

**MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 10, 2023**

Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Archived audio is at [www.utah.gov/pmn](http://www.utah.gov/pmn) and video is at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=-w7vyhyvWg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-w7vyhyvWg).

***Attendance and Call to Order:***

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and Assistant Police Chief Lex Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Rani Derasary, Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Jason Taylor, Kalen Jones and Luke Wojciechowski attended. Also in attendance were City Manager Carly Castle, Engineer Chuck Williams, Police Chief Jared Garcia, Finance Director and Acting Deputy City Manager Ben Billingsley, Transit Coordinator Richard Lory, Recorder Sommar Johnson, City Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and two members of the public.

***Citizens to be Heard:***

Charlotte Mates requested authorization for a community yard sale with no reservation or fee requirement to be held the first Saturday of each month at Old City Park.

***Department Head Update—Police Department***

Police Chief Garcia updated Council on police staff hiring, upcoming trainings, additional training and resources, January's enforcement focus, and data collection and records management. Councilmembers asked about training, including duration for new officers, use of force, cross agency collaboration, enforcement during the busy season, and whether citizens should call dispatch when they witness traffic violations. Garcia reported the recent Cops Care fundraising drive coordinated with the Moab Valley Multicultural Center raised \$4300 and helped 40 families for the holidays.

***Consent Agenda—Approved***

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Jones moved to approve the consent agenda as follows: appointment of Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd as the 2023 Mayor Pro Tem, appointment of Knuteson-Boyd as the Councilmember who reviews the City's bills in 2023, reappointment of Ruben Villalpando-Salas to the Moab City Planning Commission, presentation of the July-November Fiscal Year 2023 financial update, minutes for the December 13, 2022 Regular Meeting and bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$357,789.21. Councilmember Derasary seconded the motion and said she sent edits to the minutes to the Recorder. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

***Presentation: Water Line Repair***

Engineer Williams gave a construction update on the 100 West water line replacement. He described the scope and costs. He also announced an upcoming water line project on 400 East and noted each project was estimated to cost \$320,000. He said there was an anticipated \$750,000 to be paid by the insurance trust, and funding from the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) was in negotiation. Councilmember Taylor asked about progress on repairing and reopening the parkway under Main Street.

***Public Hearing:***

Mayor Langianese opened a public hearing at 6:48 pm. for the 2023 Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) Kane Creek Boulevard Reconstruction Project. Engineer Williams described the plan to provide a complete section replacement of Kane Creek Boulevard from 500 West to US-191 (Main Street). He said the reconstruction will replace the aging chip sealed pavement, improve storm drainage, and replace old sewer and water lines. The project will also

bring the sidewalks into ADA compliance, add rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) to at least one crosswalk, and include green infrastructure. Williams said the project cost would be approximately \$8.8 million, but also that this is a pre-design estimate and subject to change. Williams explained that the CIB funding request will total \$7,939,000, half grant and half loan @ 1% for 20 years. The remaining \$868,710 will come from the City, and will include preconstruction engineering, construction administration, and other possible items such as the purchase of easements. Williams then went on to explain that the total cost to the City is subject to change: the project total could increase or decrease as the design progresses, there could be construction cost over-runs, or CIB may offer 100% loan, different loan terms, or no award at all. Williams finished by stating that the City is determined to move the project forward and will cover the costs of those scenarios by increasing sales tax revenue bonds. Mayor Langanese spoke about the CIB process and schedule. Councilmember Derasary brought up concerns about language in the grant application suggesting the project would relieve congestion on Main Street. She felt it was misleading to imply that this project will relieve congestion more than the street already does. Engineer Williams stated that due to the condition of the road, he avoids it, and that the reconstruction will make this major collector a more inviting alternative to driving through downtown. City Manager Castle stated that the complete streets component will incentivize active transportation, changing volume in more ways than just vehicle traffic. Councilmember Derasary stated the message of the project was conflicted between an increase in vehicle traffic and active transportation. Councilmember Taylor stated neighboring residents avoid Kane Creek Boulevard due to the poor condition of the pavement, using residential streets as an alternative. Councilmember Jones said the project was responding to existing travel trends and was not creating a new use of the street. City Manager Castle finished by saying that the intent is not to increase the speed of traffic, or provide a new route of travel, but to better serve the local, existing demand. There were no public comments.

### ***General Business:***

#### ***Kane Creek Design Task Order—Approved***

***Presentation and Discussion:*** Mayor Langanese introduced the task order by stating that the design process will include alternatives in the case of increased costs or decreased CIB funding. Engineer Williams presented the items to be included in the design task order: final engineering designs, permitting and right of way surveying, and public engagement. Williams stated that 30% design plans will be acquired quickly, and that the plans will develop the alternatives. Following the development of alternatives, a public meeting will be held to receive input, a presentation will be given to Council, and then a decision can be made to move forward with a design or terminate the contract. City Manager Castle clarified that the approval of the task order will not lock the City into an \$8 million project but allow for the CIB application and designs to move forward, with decisions being made iteratively. Councilmember Jones asked about inclusion of public art in the project. Councilmember Derasary asked about construction of sidewalks, frequency of crosswalks, the status of the Pack Creek pedestrian bridge at the Episcopal church and plans to construct a larger sewer line under the street. Engineer Williams stated that the future South Trunk Line is still a possibility on Kane Creek Boulevard.

***Closure of Public Hearing:*** Mayor Langanese closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Jones moved to approve the Task Order for Consulting Services with Civil Science Inc. for the design of the Kane Creek Blvd Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$498,200.00. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

#### ***Lobbyist Contract—Approved***

***Presentation and Discussion:*** City Manager Castle explained the City had used the same lobbyist for three years and the procurement policy required a bid process this year. She said the lowest bid was from Lincoln Hill Partners. Councilmember Taylor participated in the bid review

and selection process and stated the recommended firm had the best price and experience and had a proven record of accomplishment. Councilmember Derasary stated she would vote no adding that she thinks lobbying is important, but that she could not support an increase from \$40,000 to \$70,000 for lobbying, because she remains unclear what increase in services - or even what specific services - the City will be getting, adding that she is uncertain if the City received the lobbying services including Council training it was supposed to get last year. Mayor Langianese said she and City Manager Castle would convene the City's legislative team.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Jones moved to award the contract for lobbyist services to Lincoln Hill Partners and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for 2023 lobbyist services. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-1 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye and Councilmember Derasary voting nay.

### ***Annexation Petition for Shamrock Communities—Approved***

**Discussion:** Councilmember Derasary brought up the public hearing, which would be the next step in the proposed annexation process. Councilmember Jones mentioned that affected parties may protest and Attorney Watts Baskin explained the process if there is a protest. Councilmember Taylor reiterated that the current motion was a required step and did not imply the annexation was yet approved.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to accept the Annexation Petition from sponsor Ellen Weinstein for Shamrock Communities, LLC, for approximately 3.006 acres located at approximately 1480 South Highway 191 and to proceed with the certification process. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

### ***City Manager Update:***

City Manager Castle reported on her efforts to improve dispatch services with the County, and brought up negotiations to provide for the school resource police officer. She announced encouraging progress with the Walnut Lane project, which had promising proposals. She thanked Joe Lema for his volunteer work measuring noise and said a presentation was forthcoming. Castle mentioned a public question and answer session for recreation and arts grant applicants. She announced the Council strategic planning sessions to be held January 19 and 20. She mentioned grant opportunities associated with the American Rescue Plan Act and concluded with praise for Finance Director and Acting Deputy City Manager Billingsley, who was honored with a distinguished budget presentation award.

### ***Mayor and Council Reports:***

Councilmember Taylor stated he attended an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) board meeting and new board members were recruited. He mentioned road closures affecting EMS personnel and business owners. Castle acknowledged gaps in engagement regarding road closures.

Councilmember Derasary brought up local officials who were planning their annual trip to Washington DC to lobby for funding for the tailings site cleanup. She mentioned daily briefings conducted by the Utah League of Cities and Towns intended for public officials regarding the upcoming legislative session. She mentioned Local Officials Day at the capitol and also brought up annual open meetings trainings. She detailed a meeting of the Southeast Utah Riparian Partnership, formerly known as the Tamarisk Coalition. She spoke about the memorandum of understanding, City representation, various stakeholders, Partnership tasks including public education and mailings, initiatives to decrease spread of invasive plant species, and watershed restoration.

Councilmember Wojciechowski reported he attended a meeting of the TrailMix committee.

Councilmember Jones reported on meetings of the Travel Council, the Community Renewable Energy board and the Solid Waste district.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported on a meeting of the housing authority and said she attended the police department banquet.

Mayor Langianese reported she participated in the community healthcare assessment planning process as well as a water utility management plan meeting. She said she attended the police banquet and the County's elected officials' swearing-in ceremony. She announced the National Park Service would continue its timed entry pilot at Arches National Park for the months of April to October, and mentioned a recent editorial in the *Salt Lake Tribune* by local business owner Ashley Korenblat regarding timed entry. Mayor Langianese announced the circulation to Council of the board and committee assignments for 2023 and concluded by unveiling the City's new logo.

**Adjournment:** Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder