

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 7, 2024
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 56 NORTH 100 WEST**

Mayor Melani Torgersen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Blaine Porter, Marlene Stowe, Sally Orme, Chad Lyman, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Lenza Wilson was excused.

Also present were Fred Spencer, DeEtte Spencer, Bill Weppner, Brennan Rees, Victory Crawford and Terence Tontlewicz.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Council member Lyman moved to adopt the agenda as written. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Lyman, Orme and Porter voting aye.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 16, 2024 MEETING

Council member Orme moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting as written. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Lyman, Stowe and Porter voting aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

BRENNAN REES

Mr. Rees said he is from Ensign Engineering and introduced himself and the company to the Council. Mr. Rees said he lives in Loa and works for Ensign Engineering in the Richfield office. Mr. Rees explained the Engineer firm seeks to introduce themselves and offer services to local municipalities.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES

Council member Stowe said there are no updates at this time.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

BILL WEPPNER, ESCALANTE FIRE DEPARTMENT – REPAIR DIESEL EXHAUST SYSTEM ON LADDER 1

Mr. Weppner explained during one of their recent incidents they recognized there was a problem with ladder one. Mr. Weppner said the diesel exhaust fluid system is not working so they need to order and install a new one. Mr. Weppner said the parts with shipping will be \$1531.48. Mr. Weppner asked the Council for approval to order the parts. Council member Porter asked if there is a warranty on the truck. Mr. Weppner said not on the diesel exhaust system. Council

member Orme asked if the Fire Department has a plan so this will not happen again. Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department needs to run the truck more often. **Council member Porter moved to purchase the parts to repair the Diesel Exhaust System on Ladder 1. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Stowe, Porter and Orme voting aye.** Mayor Torgersen asked Mr. Weppner when he does the Fire Department report to report on any equipment issues so we can let the other communities and dispatch know so they are aware.

ADOPT 2024-2025 TENTATIVE BUDGET

City Recorder Steed provided Mayor and Council wage data from other communities, suggesting doubling the Mayor and Council wages to catch up with inflation. Council member Lyman discussed road improvements and finding money to widen Center Street. **Council member Lyman moved to adopt the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget as presented. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Porter, Lyman and Stowe voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

City Recorder Steed said the budget and financial reports are available for review.

City Recorder Steed said the FFA is reviewing the Airport Masterplan. City Recorder Steed said the contractor for the Airport Pavement Rehabilitation will be here the first part of June.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

BILL WEPPNER

Mr. Weppner said since the last Council meeting the Fire Department has had three call outs, two of which we were turned around. Mr. Weppner said on April 23, 2024 the Fire Department was paged out to Henrieville for a fire. Mr. Weppner said they had nine volunteers respond to the fire.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN

Mayor Torgersen had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter said he is getting a contractor to fix the water break on Main Street. Council member Porter said he is trying to find someone with a boring machine to bore under the road, so we do not have to dig it up. This item was discussed at length.

Council member Porter said while Garkane Energy was digging they found a sewer line nobody knew about.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe reported on the Utah League of Cities and Towns Conference she and City Recorder Steed attended.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said the Elementary School kids are willing to help with the cleanup day on May 17, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Council member Lyman suggested delaying the town cleanup day until closer to the 24th of July, but the kids could still pick up garbage between the elementary and high school on May 17, 2024.

Mayor Torgersen said there will be a sanitation survey towards the end of May.

UNPAID BILLS

Council member Orme moved to pay the unpaid bills. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Orme, Lyman, and Porter voting aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

Council member Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Stephanie Steed, MMC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 05/21/2024