

**MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 28, 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=5WysmmkiTk8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WysmmkiTk8).

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

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and Alexi Lamm led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Rani Derasary, Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Jason Taylor, Luke Wojciechowski and Kalen Jones attended. Also in attendance were City Manager Carly Castle, Finance Director Ben Billingsley, Recorder Sommar Johnson, City Attorney Nathan Bracken, Police Administrative Sergeant Scott Finlayson, Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm, Engineer Chuck Williams, Motorola Representative Tyler Jenson and one member of the media.

***Citizens to be Heard:*** There were no citizens to be heard.

***Department Head Update:*** Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm reported to Council on sustainability initiatives, including electric vehicle charging, greenhouse gas inventories, and review of proposals for consultants to complete the sustainability action plan, and the recent award of a grant to assist with upgrades to facility energy efficiency. Lamm explained progress with the Community Renewable Energy Agency and the proposed utility agreement.

***Presentations:***

***Strategic Plan Update:*** Finance Director Billingsley presented a progress update on the 2022-2023 strategic plan and said most objectives are on track. He highlighted infrastructure projects, property tax planning, and housing initiatives. Mayor Langianese noted that Council would see the 2023-2024 plan in early June.

***Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Administrative Recommended Budget:*** Finance Director Billingsley reported on the process for consideration of the staff recommended budget. He noted budget priorities are constrained by available funds and conservatively projected a three percent growth rate. He said that after reviewing departmental requests, there was a \$2.3 million shortfall and noted departmental requests for expanded staffing would likely be subject to elimination from the proposed budget. He said there would be a public hearing regarding the proposed budget on May 9 with Council consideration for approval at a later meeting. Billingsley said Council priorities, departmental requests and standing commitments would form the basis of the budget. City Manager Castle stated the downtown master plan would require \$80,000-\$100,000 to complete. Cost of living adjustments for staff and other compensation such as merit pay were discussed and Councilmember Taylor commented that employees are top priority. Councilmembers requested a schedule of budget briefings, notes from those meetings, and a copy of the presentation.

***Consent Agenda—Approved***

***Motion:*** Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the consent agenda as follows: approval of minutes for the March 14, 2023, Regular Meeting and approval of bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$110,068.18. Councilmember Derasary seconded the motion.

***Discussion and Vote:*** Councilmember Derasary stated she sent edits to the minutes to the Recorder and the motion passed unanimously.

***General Business:***

***Public Hearing for Culinary Water Impact Fees:*** Mayor Langianese opened a public hearing for proposed **Ordinance 2023-03**: an ordinance amending the Moab Municipal Code

3.50.140 Culinary Water Impact Fees at 7:08 p.m. There were no public comments. Mayor Langianese closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

### ***Culinary Water Impact Fees—Approved***

**Discussion:** Finance Director Billingsley stated fees have not been changed since 1998. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd noted raising impact fees was not pleasant but necessary. Councilmember Derasary brought up concerns about the history and past process for amending culinary water impact fees. She cited related 1998 and 2012 documents, apparent steps by the City to increase water impact fees in 2012 and 2019 that did not result in fee changes, and that dates for the Impact Fee Analysis (IFA) and Impact Fee Facilities Plan (IFPP) appear incorrect, which adds confusion to trying to understand what happened when. She noted ratepayers had been subsidizing new development over the years, thanked current staff for calling Council's attention to this, apologized to residents, and brought up a limitation requiring impact fees to be used within six years of collection.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Taylor moved to adopt **Ordinance 2023-03:** an ordinance amending the Moab Municipal Code 3.50.140 Culinary Water Impact Fees. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

**Public Hearing for Storm Water Rates:** Mayor Langianese opened a public hearing regarding proposed **Ordinance 2023-04:** an ordinance amending the Moab Municipal Code 3.50.110 Storm Water Rates at 7:15 p.m. Engineer Williams briefly presented the rate study and answered questions from Council regarding current customers, when new rates would take effect, and clarified that a separate action regarding storm water impact fees would be forthcoming. There were no public comments and Mayor Langianese closed the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

### ***Storm Water Rate Amendments—Approved***

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Jones moved to adopt **Ordinance 2023-04:** an ordinance amending the Moab Municipal Code 3.50.110 Storm Water Rates. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

### ***Birch and Tusher Areas Sewer Improvement Projects—Approved***

**Presentation and Discussion:** Discussion ensued regarding the project schedule, street resurfacing options, and sidewalks. Williams noted that the street behind City Market requires sewer and water line work before it can be repaved. Councilmember Derasary brought up the bonded amount for the project and asked about options if the bond funds were underspent. Williams stated the outfall project is the next priority.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Jones moved to award construction contracts for the Birch Area Sewer Improvement Project and the Tusher Area Sewer Improvement Project to Silver Spur Construction in the amounts of \$966,053.50 and \$1,852,131.00 respectively and authorize the Mayor to sign contracts for both said projects. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

### ***Police Department Record Management and Dispatch System—Approved***

**Presentation and Discussion:** Police Administrative Sergeant Finlayson briefly presented the request for funding a new records management system and dispatch software. Council discussed the low bid, which was also the best match for the City's needs, and Council also asked about migration of existing police records. Motorola representative Tyler Jenson explained record import and export variables. Mayor Langianese said the new system should be ready July 1 and Jenson noted training local staff could be a time constraint.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Jones moved to award a service agreement with Motorola Solutions for a record management system and computer-aided dispatch system for the Moab Police Department. 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 reminded the public that they can fill up sand bags at the City works yard in advance of the anticipated spring runoff. She mentioned she had a productive meeting with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and was joined by the Mayor, Councilmember Taylor, Engineer Williams and UDOT Region 4 leadership. She said a signal at the Aggie Boulevard intersection with Highway 191 was discussed, along with the proposed Swanny Park roundabout. She said UDOT agreed to do a study on the signal and added the expected roundabout costs have doubled. She said the City asked UDOT for some flexibility and wants to go out to bid to cover additional costs. Castle updated Council on bridge repairs and noted the Parks master plan mail survey was mailed to households and the online survey is available now. Castle concluded with a note that demolition is complete of the old restrooms at Rotary Park. Councilmember Jones brought up the community survey regarding the parks and recreation master plan.

**Mayor and Council Reports:**

Councilmember Taylor reported on meetings with UDOT as well as the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) special service district board. He said the purchase of two ambulances was delayed because of a long wait list and noted costs had increased a great deal.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported attending the ribbon cutting for the Moab Area Transit program and noted she was unable to attend the housing authority meeting.

Councilmember Derasary reported on EMS call statistics and said the majority of calls were for local residents. She reported on a meeting of the Moab Area Watershed Partnership and noted she attended the transit ribbon cutting. She said citizens could provide feedback on schedules and service areas. Derasary also mentioned the tailings site futures project and suggested a pickleball court could be installed at the newly cleared area at Rotary Park. She mentioned an effort to provide mental health services to first responders, concluded with remarks about the sheriff's dispatch phone tree and public confusion, and requested more public education.

Councilmember Jones reported on the solid waste district and noted the purchase of refuse trucks is stymied by rising costs. He noted his participation in the Walnut Lane selection committee. Jones commented on the County's future land use plan and the buildout analysis in view of water constraints and necessary safety improvements along the Highway 191 corridor.

Councilmember Wojciechowski noted the Planning Commission meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. He mentioned his participation on the Walnut Lane selection committee and noted an ongoing fundraiser for the multicultural center.

Mayor Langianese reported on a meeting of the Association of Governments and mentioned a new small business grant initiative of the Governor's Office of Economic Development. She brought up a meeting regarding the project priority list for the Permanent Community Impact Board (CIB), and a discussion regarding rail service to Moab. The Mayor noted the National Parks and Conservation Association was in town. She concluded with a mention of letters she had received from local sixth graders regarding needed improvements for the City, including support for softball, affordable housing, sidewalk improvements, teacher pay, and repairs to the skate park. Also mentioned by the sixth graders was a need for a Target store, a Honda dealership, a homeless shelter, and saving the legacy tree in Swanny Park that is threatened by the planned roundabout.

**Adjournment:** Councilmember Jones moved to adjourn. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

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

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