

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

Presiding: President Nielsen/Mayor Adams

Meeting Via Internet and at City Hall Convened at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer: Councilwoman Ball

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Stanford

Present at City Hall and Online: Mayor Adams; Councilors Joy M. Ball, Glenn Dayley, Catherine Nielsen, Carter Stanford; City Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson; Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert; City Attorney Chase Hendricks; City Fiber Project Manager Dave Thompson; City Mapping Specialist Eric Smith; City of Ammon Fiber Manager Dan Tracy; Citizens Chet Baker, Janette Clark, Brandon Dayton, Dan and Gaylene Fine, Jason Flaig, Jeremy Hansen, Doug McBride, Eric Smith, and others who may have joined electronically or otherwise but not identified. Mayor Adams joined the meeting around 7:15 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council President Nielsen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Adams will join later. She explained that the applicant had withdrawn their applications for the Public Hearing on 56 N Park Avenue for a Comprehensive Plan amendment, rezone, and Special Use permit. The Public Hearing was therefore cancelled.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Ball and seconded by Councilman Dayley to approve the Consent Agenda with corrections; motion carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT: Cancelled.

REZONE FROM SINGLE FAMILY (R1) TO DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL (DC):
Cancelled.

SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PARKING EXCEPTION: Cancelled.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jason Flaig: wanted to make sure the city will not move forward with the proposed changes on 56 N Park Avenue.

CITY FIBER REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP):

City of Ammon Fiber Manager Dan Tracy: He explained that the City of Ammon owns their fiber lines and treats their fiber service like a utility service. Their fiber model is doing very well and covering expenses. A homeowner can get one gigabyte for \$36/month after the initial buy in. He offered to help us through the RFP process.

MOTION: It was moved by councilman Dayley and seconded by Councilwoman Nielsen to approve the RFP with minor changes; motion carried.

City Fiber Work Meeting:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilman Stanford to schedule Tuesday, February 27 6:30 pm at City Hall as a City Fiber Work Meeting; motion carried.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Kurt Hibbert reported on the following items:

Sugar Salem: ongoing meetings on the impact area. Rick Robertson and Bruce Shirley are serving on Planning and Zoning ad hoc until the impact area can be resolved and their appointments made official.

Tiny Homes: Planning and Zoning is working on adding “tiny homes” options for affordable (\$120,000 – \$180,000) housing.

Impact Area: Madison County will continue work on Sugar City’s proposed impact area for the next eight weeks or so for possible revisions.

Public Hearing: a public hearing is scheduled for February 1 for the School District’s applications are listed below:

- Special Use Permit and Site Plan for Sugar-Salem School District property at 205 E 3rd North
- Special Use Permit and Site Plan for Career & Technical Education (CTE) building for Sugar-Salem School District south of 1 Digger Dr
- Proposed Public Facilities Zone Adoption for City of Sugar City

If the Public Facilities Zone is adopted, the Special Use Permits will not be necessary.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Jacobson reported on the following items:

Grants: The city was awarded \$500,000 from the State Strategic Initiative Grant program. The money will be used to straighten the “S” curve coming into Sugar City from South Railroad Avenue. No matching funds are required. Mr. Jacobson will coordinate the project with other road projects in the area and posting the project schedules online.

VFD Problems: Rocky Mountain has installed monitoring equipment to isolate the power surge that keeps burning up the VFD to Well #2.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Esri: Eric Smith explained the benefits of the city having our own mapping software. Esri is the same GIS software Madison County and the City of Rexburg use. The software will improve the city’s ability to share, provide, and control mapping information to other public entities and the public in general for an affordable price.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilman Dayley and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to approve the purchase of Esri mapping software. Thereupon, the clerk called roll upon the motion.

Those voting aye: Councilors Ball, Dayley, Nielsen, and Stanford
Those voting nay: None

Motion carried.

CALENDARED HEARING ITEMS:

Third Discussion – Fiber Optic Ordinance – No report.

Second Discussion –

Public Facility Zone: No report.

Professional Service Fee Ordinance: Set for third reading. It will help to offset the recordation costs and ensure that documents are recorded.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor Adams reported on the following:

Water Summit: The meeting had some good information. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pushing water filtration.

Officials Day at the Capitol: Several grants available. New economic development changes for Urban Renewal. Serious talk of rebuilding the Teton Dam.

Councilwoman Ball reported on the following:

Sugar City Area Historical Society Inc: The society will meet again next month. They are getting receipt books printed to help with the many donations coming in. They will approach Madison County on the necessity of a survey in order to transfer the land before looking for a survey donation in kind. It is thought a legal description could be done with the existing pins on adjacent lots.

Motion was made for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Signed: _____
Mayor Steven Adams

Attested: _____
Wendy McLaughlin, Clerk-Treasurer