

MINUTES OF THE HELPER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, January 5, 2023
at 6:00 p.m.
in the Council Chambers
19 South Main Street
Helper, Utah 84526

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Lenise Peterman

Council Members:

David Dornan
Michelle Goldsmith
Gary Harwood - Excused Absent
Malarie DeVincent
Amanda Wheeler

City Staff:

City Recorder: Zack Tonc
City Attorney: Dominique Kiahtipes
Public Works Director: Michael Mastin
Police Chief: Chris Gigliotti

Citizens: Traci Bishop, Don Mealing, and Tim Panic.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES ON DECEMBER 1 & 15, 2022.

Council Member Goldsmith moved to approve minutes from December 1 & 15, 2022.
Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, Wheeler, and DeVincent all voted yes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF LIVE WIRE MINING'S REQUEST FOR A CUSTOM ELECTRICAL RATE.

Council Member DeVincent stated she is recusing from this agenda item because Live Wire Mining is a tenant of DeVincent Enterprises and she does administrative work for DeVincent Enterprises.

Don Mealing stated they are requesting a level power rate consisting of one single rate for all power used. They would like to have a rate where there would not be a demand charge and tiered rates based on usage. Having a constant rate would allow Live Wire

Mining to scale the amount of power they use to match the prices of bitcoin. This will help keep Live Wire Mining from falling behind on their utility bill.

Council Member Goldsmith read from the Planning and Zoning Minutes from February 16, 2022, when a business license was issued to Live Wire Mining. Then she asked about employees, Don Mealing responded we have four part-time employees. Council Member Goldsmith also asked if Live Wire Mining has been using more than 80% of the load. Tim Panick responded they have been using under 80%.

Mayor Peterman asked how Helper compares to others in the area. City Recorder Tonc responded Helper City has the lowest power rates in the area.

Council Member Dornan asked about the repayment plan. He stated Live Wire Mining is in arrears of \$41,000 plus. How did the power not get shut off? When residents get shut off when they don't pay their power bill. Don Mealing responded yes, to the \$41,000 plus in arrears, and \$40,000 is the average amount of a normal monthly bill. Don Mealing continued the demand charges can cause their bill to vary up to 25%. When they shut off the power they did not consider this variance, and they are hoping the market will recover soon. Council Member Dornan asked if they have any power usage in the building. Don Mealing responded they have not used any power since they shut down their operation.

Council Member Wheeler asked if the power is still on. City Recorder Tonc Responded no the power has been turned off. Council Member Goldsmith asked how many months are they behind, and City Recorder Tonc responded one.

City Recorder asked if Live Wire Mining pays demand charges at their other locations, and Don Mealing Responded yes.

Council Member Dornan asked if their proposal is a valid threat, or if they do not get the requested rate, they will not pay their utility bill. Don Mealing stated they would be out of business.

Mayor Peterman asked City Attorney Kiahtipes, about the legality of giving Live Wire Mining a special rate. Specifically, if we offer a special rate to Live Wire Mining will we have to adjust the rate ordinance and offer the rate to everyone? City Attorney Kiahtipes indicated yes.

Council Member Dornan moved to table the agenda item until the next meeting. Council Member Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, and Wheeler all voted yes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF PURCHASING A SALTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500.

Public Works Director Mastin explained he found a salter, that will work for our bobtail.

Council Member Goldsmith asked how much are new salters. Council Member Wheeler stated around \$5,000.

Council Member Goldsmith moved to approve purchasing a salter in the amount of \$2,500. Council Member Dornan seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, Wheeler, and DeVincent all voted yes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF PURCHASING WATER FOUNTAINS FOR THE AUDITORIUM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,696.

Public Works Director Mastin explained we need two new water fountains at the auditorium. Currently, we have one broken and the second is on its way out. He has priced two new ones with bottle refill stations.

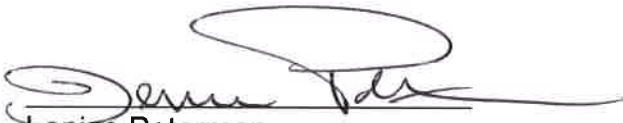
Council Members Goldsmith and Wheeler both stated they liked the bottle refill station.

Council Member Wheeler moved to approve purchasing water fountains for the auditorium in the amount of \$2,696. Council Member Goldsmith seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, Wheeler, and DeVincent all voted yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business Council Member Dornan moved to adjourn. Council Member DeVincent seconded the motion. Motion carried, the council roll call vote is as follows: Dornan, Goldsmith, Wheeler, and DeVincent all voted yes.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Helper City Council meeting held on Thursday, January 5, 2023.


Lenise Peterman
Mayor


Zack Tonic
City Recorder

Approved on February 2, 2023