

**TOQUERVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Business Meeting Minutes**  
**March 17, 2021, at 6:00 pm**  
**212 N. Toquer Blvd, Toquerville Utah**



Present: Mayor Lynn Chamberlain; Councilmembers: Keen Ellsworth, Justin Sip, Gary Chaves, Chuck Williams; Staff: Zoning Official Mike Vercimak, Treasurer Dana McKim, Public Works Director Lance Gubler, Recorder Ruth Evans; Support Staff: Planning Chairman Dan Catlin, Hurricane Valley Fire District Representative Merlin Spendlove; Absent: Councilman Ty Bringhurst, Attorney Heath Snow.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilman Chaves led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Sip gave the invocation. There were no opening comments from Council Members or residents. There were no statements of belief voiced.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The Council reviewed the agenda and noted that business items 1, 2, and 5 need to be tabled because Councilman Bringhurst and Attorney Snow are absent. There were no disclosures, nor conflict declarations from Council Members.

**C. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Review and possible approval of meeting minutes from February 3<sup>rd</sup> Work Meeting and February 17<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.

*Councilman Keen Ellsworth moved to approve the meeting minutes from February 3rd Work Meeting and February 17<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting. Councilman Chuck Williams seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*

Review and possible approval of City Expenditures from February 2021.

*Councilman Justin Sip moved to approve the City Expenditures from February 2021. Councilman Chuck Williams seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*

**D. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Hurricane Valley Fire District Representative Merlin Spendlove reported that 1,000 COVID vaccines will be available this Friday for all those who would like one. Shots will be administered starting at 7:00 a.m. and are first come first serve. Please spread the word to all who would like the vaccine.

Zoning Administrator Mike Vercimak reported that Toquerville is starting to get busy with land use applications. There are two nightly rental applications, one conditional use permit, a preliminary plat, and a subdivision application that have all been submitted this month.

Planning commission Chair Dan Catlin reported that last meeting five annual renewals for conditional use permits were approved and two were approved based upon them renewing their



City business license. The subdivision preliminary plat was tabled due to not having the current plat map, and the Anderson Junction plat was tabled. A zone change application for the Browse exit and the MPDO ordinance were both recommended for approval. The Planning Commission is working on revising the PDO ordinance.

Public Works Director Lance Gubler did not have anything to report.

**E. PRESENTATION:**

Melanie Abplanalp, the Washington County Election Supervisor, presented information regarding the vote by mail election process. The State of Utah is a vote by mail state. The County follows a very strict code and process of collecting, checking, and counting ballots. Every signature is verified. Voting by mail is a convenient and secure way to vote.

**F. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Resident Wayne Olsen commented that he heard mining work was going to start on the hillsides and wondered if the Council had any measures in place protecting the hillsides. The Council responded that an extraction permit was given but all mining work would be on top of the hill where it won't be seen.

**G. BUSINESS:**

1. Discussion on increasing culinary water rates and base gallon usage.

*Councilman Justin Sip moved to table the discussion on increasing culinary water rates and base gallon usage. Councilman Keen Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*

2. Discussion and possible action on Ordinance 2021.XX 3-1-7 License term and payment dates.

*Councilman Justin Sip moved to table Ordinance 2021.XX 3-1-7 License term and payment dates. Councilman Keen Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*

3. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2021.XX Fee schedule, business license late fee and cemetery open close fee.

The Council discussed the business license late fee of \$20.00 will be added and the \$200.00 open close fee for cremations and infants under 2 will be removed.

*Councilman Keen Ellsworth moved to approve Resolution 2021.XX Fee schedule, business license late fee and cemetery open close fee. Councilman Justin Sip seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*



4. Discussion and possible action on City Administrator position.

Mayor Chamberlain sent out the final revised version of the City Administrator duties and responsibilities to the Council. The job will be posted tomorrow and will be open for approximately 2 weeks.

5. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2021.XX modifications to Specs and Standards, standard road cross section.

***Councilman Justin Sip moved to table Resolution 2021.XX modifications to Specs and Standards, standard road cross section. Councilman Keen Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.***

6. Discussion and possible expenditure approval in the amount of \$43,116.00 for playground equipment for Westfield Park.

Councilman Sip commented that this playground equipment is on sale and it would be a good start to the Westfield Park. There is money in the parks budget for this project. The total cost including installation will be \$43,116.00. Councilman Chaves was not in favor of purchasing the playground equipment first. There is nowhere for parents to sit, no bathrooms, and no landscaping. Councilman Sip responded that the project needs to start somewhere. Bathrooms are very expensive and need to be budgeted for. There is not enough money in the budget to put the whole park in all at once.

Resident Jake Peart was not in favor of raising taxes to raise money for parks.

Dan Catlin commented that there are many kids in that neighborhood and the Westfield Park has been neglected. This neighborhood needs a park to get kids off the street.

Resident Sandy Cordova commented that the funds from the billboard signs were supposed to be set aside for youth and kids. Perhaps this money could be used for parks.

***Councilman Chuck Williams moved to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$43,116.00 for playground equipment for Westfield Park. Councilman Sip seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.***

7. Discussion and possible action on city meeting schedule.

The Council discussed possibly rearranging the schedule to have a more logical, organized progression for the application approval process. The Council discussed different dates and times or only have one meeting a month instead of two to better accommodate the schedule. Zoning official Mike Vercimak commented that the current schedule is actually a very good schedule and applications are moving through at a good pace. The Council decided to keep the current schedule for another six months then re-evaluate at that time. The Council discussed only hearing public comments at public hearings and during the public forum to reduce the length of the meetings.



Resident Wayne Olsen commented that the Council says one thing but doesn't mean it. the public is not involved in the work meeting. The Council doesn't have time to consider items that are discussed at one meeting. The Council will have already made their decision and won't listen to the public. Don't shut the public out, they need to be actively involved. The Council should listen to the public in the work meeting, then make a decision in the business meeting.

**H. COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Justin Sip reported there was a trail meeting via Zoom. A field trip is scheduled for Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> to go to Toquer Falls to assess the right of way, the restroom and sanitation issues, and road maintenance. There has also been discussion about possibly de-annexing the road to the County. The Solid Waste District is close to being finished with picking up the Blucans. The design for the new Confluence Sewer plant is moving forward.

Keen Ellsworth reported the State has allocated approximately \$16.5 million for the bypass road. Construction is anticipated to start in July. The bypass road remains a City project, but it will be built to UDOT standards. There was a meeting with Councilman Williams and the proposed sports complex developer. The BLM has requested additional information from the City about the sports complex project, which has been submitted. The developer has committed to install artificial turf fields to reduce water usage. There will be approximately 15 acres devoted to city parks and trails.

Gary Chaves reported that during the Confluence Park meeting, they delayed the staircase project due to the recent snow and moisture.

Chuck Williams reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will be scheduled for Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> because the 4<sup>th</sup> is on a Sunday.

Mayor Lynn Chamberlain did not have anything to report.

**I. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Toquerville Spring cleanup days will be April 16-18<sup>th</sup>.

**J. ADJOURN:**

*Councilman Justin Sip moved to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting. Councilman Keen Ellsworth seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried, 4-0. Keen Ellsworth – aye, Justin Sip – aye, Gary Chaves – aye, Chuck Williams – aye.*

Mayor Chamberlain adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

  
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Mayor – Lynn Chamberlain

4-21-21  
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Date

  
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Attest: City Recorder – Ruth Evans

