

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 6, 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, Sally Orme, Lenza Wilson, Marlene Stowe, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Treasurer Nancy Porter. Council Member Lyman and City Recorder Stephanie Steed were excused.

Also present were Bill Weppner, Harriet Priska, Victory Crawford, Fred Spencer, Lawrence Barnes and Sherri Meisenbach.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2024 MEETING

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

VICTORY CRAWFORD

Ms. Crawford wanted to let the council know about the NCCS (National Center for Constitutional Studies) constitutional workshop that is to be held in Escalante on September 7, 2024 at the Escalante Showhouse. Ms. Crawford said this event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a catered lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Ms. Crawford said the first 50 people who sign up is free and after that it is \$15.00 for the event and \$12.00 for lunch. Ms. Crawford said the speaker will be Earl Taylor Jr. who has taught The Making of America Constitutional study course for over 30 years. Ms. Crawford said she is working with Elaine Baldwin on this project and has given each council member 3 packets about this event that she would like each member to hand out to people to help get the word out and get people to sign up for this event (attached).

HARRIET PRISKA

Ms. Priska wanted to thank the city for all their help in getting the new Walking Tour Pamphlets printed and handed one out to each member to show them how nice they are. Ms. Priska said Jenny Evans and her boys have gone around and checked each place for the post marker and stated that there were about 12 that were missing. Ms. Priska said Ms. Evans will be helping her to get these replaced.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS**PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES****ORDINANCE 2024-14 AMENDING ORDINANCE 10.36.040, 10.38.040, 10.40.040, 10.42.040, 10.44.040, 10.48.040 AND 10.50.020 HIGHT REGULATIONS**

Council member Stowe explained Planning and Zoning had a public hearing on this proposed ordinance. Council member Stowe explained Ordinance 2024-14. Council member Stowe said planning and zoning has recommended the proposed ordinance for approval. Council Member Wilson said he does not agree with telling people how many stories they can have inside their home as long as they are within the required height. Council member Wilson said he is not opposed to changing the height in the RR-1-10 zone to 28 feet. Council Member Porter said he feels the City should not tell people how many stories they can have and feels we should not change the ordinance. Council Member Orme said she feels that the less management the City has on what people do inside their building is better. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Porter moved to approve ordinance 2024-14 with the following changes, leave the 35 feet, take out the stories and take out the conditional use permit does not have to be reviewed yearly. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Porter, Orme and Stowe voting aye.**

ORDINANCE 2024-15 AMENDING ORDINANCE 10.36.020, 10.38.020, 10.40.020 AND 10.42.020 ADDING TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS

Council member Stowe explained Planning and Zoning had a public hearing on this proposed ordinance. Council member Stowe explained Ordinance 2024-15. Council member Stowe said planning and zoning has recommended the proposed ordinance for approval. **Council member Orme moved to approve Ordinance 2024-15. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

ORDINANCE 2024-16 AMENDING ORDINANCE 10.22.030, 10.22.040 AND 10.22.050 REQUIREMENTS OF OWNER OCCUPIED.

Council member Stowe explained Planning and Zoning had a public hearing on this proposed ordinance. Council member Stowe explained Ordinance 2024-16. Council member Stowe said planning and zoning has recommended the proposed ordinance for approval. **Council member Wilson moved to approve Ordinance 2024-16. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Wilson, Stowe and Orme voting aye.**

ORDINANCE 2024-17 AMENDING ORDINANCE 10.16.040 ADDING RECREATIONAL COACH TO PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.

Council member Stowe explained Planning and Zoning had a public hearing on this proposed ordinance. Council member Stowe explained Ordinance 2024-17. Council member Stowe said planning and zoning has recommended the proposed ordinance for approval. **Council member Stowe moved to approve Ordinance 2024-17. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Porter and Stowe voting aye.**

SCHEDULED ITEMS**SHERRI MEISENBACH – DONATION FOR MOQUI MOTOR MADNESS CAR SHOW**

Ms. Meisenbach thanked the City Council for all the hard work they do and asked for a donation

to help buy prizes for raffle drawings as well as T-shirts and trophies for the car show. Ms. Meisenbach asked for \$2,000.00. Council member Orme explained that at the end of the fiscal year they had put a cap of \$700.00 on all donations and stated that she was in favor of giving the \$700.00 for this event. Ms. Meisenbach thanked the council. Ms. Meisenbach wanted to let everyone know that the Lions club is happy to help with any projects that the city may need help with and said that they have 15 to 20 active members at this time and would like to help where they can. **Council member Orme moved to donate \$ 700.00 to the Moqui Motor Madness Car Show. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

POLICY AND PROCEDURES – EARLY RETIREMENT

Mayor Torgersen explained the Early Retirement Policy. Council member Wilson said he likes this idea. Council member Stowe said she likes the case-by-case basis but not the age of 62. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Wilson moved to approve the Early Retirement Policy with the change of 75 points or on a case by case basis and taking out the age of 62. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Porter and Stowe voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Administrative Department had nothing to report at this time,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bill Weppner stated they had 3 calls since the last meeting, the first was an automated 911 traffic call that they never found, second was a false alarm at the LDS church and the last one was from a lightning strike out south center street catching a tree and some brush on fire.

Mr. Weppner said the fire department did the morning salutes for the 24th celebrations as well as the parade and soaking the crowd and ended the weekend with the fireworks display that night. Mr. Weppner said everything went very well.

Mr. Weppner said he is still waiting on the estimate and time frame for the ladder truck to get fixed. Mr. Weppner said Cummins came and fixed the recall problem but states that the wiring harness is where the problem is now and it is a back and forth with Cummins and Rosenbauer. Mayor Torgersen asked if this has been a problem with other departments and Mr. Weppner said yes it has been an issue and Denver is one of them and that the issue stems from the DEF system. Mr. Weppner has also been in contact with Governor Cox who is willing to make some calls to try and get this resolved as it is a public safety issue. Mayor Torgersen said she will reach out to the Governor and get this moving forward.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN

Mayor Torgersen thanked everyone for the 24th weekend, and said everything went great.

Mayor Torgersen said she would like to see the city do a 911 service clean-up around town. Mayor Torgersen asked if the board is in favor of doing this and if Saturday the 14th of September would be a good day. Mayor Torgersen asked the council to think about it.

Mayor Torgersen said that Council Member Lyman has been in contact with Garkane about moving the poles and they said it would be about \$11,000.00 but they are working with Justin Miller to see if they can split the cost as they are in the middle of the road and must be moved.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson said he has put more electrical outlets at the splash pad for future events and that the splash pad is now operational between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. with auto shut off.

Council Member Wilson said the contractor has been here the past 2 days painting the lines at the airport and the final coat of paint was finished up today.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter had nothing at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe said the signs for the park, community center and the splash pad were done and ready for pick up in St. George. Council Member Stowe said they are 8' long and we will need a trailer to pick them up. Mayor Torgersen asked if we could send the water sample down to St. George this time and pick them up then.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme nothing had nothing at this time.

UNPAID BILLS

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

Council member Porter moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

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

Nancy Porter
City Treasurer

Date minutes approved:
8/20/2024

