

# City of Green River

460 East Main Street, Green River, Utah

City Council Minutes

Special Meeting

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

**ATTENDING:** Mayor Pat Brady, Council Members Keith Brady, Philip Engleman, Irene Daw, Kent Johnson, Dan Harrison; Employees Conae Black; Citizens Troy Pettit

**CONDUCTING:** Mayor Pat Brady, the meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

1. Discuss/approve/deny water rate structure. Kent Johnson said he does not like a tiered system and will vote against it if that is what comes up. Philip Engleman said he is not in favor of a tiered system either unless it expands it way out for example up to 15,000 or 25,000 gallons before it tiers. He would like to change the commercial base rate to \$40.00. Kent Johnson said he could support that if the commercial base rate was \$30.00. He felt the residential base rate should be \$18.00. Philip Engleman does not want to tier the county residential rates. He would like to charge a residential base rate and then an overage rate for every 1000 gallons used for both the city and county residential just double the rate for county water users. Kent Johnson agreed. He feels that a tiered system is unethical and probably illegal if you were in the private sector. Philip Engleman said he checked into it and most places do have a tiered rate structure. Kent Johnson said that didn't make it right that just means they do it. The Council discussed different rate structures that were not tiered and put them into a spread sheet provided by Rural Water with all the right residential and commercial gallon usage for Green River to determine if the rates would be sufficient to operate the water department. Keith Brady put into the spread sheet the following rates:

Residential rates within city limits.

Base rate: \$18.00

Overage rate: \$3.00 for every 1000 gallons of water used.

Residential rates outside of city limits.

Base rate: \$36.00

Overage rate: \$4.50 for every 1000 gallons of water used

Commercial rates

Base rate: \$50.00

Overage rate: \$5.00 for every 1000 gallons of water used

With this structure that would give the water department \$398,000 to operate with. Dan Harrison said for his commercial building that only uses 1000 gallons he would have to pay \$55.00. That is \$55.00 for 1000 gallons of water. Keith Brady said those commercial water users who do not use very much water will pay more and those who use a lot will pay less. Kent Johnson said this rate structure was the way he was to do it. Keith Brady said he did not understand the tiered system. Kent Johnson said when he buys fuel he does not pay more for fuel in his vehicle that has a smaller fuel tank than he does for his vehicle that has a larger fuel tank. Philip Engleman asked if this new rate should start from now on or be retroactive. Kent Johnson said it should begin now. It would be too difficult to make adjustments and could cost more in the long run.

**MOTION:** Keith Brady moved to approve the following water rates:

Residential rates within city limits.

Base rate: \$18.00

Overage rate: \$3.00 for every 1000 gallons of water used.

Residential rates outside of city limits.

Base rate: \$36.00

Overage rate: \$4.50 for every 1000 gallons of water used

Commercial rates

Base rate: \$50.00

Overage rate: \$5.00 for every 1000 gallons of water used

Kent Johnson seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Mayor Brady took a roll call vote. Dan Harrison, Kent Johnson, Irene Daw, Philip Engleman and Keith Brady voted aye. The motion carried.

2. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

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Pat Brady, Mayor

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Conae Black, City Recorder

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_