

MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
July 26, 2022

Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Audio is archived at www.utah.gov/pmn and video is archived at www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcROFjb9F2A and www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FyPzRwysa4.

Attendance and Call to Order:

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and asked Patricia Trap to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Kalen Jones, Jason Taylor and Luke Wojciechowski attended. Councilmember Rani Derasary was excused and not present. Staff in attendance included City Manager Carly Castle, Parks, Recreation and Trails Director Annie McVay, Engineer Chuck Williams, Planner Cory Shurtleff, Assistant Planner Jessica Thacker, Attorneys Nathan Bracken and Nathanael Mitchell, Building Inspector Barry Ellison and Deputy Recorder Lisa Church. Five members of the public were in the audience.

Citizens to Be Heard:

Joe Downard referred to an email he sent to Council at an earlier date and thanked Councilmember Wojciechowski for his response. He urged Council to hold another public hearing on the proposed Active Employment Household ordinance. He thanked Council for suggesting incentives for developers and acknowledged no R-3 or R-4 property owners made comments during the Planning Commission public hearing. He said having a second public hearing will help stop future litigation.

Randy Day spoke about his concerns with City zoning and approaches to density in the R-3 and R-4 zones. He mentioned setbacks, parking and building height and noted a dearth of vacant R-3 land within the City. He suggested annexation of more property into City limits. He warned against deed restrictions limiting property occupancy and cited lender concerns and interest rates. He brought up the recent rise in property taxes and the impact it will have on renters.

Department Head Update:

Parks, Recreation and Trails Director McVay presented a brief Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan Update. She announced the search for a contractor to prepare the update, the formation of a technical advisory committee, and mentioned opportunities for public input.

Presentation: National Park Service Visitor Survey and Timed Entry Update

Southeast Utah Group (SEUG) Superintendent Patricia Trap spoke about the pilot timed entry project at Arches National Park. She mentioned the processing time per vehicle at entry and the length of the wait line. She said visitors experience a 45 minute to one-hour wait at the gate. She mentioned that visitation is down at many regional national parks and theorized that visits surged during the height of the pandemic. She mentioned possible improvements to the entrance road and noted positive visitor feedback regarding the effects of the timed entry system, including reduced parking congestion, reduced surges in the visitor center, and more services provided at the downtown Moab Information Center. Kate Thomas, Public Affairs officer for SEUG, reviewed a visitor survey from 2021. She highlighted Arches National Park as the primary reason survey respondents visited the area. She said visitors seek to avoid crowds, and certain destinations such as Delicate Arch are essential objectives. She added that the survey gathered information on topics such as shuttles, temporary closures due to crowding, trail expansion and more. Councilmember Jones asked about the 15 percent of visitors who arrive at the gate without reservations and are turned away. Councilmember Taylor thanked park personnel for the information. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd stated her preference for a two-year pilot study and Councilmember Wojciechowski concurred.

Unified Transportation Master Plan—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Mayor Langianese moved this Old Business agenda item to accommodate Engineer Williams. He briefly introduced the Plan and announced he needed to leave to help manage flash flooding that had occurred in Spanish Valley. He mentioned the opportunity for federal Safe Streets for All (SS4A) funding. Councilmember Jones asked about intersections along highway 191. Williams noted a potential signal at 200 North Main Street. Jones also asked about the status in the report regarding the proposed parking structure. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd thanked staff for work on the plan as well as the successful collaboration with Grand County.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to recommend adoption of the Grand County and City of Moab Unified Transportation Master Plan Final Report dated July 2022. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Consent Agenda—Approved

Councilmember Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows: approval of bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$515,349.51 and approval of minutes for the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes for June 28, 2022:

Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to approve minutes for the June 28, 2022 Regular Meeting with Councilmember Derasary's amendments. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Active Employment Units Requirement—Postponed

Presentation and Discussion: Planner Shurtleff briefly explained the timeline and progress on the Active Employment Household (AEH) ordinance. He discussed the need for Active Employment Units (AEU) in the context of new multi-household development in the R-3 and R-4 zones, and described options regarding deed restrictions, percentage of AEU's required in new developments, incentives and more. He answered Councilmember questions regarding building permit waivers and references to short-term rentals, which are not an allowed use.

Executive (Closed) Session:

Councilmember Jones moved to enter an Executive Session to discuss reasonably imminent and/or pending litigation. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Wojciechowski and Knuteson-Boyd voting aye. Mayor Langianese convened the Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. Councilmember Taylor moved to end the Executive Session. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Mayor Langianese ended the Executive Session at 9:10 p.m.

Motion and Vote:

Councilmember Jones moved to postpone Proposed **Ordinance 2022-05**: an ordinance amending the text of the Moab Municipal Code (MMC) Section 17.48 R-3 Multi-Household Residential Zone, and 17.51 R-4 Manufactured Housing Residential Zone, to add a Use-Parameter Requirement to the multi-household permitted use, such that 33% of units be designated as Active Employment Units (AEU) to be occupied by qualified Active Employment Households (AEH). Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Administrative Report:

City Manager Castle reported on the Water Resources Management Plan and an upcoming meeting of stakeholders and a focus group. Councilmember Wojciechowski agreed to participate in the meeting with Councilmember Taylor as an alternate. Castle mentioned visioning focus groups for early August and announced a new assistant police chief was hired.

Mayor and Council Reports:

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported on a meeting of the Canyonlands Health Care Special Services District. She recognized the exemplary staff at the Care Center. She also reported on a meeting of the Housing Authority of Southeast Utah. She mentioned all the effort of workers in the community.

Councilmember Jones reported on a meeting of the City and County coordinating committee regarding workforce-housing efforts. He also mentioned his participation in the Sustainability Director interviews. He reported on a business meeting of the solid waste district and requested coaching for Council members regarding recruitment and interviewing techniques.

Councilmember Wojciechowski reported on a meeting of the homeless council. He said there has been a rise in homelessness and mentioned an effort to supply homeless individuals with secure lockers for belongings. He commended nonprofit staff in the community that worked hard on behalf of residents in need.

Mayor Langianese stated she attended several meetings and highlighted a meeting of San Juan County, Grand County and Moab City. She noted San Juan County is revising its land use code. She also mentioned a meeting she attended with Grand County regarding Active Employment Households.

Adjournment: Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to adjourn. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder