

Minutes of Ephraim City Council Meeting  
April 21, 2004 – 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Morris O. Casperson, Council members: Don Olson, Jannette Anderson, Kim Cragun, Penny Kittlesrud, Garth Sorenson, Manager E. Richard Anderson.

The meeting was convened at 7:00 PM by Mayor Casperson.

Motion by Garth Sorenson to accept the minutes of April 7, 2004 as changed, seconded by Don Olson. Motion carries unanimously.

Mayor Casperson: Council reviewed warrant register. Motion by Don Olson to accept bills, seconded by Kim Cragun. Motion carries unanimously.

### **Agenda Items**

Kelton Shelley: He would like the city to donate a trailer for his Eagle Scout Project. For his project, he would like to load about 300 sand bags and put them on the trailer with a cover over them, so if there is ever a flood we are prepared. Chad comments that the city already has sand bags and a trailer, he just needs to find somebody to get the sand from. Chad will work with Kelton to get it all arranged.

Robert Painter: There are many Ephraim citizens concerned with the speeding on Canyon Road. Many suggestions were given from the community members on how to fix the problem which include lowering the speed limit, putting in a speed bump, increasing the police patrol on that road, putting in a stop sign, a round-a-bout and putting in a three way stop. Don Olson suggested putting in an island on the turn to make the road narrow and to force people to slow down. One of the community members suggested a red light that never changes instead of a stop sign. Mayor comments that a barrier on that corner is a good start. Don suggests contacting someone who has studied traffic, and seeing what the best solution is. Ron suggests a speed indicator that tells you how fast you are traveling. A citizen brought up the point that in the winter you slide really easy on the ice around that corner and if there is a cement wall there you will hit it. Brian will talk with some traffic specialists to see what the best solution is. Consensus is increased policing, letting Brian find out further suggestions and the best solution, dropping speed limit to 25, and a speed trailer. Another citizen suggested putting in sidewalks. Don suggested speed limit 35 mph from his house down to Allen Stevens, and then from there down to 25 mph. Another citizen suggested putting up children at play signs. Chad will put up two children at play signs.

Benefits for the Fire Department: Firemen are concerned about those who signed up to be a volunteer fireman, but haven't been to any meetings or fires, and are now still receiving insurance. The firemen are concerned about the policy and procedures. Richard comments that the city can't pay them if they are not turning in their time. Lloyd is concerned with the wages that they make, and would like to have the policy

revamped. Kim suggests a work meeting to deal with this issue. Richard will contact 10 other cities to see what their salary range is for a volunteer fire department. Lloyd will give Richard a list of those who are still on insurance but don't come to anything. There will be a work meeting held Wednesday April 14, 2004 at 5:30 at the Fire Station.

Mosquito Abatement District: County is making a big push to handle mosquito abatement. There is \$500,000 of legislator's money for mosquito abatement and Mayor Casperson thinks that we can get 20% of that, or at least we will try. We are a prime suspect for mosquitoes with all of the standing water around Ephraim. There is only one company who does the fogging down here and that is Hal Picket in Gunnison. It would probably be about \$300 to spray the city. Mayor suggests going ahead and starting a mosquito abatement district, trying to get the grant money, and then make this a long term thing. Council members have concerns about doing our own district vs. waiting for the county to have one. Don suggests maybe having one of Chad's guys certified to spray and get our own equipment and absorb it into the city. Mayor suggested to Chad to check on price of equipment and supplies.

### **Council/Committee Reports**

Mayor Casperson: Alonzo Hansen sold property to the city at a much reduced price for the Senior Citizen Center parking lot. The Senior Citizen Center wanted us to honor him; we will do that with a bench with a name plaque in the front office. Richard suggested a cement table with name on it and benches so that they could use it. Don commented that if we do it for one, there are many that need to be recognized who put a lot of effort into the Senior Citizen Center.

Request from Lisa Murray for Ephraim City to donate \$200 to the Dare Program. That will come out of Police budget. Mayor Casperson gave it to Ron.

Precis Communications has leased in the early 80's from a city a building and a tower; however, their lease ran out in about 1996. They have continued to follow the terms of the lease, which was \$100 per month, but they do not wish to continue that any longer. However, a wireless internet company, Altazip Internet, from Richfield would like to use the tower. They would like to take over the lease and pay the city \$100 per month. Richard brings up the three options: we support reuse of the tower so don't tear it down and we would be owners and lease directly, or extend their lease and they sublease, or tear it down or move it out.

Anderson Drug has approached the Mayor about putting up a 1 hour parking signs on the south side of the building. Ron doesn't see any problem with that except it probably won't be heavily enforced. Mayor suggested having those who go to the movie theater park at the Senior Citizens Center and walk through the park in order to open up some of the current parking spaces. Mayor Casperson will see if there is anything he can do.

Penny Kittlesrud: Christiansen Furniture would like to know if there is any way that the city can not use three of the parking spaces here at the city so that Christiansen Furniture can get their trucks in when they need to.

Richard brings up the grant money of \$50,000 that needs to be used or it will be lost. He suggested using it for a parking lot.

Garth Sorenson: Waiting to have the Canyon View Park plans approved by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Jannie Anderson: We have been accepted into Tree City this year. Mayor read official Tree City proclamation out loud. Motion by Penny to sign proclamation, seconded by Kim. Motion carries unanimously.

Kim Cragun: New bid will be ready by the end of the week for the ball park lights.

Bob Oliver spoke with Kim about state money that he was given to reseal one of the parking lots at the dorms. He wanted our people to do one of the parking lots and they would do one. He just wants us to seal the cracks with our crack sealer.

Don Olson: Cement is poured for the Ephraim City signs. Troy Havokson will be here a week from today to start laying bricks for the signs and the signs will be put in a week after that.

Cabinets for the Olympic Torch in the upstairs hallway, Bob Wright would be more than happy to build them. Don will follow up.

Library wants to know if we have put anything out yet for architects. Richard was still waiting for the criteria for what they want done on the library and how to choose them. Library Board has the grant money, we have the matching money, they are just waiting on an architect. Will ask an architect to come down and give us an idea of what to expect for cost.

Bryan Kimball: Craig Oberg is adding on to his business. Our only concerns are curb, gutter, and parking. The ordinance requires a manufacturing plant to have 160 parking spaces which is unreasonable in Ephraim. Bryan will follow up.

Penny Kittlesrud: Craig Oberg gave Richard a much revised bid on the gazebo for the cemetery. Cemetery committee will meet next week to decide what they want, and then they will hire an architect.

Spoke with Jackie about putting the library grant money into a non-profit organization, but that is not possible. We have to use every penny for design.

Garth Sorenson: Discussed citizens concerns with sewer connections and charges.

Chad Parry: Public Works Department Report. Public Works hired a new employee, his name is Davis Hayes. The department is really busy. They are working on the 2005 budget. They have a lot of projects going on right now including the fence at the cemetery, and the vulnerability assessment. The roads will be a challenge this year, because they are cracking. New flags will go up at the cemetery for Scandinavian Festival and Memorial weekend. Lots of bidders have contacted Chad about the gravel

pit and the water for the Canyon Road, but he is directing them to Richard. Discussed where the city will get the water to provide for the contractors.

Bryan Kimball: Needs to know whether Ephraim City will hold a lottery for those who return the General Plan survey. The city will draw two names and give each \$100 towards their utility bill for one month; city employees are exempt.

Bryan was approached by a billboard company, who already had blueprints for 24x40 billboards to put in Ephraim. The billboard company told Bryan that they were going to put in billboards and there was nothing that Bryan could do to stop it. However, our ordinance limits the billboard size to 120 square feet per sign or 240 square feet per lot. Since the billboard will have to be much smaller than planned, they probably won't want to do it. So far they have not contacted Brian again.

Brian is taking digital pictures of all of the illegal signs in Ephraim. He will let business owners know about the sign ordinance and that they are not following it and give them time to adhere to it. Garth suggests a soft approach. We should be able to use UDOT as leverage for the signs. Richard suggests notifying them by using our zoning enforcement officer to contact them to see if they know they are in violation.

Kim requests a way to know who is assigned to what action items to make sure that they get done.

Executive Session: Motion by Don Olson to go into Executive session for personnel reasons, seconded by Penny Kittlesrud. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Don Olson, seconded by Kim Cragun to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

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Morris O. Casperson - Mayor

Attest:

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