

MINUTES
HARRISVILLE CITY COUNCIL
September 10, 2024
363 West Independence Blvd
Harrisville, UT 84404

Minutes of a Harrisville City Council held on September 10th, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Harrisville City Council Chambers, 363 West Independence Blvd., Harrisville, UT.

Present: Mayor Michelle Tait, Council Member Karen Fawcett, Council Member Grover Wilhelmsen, Council Member Blair Christensen.

Excused: Council Member Steve Weiss, Council Member Max Jackson.

Staff: Jennie Knight, City Administrator, Brody Flint, City Attorney, Justin Shinsel, Public Works Director, Jack Fogal, City Recorder, Bryan Fife, Parks and Recreation Director,

Visitors: Arnold Tait, Paul Davis, Melia Burke, Ryleigh Medford, Elizabeth Hansen, David Anderson, Clint Medford.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Tait called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Opening Ceremony.

Council Member Christensen opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Consent Items

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 13th, 2024 as presented.

Motion: Council Member Christensen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for August 13th, 2024 as presented, second by Council Member Wilhelmsen.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Council Member Wilhelmsen, Yes
Council Member Weiss, Excused
Council Member Christensen, Yes
Council Member Jackson, Excused
Council Member Fawcett, Yes

The motion passed unanimously

4. Business Items.

a. YCC Presentation

Melia Burke reported on the donation drive that the YCC assisted with. There were four tables for donations. Ryleigh Medford explained the tables had school supplies, snacks, hygiene products and the last table had winter kits. They made kits out of the donated materials. Melia Burke explained it was a great experience. They helped mostly with school supplies. They joined the YCC after seeing the booth at the Fall Festival last year. It was one of the best

decisions they have made so far in their academic careers. They have learned a lot from the YCC. They are building strong community relations within the city. They also get to do fun activities with their friends. In October they will be doing another booth at the Fall Festival. They will pass out candy and flyers to recruit more members. In November they will be hiking up to the flag. In December they will be doing a Christmas donation. Council Member Wilhelmsen inquired how many people attended the donation drive. Melia Burke stated almost all of the YCC members. Ryleigh Medford said they had other volunteers come in and help.

b. Discussion/possible action to approve construction of the second floor of the Public Works Building.

Jennie Knight explained this was discussed during the last Council meeting. Staff has gotten more information and is requesting Council's decision for the second floor of the Public Works Building. Currently there is a balance of approximately \$9,500,000 in the bond account. The bonds have earned interest since they were issued. The original estimate for the price of the second floor was \$435,932. During construction it was noticed that the HVAC would need to be completed for the whole building before enclosing it. A change order was issued and the cost was \$119,138. The cost to finish the second floor is now \$316,803.75. This will add an additional few weeks of construction time to the project. Council Member Wilhelmsen inquired was this part of the second phase. Justin Shinsel stated the second phase is a fuel island and separate vehicle storage. We had to make a decision during phase one of building the wash bay or finish the second floor. They decided to finish the wash bay. We knew we could expand the second floor later. The space can be used for admin staff. It would provide seven more offices and a second set of restrooms. Council Member Christensen inquired if Public Works would need this space. Justin Shinsel stated yes and no. There are currently not enough office spaces downstairs for Public Works but they were going to share and make it work. They could use one office upstairs. Council Member Wilhelmsen asked if the second floor could still be used for staff. Jennie Knight explained yes. Any space not currently being used by Public Works would be utilized by staff. Council Member Fawcett inquired if we could put an accordion door between the two conjoined offices. Justin Shinsel stated we have not looked at an accordion door but could do that, it might increase the cost.

Motion: Council Member Christensen motioned to approve construction of the second floor of the Public Works Building in the amount of \$316,803.75, second by Council Member Fawcett.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Council Member Wilhelmsen, Yes
Council Member Weiss, Excused
Council Member Christensen, Yes
Council Member Jackson, Excused
Council Member Fawcett, Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Elected Officials Training.

Brody Flint explained a public meeting is anytime there are three or more members of Council together or a quorum. A meeting is defined as a convening of a public body to take public comment, or acting, or discussing anything that Council has authority over. Social events are acceptable if there is a quorum but you cannot talk about City business. You should never use a

social event to circumvent having a discussion in public. It is a violation of the law to circumvent the open and public meetings act. This does apply to electronic purposes as well. If you are sent an email and you hit reply all, it could be inappropriate if you are discussing city business. Do not have debate or discussion over email while a quorum is on the email list. The ethics act states you cannot use confidential information to make a gain for yourself. You cannot leverage your position for a financial gain or privilege. You cannot take money or gifts for helping people. Gifts must be under \$50 if it is associated with your position. An example is you are at a conference and they give you a gift it must be under \$50 in value. Council members individually do not have the authority to direct staff or make decisions. It must be a quorum that makes decisions. As an individual you have first amendment rights to say what you want to say. As a member of City Council, you must make sure you are not violating other people's right to free speech on your social media. The Supreme Court said if you have authority to speak for the City and you make a post on social media you are what is called a state actor. You must protect citizen's rights. You cannot block people on social media. Put on your private social media pages that your opinions are your own, not the cities, and you are not speaking as a representative of the city. Do not post as if you are speaking for the City, post for yourself. The social media landscape is constantly changing legally. Be very careful and follow the stated rules. If the information is public elsewhere you can share it. An example; you share the city's post about the Easter egg hunt. That would be an acceptable post and you would be speaking as a private citizen not a state actor. We need to be very careful we do not use city resources to promote any one side of an election, ballot initiative, or other issue, whether nationally or locally.

5. Public Comment

Mayor Tait opened the public comment period.

There was no public comment provided.

Mayor Tait closed the public comment period.

6. Mayor/Council Follow-up

Justin Shinsel stated the Highway 89 project with UDOT is almost complete. On Sunday 2550 N will be shut down. Pleasant View is overlaying asphalt on the road. Public Works is diligently working on new developments. The new snowplow truck is supposed to be delivered by next week. This will help a lot with wider roads. It will have a side wing which makes the job much easier. They are preparing some financial studies for some fee changes.

Bryan Fife explained they are finishing the wood chips by the swing set at the Main Park. Fall clean-up will be October 7-10. The Fall festival is October 22.

Dennis Moore explained the department is down three officers not including the fourth position provided by the COPs grant. They are looking at getting officers from the academy but that comes with its own challenges.

Jennie Knight explained she had a meeting with animal control. The director of the animal control shelter is asking to double their staffing. If this is done it would directly affect the cost for the city. We do not currently have the numbers but will provide them when we get them. The shelter has also moved to a no kill shelter without increasing staffing. This has caused staffing shortage due to the number of animals. Ben Lomond Views has a new interested developer. They have asked about several amendments. They were informed that the amendments would restart the process and need to be approved by Planning Commission and Council. They have

received an application for a PID for Ben Lomond Views. The revenue discussion based on property tax increase was postponed to October. Staff is working on providing the cost estimate requested by Council.

Council Member Wilhelmsen reported on the Senior Luncheon. There was some confusion on if it was the second or first Tuesday. Attendance was lower than normal. He sits on the mosquito abatement board for the County. He has been asked if these mosquitos blown in from the West carry West Nile virus. They do not carry it, but they are a nuisance. He has been impressed by abatements use of drones to spray specific areas for mosquitos. There has been one case of West Nile in Weber County. Once someone has tested positive, they cover an area with spray and retest in 24 hours. You can request a spray of your area online with a simple form.

Mayor Tait reported that she attended the League's conference last week. They got more in-depth training on ethics and social media. Hopefully we can stay aware of changes and be ahead of them.

7. Adjournment

Council Member Fawcett motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by Council Member Wilhelmsen.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Council Member Wilhelmsen, Yes
Council Member Weiss, Excused
Council Member Christensen, Yes
Council Member Jackson, Excused
Council Member Fawcett, Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 P.M.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Tait", is written over a horizontal line.

MICHELLE TAIT
Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack Fogal", is written over a horizontal line.

Jack Fogal
City Recorder

Approved this 8th day of October, 2024