

**MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**August 22, 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=BmfHAAzg\\_ck](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmfHAAzg_ck) and [https://www.youtube.com/live/cn8rx-VoGHs?si=slN\\_SRRuobdnLkT](https://www.youtube.com/live/cn8rx-VoGHs?si=slN_SRRuobdnLkT).

***Regular Meeting Attendance and Call to Order:***

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and Colin Topper led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Rani Derasary, Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, Luke Wojciechowski, Jason Taylor and Kalen Jones attended. Also in attendance were Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm, Planning Director Cory Shurtleff, Planning Administrator Anna Anglin, City Manager Carly Castle, Community Development Director Michael Black, Communications Director Lisa Church, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Engineer Chuck Williams, Police Chief Jared Garcia, Assistant Police Chief Lex Bell, Sustainability Intern Melissa Zinge, Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and 14 members of the public.

***Workshop: Water-Efficient Landscaping Ordinance***

Sustainability Director Lamm, Planning Director Shurtleff and Planning Administrator Anglin presented an updated draft of the Water-Efficient Landscaping Ordinance. Anglin stated the intention to clarify definitions of buffering and screening. She pointed out updates regarding required fence heights and buffering exceptions. Councilmember Jones noted that required canopy trees are prohibited in other parts of the code. Planning Director Shurtleff acknowledged exceptions for overhead utilities, cliffs and flood zones. He also outlined maintenance concerns for multi-household developments with common areas. Sustainability Director Lamm reviewed changes and clarifications regarding indoor fixtures and appliances, right-of-ways and private streets. Councilmember Taylor asked about irrigation shares and water budgets. Councilmember Jones asked about surface water. Discussion ensued regarding enforcement. Mayor Langianese brought up undeveloped lots and Planning Director Shurtleff explained weed mitigation is separate from landscaping requirements. Lamm explained the water budget worksheet and illustrated options for homeowners including bonuses for stormwater use and native plantings. Compliance triggers were discussed for residences and lodging including timeline for compliance, and rules for remodels and new construction. Councilmember Wojciechowski brought up a concern about compliance for large hotels with a distinction based on size, revenue and similar characteristics. Shurtleff explained that most of the newer hotels are already compliant regarding indoor plumbing fixtures. Councilmember Taylor asked about the focus on hotels and brought up restaurants and institutions such as the Information Center. Councilmember Derasary asked about data regarding commercial water user use and the likelihood of noncompliant lodgings. She also mentioned the emergent Water Utility Resource Management Plan and asked for consistency with that program. Councilmember Jones asked about water features and availability of recommended shutoff equipment. Recycled and recirculated water use in water features was discussed. Jones also brought up irrigation system criteria including definitions for sub meters, and procedures for exceptions to the code. Mayor Langianese explained next steps regarding adoption of the proposed ordinance.

***Public Comments:***

David Olsen asked when the Community Development Director position became essential.

Charlotte Mates spoke about the City's Walnut Lane development. She asked for clear communication with residents regarding timeframe for construction and expectations for displacement of residents. She said outreach was urgently needed and requested a replication of a 5-year-old community survey regarding the development. She suggested the City should write off the development as a loss and give the property to the residents. She indicated there were up to ten residents in each trailer.

Ty Shumway spoke in favor of the proposed annexation.

Mitch White spoke about the White Canyon dam and noted it had issues for some time and said the owners had not been contacted by the City. He urged the City to contact the landowners first.

***Department Head Update: Sustainability***

Sustainability Director Lamm sought input from Council regarding replacement or retrofit of the City's decorative streetlamps with an aim to comply with the Dark Sky ordinance. Councilmembers Derasary and Jones suggested retrofit and a pilot program for different color temperatures.

***Consent Agenda—Approved***

***Discussion:*** Engineer Williams discussed the detention basin project and Police Chief Garcia discussed the School Resource Officer agreement.

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Jones moved to approve the consent agenda as follows: consideration of adoption of **Resolution 21-2023**: a resolution approving an interlocal agreement between the City of Moab and the Grand County School District authorizing Moab police officers to serve as school resource officers in district schools; consideration of approval and authorization of the Mayor to sign the cash commitment letter for high hazard detention basin project scoping documents; approval of minutes for the August 8, 2023, regular meeting; approval of bills against the City of Moab in the Amount of \$766,726.38; and a suicide prevention and awareness month proclamation. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

***General Business:***

***Rules of Order and Procedure for City Council Meetings—Approved***

***Discussion:*** Councilmember Derasary asked about situations that require a roll call vote and Attorney Watts Baskin said roll call votes are required when the City encumbers funds. Derasary also brought up abstentions and a concern about cutting short a Councilmember's report. She suggested cross-cultural training for Councilmembers.

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Taylor moved to approve **Resolution 20-2023**, a resolution of Moab City Council adopting the rules of order and procedures for City Council meetings. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye and Councilmember Derasary abstaining.

***Shumway Pre-Annexation Agreement—Approved***

***Presentation and Discussion:*** Community Development Director Black explained the annexation process and Planning Administrator Anglin described the proposed annexation proposal. Councilmember Jones asked about the sequence of steps regarding the pre-annexation agreement. Councilmember Wojciechowski explained an early approval of a pre-annexation agreement is preferable so the applicant can reconsider if the City approves different zoning than requested and for other reasons. Councilmember Derasary noted inconsistencies in the proposed drawings and asked if a parking lot is considered a buffering element and Planning Director Shurtleff said no. Active Employment Household requirements were discussed. Councilmember Jones brought up sustainability requirements and restrictive covenants in a pre-annexation agreement and Wojciechowski explained these elements could be tested before codification. Councilmember Wojciechowski noted his optimism regarding new commercial space within the City limits.

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Wojciechowski moved to approve the pre-annexation agreement for the 1082 S HWY 191 Shumway Pre-Annexation Agreement. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

***Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Utility Vehicle Garage Contract—Approved***

***Motion and Vote:*** Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to award the WRF Utility Vehicle Garage project construction contract to Country Wide Builders in the amount of \$430,435.00 and authorize the

Mayor to sign the Notice of Intent to Award. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

**Screening and Buffering Requirements Code Amendments—Approved**

**Presentation and Discussion:** Mayor Langianese explained the text amendments were needed to clarify code until the new landscaping ordinance was adopted. She noted the Planning Commission recommended the code amendments to the City Council.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Jones moved to approve **Ordinance 2023-12**, an ordinance amending the text of the Moab Municipal Code (MMC), clarifying the screening and buffering requirements for multi-household dwellings permitted use. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

**City Manager Updates:**

City Manager Castle announced an upcoming ribbon cutting for the Emma Boulevard parking lot. She said the restrooms at Swanny Park would reopen after repairs. She praised the City’s response to a flash flood the prior week on the Mill Creek Parkway. She concluded with a reminder that the transit system would adopt winter hours and services in October.

**Mayor and Council Reports:**

Councilmember Jones reported on a meeting of the solid waste district and noted that new compactor trucks needed adjustments and were temporarily out of service. Councilmember Jones left the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Councilmember Wojciechowski reported he attended a meeting of the Planning Commission. Councilmember Derasary reported she spent time researching matters related to the agenda items. She reported on a meeting of the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) Legislative Committee and announced new ULCT employees. She mentioned a resolution of the committee regarding dignity and civility in meetings. She mentioned changes in how modular homes are regulated in Utah. She concluded with a request that Council make a plan to monitor upcoming legislative bills. She said proposed bills numbered more than 700 so far this year, creating a difficult environment for tracking pending legislation.

Councilmember Taylor reported on a Chamber of Commerce luncheon with a presentation on potential community impacts caused by tourism related to the October 14 solar eclipse. He reported on a meeting of the Airport Board and announced an upcoming dedication of the Bill Groff Operations Center. He said the responsive recreation group was preparing a video series for popular outdoor activities including responsible driving in town.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported on a meeting of the Museum Board and the ongoing Navajo rug exhibit as well as a field trip to the museum’s climate-controlled vault. She said she met with the Mayor. Mayor Langianese announced upcoming meetings with U.S. Representative John Curtis, the Association of Governments, and a joint meeting of the City Council and County Commission.

Councilmember Derasary thanked the Police Department for attending the back-to-school clap-in at the elementary school.

Mayor Langianese announced an upcoming day of service to honor first responders for 9/11.

**Adjournment:** Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 aye with Councilmembers Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

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

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