

**MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES--DRAFT
SPECIAL MEETING
March 19, 2022**

Moab City Council held a Special Meeting on the above date in the Moab Arts and Recreation Center. Audio is archived at utah.gov/pmn/index.html.

Strategic Planning Workshop:

Mayor Joette Langianese called the Special Meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Councilmembers Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Rani Derasary, Jason Taylor, Kalen Jones and Luke Wojciechowski attended. City staff in attendance included Acting City Manager Carly Castle, Finance Director and Acting Deputy Manager Ben Billingsley and Recorder Sommar Johnson.

Strategic Planning consultants outlined five topics for discussion based on feedback received from Council and staff. They ensured the discussion would result in a written report to Council. The suggested topics included housing, community investment, infrastructure, sustainability and City capabilities.

Housing: Discussion encompassed long-term solutions, needed policy changes, the Walnut Lane project, and other priorities including recreational vehicles used as short-term housing, Active Employment Housing restrictions, density and use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Community Investment: Concerns brought up included quality of life for residents, living wage and a unified vision for the future of Moab and community characteristics. Particulars identified were facilities updates, a Domestic Violence specialist, communications, increased parks and recreation offerings and creation of the Gonzo “pocket park.”

Infrastructure: Identified needs included roads and sewers, mitigation of tourism impacts, repair and maintenance of facilities, water, the Pack Creek pedestrian bridge, solid waste management, transportation and storm drains. Bonds, enterprise funds and project phasing were discussed.

Sustainability: Issues recognized as priorities included water conservation, open spaces, dark skies, tree replacements, xeriscaping, management of noncompliant grease traps and fleet electrification.

City Capabilities: Discussion concerned communications, capital improvement and maintenance planning, a parks master plan, management software, facility security, website updates, new staffing requests and training needs. Councilmember Jones requested consideration of revenue enhancement.

Councilmember Priorities:

Councilmember Derasary stated her priorities included communications regarding emergency management and law enforcement, as well as public outreach to build community trust; climate change; housing; inclusion and equity in the community; noise; and water.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd identified her priorities as housing and infrastructure.

Councilmember Wojciechowski brought up his priorities, which included revenue enhancement, community trust, local control, housing, water, fostering a sense of community and staffing.

Councilmember Taylor stated his priorities included housing, infrastructure such as parks and activities to serve local residents, disbursement of the Recreation Arts and Parks (RAP) Tax, law enforcement, revenue enhancement and collaboration with the County.

Councilmember Jones stated his priorities as consideration of a property tax, noise, policy development, community engagement, climate change, housing, recreation and transportation.

Mayor Langianese prioritized the concerns of local residents who expressed discontent and who misunderstand the City's contributions; climate change; law enforcement and code enforcement; and noted her top priority concerned water issues.

Community Investment: Discussion ensued regarding public education efforts surrounding budget revenues. Finance Director and Acting Deputy Manager Billingsley brought up the reassessment of residential property values this year and noted the State Constitution required reassessments every year and that has not been accomplished. He brought up a pressing need for a long-term budget master plan. Acting Manager Castle brought up a bond for the recreation center. The desire for a recreation survey was discussed. Billingsley said the General Plan was at its five-year mark. Mayor Langianese spoke about County collaboration regarding emergency management and dispatch services, needed software upgrades and social work burdens in the police department. Councilmember Derasary brought up the budget process to address needs as well as bonding.

Infrastructure: Discussion ensued regarding road improvements and enterprise funds. The capital projects list and priorities were brought up. Mayor Langianese mentioned ARPA funds, earmarks and other funding for infrastructure. Councilmember Jones brought up the redesign of downtown side streets and the need for enhanced outreach to the public. He voiced concern about downtown truck deliveries and Councilmember Derasary concurred and mentioned fire truck dispatch and oversized vehicles in diagonal parking spaces on 100 South. Utilizing the RAP tax for the stage was mentioned.

City Capabilities: Top priorities identified included staffing, police department public relations, community engagement and a long-term financial plan. Improved public engagement was discussed in detail.

Next Steps: Consultants outlined a plan to bundle topics and propose timelines and milestones. Councilmember Jones brought up potential listening sessions and other outreach avenues.

Adjournment: Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder