



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council in Attendance:

Mayor Logan Monson
Council Member Cheryl Bowers
Council Member Chris Ewald
Council Member Len Gasser
Council Member Erik Grover
Council Member Kellen Nielson

Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 7:00pm

50 West 100 South Street,
Blanding Utah 84511

Meetings are live streamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-55JUf33BQ>

Staff Members in Attendance:

City Manager - David Johnson
City Finance Director - Kim Palmer
City Engineer - Terry Ekker

City Police - Chief Bradford
City Fire Chief - Chief Spillman
City Community Dev. Dir. - Bret Hosler

Others: Diane Bradford, David Bradford,
Nicole Bradford, Monica Jacobsen, Chas
Jacobsen

Prayer was offered by Kellen Nielson

Declaration of Conflict: None

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Nielson moved to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022 City Council Meeting and consent agenda. Councilmember Gasser seconded the motion. Mayor Monson repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

Those voting Aye:	Councilmember Ewald Councilmember Gasser Councilmember Grover Councilmember Nielson
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Those voting Nay:	None
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Those abstaining:	None
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Monson declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Monica Jacobsen expressed concerns over the City's policy change regarding full-time employees who are also firefighters. She questioned the process and legalities of the

change.

2. Chas Jacobsen expressed his concerns regarding his position as Assistant Fire Chief and the new policy change being discussed that will no longer allow him to serve on the department. He questioned why the discussions regarding him were being held without his presence. He has been with the department for 10 years and sees no new conflict with his full-time position with the City.

REPORTS

1. Mayor Monson

None

2. City Council

Councilmember Gasser reported that the first Airport Advisory Committee meeting had been held recently.

Councilmember Bowers asked if Council would be interested in joining with the Monticello City Council in a letter regarding the recent emails published between the County Commission and two outside entity lawyers. Council expressed support for the letter.

Councilmember Nielson reported that the historical committee had met recently. Toni Turk has resigned from the committee.

3. City Manager

Mr. Johnson reported that the bonding process for the funding from CIB is currently being completed. There may be a need to run the process through the Municipal Building Authority. More information will follow on this.

There have been no applications received for the Justice Court Judge position. There has to be 9 to complete the application process. The time for application has been extended.

The RFP for the General Plan closes on Friday.

4. Staff Reports

a. Finance/Council Report - Kim Palmer

Ms. Palmer reported that all expenses were approved in the budget.

b. Public Works Report - Terry Ekker

West Water Power/Water Project - Mr. Ekker reported that the power project has been completed. The community system was energized on September 1, 2022.

The bid opening for the deep well occurred on October 20th. Preliminary results with a recommendation to award, will be given to Council during the first meeting in November.

Street Maintenance Project - A chip seal project is scheduled for 2023.

Tantalus AMI Project - The service contract has been signed. The initial phase of the project will include the deployment of system software, repeaters and 300 electric meters. Other phases, including a customer portal, will follow.

Natural Gas Master Plan Update - The RFP submittal deadline is November 10th.



A recommendation to award the contract is expected to take place at the November 22nd Council meeting.

UAMPS Update - Mr. Ekker gave a report on the Steel Solar project, the decommissioning of the San Juan project, Muddy Creek and the Carbon Free Power Project (CFPP). In discussing the CFPP he told Council that it is anticipated that the economic competitive test being conducted next month will show an increase in the cost of a megawatt from the project. That is anticipated to be about \$50. The cost increase will be a result of both inflation and interest rates.

c. Fire Quarterly Report - Chief Spillman

In a discussion regarding the number of firefighters the department has and the number of those responding, Chief Spillman told the Council that on average 5 firefighters are responding. The number of those responding has seen a decline since 2020. The lack of firefighters is inhibiting the ability to receive certification training, which requires at least 10 participants. The decline in participation may be the result of several firefighters who have young families making it difficult to get to training and even emergency calls.

d. Police Report - Chief Bradford

Chief Bradford told Council that after reviewing the logistics of shutting down roads on 100 West on Halloween, that it was not going to be possible. The City does not have the officers to do this. Councilmember Grover stated that the City would not want the liability associated with it either. Councilmember Gasser stated that most of the people he has spoken to just request more law enforcement presence in the area. Chief Bradford told Council that he has scheduled more help for that evening.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Retirement of Diane Bradford as Justice Court Clerk - Mayor Monson

Mayor Monson presented Ms. Bradford a plaque recognizing her 27 years of employment with the City as the Justice Court Clerk. He stated she has worked with 6 judges during her time as the Clerk and has done an excellent job.

2. Utah State University Wellbeing Survey - Courtney Flint

Courtney Flint from Utah State University, briefly shared information collected in the recent wellbeing survey conducted in the City. 207 surveys were collected. The survey respondents stated that recreational activities were a high priority and major concerns included water supply, access to quality food, affordable housing and continued access to public lands. The entire survey is available online at usu.edu/utah-wellbeing-project/

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Certification of FY22 Financial Audit - Kim Palmer

Ms. Palmer discussed the FY2022 Financial Audit report stating that the City's net position had increased by 10% over last year's numbers. The increase is due to the conservative nature of the spending philosophy, increase in sales tax and ARPA funds. The City was able to set aside approximately \$233,000 in savings for the different departments and approximately \$320,000 in general capital project savings. She continued to report that long-term debt had decreased by \$768,183 during the year. There were no compliance

findings in the audit. Ms. Palmer also shared that three recommendations made by the auditors are in the process of being implemented. Electronic timesheet and invoice processes will be in place by the end of the fiscal year. Also, 1099 firefighters will be transitioned to W2 employees beginning January 1st.

Councilmember Bowers moved to Certify the FY2022 Financial Audit. Councilmember Grover seconded the motion. Mayor Monson repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

Those voting Aye:	Councilmember Bowers Councilmember Ewald Councilmember Gasser Councilmember Nielson Councilmember Grover
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Those voting Nay:	None
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Those abstaining:	None
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Monson declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilmember Nielson moved to enter a closed session for personnel. Councilmember Ewald seconded the motion. Mayor Monson repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

Those voting Aye:	Councilmember Bowers Councilmember Ewald Councilmember Gasser Councilmember Grover Councilmember Nielson
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Those voting Nay:	None
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Those abstaining:	None
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Monson declared the motion carried.

Council entered a Closed Session at 8:21 p.m.

Councilmember Grover moved to re-enter the open session. Councilmember Ewald seconded the motion. Mayor Monson repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

Those voting Aye:	Councilmember Bowers Councilmember Ewald Councilmember Gasser Councilmember Grover Councilmember Nielson
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Those voting Nay:	None
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Those abstaining:	None
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Monson declared the motion carried.

Council re-entered the open session at 9:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Grover moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Gasser seconded the motion. Mayor Monson repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

Those voting Aye:	Councilmember Bowers
	Councilmember Ewald
	Councilmember Gasser
	Councilmember Grover
	Councilmember Nielson

Those voting Nay:	None
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Those abstaining:	None
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Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Monson declared the motion carried.

Council adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

By:

Kim Palmer, City Deputy Recorder

