

MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 27, 2022

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=TD35GXTitno.

Attendance and Call to Order:

Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and asked Richard Lory to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Luke Wojciechowski, Rani Derasary, Jason Taylor and Kalen Jones attended. Councilmember Tawny Knuteson-Boyd arrived at 6:13 p.m. Also in attendance were Police Chief Jared Garcia, City Manager Carly Castle, Planner Cory Shurtleff, Finance Director and Acting Deputy Manager Ben Billingsley, Arts, Recreation and Trails Director Annie McVay, Public Works Director Levi Jones, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm, Assistant Police Chief Alexander (Lex) Bell, Police Sergeant Scott Finlayson, Transit Director Richard Lory, City Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and one member of the public.

Lighting Ordinance Workshop

Planner Shurtleff and former Sustainability VISTA Richard Lory presented a draft lighting ordinance intended to amend current code with proposed changes to address Dark Skies, temporary lighting such as holiday lights, and safety lighting. Shurtleff described existing conditions, which will become nonconforming when the Dark Skies rules take effect in 2024 and noted some lighting could trigger a need for immediate termination as an allowed use. He explained changes to business licensing or application for a building permit would trigger a need for compliance, and specified nuisance conditions would require immediate attention. Councilmember Jones noted the code would not be a stand-alone document and Mayor Langianese stated she and Councilmember Jones would work with the County to coordinate the new lighting ordinance. Planner Shurtleff requested specific feedback from Council regarding zones for lighting curfews, illumination of federal and state flags, and illumination of signs. He went over the timeline for the public process including a public hearing and review by the International Dark Skies Association (IDA). Discussion ensued regarding amortization for compliance for residential and commercial lighting, Moab compliance implications for a Dark Skies designation at Arches National Park, and options regarding the illumination of flags. Councilmember Taylor asked how businesses and residents are being notified and educated about the impending compliance deadline. City facilities and compliance were discussed. Council agreed that no up-lit commercial signs should be allowed.

Citizens to Be Heard: There were no Citizens to be Heard.

Department Head Updates:

Police Chief Garcia introduced Assistant Chief Bell and Sergeant Finlayson. He outlined his recent accomplishments after four months on the job. Councilmember Derasary asked about expectations and communications between the police department and Council. City Manager Castle noted new reporting software and a plan for a weekly report on police activity.

Sustainability Director Alexi Lamm introduced herself. She stated her priorities after two days on the job include designation as a Dark Skies community, actions related to the 100 Communities renewable energy initiative, the water resource management plan, a new landscape ordinance, and the draft sustainability plan. Councilmember Derasary asked about a greenhouse gas inventory and stated her motivation to develop a climate action plan.

Consent Agenda—Approved

Councilmember Derasary moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows: approval of minutes for the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting and approval of bills against the City of Moab in the amount of \$1,603,814.85. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Councilmember Derasary moved to table approval of the minutes for the August 23, 2022 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to approve minutes for the September 19, 2022 Special Meeting and Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 aye with Councilmembers Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye and Councilmembers Jones and Derasary abstaining.

New Business:

Pool Filter Purchase—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Levi Jones and Colby Palmer from the Public Works Department and Annie McVay, Parks, Recreation and Trails Director, presented options for the emergency replacement of the pool filter. McVay explained recent failures have resulted in the need for complete replacement. She described differences between replacement with the existing technology or a more expensive yet more modern filter. She noted the new technology would result in significant annual water and energy savings and has a longer expected lifespan. The timeframe for replacement, which will result in a two-week pool closure, was explained. The need for a future budget amendment, if approved, was mentioned as well as an ongoing facilities audit by Public Works staff.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to approve the purchase and installation of a pool filter through CEM Aquatics in the amount of \$159,629.00. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 aye with Councilmembers Jones, Derasary, Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd and Wojciechowski voting aye.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Appointments—Approved

Presentation and Discussion: Mayor Langanese introduced her proposed slate of appointments to the Recreation, Arts and Parks (RAP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), as follows: Richard Codd (three year term), Molly Taylor (three year term), Emily Robertson (two year term), Barbara Hicks (two year term), and Neal Clark (two year term). Councilmember Taylor agreed to serve as an ex officio member along with two non-voting staff representatives. Mayor Langanese clarified the RAP TAC would advise on approximately \$80,000 in community support, and not municipal departmental initiatives that may benefit from the RAP tax. Councilmember Derasary brought up a letter from a resident regarding needed playground and ballfield improvements. Councilmember Jones noted for the next few years, most of the RAP tax revenues would be dedicated to City facilities and would be informed by the ongoing recreation planning process.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Jones moved to approve the Mayoral appointments to the RAP TAC. 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 the open enrollment period for waste and recycling services. She briefed Council on staffing updates and mentioned a grant opportunity for water services.

Mayor and Council Reports:

Councilmember Wojciechowski reported on meetings of the homeless council and the Moab Area Watershed Partnership.

Councilmember Jones reported on a meeting of the solid waste district and the Mountain Towns conference he attended.

Councilmember Derasary reported on the Mountain Towns conference and noted the System of Care group had suspended meetings until 2023. She described services available for families with children who need assistance. She mentioned plans for celebrating Indigenous Peoples Day and reported on a meeting of the Grand Water and Sewer Services Agency (GWSSA). She mentioned a recent tour of the Moab tailings site with staff from the National Park Service.

Mayor Langianese spoke about applying for funding from recent Acts of Congress, including the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported on Arroyo Crossing, including a recent open house and approval of an apartment complex there. She mentioned the Housing Authority had secured tax credits to move forward with construction.

Councilmember Taylor reported on the airport board and noted there were openings on the board. He stated the airport has increased business and fuel sales and mentioned forthcoming agreements with Uber and Lyft. He mentioned a meeting of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) board and noted there is a multi-year waiting list for new ambulances. He reviewed EMS call statistics. He mentioned a Travel Council marketing review with County Commissioners.

Mayor Langianese reported on meetings with the director of the Multicultural Center regarding homelessness and a Walnut Lane survey, as well as the Association of Local Governments (AOG). She mentioned upcoming meetings and presentations about the City's visioning project, a new City logo, the Arches National Park timed entry pilot project and the Utah League of Cities and Towns. She concluded with a mention of a recent ceremony at which she presented filmmaker Kevin Costner with the key to the City. She noted the significant economic impact of Costner's film project, as well as its benefits to the indigenous community.

Adjournment: Councilmember Jones moved to adjourn. Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd seconded the motion. Mayor Langianese adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder