

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EPHRAIM CITY HALL  
5 SOUTH MAIN, EPHRAIM, UTAH  
JUNE 17, 2020  
6:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Ephraim City Council convened in a Regular City Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in the City Council Room. Mayor Scott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**OPENING CEREMONY**

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councilmember Boothe offered an invocation. Planning Commission Member Jan Jonson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Scott, Mayor  
Tyler Alder  
Alma Lund  
Greg Boothe  
Richard Wheeler

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Margie Anderson, Mayor Pro Tem

**STAFF PRESENT**

Shaun Kjar, City Manager  
Brian Page, City Attorney  
Leigh Ann Warnock, City Recorder  
Bryan Kimball, Community Dev.  
Devan Fowles, Planner  
Steve Widmer, Financial Director  
Chad Parry, Public Works Director  
Cory Daniels, Power Director  
Aaron Broomhead, Police Chief  
Michael Patton, Rec Director

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment presented.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO OPEN AND AMEND THE 2019-2020 BUDGET**

*Councilmember Wheeler moved to open the public hearing to open and amend the 2019-2020 Ephraim City budget. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. the vote was unanimous. the motion carried.*

Steve Widmer reviewed the amendments needed to be made in the 2019-2020 Budget. Copies of those changes are available in the Ephraim City offices.

No comments were received from the public.

*Councilmember Boothe moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lund. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **ECR 20-06 OPENING AND AMENDING THE 2019-2020 EPHRAIM CITY BUDGET**

*Councilmember Alder moved to approve ECR 20-06 opening and amending the 2019-2020 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **ENTERPRISE FUND HEARING TO CONSIDER THE TRANSFER OF ENTERPRISE FUNDS TO OTHER FUNDS**

*Councilmember Boothe moved to open the public hearing to consider the transfer of enterprise funds to other funds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. the vote was unanimous. the motion carried.*

Steve Widmer explained that several years ago the Legislature met and decided they did not want cities to take advantage of various enterprise funds. Cities were getting use of utilities without paying for them and decided they should start paying for those services. As installing meters on all City-owned buildings would have been a substantial expense, the Legislature allows cities to determine a reasonable estimate. Programs were put in place to come up with realistic estimates for city properties. The Legislature allows cities to create a transfer from what was paid for the utilities back into the general fund to help preserve the financial integrity of various funds.

No comment was received from the public.

*Councilmember Alder moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. the vote was unanimous. the motion carried.*

*Councilmember Lund moved to approve the transfer to Enterprise Funds to other funds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR THE EPHRAIM CITY FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET**

*Councilmember Wheeler moved to open the public hearing to consider adoption and allocation of funding for the Ephraim City fiscal year 2020-2021 Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. the vote was unanimous. the motion carried.*

Steve reviewed changes made to the budget since the last discussion, including a change made to add \$20,000 for the airport. A grant was received from the Cares Act. Ephraim applied, as did many airports, and will be one of the first cities to receive this \$20,000.

Power Director Cory Daniels questioned the salaries and wages; he had requested an increase for his crew. Due to a revenue loss during the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to award an actual cost-of-living increase of 2.41%. No additional raises will be implemented at this time. The Council felt it was important to retain all employees during the pandemic, and the City had to cut the budget. Shaun commented that is one of the issues that will be reevaluated in January.

Shaun commented on the difficulty of revising this budget over and over due to COVID-19 and has been very impressed with Finance Director Steve Widmer. He has worked hard to reduce the budget in as many ways as he can. Councilmember Lund mentioned that Steve has been great to explain everything to him throughout the process. Shaun shouted out to the other directors who reduced their projects and simplified things in advance to help prepare this budget. Again, the budget will be opened and reviewed in January, which will be a considerable amount of work, but it is felt that will be best for the City's budgetary needs. Mayor Scott reiterated that things were cut, not people.

No comment was received from the public.

***Councilmember Boothe moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.***

#### **ECR 20-07 ADOPTION OF THE 2020-2021 BUDGET**

***Councilmember Lund to approve ECR 20-07 adopting the 2020-2021 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.***

Copies of the 2020-2021 budget are available in the Ephraim City offices and on the Ephraim City website. Due to effects of COVID-19, The budget will be opened again in January to evaluate the effects to the City.

#### **APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER**

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register of June 16, 2020.

***Councilmember Alder moved to approve the June 16, 2020 Warrant Register as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.***

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Council reviewed the minutes of the June 3, 2020 Work and Regular City Council Meetings.

***Councilmember Boothe moved to approve the June 3, 2020 Council Work Meeting and Regular City Council Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.***

#### **LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT – LOREN STECK**

Mr. Steck reported he hired a survey company in order to correct some errors to lot lines on his property; there appeared to be errors in the deeds. It was found the property for Mr. Steck was well short of the roadway and went through a part of his house. Bryan Kimball explained to the Council that after working with the County Recorder, the surveyor, and Mr. Steck, the agreed-upon solution was for the City to sign a Quit Claim Deed as outlined in the survey, adjusting the property line to the road rather than through his house. This adjustment creates no issues for the City.

*Councilmember Boothe moved to authorize the Quit Claim Deed to adjust the lot lines on Loren Steck's property as presented. Councilmember Lund seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **AGREEMENT: FRANSON CIVIL ENGINEERS AND EPHRAIM IRRIGATION COMPANY**

Request for motion to ratify the Joint Interest Agreement regarding the tunnel project, which was signed by Ephraim City, Ephraim Irrigation Company and Franson Engineering.

*Councilmember Alder moved to ratify the Joint Interest Agreement regarding the tunnel project by and between the City, Ephraim Irrigation Company and Franson Engineering, as signed by the City Manager on behalf of the City and by others on behalf of Ephraim Irrigation Company and Franson Civil Engineering in or about February, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **CANCELATION OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED JULY 1, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING**

*Councilmember Wheeler moved to cancel the regularly scheduled July 1, 2020 Council Meeting due to its proximity to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **PROCLAMATION: MERRILL DANIELS DAY**

Mayor Scott read a Proclamation declaring July 10, 2020 to be Merrill Daniels Day, honoring Mr. Daniels' extensive volunteer service to the community. Mr. Daniels is representative of the generous and hardworking people of the City of Ephraim.

*Councilmember Lund moved to adopt the Proclamation declaring July 10, 2020 Merrill Daniels Day. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

Cory Daniels, Ephraim Power Director and son of Merrill Daniels, was presented with a signed copy of the proclamation for his family.

#### **ECR 20-09: URS PICK UP RESOLUTION**

ECR 20-09 is a resolution of Ephraim City authorizing the City to pick up the employee portion of the Tier II Public Safety & Firefighter Retirement System 2020 enhancements.

Benefits provided to employees participating in Utah's Public Safety Tier II Contributory Retirement System are changing pursuant to enhancements made during the 2020 General Legislative Session of the State of Utah. In accordance with Section 414(h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, employers have the option to pick up required employee contributions for the Public Safety Tier II Contributory Retirement System. The City has opted to pick up the 2.27% increase, with the provision that issue could be re-addressed in the future. The resolution will be passed in accordance with federal and state law to maintain compliance without committing to all future increases.

*Councilmember Boothe moved to approve ECR 20-09, a resolution of Ephraim City authorizing the City to pick up the employee portion of the Tier II Public Safety & Firefighter Retirement System 2020 enhancements, without committing to all future increases. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wheeler. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

#### **APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

##### **Tyler Alder**

**Cemetery** – Flags went up at the cemetery for Memorial Day. Thanks were extended to Chad's crew for making that happen. Mayor Scott asked that they make sure military flags go up next year. Apparently, those usually go up on the morning of the Memorial Day Program, but it was canceled this year due to COVID-19.

##### **Richard Wheeler**

**Utilities Board** – Cory reported on the board's discussion regarding solar applications and the net metering agreement. A resident was present at that meeting asking them to not lower the limit. He had a lot of good suggestions. The board are trying to get it completed so that the City is not paying out substantial amounts for residents to produce un-needed power.

##### **Greg Boothe**

**Scandinavian Festival** – Greg asked Michael to report on Scandinavian Summer events which extend through August. An ax-throwing tournament was held, and Shaun won the men's division. There was a strong turnout. Saturday was the Viking Ship Regatta. Bev Thomas donated some of the things that were used in the scouting program. Events have been held with Granary Arts, the Library, Bingo, Scavenger hunts, and other small and big activities throughout the summer.

##### **Alma Lund**

**Fire Board** – All the trucks had gone to a brush fire in Mt. Pleasant so there was no training held last night.

##### **Mayor Scott**

**Extreme weather** - Derecho is the name of the weather event that happened last weekend. Only two have ever been recorded in the intermountain west. A Derecho is identified by 50-60 mph winds which span hundreds of miles. The winds stretched from Utah to South Dakota. They are very rare and very destructive.

**Mayor's and Commissioner's** - Mayor Scott attended the Mayor's and Commissioner's meeting last Thursday. Legislative representatives were in attendance. Ben McAdams described his experience with COVID-19. Other congressional representatives reported at the meeting. Senate passed a wilderness act bill, which will have extreme detrimental effects on Utah. Now the fed government can buy state lands and reserve them so states cannot use those lands for public school monies. This bill could potentially remove that funding for state and local education needs. The House has said they will pass this legislation as it stands. The president has already committed to sign.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Bryan Kimball, Community Development Director**

**Development** – A development will be going in on 400 E 100 S just west of Palisade Park Apartments. Property has been sold and developers are moving forward with three six-plexes.

A final mylar has come in for 39-unit condos on Main Street which will go in later this summer.

Old Mill Hill Subdivision was approved 20 years ago and partially completed. That is starting to move again.

A 55-lot subdivision and more condos will be coming in SW of town. There is much movement occurring in the city right now. Bryan feels encouraged in what could be a down economy. That is a good sign for the City.

**Waterline Project** – ready to start waterline project next week.

### **Cory Daniels, Power Director**

**HYDRO** – The City has thrown a lot of money in the old hydro, which has had many issues over the last few years. More issues presented two weeks ago. The fuse was blown on the outside of the pole. When they tried to restart it, fire shot out the side. It will take an \$44,000 to replace the linings on that old hydro. It is 120 years old.

**12-hour power outage** – winds last weekend broke 46 kv transmission poles, ripping three completely down. That is the only feed line coming into Ephraim. Rocky Mountain Power responded 4 ½ hours after it happened. Ephraim crews were not allowed to work on the issue and Rock Mountain worked all night in the wind and rainstorms. It was 22 hours before all communities were back online.

### **Chad Parry, Public Works Director**

**Water Supply** – A waterline was broken during the storm and we lost a substantial amount of water. Hail and rain caused flooding throughout the city. Crews worked hard to get the water out of town before homes were flooded.

**Roads** – Crews will soon work on an overlay in front of the middle school from 400 S to the House of Glass. They are trying to hit the well-traveled and safety roads first and will also chip seal the canyon road. Pothole patches are ongoing.

**Michael Patton, Rec Director**

**Sports** – Baseball and Softball began. Everything is moving forward and doing well. They are struggling to discourage families from having large groups attend.

The Rec Department is partnering with the Children’s Justice Center to hold a 5k event. Participants will walk to distanced tables and eat cake. Goal: to provide events to people in Ephraim.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

**Thanks** - Shaun expressed his thanks to department directors and council and community help during the weekend storms. A few trees were lost in the cemetery, but there was no permanent damage to headstones. A couple of trees around the community went down as well.

**Budget** – Shaun was grateful for the opportunity to go through the budget. As we start into this new fiscal year, we are working on getting it right.

**CLOSED SESSION**

*Councilmember Boothe moved to go into a closed session pursuant to the provisions of the Utah State Code, Section(s) 52-4-205(d) purchase, exchange, or lease of real property. (e) sale of real property. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lund. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Scott, Boothe, Wheeler, Anderson, and Alder. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

**The Closed Meeting began at 8:02 p.m.**

*At 8:33 p.m. Councilmember Boothe moved the Council adjourn the closed session and reopen the public meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lund. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Alder moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boothe. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council room.

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

---

John Scott, Mayor

Date

**ATTEST:**

---

Leigh Ann Warnock, City Recorder

---

Date