

**MINUTES OF THE EPHRAIM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FIRST CDBG HEARING
EPHRAIM SENIOR CENTER
85 WEST 100 NORTH
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2004
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Morris Casperson, Mayor
Don Olson, Mayor Pro Tem
Jannette Anderson
Kim Cragun
Penny Kittelsrud
Garth Sorenson

OTHERS PRESENT

Richard Anderson, City Mgr/Recorder
Bryan Kimball, City Planner
Leigh Ann Warnock

The Ephraim City Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Casperson at 6:30 PM, in the Ephraim Senior Center.

TOWNSPEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE

John Hales
Jay Snow
Kerry Nielson
Brett Hollings

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Casperson opened the public hearing for the CDBG program and stated that this hearing is being called to consider potential projects for which funding may be applied under the 2005 Community Development Block Grant Program. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The Six County Association of Governments region in which Ephraim City is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$75,000 in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Guide and interested persons can review it at any time. Mayor Casperson read several of the eligible activities listed in the Consolidated Plan, including, Recreation Park, Storm Water Mgt. System, Water Storage, Hydro-Electric Power Plant, Wind Powered Electric Generator, Equestrian Center, Library Renovation, Acquisition of Real Property, provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters, etc. Also eligible are loan programs for private businesses which would then hire low income persons and the program can also pay for housing rehabilitation for low income homeowners or for persons owning rental housing for lower income persons. Copies of this list were available for townspeople.

Mayor Casperson opened the meeting up for comment, but as there were no suggestions for this year's application other than the library project, discussion continued in that vein. Library Board Chair, Jay Snow shared his ideas for the building renovation. The most pressing concern is becoming ADA compliant. Mr. Snow would like to see the suggested application request changed from \$20,000 to \$40,000 as this is such an expensive goal. It is hoped that a handicap elevator can be installed, most likely as an outside extension of the building. City Manager, Richard Anderson said that the City would cost it out.

Mr. Snow asked if getting CDBG money would preclude the Library from getting CIB money. Mayor Casperson replied that it would not.

The Council was asked to identify other projects to be added to the Consolidated List for next year.

Mr. Snow suggested obtaining money to replace the buildings torn down for more parking. Mr. Anderson agreed that this would be a good project as warm places to store certain vehicles and supplies are needed.

Mayor Casperson also suggested changing some of the current list items. Wind power generation will be put on the long term list; the hydro plant will be put on the short term list, and water rights will be moved to the medium term list.

There were no other comments or suggestions for possible projects from citizens. Adjourned from public hearing at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Casperson called Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Council reviewed the minutes of the November 17, 2004 Building Authority Minutes and the minutes of the November 17, 2004 City Council meeting.

Councilmember Sorenson moved to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2004 Building Authority meeting as amended. Seconded by Councilmember Olson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

Councilmember Olson moved to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2004 City Council meeting as amended. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register of November 29, 2004.

~~On December 29, 2004, Councilmember Cragun moved to approve the Warrant Register of November 29, 2004. The motion was unanimous. The motion passed.~~

ANGLE PARKING

Mayor Casperson reviewed the request to provide angle parking on 2nd and 3rd East, reminding the Council to keep in mind that 2nd East is narrower than 3rd East. Councilmember Sorenson mentioned that steps were taken to consider how we want our streets to be organized without violating state requirements. There are regulations designating how much of the street can be used for parking and how much needs to be left for moving vehicles.

Rachel Jensen was present for this discussion to reiterate her concerns regarding angle parking. Mrs. Jensen mentioned that approximately ten years ago, parallel parking was requested because the angle parking was causing so many problems. Her feelings were that parallel parking provides a more comfortable driving experience and is much safer. She pointed out that the college students drive too fast to be safe and you never know when someone is going to back out into traffic. It's also very icy because you can't remove the snow when cars are parked along the street. Another complaint was that some cars are left on the street two or three days at a time.

Mayor Casperson explained that the Ordinance prohibits overnight parking on the streets. Perhaps looking into enforcing this ordinance would be helpful with the snow removal issue.

City Planner, Bryan Kimball addressed the Council regarding Salt Lake City standards for street widths. According to those standards, 2nd East is wide enough to put angle parking on both sides and still have room for two lanes, though it would be tight.

The City has allowed angle parking on the west side of 2nd East, but people are doing it on both sides. This problem can be eliminated with the use of signs.

Mrs. Jensen stated that all the residents want parallel parking on both sides of the street.

Councilmember Cragun suggested that college area parking concerns be added to the Main Street parking study. He mentioned that there are a lot of dead spaces in the middle of blocks that could be looked at for parking.

Councilmember Anderson suggested trying angle parking on 2nd East for a few months to see what problems arise. Winter would be the time to try it, since parking habits on icy streets can be observed.

Councilmember Kittelsrud asked how many extra spaces would be provided by going to angle parking as opposed to parallel. Mr. Kimball replied that UDOT figures showed the addition of only four spaces over an entire block. While these numbers hardly seem worth the effort, parking would probably increase more in our case because we don't have the streets striped for Parallel parking, and as a result, there is a lot of lost space between parked cars in most instances.

Councilmember Sorenson feels that the angle parking has helped and would like to try it for a few months more. Notices would be put in the college newspaper, the Snowdrift, and read on the radio to inform people of the change and where angle parking would be permitted. As striping is not possible in the snow, signs would be posted indicating parking type.

Councilmember Anderson moved to allow angle parking on the west side of 2nd East, from now until May 1st, with notices in the Snowdrift and on KAGJ radio, and to have the Police Department keep track of issues including complaints, general safety observations, and tickets issued. At the end of the trial period, the Council will look at the results and make a decision at that time. Seconded by Councilmember Sorenson. Councilmembers Anderson, Sorenson, Cragun, and Kittelsrud voted in favor. Councilmember Olson voted against. The motion passed 4 to 1.

Councilmember Olson moved to allow angle parking on both sides of 3rd East between 1st and Center. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

ADOPT GENERAL PLAN

A public hearing was held on the General Plan two weeks ago. Bryan Kimball handed out final copies to the Council, explaining that if there were no further changes, it could be approved tonight. This would be the official copy. The Council then took several minutes to review the Plan.

Councilmember Olson moved to accept the General Plan. Seconded by Councilmember Sorenson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

At this time Mr. Kimball pointed out that changes can be made at any time in the future if needed.

KERRY NIELSON – INSURANCE FOR FIRE AND AMBULANCE VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Nielson was of the opinion that at some previous date, it had been approved that EMT's would have the same benefits through the City as the Fire Department, which is 50% of the premium being paid. Mr. Nielson explained that when this issue came up approximately three years ago, he asked what they would do for him since he was both an EMT and a member of the Volunteer Fire Department. He said that the City would not cover 50% for each, but would pay his dental and vision, over and above the 50%, which amounted to an additional 80 some odd dollars. This has been paid by the City up until about three months ago. Mr. Nielson remembers Wendy Hansen telling him it had been taken to the Council and passed.

Mayor Casperson said that research would be done to find documentation of Mr. Nielson's claims, and if none is found the Council will reevaluate the situation and come up with a policy.

There was further discussion as to whether a certain number of employees could receive these benefits, or if it had been grandfathered to allow those who already had it to continue. Mr. Nielson remembers that the Council put a \$300 cap on the amount.

Richard Anderson explained that at the time the policy was written, the intent was to allow those who were receiving benefits to continue, but if they fell off they couldn't get back on.

This topic will be put on the January agenda. It will also be discussed in an upcoming work meeting.

CREAMER & NOBLE ENGINEERING CONTRACT

Councilmember Olson asked if the City has all the avigation easements. Property owner, Jack Anderson, still needs to sign. There is still one other land owner who has not signed the agreement. The City will be persistent. The project will be re-bid in January.

Councilmember Kittelsrud moved to approve Creamer & Noble Engineering as project engineer firm for the Airport. Seconded by Councilmember Cragun. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

HANSEN ALLEN & LUCE PROJECT

Richard Anderson explained that if the City does not get funded then only half of the grant application fee will have to be paid. If the grant is awarded, the City will have to pay the full amount.

The City may receive up to \$300,000. The full amount will be applied for, but may not be granted in full. The Council would have to decide whether to go through with project if not fully funded. The application requires passing a Resolution saying that Ephraim City has the resources to complete the project if the grant is awarded.

Councilmember Anderson moved to approve Hansen Allen & Luce for the water reuse grant, with amendments to further explain project detail and payment requirements if grant amount is less than \$300,000. Seconded by Councilmember Cragun. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

ZIONS SIGNATURE AUTHORITY RESOLUTION

This Resolution would approve the Mayor, the City Recorder and the City Treasurer as authorized signatures on City accounts.

Councilmember Cragun moved to approve the Zions Signature Authority Resolution. Seconded by Councilmember Sorenson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

ORDINANCE ECO-04-03 REPEALING CHAPTER 5 OF THE EPHRAIM CITY MUNICIPAL CODE

Councilmember Cragun asked why this is an issue. Councilmember Anderson wondered if the concern is just that we may have an ordinance that says solicitors cannot come at all.

Mayor Casperson asked Richard Anderson to find out if this change is necessary if our Ordinance allows solicitors to come into our City with the provision that they must have a business license.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There will be a Christmas party for Ephraim City employees on Thursday, December 16th. The Council approved a Christmas bonus for City employees in the amount of \$100 after taxes, to be presented at the Christmas Party.

Councilmember Cragun moved to approve Christmas bonus checks in the amount of \$100 after taxes. Seconded by Councilmember Sorenson. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

Councilmember Anderson commented that Six County has not received enough applications for the housing project. These need to be in by the first part of January or they will withdraw the offer. Nine qualified applicants are needed.

Councilmember Cragun would like to find a time during Christmas break to have a Recreation Committee meeting to work on the Master Recreation Plan. He would also like the Council to seriously consider a PAR tax at the rate of one tenth of one percent. This revenue would have to be used for capital projects such as trails, etc.

Councilmember Kittelsrud is concerned that a new Planning and Zoning Chair must be found, as well as a replacement for the Cemetery Committee since June Crane has moved.

ADJOURN

~~Seconded by Councilmember Kittelsrud. The meeting adjourns at 8:00 PM.
The motion passed.~~

MINUTES APPROVED:

Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Date