

MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
July 25, 2023

Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Archived audio is at www.utah.gov/pmn and video is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwNbdcOwXK8.

Regular Meeting Attendance and Call to Order:

Mayor Pro-Tem Tawny Knuteson-Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and Charlotte Mates led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Rani Derasary, Luke Wojciechowski and Jason Taylor attended. Also in attendance were Planning Director Cory Shurtleff, Parks, Recreation and Trails Director Annie McVay, City Manager Carly Castle, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Treasurer Marcy Mason, Deputy Recorder Kelsi Garcia, Community Development Director Michael Black, Code Compliance Specialist Mona Pompili, Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm, Police Administrative Sergeant Scott Finlayson, Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and 11 members of the public. Mayor Joette Langianese and Councilmember Kalen Jones were absent.

Workshop—Landscaping Ordinance:

Sustainability Director Lamm, Planning Director Shurtleff and consultant Victoria Arling presented the proposed Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance and addressed questions from Council. Lamm briefed Council on the background, rationale, timeline, public process and proposed changes to the landscaping ordinance. Topics discussed included new construction requirements for efficient fixtures for indoor water conservation as well as landscaping standards. Landscaping standards included buffering and screening, submittal requirements and enforcement. An approved plant list, ground coverings, tree canopy, required property coverage percentages, exemptions for vegetable gardens and geohazard zones, as well as watering standards were discussed. Private streets and tree plantings in the City's right-of-way (ROW) were debated. Compliance triggers for existing structure building permits were described. Councilmember Derasary asked about streets currently without sidewalks and watering technology and Councilmember Taylor asked about ROW trees. Next steps and access to the draft document were brought up.

Public Comments:

Charlotte Mates praised the Moab Area Transit pilot program. She applauded Transit Coordinator Richard Lory and noted grant funding is available for five years. She encouraged residents to use the transit system and to learn about it. She brought up the lack of benches and shelters at stops and encouraged citizen collaboration with the City to provide them.

Department Head Update—Community Development:

Michael Black was introduced as the new Community Development Director. City Manager Castle explained Black will oversee City departments including Engineering, Planning, Communications and Sustainability, and will carry forward the results of the City's visioning process and will work to develop housing priorities and policy, working to bridge the gap between City Hall and residents.

Consent Agenda—Approved

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the consent agenda as follows: ratification of comments regarding Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Long Range Transportation Plan, approval of minutes for the June 27, 2023, Regular Meeting and approval of bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$1,531,784.98. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Solid Waste Special Service District #1—Presentation

Canyonlands Solid Waste District staff presented an update on the state of the landfills and waste hauling service. Statistics and background on capacity, equipment, facilities, performance and workforce were presented for waste hauling and recycling services. Diversion rates for materials not contributing to the landfill capacity were discussed including recyclables, reusable construction materials and yard waste. Executive Director Mike Kenerley noted the Canyonlands Recycling Center now accepts #5 plastics such as yogurt containers, although this service is not available with curbside pickup. He also mentioned long-term financial plans were under development with implications for rates, bonding and equipment replacement schedules.

FY2022-23 Strategic Plan—Presentation

City Manager Castle updated Council on the closeout of the 2022-23 elements of the City's strategic plan. She thanked former Finance Director Ben Billingsley for his work on tracking progress of the plan. Castle highlighted the City's efforts to upgrade local dispatch services and addressing code enforcement as a complaint-based model to a more proactive enforcement model. She also mentioned the ongoing municipal code rewrite, municipal website redesign, mitigation of noise impacts, and upgrades to recreation programs. She touched on strategic plan elements regarding housing, sustainability, community investment and infrastructure. She noted the proposed roundabout near Swanny Park was cancelled due to rising costs.

General Business:

Public Hearing for Master Fee Schedule

Mayor Pro-Tem Knuteson-Boyd opened a public hearing at 7:56 p.m. regarding proposed amendments to the City's master fee schedule and modifying certain fees and rates charges by the City. There were no public comments and the Mayor Pro-Tem closed the public hearing.

Adoption of Master Fee Ordinance—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Treasurer Mason briefly presented changes to the master fee schedule with Administrative Sergeant Finlayson providing justification for certain police department fee updates. Fees regarding chicken permits and redaction costs were discussed.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Derasary moved to adopt **Ordinance 2023-11:** an ordinance amending Title 3 of the Moab Municipal Code to update Chapter 3.50, Master Fee Schedule and modifying certain fees and rates charged by the City. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Rim-to-Rim Restoration Contract—Approved

Presentation: Parks, Recreation and Trails Director McVay presented results of the City's request for qualifications for a consultant to manage the City's Mill Creek and Pack Creek riparian areas. She stated Rim to Rim Restoration was the recommended firm.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Derasary moved to approve the contract award to Rim to Rim Restoration for the Mill and Pack Creek Riparian & Stewardship Plan. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Update:

City Manager Castle invited Council to register for upcoming conferences.

Council Reports:

Councilmember Derasary reported on a meeting of the Moab Tailings Pile steering committee, highlighting that 86 percent of the tailings have been moved. She reported on progress of the capping design process and invited those interested in more detail to contact her. She noted the Grand County Water Conservancy District (GCWCD) seeks a new board member and said the

governor will appoint a new member based on a recommendation from the Grand County Commission. She also mentioned information from a Utah League of Cities and Towns water workshop that she attended about yard watering technology (“smart controllers”), rebates for toilet replacements with efficient fixtures, and grants available to conduct lead pipe inventories. She mentioned a meeting of the Southeast Utah Riparian Partnership and a “Play-Clean-Go” campaign. She mentioned a Grand County educational seminar on the local water supply and noted County Commissioner Mary McGann praised a recent op-ed in the Salt Lake Tribune by Councilmember Wojciechowski regarding Arches National Park. She concluded by asking for a staff update on the Moab Area Transit and City Manager Castle explained it would be at the six-month mark of the new pilot service.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported on a meeting of the Canyonlands Health Center Special Service District and noted their audit was ongoing. She said a neighbor had requested that an elm tree be removed from their property and the request was denied because of future development plans that would entail tree removal.

Executive (Closed) Session:

Councilmember Taylor moved to enter a closed strategy session to discuss reasonably imminent and/or pending litigation. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Mayor Pro-Tem Knuteson-Boyd convened the closed session at 8:30 p.m. Councilmember Taylor moved to end the closed session. Councilmember Derasary seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Mayor Pro-Tem Knuteson-Boyd ended the closed session at 8:32 p.m.

Adjournment: Councilmember Derasary moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and Mayor Pro-Tem Knuteson-Boyd adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST: _____
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder