

# *City of Green River*

460 East Main Street, Green River, Utah

City Council Minutes  
Special Meeting  
Monday, May 11, 2015

**ATTENDING:** Mayor Pat Brady, Council Members Kathy Ryan, Michael Silliman and Penney Riches; Employees Conae Black, Bryan Meadows and Tim Glenn; Citizens Samuel Bassett  
**ABSENT:** Philip Engleman and Gary Riches

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

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

1. Budget work session. Samuel Bassett stated he is seeking continued support for the Epicenter. They are seeking in-kind coverage for utilities for the Epicenter building which is \$5,250. They are asking for partnership to continue to pursue economic development through Pot Luck. Pot Luck is in its fourth year of regular meetings that is facilitated by the Epicenter. The \$4,750 would go towards the cost of meeting facilitation such as refreshments and office supplies and bringing in a short term intern who is focused on Pot Luck and will work directly with businesses. They are also asking for the adoption of the Trails planning contract. They have already received funding from the Emery County Trails again this year. They are on budget for utility billing usage. There has been talk of an Institutional rate in the past and if the city decides to do that it would be a savings to the city of about \$200 a year. He stated that last year the city budgeted \$5,250 to pay for the utilities at the Epicenter and they matched that by almost 13 times. The City gave \$9,355 in financial support to the Epicenter last year which included the Day Trip brochures and the Trails contract. That is about 7% of their budget. He reported how many hours were spent on meetings with Pot Luck and the Trails Committee. They make as many local purchases as possible and reported on how much money was spent locally. He said they currently employ seven people. They host the Fellows every year that spend hundreds of dollars. He reported on some of the activities that they have been a part of in the last year such as updating the Housing Plan, General Plan, the Museum's strategic plan and the Green River Improvement Team (GRIT). They are also partnering with the museum on some programs. He thanked the City for all of their support. Mayor Brady said he didn't want to take away from everything the Epicenter does but some of the things Samuel Bassett are a responsibility of Planning and Zoning and not the Epicenter. Mayor Brady also said he had a hard time with the city funding Pot Luck because business should fund business. Samuel Bassett said they are looking to the businesses to step up in the next few months but a lot of the General Fund money comes from the activity of those businesses. The better the businesses run the more money the city makes. He said if the city could set aside some money for economic development that would help support the Day Trip brochures and other people who are seeking funding to improve the economy. Conae Black said the city is going to need the Epicenter's help with the planning of these trails. Penney Riches said that it is the intent of the city to enter into a contract with the Epicenter for trails. She said that she prefers contracting with the Epicenter for a service better than just giving them the funding for a service because then you have other non-profits who may request for more funding. She said somehow the city needs to decide what we want to do for non-profits before we get bombarded with a lot of non-profits. She likes that the city is contracting for services. She said perhaps Pot Luck could meet at city hall to help take off some of the burden at the Epicenter. Samuel Bassett said you always need someone to follow through and make sure the agenda and preparations are made for the meeting. The money would mostly go for someone's time. Penney Riches said that is where she felt that Pot Luck should step up and become an organized non-profit organization and each business would pay dues and the dues would fund a part time employee. Mayor Brady asked if a Chamber of Commerce was a non-profit organization. Samuel Bassett explained that they are a 501 c (6) and it is difficult to find

grants for that type of non-profit organization. Penney Riches said right now Pot Luck has submitted a grant request to the Emery County Travel Council and they do not qualify for funding from them because they are not incorporated. Right now Chris Lezama has been able to dedicate a lot of time to Pot Luck and GRIT because he is an AmeriCorp VISTA so the Epicenter and Pot Luck has not put in any money for his time. Penney Riches said perhaps another volunteer would step up and help out with GRIT if it gets strong enough. Conae Black went over what community activity grants were requested and put into the temporary budget. They are Special Olympics for \$1,000, MECCA Bicycle Club \$500, PTSA \$500, Medical Center \$12,000, CHEER \$4,000 and then under utilities there is PACT and the Epicenter for a total of \$14,000. Penney Riches said she thought the city was no longer giving money to the Medical Center. Mayor Brady asked why the city would not give money to the Medical Center. Penney Riches said because they have a huge fund and you want to take away from her museum. She said those ladies told her they had about \$580,000 in their fund and they can buy this property and they can do this and that. Mayor Brady said no they have about \$270,000 in the debt reserve fund and it is a requirement from the Federal Government that they need to have about 6 months of debt reserve. Conae Black said the Recreation Fund is General Fund money but accounted for separately so the General Fund is transferring over \$55,000 which is historically more than what has been transferred over in the past. She said that the money allocated for CHEER is the money that the city gets from the Liquor Fund Allotment and the city would not qualify for that money without CHEER's programs. Otherwise that money would go to Emery County. Michael Silliman thought the city gave the Medical Center \$6,000 last year. Penney Riches thought the same thing. Mayor Brady said no. Michael Silliman agreed with Penney Riches and felt the city should not give the Medical Center the \$12,000 they requested. Mayor Brady asked why, was it because they bought the property adjacent to the Medical Center? They received Federal approval to use the money for the purchase of that property. They get \$24,000 from Emery County and \$12,000 from the City for several years to put in that fund for emergencies in case their Federal funds dry up. They are counting on the city and the county to continue to do that. Penney Riches said she does not want the museum to be in the hole next year. Mayor Brady asked what is was right now. Penney Riches said about \$100,000. Conae Black said as of March 21, 2015 the museum is \$133,575 in the deficit. Tim Glenn said each year t goes down. Penney Riches said the city is going to take away the \$15,000 given to the city from Emery County Travel Bureau.

2. Adjourn.

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Pat Brady, Mayor

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Conae Black, City Recorder

Approved: June 9, 2015