

**REGULAR SESSION OF THE
BRIGHAM CITY COUNCIL
October 17, 2013**

PRESENT:	Dennis Fife	Mayor
	Scott Ericson	Councilmember
	Ruth Jensen	Councilmember
	Brian Rex	Councilmember
	Mark Thompson	Councilmember
	Tyler Vincent	Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT:	Rick Bosworth	Human Resource Manager
	Mary Kate Christensen	City Recorder
	Jared Johnson	Community Development Director
	Jason Roberts	Finance Director/Deputy City Recorder
	Paul Tittensor	Police Chief

Mayor Fife called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2013 Council meeting was made by Councilmember Vincent, seconded by Councilmember Rex and unanimously approved as distributed.

AGENDA

PRESENTATION

Presentation of 2013 Jim Davis Award

CONSENT

Request to Write-off Accounts Due to Bankruptcy or Being Sent to Collections
Appointments to the Economic Development Board
Appointment to Joint Advisory Board

PUBLIC HEARING

Surplus of Property Located at 1320 West Forest

SCHEDULED DELEGATION

Update on Medical Reserve Program
Concerns Regarding Facade Grant with Regards to Building Permits

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation Declaring November 1, 2013 as Extra Mile Day
Employee Benefits Recommendation

PUBLIC COMMENT

PRESENTATION

Presentation of 2013 Jim Davis Award

Mayor Fife presented the Jim Davis Extraordinary Service Award for 2013 to Brent Gillies. He was nominated by Monica Holdaway, Director of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Gillies served on the Chamber Board of Directors for more than six years, including three on the Executive Board and served as President. He has served on the Events and Fundraising Committees and has organized many events. During the 2011 Peach Days, Mr. Gillies was like another full time employee for the Chamber. He volunteers his time and has been a board member for the Box Elder Community Pantry.

Mr. Gillies' business, Gillies Funeral Chapel, has been a great sponsor of many community organizations and events. His business also offers a grief group to community citizens to help them through the grieving process.

He has served on the Board for the American Cancer Society's Box Elder Relay for Life and volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America and in local schools. He is a member of the local Rotary Club and an active member of his church.

Mr. Gillies not only serves his community but his family as father of five by influencing their lives by his example of service.

Even though Mr. Gillies no longer serves on the Chamber Board he is still a great supporter. He is a platinum member and still serves on committees, volunteering at Peach Days and other events.

Mayor Fife presented Mr. Gillies with a clock in recognition of this award. Mr. Gillies expressed appreciation to his family for their support and his employees for allowing him to volunteer. He spoke of his love for Brigham City and his desire to make it a better place to live.

CONSENT

Request to Write-off Accounts Due to Bankruptcy or Being Sent to Collections

A list of accounts totaling \$4,589.14 for August 2013 was presented to be removed from the City's billing system due to customer taking out bankruptcy or being sent to collections.

Appointment to the Economic Development Board

Debbie Manning, Fred Kluss and Barbara Poelman were recommended for appointment to the Economic Development Board.

Appointment to Joint Advisory Board

It was recommended Lynn Duce be appointed to the Joint Advisory Board.

MOTION: A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Jensen, seconded by Councilmember Vincent and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Surplus of Property Located at 1320 West Forest

Mr. Johnson came forward and explained that Brigham City purchased this property in 1986 to clean up the entrance to the Animal Shelter and to allow the City to reconfigure Forest Street. When the road was constructed it left a remnant parcel on the north side of the road which is still owned by Brigham City. The parcel is approximately 1.4 acres.

The Mayor asked for any comments on the public hearing.

Paul Roberts – Mr. Roberts said he is acquainted with Leon Jensen who is the adjacent property owner. He is interested in the property if the price is reasonable. The property is probably not compatible with a business because it is between a wetland and a swamp.

There were no further comments from the public. A motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilmember Ericson, seconded by Councilmember Vincent and unanimously carried.

MOTION: Councilmember Rex made a motion to surplus the property located at 1320 West Forest as presented by Mr. Johnson. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jensen and unanimously carried.

SCHEDULED DELEGATION

Update on Medical Reserve Program

Mr. Mike Weibel came forward and announced that the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is celebrating its 10th birthday. The program was organized a year after 9/11.

Mr. Mike Knoll explained that this is a federally funded program. It is unique because it is the only federally funded program that does not have strict guidelines on how to form and run the program, so no

two MRCs are the same. There are approximately 130 volunteers in Box Elder County. It is hoped this will increase by 20% over the next year. There are 983 units throughout the country.

The MRC is a group of medical professionals and others who can help when the local hospitals, public health departments and emergency medical systems are overwhelmed during a disaster or public health emergency. All members have to be certified and be credentialed.

Some of the functions of the MRC are to provide mass casualty incident response, sheltering, points of dispensing, vaccination clinics, disaster mental health, post-disaster community assessment and public health education campaigns.

Members are asked to attend at least one bi-monthly training meeting. All members are insured through Worker's Compensation through the Bear River Health Department.

Concerns Regarding Facade Grant with Regards to Building Permits

Mr. Aaron Walker and Mr. Matthew Krager from Big O Tire came forward. Mayor Fife explained that Big O has been adding onto their business. They were part way through the first phase of their project and the Chamber of Commerce said something to them about the City's facade grant program. They were unaware this was available. When Mr. Walker inquired about this, staff told them the ordinance does not allow businesses to apply for the grant after the project has been started. Mr. Walker has applied for a sign permit, which is available for funding through the grant. However, because of the circumstances they would like to ask the Council to consider allowing the facade grant to be used on the entire project.

Mr. Walker stated that when they applied for their building permit, they were not told about the City's facade grant. He felt there are a lot of other businesses that are unaware of this grant.

Councilmember Ericson said the area that is available for the grant recently expanded to include businesses outside the original 100 North to 200 South Main Street area. He felt this might be why other businesses are unaware of the program.

MOTION: Councilmember Rex made a motion to allow Big O Tires to apply for a façade grant for the entire amount (\$10,000), seconded by Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Jensen said she has been a proponent of this grant. However, during the last budget process she wondered if it was time to pull back. There are citizens that think the same thing. She posted the agenda on Facebook and a citizen asked how the City was going to help him keep his grass green. This is something the Council needs to think about during budget time – how to make things fair for everyone, not just businesses. Councilmember Ericson said the Council gets criticized when doing economic development for giving incentives to businesses to come into Brigham City and nothing to local businesses that are trying to build their business. This grant is a great tool to help local businesses. Councilmember Jensen agreed, adding that as things get tighter everywhere, citizens are asking these questions. The funds were coming out of the tax increment in RDA #1, but now it is coming out of the General Fund. The Mayor called for a vote. The voting was unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation Declaring November 1, 2013 as Extra Mile Day

Mayor Fife read the proclamation declaring November 1, 2013 Extra Mile Day.

Employee Benefits Recommendation

Mr. Roberts came forward and introduced Craig Schmidt from Sterling Benefits. Mr. Schmidt reported that the City did not see an increase in medical costs as of January 2013. This is unheard of in the marketplace. In year's past there have been significant increases, as much as double digit percentages. This year Brigham City had a -6.12% decrease.

The Benefits Committee looked at carriers that are eligible and capable of providing services to City employees and that include Brigham City Hospital as an in-network hospital. These carriers included Altius, PeHP, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Humana and Cigna. They wanted to keep benefits fairly consistent with the current plan. PeHP came in with a very competitive proposal with a 19.2% savings. This would be a \$217,882 savings in 2014 if enrollment stays the same. Blue Cross Blue Shield also provided a very competitive bid with the same savings. They also provided a one-month holiday premium in the first year. This made them more competitive than Altius, but the long-term planning was not as competitive as PeHP.

Mr. Roberts added that with PeHP the employees would see the following savings:

Traditional Insurance

• Employee	\$245
• Employee & Spouse	691
• Employee & Child	691
• Family	765

Health Savings Plan/High Deductible

• Employee	139
• Employee & Spouse	392
• Employee & Child	392
• Family	434

There are no changes to the HSA plan. There are some subtle changes to the traditional plan. One is for prescription drugs. The current plan has a co-pay of \$15/\$30/\$60. Under the PeHP proposal the employee would pay 20%/30%. The current copay for an emergency room visit is \$150; that would increase to \$250 with Altius and remain the same with PeHP.

The Benefits Committee recommended the City contract with PeHP with the option for employees to sign up for the traditional plan or the HSA.

Mr. Roberts continued that the City is currently contributing \$2,700 to employee's HSA accounts for family coverage. Employees have been more pro-active in managing their health costs on this plan, such as asking about their prescriptions and finding a lower cost option, and not going to an emergency room unless absolutely necessary. This helps the City financially. The Committee recommended the amount contributed for a family be increased to \$3,000. This is the same amount it was when the HSA was first offered to employees two years ago. If the same amount of employees stay on the HSA this would cost the City \$12,000 per year. The committee felt this would be a good incentive for more employees to participate in the HSA which saves the City money.

The Council discussed increasing this contribution for single and employee plus spouse coverage as well. It was suggested single coverage be increased from \$1,200 to \$1,350 and for employee plus spouse from \$2,400 to \$2,650.

The last recommendation from the committee was to increase the incentive to opt out of the City's insurance from \$2,000 to \$3,000. In the current year there have been eight employees paid for not taking the insurance. The City paid out \$11,143 total to these employees. There were five employees that either dropped City insurance or stayed off City insurance due to the premium savings. This saved the City almost \$53,000. When these five employees opted out the cost was \$7,267. This netted a total savings of \$34,526. If there is one additional employee drop family coverage there would be a savings of \$16,700, with an addition \$1,000 paid out to the eight current employees, the net savings would be \$5,662. If two people drop the insurance, the net savings would be \$19,324.

The Council suggested increasing the opt-out to \$2,500 rather than \$3,000. Mr. Roberts said two employees put significant thought into opting out when it was \$2,000. One said \$3,000 would sway them. Councilmember Jensen said last year when this was first discussed, another option was discussed to charge employees extra if they have the option to get insurance from another source.

MOTION: Councilmember Ericson made a motion to accept the change for the City insurance provider to PeHP, increase the City's contribution to employee's HSA to \$3,000, \$2,650 and \$1,350 and increase the incentive for employees from \$2,000 to \$2,500 for taking insurance from other group coverage. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Vincent. Councilmember Jensen asked Mr. Roberts if he felt the \$500 would make a big difference in whether an employee opts out or not. Mr. Roberts replied that he was not sure if it would. There are two specific employees that have researched this thoroughly. The exposure is \$4,000. Voting was unanimously in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DeAnna Hardy, County – Ms. Hardy said she is strongly against the facade grant program. She is also against smart meters. She has a smart meter at her house and she does not like it. Two PT Cruisers came to her home with UTOPIA written on the side and replaced their meter. Since then she has had problems with migraine headaches. She's had them since she was 27 years old and since the smart meter was installed her headaches have increased and they last longer. It's just another way the government can control the citizens. She congratulated the pool for reducing the subsidy from \$90,000 to \$40,000; however, they still require \$500,000 to fix the pool. She is not against swimming pools, golf courses or pickleball courts but they should be provided by private companies.

DeLoy Mecham, County – Mr. Mecham said he cannot believe how much time was spent to determine how City employees will get insurance. The Council lives in a dream world. He suggested being self-insured because of the cost of insurance. His son tried to get insurance through Obamacare and they told him his payments would be \$500/month with a deductible of \$12,600. When he told them he had back problems in the past they said it would cost \$1,000/month and that he did not qualify. He disagreed with the grant program and the City could find better places to spend money. It seems like the only businesses that receive these things are the ones in the know or knows someone that knows someone.

Stan Shogren, 666 South 100 East – Mr. Shogren said he lives directly northwest of the Cottage Wedding Reception Center. Last Saturday they had a wedding reception and the music was so loud his windows vibrated. He contacted the manager of the Cottage and she said she did not think the family would turn down the music. After about 15 minutes he called the Police. Their response was that an officer had gone there and they had a permit to play their music until 10:00 p.m. After 10:00 the music was still blaring so a neighbor called the police to have them turn it off. Some friends that live a mile away from the Cottage could also hear the music. He did not want the Cottage closed or that music cannot be played, but there should be control on how loud the music is played.

Sherry Phipps, Brigham City – Ms. Phipps said she also heard the music although she does not live as close as Mr. Shogren. She talked to someone that lives down the street from Mr. Shogren and she said even when she went into her basement she could still hear the music. It was very, very loud. There should be a decibel level so it is not disturbing all the neighbors. Another concern Ms. Phipps had was the responsibility of trees in parking strips. About a year ago her husband was removing some trees in their yard. A City employee stopped by and wanted to make sure they were not going to remove the tree in the parking strip because it is City property. Ms. Phipps told him they were not planning to remove it, but since they planted the tree it has been broken off and is thorny and does not bloom. Around the corner from them there are two maple trees in the parking strip that are dying for lack of water. There is a lot of hypocrisy with this and she did not feel the City should be telling citizens what they can and cannot do. If they are responsible to take care of the parking strip they should be given discretion on how to do it.

Mayor Fife told Ms. Phipps that the City's Shade Tree Commission has authority over the trees that can be planted. A tree in the parking strip can be removed if they apply to do so. They usually want the resident to replace it with a certain variety. The City will trim the trees in the parking strip if they become an issue.

There were no further comments from the public.

A motion to adjourn to a closed session was made by Councilmember Jensen, seconded by Councilmember Rex. Councilmember Ericson, Councilmember Jensen, Councilmember Rex, Councilmember Thompson and Councilmember Vincent voted aye. The Council adjourned to a closed session at 8:44 PM.