

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015

Presiding: Mayor W. Lamont Merrill
Meeting Convened at 6:30 p.m.
Prayer: Bruce King
Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Lamont Merrill; Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Councilmen Bruce King, Burch Drake, Bruce Arnell and Matt Garner. Chairman Dave Ogden of the Planning and Zoning Commission was excused; David Caleb Despain of the *Standard Journal*, Sugar-Salem School District #322 Superintendent Alan Dunn and Sugar-Salem High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Jay Miller.

Mayor Merrill asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 26, 2015. Each councilman had a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting. It was moved by Councilman Drake and seconded by Councilman Garner to accept the minutes; motion carried.

THIRD SOUTH PARKING AND ENFORCEMENT: The council and Sugar-Salem School District #322 reviewed the parking hazard on Third South adjacent to the ball fields during sports events. Agreements to keep the gates locked and move the signs to the south of the street have not significantly improved the situation during the past year. Currently, the high school does not have enough parking to handle the influx of patrons during games. The open gates, lack of parking, and minimal enforcement encourage spectators to park on both sides of Third South, creating a hazard. The school will make a concerted effort to keep the gates locked and will notify the city of game schedules. The city considered whether to enforce parking or take down the signs. The city will investigate its liability if signs are removed.

RECONCILIATION REPORTS: Wendy presented the March reconciliation reports for the General Fund. It was moved by Councilman Drake and seconded by Councilman King to accept the March reconciliation reports for the General Fund; motion carried. Wendy presented the March reconciliation reports for the Utility Fund. It was moved by Councilman Arnell and seconded by Councilman Drake to accept the March reconciliation reports for the Utility Fund; motion carried.

Wendy presented the current bills in the amount of \$60,202.56. It was moved by Councilman Arnell and seconded by Councilman Garner to pay the current bills, together with all regular April bills; motion carried. The council asked that a separate bank account be set up for road maintenance and for a budget report which includes the prior year.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT: No report

MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING ON SUGAR CITY ORDINANCE #307: The Madison County Planning and Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing April 23, 2015, for the rest of Ordinance #307, which Sugar City passed in October of 2014. The map portion was passed at the first public hearing of Madison County January 8, 2015. The full ordinance updates and clarifies the governing procedures and impact area boundaries between Madison County and Sugar City.

TRI CITY WASTE WATER AGREEMENT AND CAPACITY: The council reviewed the capacity for Norsun, Teton, and Sugar City. Listed below are the current capacities for each:

- Norsun – 210,000 GPD (gallons per day)
- Sugar City – 213,000 GPD
- Teton – 90,000 GPD

Norsun is at full capacity, Sugar City is about 60% and Teton about 50%.

REVIEW MADISON COUNTY ORDINANCE #338 (SUGAR CITY IMPACT AREA DEFINED) & ORDINANCE #365 (CREATION OF COALITION/GUIDELINES FOR IMPACT AREAS):

The council was given Madison County’s Ordinances #338 and #365 to review and become familiar with the governing rules concerning areas of impact and what to do when there is disagreement. Although Rexburg appears to be taking steps to claim the east portion of the Todd Harris property by ignoring Sugar City’s impact area rights or even acknowledging their impact area boundaries, Sugar City is hopeful that governing laws will prevail. The developers want to develop the ground where the future Walmart Supercenter will be built and surrounding area under one governing entity.

ANIMAL ORDINANCE REVISIONS: Councilman Bruce King gave the council a copy of the revised Animal Ordinance, which includes some suggestions from the public. “It is an improvement on Ordinance #304”, says Councilman King. The council will review the revisions during the next few weeks and come prepared on May 14, 2015, to perhaps finalize the draft before it goes to a public hearing.

LEGISLATION ON LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA: The council was given information on current legislation regarding the legalization of marijuana. The bill will be sent on to the governor’s office for signature. The information was given to help communities understand the bill and what can be done to oppose its passage.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

COUNCILMAN KING:

Spring Clean-up: The citywide cleanup was scheduled a month early this year because of the early spring. Cleanup will begin Monday, April 13, 2015.

Department of Transportation Meeting: The meeting was well attended. The old bridge at the northwest corner of Sugar City is scheduled to be replaced and taken to Emmett this year. The new bridge will need to be designed to carry conduit for the sewer and water lines that will cross the river for the proposed River Bend Ranch development.

COUNCILMAN DRAKE:

Arbor Day Celebration: Arbor Day will be observed Friday, April 24, 2015, in Heritage Park.

COUNCILMAN ARNELL: No report.

COUNCILMAN GARNER:

Easter Egg Hunt: The Easter Egg Hunt went well. Councilman Garner will try and take advantage of the local stores, which donate left-over candy to cities for next year’s hunt.

Soccer Goals: The goals look good and are being used. The Smith Park goals will be delivered this coming week.

Teton Dam Marathon: The marathon is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2015. A committee of five volunteers is needed to man a rest station for the runners. It is a good opportunity to “show off” Sugar City in enthusiastic, imaginative, fun ways.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS:

Mayor Merrill:

CHC Walking Path Grant Application: The foundation called and asked about the ground on which the walking path is built. The foundation cannot grant money for a walking path if the ground is not owned by the city.

AT&T New Agreement: The wrong option for the expansion was shown on the new agreement. Mayor Merrill was able to catch the error in a timely manner for AT&T to correct. The engineers did not understand the drawbacks if they chose to build on the east side of the building instead of the south side.

Regional Mayor's Water Meeting: Tomorrow Public Works Director Zane Baler and Mayor Merrill will attend a regional water meeting with other eastern Idaho mayors to discuss water shortage issues.

Trailer Park: The Sugar City utility ordinance charges the homeowners with the responsibility for delinquent utility payments. Trailer park owners not tenants (or trailer owners) are responsible for delinquent utility bills. City Attorney Bill Forsberg will draft a city ordinance for trailer parks specifically.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Signed: W. Lamont Merrill
W. Lamont Merrill, Mayor

Attested: Wendy McLaughlin
Wendy McLaughlin, Clerk-Treasurer