

**MINUTES OF HARRISVILLE CITY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
363 West Independence Blvd
Harrisville, Utah

Present: Mayor Michelle Tait, Council Member Grover Wilhelmsen, Council Member Gary Robinson, Council Member Ruth Pearce, Council Member Clark Beecher, Council Member Steve Weiss.

Staff: Bill Morris, City Administrator, Bryan Fife, Recreation Director, Rick Hill, Bailiff, Jennie Knight, City Recorder.

Visitors: Jeff Pearce, Steve Mueller, Aspen Teuscher, Doug Larsen, Beth Holbrook.

7:00 P.M. CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Tait called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors.

2. Opening Ceremony

Council Member Steve Weiss led the pledge of allegiance and conducted the opening ceremony.

3. Consent Items.

a. Approve the minutes of April 24, 2018 as presented.

Council Member Robinson disagreed with the section in the minutes regarding the requested work session that he did not attend. Mayor Tait confirmed said she did say that during the meeting and the minutes are accurate. Council Member Robinson denied ever requesting a work session and not attending the last budget season. Mayor Tait requested these comments be added to this meeting's minutes.

MOTION: Council Member Weiss motioned to approve the minutes for April 24, 2018. Council Member Pearce seconded the motion. All Council Members voted aye. Motion passed.

4. Business Items.

a. Discussion/possible action to approve Harrisville Resolution 18-05; a resolution amending the solid waste collection and disposal fees.

Beth Holbrook from Waste Management spoke to the council regarding increases in solid waste collection and disposal fees. One of the challenges involves the recycling market. Ms. Holbrook distributed a news bulletin to be included in the newsletter. China is the number one collector of recyclables and has recently shut down their ports. Currently Waste Management is the largest collector of recyclables. In the past they

have paid for these increases themselves; this is not the case any longer. China started making decisions in early 2017 and have now implemented a 30 day inspection suspension. There is no way to know their long term strategy. They are working through trade negotiations. With these fluctuations in mind, the value of recyclables has diminished. They recognize dealing with these markets constantly fluctuates. One thing we can focus on is the quality of the recycled material. They would like to focus on the assets they have. Cardboard still has value so they would like to keep this material free from other debris by eliminating things that are not recyclable. Keeping the materials as clean as possible during the curbside collection process increases the value of the commodity. She shared statistics how this is/will affect Harrisville. There is a website available showing what is and is not recyclable.

Weber County has struggled with their recycling program. This shut down abruptly one year ago which caused immediate impact to cities financially. Waste Management did not pass on those costs. They chose to watch the market first to see how this would be handled. Recycled Earth is also struggling in this market. There are several cities that are struggling due to the increase. Beth Holbrook showed statistics showing where costs are increasing. They must hire more people to go through the recyclables and there is less commodity value out there. Processing costs were reviewed with the cost per home. They recognize the challenges of coming at the tail end of budget season. She is here to have Council ask questions about the curb side recycling program. Mayor Tait explained this will pass on the \$1.20 cost to residents beginning in July. Beth Holbrook said they try to have the least impact on homes. They recognize this is a challenge. Mayor Tait asked if there are any other options. Beth Holbrook said not in the long term. They understand the dynamic of the budgeting season but would like Council to consider this increase.

Bill Morris asked Beth to review the garbage increase as well. Beth Holbrook explained Waste Management is not choosing to implement a cost of living increase this year. However, there are two other increases. Weber County Transfer Station is increased the tipping fees for the land fill. The originally absorbed this cost to honor their contract. This year the land fill implemented two increases. They calculated the tonnage and are asking to cover this increases costs for the land fill. Bill Morris said this resolution increases the garbage fee but we will need to include the recycle increase. Recycling will increase from \$3.15 to \$4.35 per can.

Beth Holbrook said at this stage they are asking to look into the future a bit so they do not have to ask for another increase. That is the goal, not to come back year after year asking for increases. They hope this will help the city as a whole so residents do not have to endure multiple increases. There have been significant changes recently.

Bill Morris asked if China and the US get things worked out, would the recycling fees go down. Beth Holbrook said they can include that in the agreement. The challenge is the volatility. This is a bit of a guessing game. If they see significant market shifts they would put that in writing. She said they can do this analysis again in six months to see the impact and where the market is shaking out. Mayor Tait asked if things are settling down yet. Beth Holbrook said politically there is discussion about a trade agreement and the challenge is tariffs. They are putting that off a little bit. If they keep commodities clean and make sure the public is educated about this. Another thing is hoping the US might open manufacturing for recyclables here.

Bill Morris said this increase in Harrisville for recyclables is due to a trade war. Beth Holbrook said it is not all political, but the trade war has stopped permitting paper mills. This closes down areas where recyclables can go. That is what the 30 days suspension is about. They have brokers in other markets. If China makes the decision to stop imports, businesses must comply.

Council Member Wilhelmsen asked what the total cost increase will be per resident. Bill Morris responded \$4.35 for the recycle and the garbage rates are listed in the proposed resolution. Council Member Beecher asked if residents can opt out of the recycle program. Bill Morris said that is not possible with our current contract. Beth Holbrook explained prices for residents would increase dramatically if they are allowed to opt out. Council Member Robinson asked how long the contract is in place. Beth Holbrook said this was just renewed and expires in 2023. Bill Morris pointed out all providers are dealing with the same issues. Beth Holbrook informed Council Waste Management can control the commodity better than other competitors. They are working hard to keep the prices low. She can go into more detail if necessary. Council Member Robinson asked if anything will go in the newsletter. Bill Morris said a flyer will be included in the newsletter for June. Council Member Robinson asked if the garbage increase can be explained specifically due to the mismanagement. Beth Holbrook said this has been in the newspaper several times already. Council Member Pearce reviewed both the garbage and recycle increases.

Council Member Weiss suggested a concerted effort be made to inform the public of these changes. Bill Morris asked Beth Holbrook if they can attend Heritage Days and provide an information booth. Beth Holbrook responded she would be happy to attend Heritage Days and provide a donation to the event. Council Member Wilhelmsen agreed educating the public is very important and without proper information, statistics will not improve. Beth Holbrook further explained part of the increase is to help with the processing side to make sure the commodity is protected. There are only two facilities that collect recyclables. They now need twice as many people to ensure as little contamination as possible. They feel they need to cover this gap themselves.

Council Member Wilhelmsen asked if clean recycling could prevent added tonnage to the land fill. Beth Holbrook explained sometimes they hold the commodity to see if things will improve and sometimes they take it to the land fill.

Council Member Robinson asked if they compare cities statistics. Beth Holbrook said they only compare the cities they service; Roy, Hooper, Marriott-Slaterville, and Uintah.

Council Member Robinson asked if they also compare recyclables from those cities. Beth Holbrook confirmed in a way they do. They measure how much contamination is present. Council Member Robinson asked if they pass those costs back to the city. Beth Holbrook responded they do this in a more individualized manner. They try to avoid managing the recyclables with "Oopies" tags; which notify the resident they have put something incorrectly into their recycle container. She is not recommending this. She feels it's better to focus on educating the residents, rather than fining individuals. Especially if they cannot identify where the contamination is coming from; this is too hard to gauge. Council Member Weiss asked if they could send more information about what they are outlining for recyclables. Beth Holbrook said she has a very good handout outlining this.

MOTION: Council Member Pearce motioned to approve Harrisville Resolution 18-05; a resolution amending the solid waste collection and disposal fees as amended. Council Member Beecher seconded the motion. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Council Member Weiss	Yes
Council Member Beecher	Yes
Council Member Pearce	Yes
Council Member Robinson	Yes
Council Member Wilhelmsen	Yes

Motion passed 5-0.

b. Business Discussion

Council Member Weiss began the business discussion saying he feels there are too many vacant lots in Harrisville. He would like to learn more on what they can do to address this. Doug Larsen, previously worked for Weber County Economic Development, said this specific discussion came about quickly after he ran into Bill Morris at the County offices. He gave a presentation a year ago regarding tax incentives offered through CDA developments. He left Weber County in January and started his own consulting firm. Weber economic development was created with purpose. This is really a regional discussion because it affects well beyond the residents of Harrisville City. Just like a private business, cities need to have a business plan as well. This does not have to be complex but an understanding of who they are first, where the income is, and the populations. Harrisville has a healthy median income. If we understand where this comes from and who we are, we can begin a way to talk to existing businesses who have helped build the community. Through data and information we can discuss where the city is, and where we want to go. What our identity is also an important factor. Developing a brand and market and evaluate products we have to sell. All of these are important factors. If a business is coming to the city, Council should be able to answer these questions, even with a card in their pocket. They can sit down and talk with the business about the current business plan.

He referenced a potential project that was impacted due to a lack of planning structure that was not in place. When a potential business spends time looking at the map of the city, we want to make sure things are already in place. How to go about bringing in a particular business, knowing our business assets is important as well. HHI is in our city which is a wonderful company. They are an asset we can develop a supply chain of opportunities that may be leveraged through this. He suggested inviting HHI to help us grow; addressing their assets as well. Then we can consider the art of being in business, picking up the phone, or attending a trade show, knowing what our assets are; essentially going out and asking for the sale.

He is currently working with West Haven City and a site selection in Dallas right now. He indicated Texas is healthy but he feels Utah does things better. Looking from the outside, they want to know how they can deliver solutions. The city needs to start with a business plan.

Part of that plan, he recommended, would be thinking how the Council would adapt the plan using public dollars. Making sure they are articulating to the public the return on the investment and how long it will be to receive that back. This is a must.

He also suggested the Council consider a strategy for when Wal-Mart leaves our community. That is not necessarily a note on the city, this just happens. Just like a private business, having a business plan would be healthy.

Mayor Tait said we hear that Harrisville does not have enough roof tops, and asked how this affects us. Doug Larsen explained that goes back to knowing who you are. Roof tops and traffic patterns are big on retail. As we are trying to showcase our community to the commercial world, it is important to have data that shows beyond Harrisville City, including number of residents, homes, schools, etc. He feels cities can get overly focused on sales tax but diversity is important. When Wal-Mart was looking at this community, they looked beyond Harrisville. There are a lot of really good resources to look at that. Most are cost effective or free. Weber State University is a resource and should be considered part of our business plan, as well as Ogden ATC.

Bill Morris asked what Council would like to do. Council Member Beecher said there is a lot that needs to be done to find out who we are and where we want to be. Mayor Tait asked how we find out who we are. Doug Larsen said depending on how this evolves, having worked with economic development in the past, he can do this. He has wonderful relationships that help fill in gaps that we do not currently have data for. Maybe putting together a proposal recommending stages to figure out who we are, would be a good start of what a business plan would look like. Better public policy provides a better product. Try not to solve it all at once, take pieces at a time. The work they are doing will be slow to show results. As a customer, this is a good way to approach business.

Mayor Tait asked if Council would like to pursue this. Council Member Weiss said he would like to see us take the first step. They need to find some funds and take the first step. He knows there is more out there and he understands this is a process. Mayor Tait said the last statement is key; this will take time to see results. Bill Morris suggested talking to Lynn Fortie about a budgetary component and he can work with Doug.

5. Public Comments - (3 minute maximum)

Steve Mueller, expressed his concerns with activity taking place at the park after 10pm. He feels there are a lot of things going on that are not legal. He wants to know why the city cannot close down the fishing at night. He can hear them and they interrupt his sleep. He also said traffic is speeding down Independence and asked if there is something that can be done to slow them down; i.e. speed bumps or a sign indicating their speed. There are new signs in Hunting Creek regarding traffic. There are a lot of cars going into the park. He suggested the police patrol this area more often to see what is going on. Additionally the cars on the highway are going terrible speeds. He suggested they patrol and clock the cars going too fast.

Council Member Wilhelmssen asked if Steve Mueller has any suggestions. Steve Mueller suggested putting up signs saying the park is closed after 10pm. Mayor Tait suggested putting a gate across the parking access. Bill Morris said he has recently prosecuted exhibition of speed on the highway. He asked Bryan Fife to put together a park security plan. Bill Morris also said a 4-way stop could be considered on Independence and cross

walks painted to deter people from speeding. Unfortunately we do not have the luxury of having an officer dedicated to those needs. Council Member Robinson stated he has seen some interesting things from his house.

6. Mayor/Council Follow-Up:

Mayor Tait said there is an invitation for a Weber Basin Water tour. This is a great opportunity to be aware of our water source. The tour will be held June 6th and an RSVP is requested. Also Elected Officials Lagoon Day is coming up as well.

Council Member Pearce said she will be out of town for the next Council meeting. Council Member Weiss will be participating electronically.

Mayor Tait also informed Council of the Golden Spoke bicycle ride throughout the Wasatch Front. More information may be found at Weber County's website.

Council Member Robinson asked for the Recreation Supervisors to please inform parents that kids are not allowed to play on the memorial.

7. Adjourn.

Mayor Tait declared the meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

ATTEST:

MICHELLE TAIT
Mayor

JENNIE KNIGHT

City Recorder

Approved this 12th day of June, 2018