

Manti City Council Regular Meeting

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023
6:30 PM

MANTI CITY BUILDING
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET

MEETING CALLED BY	Councilmember Jason Vernon
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Council Meeting
ATTENDEES	Councilmembers: Jason Vernon, Gary Chidester and Mary L. Wintch City Manager: Kent Barton City Recorder: JoAnn Otten
ABSENT	Mayor Alfred Bigelow, Councilmembers Darren Dyreng and Jeff Killian
WELCOME	Councilmember Vernon
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Led by Councilmember Chidester

ITEM 1	Consideration of motion to temporarily appoint Councilmember Jason Vernon as Mayor Pro Tempore, due to the absences of Mayor Bigelow and Mayor Pro Tempore Dyreng.
	Councilmember Vernon excused Mayor Bigelow and Councilmembers Dyreng and Killian. He said that Councilmember Dyreng serves as the Mayor Pro Tempore in the absence of the Mayor and since they are both absent, a motion must be made to appoint a new Mayor Pro Tempore.
ACTION	
	Councilmember Mary Wintch moved to appoint Councilmember Jason Vernon as the Mayor Pro Tempore, seconded by Councilmember Gary Chidester
	Councilmembers voting "aye": Mary Wintch, Gary Chidester and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting "nay": none.

ITEM 2

Linda Nielsen - request to address Council with safety concerns.

Ms. Nielsen said that she was present to discuss safety issues on Main Street and provided an outline with the following complaints:

- High speed of truck and auto travel on Main Street.
- Wheeled vehicles on the sidewalk between 200 South and 300 North.
- Child and mother on electric bikes.
- ATV's on the sidewalk.
- Racing skateboards and other down the middle of Highway 89.
- Skate park.
- Various damage on Main Street caused by these vehicles.

She then distributed pictures to each of the Councilmembers and said that this has been an ongoing concern, which she has brought before the council on numerous occasions with no action on the part of the city.

She stated that automobiles are speeding through Main Street on a regular basis and there needs to be extra patrolling by the Sanpete County Sheriff's Department. She did feel that placing additional speed limit signs and electronic signs would eliminate the need for constant patrolling.

Ms. Nielsen reported that there is a real problem with skateboarding and bicycles, both manual and electronic, riding and racing on the sidewalks between 200 South and 300 North Main Street during all hours of the day and night. With this area being a zero setback, it becomes a danger to those walking. She then gave examples of incidents that have occurred that could have ended with injury to individuals.

She questioned the City Council why they have not provided a skate park for the young citizens in the community, as she knew they had approached the city several times requesting same.

Ms. Nielsen suggested an ordinance be developed and adopted which would make it unlawful to ride a bicycle, scooter, skateboard or similar devices on sidewalks from 200 South to 300 North Main. She felt this would protect both the citizens and visitors in the community.

Ms. Nielsen stated that it is the City Council's job to make the community better and she expected them to address and take action within the next 8 weeks or she will pursue other solutions.

CONCLUSION

Mayor Pro Tempore Vernon thanked Ms. Nielsen and said they would discuss this matter when the Mayor and a full Council is present.

ITEM 3

Bonnie Nordell - request to address Council concerning dogs running at large.

Ms. Nordell stated that she was present to discuss the problem with dogs running at large throughout many parts of the community. She thanked ZAN Officer Bryan Bies, Manti City and the Sanpete County Sheriff's Department for their help and said she realized it is a tough job to handle all of the dog issues in Manti.

She reported that there are an excessive number of dogs running at large and not maintained on a leash, which leads to chasing and attacks on citizens that enjoy walking or riding their bikes along Manti streets. She also reported that dogs are defecating on her personal property, which becomes a health issue for her family.

Ms. Nordell reported that in 2023 there were 140 Manti City dog licenses issued and in 2022 there were 235. She felt the numbers are unacceptable and she hoped to bring awareness to the community and see changes be made.

She gave a couple of options that may be helpful such as having a group of people brainstorm different ideas to help all citizens be respectful or requiring higher charges and impound fees for dogs running at large.

Ms. Nordell then inquired of the Council if they had any suggestions as to how to solve this problem.

Some discussion ensued.

CONCLUSION

Mayor Pro Tempore thanked Ms. Nordell and said that he understands her frustration and realizes how challenging it is to walk on some streets in the city and have dogs chasing and barking at you. He said that this will be discussed with a full council and that the fee schedule may have to be reviewed.

Ms. Nordell said that the solution is having respect for your neighbors and fellow citizens.

ITEM 4

Kent Barton - review of August 2023 financial statements.

City Manager Barton presented the August 2023 Financial Statement, which is

attached to and made part of the minutes.

He reported that 17% of the budget year is complete with total budgeted revenues realized at 18.4% and total budgeted expenses coming in at 21.5%. He then reviewed the Enterprise and Special Revenue Funds with Water Revenue at 16.4% of budget and expenses at 7.7%, Sewer Department budgeted revenues at 16.7% and expenses at 11% and Electric Fund budgeted revenues at 15.8% and expenses 12.4%.

Barton stated that the transportation tax is coming in higher than expected. He also reported on the reserve accounts noting that these reserves are kept for future infrastructure development – the city keeps reserves strong to keep infrastructure strong.

CONCLUSION

Mayor Pro Tempore thanked City Manager Barton for his report.

ITEM 5 Continuing Business.

None.

ITEM 6 Councilmembers reports.

Councilmember Wintch reported on the ULCT Conference she had attended and said it was excellent with helpful information provided.

Councilmember Chidester reported that the Holocaust Exhibition at Snow College is continuing until October 11th. This will be the only location that the exhibit will be available to see and he highly recommended attending it.

Councilmember Chidester reported that the Manti ATV Ride was very successful and that it brings people from all over the United States to our small community. He said that he has been a guide for several years and that everyone that attends enjoys the time spent in our mountains.

Councilmembers Vernon thanked City Manager Barton for his time spent making sure the ATV Ride is organized and also the volunteers that help.

ITEM 7 Public Comment.

Ben Kishpaugh - 463 West 500 North

Mr. Kishpaugh said that there is an individual that had posted on social media her

willingness to help train dogs, but she needed a place to hold the training and he felt this was important for the City Council to know.

Michelle Sarah - 21 North Main

Ms. Sarah stated that she is very concerned about the ATV's riding on Main Street and inquired if it was possible to forbid them from traveling on Main Street. It was noted that some ATV's are street legal.

She said that two ATV's were racing down Main Street at 2 a.m. and there needs to be more patrol to help keep the city safe.

Gary Erickson - 98 North 100 West

Mr. Erickson said he and his family love the "home town" feel of Manti and enjoy walking, jogging and spending time outside. He said there is a problem with vicious dogs and the possibility of being attacked in certain areas and streets in Manti City.

He also said that he lives on 100 North Street and when he leaves his windows open at night, they hear the noise of automobiles racing up and down the road.

Cody Nordell - 95 North 200 West

Mr. Nordell stated that he and his wife had been instructed that if they need help with any dog issues after hours, to contact Sanpete County Dispatch. They did this and when the officer came, he told the Nordell's that there is nothing that can be done about dogs running at large because we live in a "free range" area. Mr. Nordell said that the Sanpete County Sheriff's Department is not familiar with Manti City ordinances, which is not acceptable and the Sheriff should be notified of this. He requested that some other solution be considered on who to contact after hours for help.

He then said that we can't change the level of individuals respect, but the city can take a tougher stand on the issue.

Michelle Sarah - 21 North Main Street

Ms. Sarah said she had read in a Salt Lake City newspaper that the deal with LTD to purchase property north of the cemetery had fell through and they had filed bankruptcy.

Mayor Pro Tempore responded that this is inaccurate – there is still a deal with LTD to purchase the property.

ITEM 8	Consideration of approval for minutes of last month's meetings.
<p>The Mayor Pro Tempore directed Councilmembers to draft minutes of the council meetings of August 30, 2023 and September 18, 2023. After brief discussion, seeing there were no errors or changes noted, he called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented.</p>	
ACTION TAKEN	
<p>Councilmember Gary Chidester made the motion to accept the minutes of the August 30, 2023 regular council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Mary Wintch. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Gary Chidester, Mary Wintch and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.</p> <p>Councilmember Mary Wintch made the motion to accept the minutes of the September 18, 2023 council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Gary Chidester. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Mary Wintch, Gary Chidester and Jason Vernon. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.</p>	

ITEM 9	City Manager Kent Barton
<p>City Manager Barton made note of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Canvass of Election for September 5th primary election was held at a council meeting on September 18th. It is required by law that this is held within 7 days of the election date.• The City has been working with the engineers on plans for the new water treatment plant. With the rains that have been received causing cloudy water, constant testing of water has been completed with no concerns being found. The new treatment center will alleviate the problem of cloudy water.• The Temple View Estates is moving forward with plans.• LTD is moving forward with their plans for the north end of Manti.• The Patten House reroofing on the lean-to is complete and the design for the replacement of 23 windows has been approved through the state historical office. Barton expressed his appreciation to the DUP for their passion, care and service that they provide to the Patten House.	

ADJOURNED	7:50 P.M.
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General Account

Brady Barton	\$ 83.54
Carolyn Bessey	250.00
JoAnn Otten	89.03
Greg Wayman	150.00
Reed Hatch	300.00
Nick Shaw	300.00
Gary Chidester	300.00
Brad Bradley	300.00
Kent Barton	3,004.86
OverDrive, Inc.	1,000.00



Alfred Bigelow, Mayor



JoAnn Otten, City Recorder