said there are two different grants, one from Rural Development that says if we create a workspace for someone then they will give us money for that. She talked to the City's IT guys and they said it would cost about \$6,400 to get three computers. That's the minimum that we would need to do this. There is money up to \$230,000 to do this. We might be able to get our elevator through this and develop the space downstairs. There's one from Utah State University that has money for the management and operational part of this. This would pay for someone to oversee it. Mayor Nay asked the Council if they wanted her to look more into this. Does the Council think this is a good use of the downstairs?

Councilmember Mellor asked if there were people who would use this. The Mayor said, no. She doesn't think there is a push for this. She asked if this was a "build it and they will come," and is this an opportunity to finish one of the rooms in the basement and get the elevator.

The Mayor said it will cost about \$100,000 to get the elevator and rest rooms done and the grant is for \$250,000. The deadline for this is September 15th. She said she will look into it more and let them know what she finds.

Councilmember Taylor said if the City can get the elevator and bathroom downstairs it would be worth looking into.

Update on Beautification – Councilmember Stella Hill

Councilmember Hill asked if she needs to let homeowners know what the beautification requirement are so they know if they are not compliant before the City contacts them. The Mayor suggested sending them a copy of the ordinance so they know if they are compliant.

Citizen JoAnn Taylor said there are letters that are already printed up that she can send out.

Councilmember Hill said she received some complaints on a particular property but she doesn't think the property owner knows what they are doing wrong.

JoAnn Taylor said there is a trailer hooked up to power behind Main Freeze on Main Street. There is also a hose that goes from the house to the trailer. Councilmember Hill said she knew about that and it is on her list to talk to them.

Update on 300 South Street Modification of Right of Way – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay gave an update on 300 South. She said a new law was passed and the state owns that road as well as the City. Nobody knows what to do with this lot. It was just put on the books May 20th. It's now in front of the Attorney General. Sanpete County Recorder will not sign over the title to Gunnison without the state's approval.

Discussion of possible sale with Council approval of a small section of City property on Main Street to adjacent landowner – Mayor Nay

Mayor Nay said that Citizen Mike Wozab approached her about a section of land behind his property. The land is 28 ½ feet by 99 feet. Wozab would like to buy this from the City so he can put a garage there and improve his land. The total size of the property he wants to buy is 2,821 square feet, which is .06 acres.

Councilmember Andersen said he thinks it will cause a problem if the City sell that because it will jeopardize that piece of property. Councilmember Hill said she doesn't know why that would affect anything.

Andersen said people who want a business want as much frontage as they can get. Future business owners may want to use it as a parking lot or a drive-around.

Mayor Nay said the City may want to hold off on this until they can sell the adjoining property to a business and see if they want it. If they don't then it can be sold to the Wozabs.

Proposed approval of bills and adjustments –

Councilmember Andersen made a motion to pay the bills. Councilmember Hill seconded it. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

City Business and Future Items

Bills – Councilmember Mellor said that Janell Braighwaite's name is still on the PHP. He asked if Steven could get that changed. He also asked if the City is caught up on their bills. Steven said yes.

United We March – Councilmember Mellor reported on where he is with the United We March event and what he needs from the Council. He asked Councilmember Hill if he can use the stage in the Park and the hand sanitizing stations. It will be held on September 11 and 12. The Mayor asked Donald if he would set up the stage on the 10th.

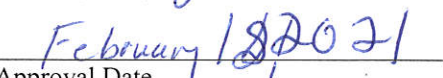
Lighting – Councilmember Taylor said he has prices on the lights and labor and it should be what was projected. He said he felt like he got the best deal. It will be for 113lights. This project has been budgeted and will be about \$13-14,000

Adjourn

Council-member Andersen made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.


Steven Jenson, City Recorder


Lori Nay, Mayor


Approval Date