

THE EMIGRATION CANYON METRO TOWNSHIP COUNCIL, STATE OF UTAH, MET ELECTRONICALLY ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021, PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021, AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M., VIA ZOOM.COM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

ELECTRONICALLY PRESENT: DAVID BREMS
GARY BOWEN
CATHERINE HARRIS
JENNIFER HAWKES, Deputy Mayor
JOE SMOLKA, Mayor

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: CAMERON PLATT, LEGAL COUNSEL
NICHOLE WATT, DEPUTY CLERK



Mayor Smolka, Chair, presided.



Pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-202 the undersigned, as Mayor of the Emigration Canyon Metro Township Council, hereby declares that providing an anchor location for the electronic meetings of the Council will present a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location for the following reasons:

The Township is located in Salt Lake County and is still under an “Yellow” alert stage for the COVID 19 pandemic; and

The regular meeting place for the Council (the Fire Station in the Canyon) does not have sufficient space in the meeting room to provide for the recommended physical distancing to keep people safe from infection.



STAFF MEETING

The Council reviewed the following items:

- Emigration Canyon Metro Township General Plan.
- Discussion on the Emigration Canyon Metro Township budget.
- Mayor Smolka updated the Council on the following items:
 - Proposed limestone quarry in Parleys Canyon.
 - Repair work from a leak on Sunnydale.
 - Installation of power poles in the canyon.
 - Installation of CenturyLink fiber optic lines.
- Consideration of resuming in-person meetings.



PUBLIC MEETING

Recognize Visiting Officials

Robert Pinon, Emigration Canyon Metro Township Planning Commission, introduced Jodi Geroux and stated she is being considered for the appointment of Planning Commissioner for the Emigration Canyon Metro Township Planning Commission.

Jodi Geroux stated she has lived in Utah since 2005 and moved to Emigration Canyon about seven months ago.



Citizen Input

Eliza Cowie, Government Relations, o2 Utah, stated she is following up with the Council on the status of the Community Renewable Energy Program.

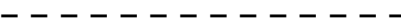
Mayor Smolka stated the Council will be discussing this item later in the meeting.



Reports from Municipal Service Providers

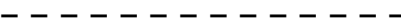
Emigration Canyon Community Council Report (ECCC)

Mayor Smolka stated Bill Tobey sent an email updating the Council on the Firewise grants. The U.S. Forest Wildfire Research team has scheduled a meeting on January 26, 2022, to present the findings of its study regarding wildfire.



Unified Police Department (UPD)

Detective Jake Elsasser reviewed November calls for service stating there were 77 calls for service with 22 initial reports taken. He will put the time that the call was dispatched for the Councils reference.



Unified Fire Authority (UFA)

Captain Michael Conn reviewed the November monthly report. Twenty-one recruits have been offered jobs and will begin camp in February. Construction continues for five stations and the was a ground-breaking at station 102 in Magna. UFA vaccination rate is at 90 percent and efforts to get employees a vaccination booster is underway. A committee was formed

to begin the process of replacing Chief Dan Peterson who is retiring in the Spring. The scheduling and payroll software that UFA uses were breached and is being held up by ransomware.



Council Business

Resolution 2021-12-01 – Community Renewable Energy Program

Christopher Thomas, Community Renewable Energy Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Community Renewable Energy Program Governance Agreement and progress update. He reviewed what the community renewable energy program is, participation status of municipalities, comparisons between different renewable energy programs, the governance agreement, program implementation expenses, Community Renewable Energy Agency voting, project timeline, and the Agency structure.

Council Member Brems stated if the program is implemented what does the costs look like.

Mr. Thomas stated it is hard to determine what the cost is right now; it will depend on a lot of different factors.

Council Member Bowen asked what is the source of the renewable energy that is will be used.

Mr. Thomas stated state law defines what type of resources are considered renewable for the program. Wind, solar, geothermal, and other enabling technology will all be considered.

Council Member Bowen stated he does not think this program will serve the residents of Emigration Canyon.

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated the presentation stated that the estimated rates would be available in the spring; however, the deadline to sign up for the program is May 31. The Council will need the rate information to compare to the existing costs that residents are paying now. Will the estimates be available in the spring?

Mr. Thomas stated the Agency board is doing its best to get those estimates out by May 31. This is a new program and one of its kind in the country, so it is inventing the wheel as it goes. If the rate estimates are delayed, the deadline date will be extended.

Council Member Harris stated the Agency Board is very large and will continue to get bigger if fall the municipalities join. How will the Board work with it being so large?

Mr. Thomas stated there can be up to 23 participating communities and that does make for a big board. Since the board is larger, it has been separated into working committees that the board members sit on and then the final decision will go to the full board.

Emily Quinton, Secretary, Community Renewable Energy Agency, stated the board has come up with a good process. The entire board meets monthly and the committees meeting more frequently depending on the issue.

Mayor Smolka stated he is concerned about the weighted voting. Because of the size of Emigration Canyon, its vote is not considered as strongly. The rates and impacts to residents are unknown at this time. Many of the residents in the canyon already have solar and this program may impact their bills. The presentation was more about the Agency and not about the program, he needs more information about the program.

Council Member Brems stated the cost to continue with the program and get answers to questions is nominal. If the Council does not like the information presented, then it can opt out.

Council Member Harris stated since the Council will get a new Council Member in January, she would like to table the decision and revisit it in February.

Cameron Platt stated if the Council approves the agreement and resolution, it preserves its ability to join at a future date. The state statute requires that the board produce a plan and allow municipalities to withdraw. The weighted voting is likely to be the general rule. There will be about five municipalities that will control the vote. The metro township can join now and withdraw later.

Mr. Thomas stated the Council can make the first payment and if the Council is not happy with the progress, it can opt out of making the second payment.

Mayor Smolka stated the discussion will continue in February.

Emigration Canyon Metro Township Administrator

Mayor Smolka stated he invited Brooke Barnes, Human Resources and Payroll Specialist, Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District (MSD), to the meeting to help the Council with the hiring of an administrator.

Brooke Barnes stated she sent job descriptions from Magna, White City Metro Townships, and the Town of Brighton to Mayor Smolka. She would like the Council to review the job descriptions and pick and choose what items they want to include in the Emigration Canyon Metro Township Administrator job description. She will then put together a job description and when the Council ready, she will post the job description and help with the interview process.

Council Member Brems asked how much money is allocated to an administrator and how many hours would that person work?

Mayor Smolka stated the Council has budgeted approximately \$20,000 - \$25,000 annually.

Council Member Bowen asked if that amount includes benefits and salary.

Ms. Barnes stated that amount would be for wages only, there is not a benefit option.

Council Member Brems asked if this position would be part-time.

Ms. Barnes stated it would be part-time, 10 – 15 hours a week, depending on how much work you have for that person. The average hourly rate is \$18.00 - \$20.00 per hour.

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated FICA and Medicare will need to be factor in when deciding wages.

Ms. Barnes stated the FICA and Medicare taxes would need to be matched and are the only benefits that would be matched. An employee needs to work 30 hours or more to be benefit eligible. If the Council decided to offer benefits, it would need to work through the Utah Local Governments Trust and join the large group association to get full-time positions signed up for benefits. The employee can also be hired through a contract; however, the salary would be paid through accounting instead of payroll.

Council Member Bowen suggested having one or two Council Members work with Ms. Barnes to finalize the job description.

Council Member Brems stated he would help.

Council Member Harris stated she would be able to help after the first of the year.

Ms. Barnes stated she will reach out to Council Members Brems and Harris to set up a time to meet.

Assign / Reassign Board Appointments

Mayor Smolka stated board assignments are typically done in January; however, there will be a Unified Fire Authority (UFA) and Unified Fire Service Area (UFSA) Board meeting prior to a Emigration Canyon Metro Township Council meeting. He would like to appoint someone to the UFA and UFSA Boards, effective January 3, 2022.

Council Member Harris stated she is interested in being appointed to these boards.

Mayor Smolka, seconded by Council Member Bowen, moved to appoint Council Member Harris to the Unified Fire Authority and Unified Fire Service Area Boards. The motion passed 4 to 1, showing Council Member Harris abstained from the vote.

Emigration Canyon Metro Township Planning Commission Appointment

Mayor Smolka stated the Council will consider the appointment of Jodi Geroux at the January, 2022 Council meeting.

Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District (MSD) Bond

Mayor Smolka stated the bond is moving forward and will be going with a private offering as opposed to a public offering. The availability of money and potential of having an almost equal interest rate is right now.

ARPA Funds

Mayor Smolka stated getting funding for the restrooms has been difficult. ARPA funds may be able to be used for the restrooms.

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated she has looked at outdoor recreation grants. A lot of the available grant money is for new construction. She wants to move forward and possibly propose building restrooms at a location the Council has previously discussed. She is also working with Helen Peters, Director, Salt Lake County Regional Transportation, Housing, & Economic Development, on other resources to get the restrooms completed. ARPA funds would be a good to fall back on.

Budget Items

Mayor Smolka stated invoices from Polly McLean, Clerk servicers, Acorn Hills, and payroll have been approved. He expects an invoice for the first installment of snowplow services.



Council Member Reports

Unified Police Department (UPD) & Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA)

Council Member Brems stated SLVLESA adopted a tentative budget and will be working with lobbyists to find sources of income for UPD officers.

Planning Commission

Nothing to report.

Unified Fire Authority (UFA) & Unified Fire Service Area (UFSA)

Council Member Bowen stated he will make sure UFA and UFSA gets notice that Council Member Harris will be the representative for Emigration Canyon Metro Township. UFA is in the process of creating a special committee to hire the next fire chief.

Animal Services

Nothing to report.

Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District (WFWRD)

Council Member Harris stated the decision on if WFWRD will be able to convert to a local district is still an ongoing concern. WFWRD is waiting Salt Lake County Council to make a decision. Several homes in upper Pinecrest did not get their garbage collected. She spoke to Pam Roberts, General Manager, WFWRD, and she will try and get crews up there tomorrow if the storm is not too bad.

Watershed Plan

Council Member Harris stated she will not be meeting with Sandy Wingert, UDWQ, and River Restoration until after the first of the year to discuss the progress and goals. She spoke with Eric McCulley about the timeline for grant applications and he thinks there will be some information coming out of the report that will help obtain grants. The third best practices session will be on January 11, 2022, via Zoom.com.

Website

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated she updated the website with information on the last watershed meeting.

CodeRED

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated she sent a message out regarding garbage pickup.

Restrooms

Deputy Mayor Hawkes stated she thinks two separate grants can be applied for: one for new construction and one for restoration of the existing restroom.

Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District (MSD)

Mayor Smolka stated a new General Manager was hired and will be announced on Thursday.

Landfill Council

Nothing to report.

Legislative Update

Mayor Smolka stated the MSD is getting ready for several items that will be discussed at the legislature in 2022. He is also watching H.B. 98.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

SHERRIE SWENSEN, METRO TOWNSHIP CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

MAYOR, EMIGRATION CANYON METRO TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

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DATE TUESDAY DECEMBER 14, 2021

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