

Mount Pleasant City
115 West Main Street
Mount Pleasant, UT 84647
Phone: 435-462-2456
FAX: 435-462-3199



City Council Minutes
13 April 2021
6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Mayor Mike Olsen
Councilmembers:
Justin Atkinson
Rondy Black
Sam Draper
Russell Keisel
Kevin Stallings

1. **Welcome --Mayor**

Mayor Olsen welcomed everyone out to the Regular Council Meeting of April 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

2. **Opening Ceremony**

Pledge of Allegiance – Colter Allen

Opening Prayer—Rajon Zed (Hindu Leader)

(Calling in remotely) (He left the meeting after the prayer)

3. **Roll Call**

Present: Justin Atkinson, Kevin Stallings, Mike Olsen (Not voting), Russell Keisel, Rondy Black, Sam Draper.

Others in Attendance: Jeanne Tejada (Recorder), Shane Ward (Power Superintendent), Colter Allen (Public Works Director), Pam Stoker, Claudia Jarrett, Paul Madsen, Mary Hill, Rhett Wilkinson (The Messenger), and Mark Larsen.

4. **Approval of Minutes -- Mayor**

- **March 9, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting held at 6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Olsen clarified that in the minutes it mentions that the lot split was not done legally, but for the record, after research, it was found out that it was done the right way.

Motion: Approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting held at 6:30 pm as written.

Moved by Sam Draper

Seconded by Rondy Black

Motion passed unanimously.

- **March 9, 2021 Closed Session**

Motion: Approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Closed Session as written.

Moved by Rondy Black

Seconded by Justin Atkinson.

Motion passed unanimously.

- **March 23, 2021 Public Information Meeting held at 6:00 p.m.**

Motion: Approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 Public Information Meeting held at 6:00 pm as written.

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Moved by Russell Keisel
Seconded by Kevin Stallings
Motion passed unanimously.

- **March 23, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting held at 6:30 p.m.**
Motion: Approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting held at 6:30pm as written.
Moved by Sam Draper
Seconded by Justin Atkinson
Motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Adjustments – Mayor

Transaction Register dated 3-01-2021 to 3-31-2021 in the amount of \$519.60.

Motion: To Accept the Transaction Register dated 3-01-2021 to 3-31-2021 in the amount of \$519.60.

Moved by Sam Draper

Seconded by Kevin Stallings

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary: Yes = 5**).

Yes: Justin Atkinson, Kevin Stallings, Russell Keisel, Rondy Black, Sam Draper.

*Councilmember Keisel had to leave at 7:00 pm for another meeting he had this evening.

6. Approval of Claims and Requisitions – Mayor

- **Claims Register dated 3-20-2021 to 4-09-2021 in the amount of \$498,155.47.**

Motion: Approve the Claims Register dated 3-20-2021 to 4-09-2021 in the amount of \$498,155.47.

Moved by Justin Atkinson

Seconded by Rondy Black.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary: Yes = 4**).

Yes: Justin Atkinson, Kevin Stallings, Rondy Black, Sam Draper.

Absent: Russell Keisel.

- **Requisition #41320210926 to IRBY for \$21,300.00.**

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This is underground wire to be used at the City Park to put the primary power lines underground around the park. Councilmember Atkinson said that the city would not qualify for some grant funds if the power is overhead at the park.

Motion: Approve Requisition #41320210926 to Irby in the amount of \$21,300.00 for electrical wire.

Moved by Rondy Black

Seconded by Sam Draper.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Yes = 4).

Yes: Justin Atkinson, Kevin Stallings, Rondy Black, Sam Draper.

Absent: Russell Keisel.

7. Public Participation

No one signed up for public participation.

8. Discussion/Action – *Mark Larsen*

- Discussion/Action: Presentation on making Mt. Pleasant City a Constitutional City.

His family moved here a little over 2 years ago. He came in to make a proposal concerning the Constitution of the United States. Many cities and counties are considering or passing ordinances regarding the Constitution of the United States. He requested the council consider declaring our city a Constitutional Sanctuary City. He will also be petitioning the County to do the same. The ordinances that other cities/counties have done are online. He will send the links the councilmembers. (see attachment for what was read in council—3pages)

9. Discussion/Action – *Fire Department*

- It has been quite for the most part. Had some issues with an extrication the other night, but it was discussed in fire district. It will be going to the county attorney to look at.

10. Discussion/Action -- *Public Works Department*

- Discussion and possible action on items pertaining to the Mt Pleasant City Public Works Department.
 - Busy time of year. They have Twin Creek Irrigation up and fully functioning. Pleasant Creek is not sitting well. The main line was hit just below Parley's pond. They repaired it, but the repair did not hold.

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They are hopeful it will be fixed and up and running by next week. There is concern that there was rock/gravel sucked into our system that could cause some major problems for our system. The line had to be flushed and they are hopeful they got it all out.

- Working on potholes
- Started working on all city grounds. The contract is out for bid for fertilizing and weed spraying.
- Would like some of the COVID money to go towards helping with our water problem at the Cemetery and Park.

11. Discussion/Action -- *Power Department*

- **Discussion and possible action on items pertaining to the Mt Pleasant City Power Department.**
 - Irrigation problem affects our Hydro too. He will not turn the Hydro on until they are sure there is not any rock/gravel in the system. The City just put \$40,000 into fixing this Hydro, so he does not want to take a chance of damaging it. We will have to deal with some lost generation. There was a brief discussion on whether the company that caused the damage could be billed for the lost generation.
 - They have about 23 projects they are working on.
 - May 11 is when the transformer will be sent out.
 - They have the ConToy Substation all energized.

12. Council Reports

- **Justin Atkinson**
 - Conservation funds: We are hoping to get some funds to work on several things at the city park. Some of the options are picnic tables, playground, restroom, pickle ball courts. This application is due May 1, 2021.
 - Wondered about if the City could come up with their own community flag. Wondered about having a contest for someone to design a community flag. There was a small discussion about how the city has a city flag that flies on each end of town, but maybe it is time to come up with a new flag.
- **Kevin Stallings**

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- Bid to install fabric, boulders, gravel, plants, and drip lines on the two signs on each end of town would be \$950/sign.
- Also discussed the cemetery. He wishes the road by the new section could be a little wider.

- **Russell Keisel**

- He had to leave the meeting early but said he did not have anything to report before he left.

- **Rondy Black**

- Discussed roads and he would like to see the city tune up some of the worst roads. The mayor mentioned that he spoke with the Financial Director who told him that there might be enough in the city road funds to go in and fix the roads in Aspen Village.
- The councilmembers had a brief discussion on the need to look at the city standards/ordinances pertaining to new development.

- **Sam Draper**

- Forest service is expecting a big year as far as fires this year.

13. Mayor Report

- Would like to hold a special work session. Councilmember Stallings suggested they do it on April 20, 2021 at 6 – 8 pm.
It was decided to hold it the 20th from 6-8pm.
- April 27 at 6 will hold a special budget meeting.
- Test well will be drilled.
- Heard back from UDOT today about putting in a sidewalk on the way to Terrel's on State Street. From about 600 South out to Terrel's.

14. Adjourn

Motion: Adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting held April 13, 2021.

Moved by Kevin Stallings

Seconded by Sam Draper

Motion passed unanimously.

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Jeanne M. Tejada, Recorder

Mr. Mayor, council members, thank you for the opportunity to take a few minutes to share a few thoughts and to petition you as City leaders to possibly take some action on a matter that is very important to me and many others in our community.

My name is Mark Larsen. My family and I are relatively new to Mount Pleasant, having moved here a little over two years ago from the Salt Lake area. We moved to escape the big city and to hopefully give our children a better place to grow up. We love living here in Mt. Pleasant and Sanpete County. We thank you for your service to our community and in working to make it the great place that it is.

Over the past few years I, like many of you probably have, have watched as the Constitution of our nation has been slowly chipped away at by politicians in Washington, and worse, by unelected bureaucrats that do not believe that the Constitution is a divinely inspired document as I do. The Constitution was established to protect rights granted unto all by our creator and to limit the power and control that Government has over us. Unfortunately, there are those who don't understand or who disagree with this truth and believe that the Constitution is outdated or no longer applies. They believe that they are smarter than the citizens that they are supposed to represent and that they know what is best for us. They seek to have as much control over us as possible. The constitution to them is an obstacle that must be torn down so that they can institute their vision of what society should be. Unfortunately, this encroachment on our God Given rights and the tearing down of the Constitution has accelerated, particularly in the past year, and even in the past couple of weeks.

In response, particularly to the clearly spoken threats of infringement of our right to keep and bear arms granted by the second amendment of the Constitution, Several States, and hundreds of Counties, cities, and towns across the United States have passed resolutions or ordinances declaring themselves as "Second Amendment Sanctuaries."

This includes:

4 States: Alaska, Idaho, Wyoming, and Kansas

Utah Counties: Box Elder, Cache, Uintah, Utah, Wayne, and Weber

In general, these ordinances/resolutions state that the particular city or county "will not authorize or appropriate government funds, resources, employees,

agencies, contractors, buildings, detention centers, or offices for the purpose of enforcing laws that unconstitutionally infringe on the people's right to keep and bear arms."

While I fully support this effort in regards to the protection of our second amendment rights and our ability to protect ourselves, our families, and our property, I think it needs to go further. In the last year we have seen politicians, bureaucrats, and some law enforcement officials in areas of our Country abuse their power under the cover a the Covid-19 pandemic to restrict the constitutionally guaranteed rights to peacefully assemble, to gather in houses of worship to exercise protected rights of religious expression, and to engage in legal commerce.

While I don't diminish the seriousness of the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on individuals, families, and society, such a situation or event now, or in the future, must not and cannot be used by a few to infringe on God Given rights protected by the Constitution of our Nation.

As such, I am here tonight to petition you, as elected leaders of the City of Mount Pleasant, to draft an ordinance declaring our City a Constitutional Sanctuary City. I would hope that such an ordinance would include similar language stating that the City will not authorize or appropriate any funds, resources, employees, or infrastructure for the purpose of enforcing laws or actions that unconstitutionally infringe on any rights granted to individuals or groups, including the people's right to keep and bear arms, peacefully assemble, worship according to our conscience, and to engage in legal commerce.

Some have argued that such ordinances carry no legal weight or significance and that they can't override State or Federal law. I'm not a lawyer or political scholar and I won't even try to answer those questions. However, I do believe that there is strength in numbers and that the more cities, counties and states that band together in this cause to stand up for our rights under the constitution, the better. At the very least, it sends the message to those in power in Washington, who abhor the Constitution and wish to have more control over us, that we will not stand idly by while our rights are stripped from us.

I hope you will consider drafting an ordinance declaring Mount Pleasant a Constitutional Sanctuary City. I plan to petition the Sanpete County Commission to

do the same on a County Level and would invite any of you who agree with this effort to do the same.

I will add that ordinances/resolutions passed to date in the Utah Counties that I previously mentioned can be found on the internet and could be used to help guide you in this effort, if so desired. I would be happy to email links to these ordinances to any of you as well.

Thank you for your time and service. May God bless American and may our Constitution forever stand.

Mark Larsen

Mount Pleasant, Utah