

City of Green River

460 East Main Street, Green River, Utah

City Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

ATTENDING: Council Members Philip Engleman, Keith Brady, Irene Daw, Kent Johnson, Dan Harrison; Employees Conae Black, Karen Smith and Bryan Meadows; Citizens Chris Lezama, Julie Steuer, Kathy Ryan, Walter Maldonado, Eugene Swalberg, Penny Riches, Charlotte Uptain, Troy Pettit, Sharon Mitchell, Lenard Johnson, Shuanee Harrison, Rey Lloyd Hatt, Jeff Black, Eduard Korycan

ABSENT: Mayor Pat Brady

CONDUCTING: Mayor Pro Tempore Dan Harrison, the meeting began at 7:04 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The Pledge of allegiance is directed by Kent Johnson.

1. Discuss/approve/deny consent agenda. **MOTION:** Irene Daw moved to approve the consent agenda. Philip Engleman seconded to motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady. The motion carried.

Minutes for June 6, 2011 special meeting

July 2011 Recorder's report

August 2011 Treasurer's report

September 2011 Payment Approval report

2. Update on the Shooting Sports Park. Walter Maldonado addressed the City Council. The trap houses are put up. The Cowboy Action Shooting section has been removed. With the help of an acquaintance they are hoping to get a range safety officer. They are working on getting the handicap accessible restrooms in and would like help from the city on that. He also reported on the success of the free fishing day at the Green River State Park.

3. Discuss/approve/deny applying for Travel Bureau funds for the Green River Golf Course.

Eugene Swalberg addressed the City Council. With the challenges of the State of Utah financing there was an audit of all of the State Parks at the end of 2010 and became public in early spring of 2011. This report targeted various State Parks that was not making money and the Green River Golf Course was one of those parks. The legislature put together a subcommittee to tour these sites. They put the Green River golf course on a three year enterprise fund. They basically have three years to make what they spend. Emery County increased the transient room tax to support projects in Emery County. The Emery County Travel Bureau who oversees the money from the transient room tax suggested that half of that money be spent on the western side of the county and the other half on the eastern side of the county. Right now for the western side of the county they are using it for the Millsite Golf Course which is a city owned golf course. Dan Harrison pointed out that this money is not going to a State entity it is going to a city project. Eugene Swalberg is coming before the City Council to ask if they would consider using the \$15,000 designated for Green River from the transient room tax money for the Green River Golf Course. Keith Brady asked who determines the rates for a golfing pass. He was wondering if they could be increased. Eugene Swalberg said they cannot increase the rates. Kent Johnson said they have told you to balance the budget but then they have told you that you can't balance the budget. Dan Harrison said he does not want to lose this golf course even though he does not play golf he feels that it is an asset to the town. It brings in money and creates jobs. He is over the museum which is owned and operated by the city and it is also an enterprise fund and the museum also struggles in keeping the doors open. You are asking the city to give up money that is needed for the museum to give to a State entity. This \$15,000 is not going to save the golf course but does help the museum. Eugene Swalberg told Dan Harrison that he is right it will not save the golf course but it does show good faith from the city in wanting to keep the golf course here. Dan Harrison said the city just put in some money on the road to the State Park that didn't

have to be done and that should show good faith. Keith Brady said the State Park and Golf Course are separate and that road is to the State Park. Dan Harrison was under the impression that the transient room tax was paid to the State and they kept the majority of it. Both Eugene Swalberg and Keith Brady who serve as Board members on the Emery County Travel Bureau said that money is paid to the county not the state. What is generated in Emery County stays in Emery County. Keith Brady said Green River generates most of that money and we do not see our fair percentage of that money. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to table this until after the Council looks at the city budget further for other resources. Keith Brady seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

4. Discuss/approve/deny hiring a crossing guard employee. Philip Engleman asked if Howard Burnett was willing to take on the crossing guard position also. Keith Brady asked if Howard Burnett needed to put in an application. Kent Johnson said Howard Burnett is already an employee of the city and this would be an increase in his responsibilities. The city is already paying Workman's Comp for him and he thinks it would be a savings to the city to extend his duties. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to approve extending the crossing guard duties to Howard Burnett. Philip Engleman seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

5. Discuss/approve/deny Grant Agreement with the FAA for project #3-49-0010-09 to complete the construction of a Partial Parallel Taxiway at the Green River Airport. Conae Black said the project ran out of money and this is FAA money to finish paying the bills. Kent Johnson explained that the engineers and contractor ran into some problems just before winter hit and the project was put on hold until this spring. This allowed the city time to accrue some more entitlement money from the FAA to finish paying for the project. The contractors have completed the project and are now awaiting payment once the new money has been approved. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to approve the Grant Agreement with the FAA for project #3-49-0010-09 to complete the construction of a Partial Parallel Taxiway at the Green River Airport. Irene Daw seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

6. Discuss/approve/deny reversal of adjustment charges on utility bills. Keith Brady said he requested this agenda item. There were adjustments on all utility bills when there was an error on entering the rates. The rates were not entered in correctly and as a business if you do not charge correctly you don't call up your customer and ask them to pay more for your mistake you just eat the cost. Philip Engleman felt that with his proposed changes to the rates and start from the beginning of the year that will automatically correct the problem. Lenard Johnson expressed his concerns with the rate increases. Philip Engleman explained that these funds were enterprise funds and operating in the red and that is why there was a need to increase the rates. Philip Engleman felt that the rate change in agenda item # 7 would solve the problem that Keith Brady has on the adjustment charges. With the new rates that he is suggesting he would like those to be retroactive to July 1st. Keith Brady asked to withdraw his agenda item request.

7. Discuss/approve/deny Resolution No. 10-2011 amending water rates for water connections outside of city limits. Philip Engleman said he has gone over the last rate changes made and he would like to keep the rates the same but change the gallons used to a different amount. He came with a proposal of the suggested water rate changes. Dan Harrison suggested that Philip Engleman work out the details on the rates and maybe give it a test run and come back to the Council on the changes. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to test out scenario #5 and report back to Mayor Brady and Conae Black and if necessary schedule a special meeting to make the permanent changes. Keith Brady seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

8. Discuss/approve/deny agreement between the museum nonprofit and the City of Green River. Dan Harrison said this is an agreement to further establish the 501 (c) 3 organization for the museum. Keith Brady said the attorney who drafted up this agreement said the agreement included points that Rey Lloyd Hatt wanted and he would like to know what those points are. Rey Lloyd Hatt said this agreement is just a draft that should be reviewed by the Mayor, City Council,

City Attorney and City Auditors. In order to go after foundation money the first thing they ask the nonprofit for is a copy of their budget. Right now the museum nonprofit does not have a budget. The museum is under the city's budget. Dan Harrison said because this agreement has just been drafted and has not been reviewed by the city attorney or city auditor he recommends that this should be tabled for now until those reviews are complete. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to table this agenda item. Philip Engleman seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

9. Discuss/approve/deny Ordinance No. 2011-03 establishing engine brake restrictions within city limits. Keith Brady said this ordinance has been discussed in a previous meeting and he made note of the suggested changes and made those changes. **MOTION:** Philip Engleman moved to approve Ordinance No. 2011-03 establishing engine brake restrictions within city limits. Irene Daw seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

10. Discuss/approve/deny reestablishing an Enterprise and Recycling Zones to enable businesses to receive tax credits. Chris Lezama who is the AmeriCorp VISTA for the City of Green River sponsored by United Way of Eastern Utah presented to the City Council. Conae Black explained that part of Chris Lezama's assignment is to help improve economic development and an Enterprise and Recycling zone is an economic tool. These zones are to be established by the City and have a term limit of five years on them. We would like to renew that term for another five years. Chris Lezama went over with the Council from the research that he did on the tax benefits the businesses would received with the city establishing these zones. **MOTION:** Keith Brady moved to approve reestablishing an Enterprise and Recycling Zones to enable businesses to receive tax credits. Kent Johnson seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

11. Department Reports. Bryan Meadows reported that the river intake pump went down after 230 hours was used on the pump. It has been sent out to be rebuilt and sent back to the city. Philip Engleman said the water plant is running on the original pump when the plant was built in 2002. Bryan Meadows said there is a back wash pump that needs to be rebuilt and they had to buy a new motor for a high service pump. There was a water leak a little over a week ago on one of the old cast iron lines that hasn't been replaced. There is a sewer problem on North Solomon Street. He is trying to get a camera to put down the sewer line so that they can determine what the problem is. Dan Harrison told Bryan Meadows what the public works crew has been doing these past few weeks in preparation for Melon Days is what he envisions should be done all year long. He is happy with what has been done but he is not happy with what hasn't been done the rest of the year. Bryan Meadows said you don't see all that they are doing such as exercising valves. Irene Daw said she covered for Tracy Hunter, the animal control officer, a couple of times when he was able to work. She attended the Planning and Zoning meeting. Tracy Hunter has given his official notice of leaving his position as animal control officer. She reported that a citizen tripped and fell to the ground on a protruding sidewalk in front of the Chow Hound. Kent Johnson gave his ideas on how to replace the pole on Main Street. He expressed his gratitude to all of the citizens who have been helping out with the Melon Days celebration to make it a success. Karen Smith reported on the progress of the restoration of the Melon Slice. It should be complete for Melon Days. She reminded the City Council of the town BBQ for the Melon Days celebration and asked for volunteers from the City Council to cook the hamburgers and any others who could come and help. The emergency plan has begun with the nuclear power plant scenario. She has been meeting with FEMA on the hazardous mitigation plan from the flooding. Conae Black said she received a phone call from Wayne Hefty who is looking into reopening the old oil refinery in the city industrial park. He would like to know if the city would be willing to renegotiate the city owned property just east of the oil refinery for them to purchase. Jim Wood from the University of Utah has completed the demographics for the housing plan. Rey Lloyd Hatt reported on the dinosaur exhibit at the museum and invited the City Council to come and see it.

12. Adjourn. **MOTION:** Kent Johnson moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Pat Brady, Mayor

Conae Black, City Recorder

Approved: _____