

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2024
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
PUBLIC HEARING/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, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman joined electronically. Council member Marlene Stowe was excused.

Also present were Fred Spencer, Margie Weppner, Bill Weppner, Lawrence Barnes, Victory Crawford and Terence Tontlewicz.

Ashley Coombs and David Bird joined electronically.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2024 MEETING

Council member Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2024 meeting as written. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Lyman and Porter voting aye.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Council member Orme moved to open the public hearing at 6:01 p.m. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Orme, Lyman and Wilson voting aye.

ORDINANCE 2024-18 ENTRADA ESCALANTE PROPERTIES, LLC PETITION TO VACATE CITY STREETS AND PARTIAL VACATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITY EASEMENTS

Mayor Torgersen explained Ordinance 2024-18. Mayor Torgersen asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

VICTORY CRAWFORD

Ms. Crawford asked what this Ordinance is about. Mayor Torgersen said it is an Ordinance to vacate a city street and partial vacation of a utility easement. Ms. Crawford asked if anyone is using this street. Council member Porter said the road is not in use and there is a waterline that

will be moved and a Cul-de-sac will be put in for all the utilities with an easement.

LAWRENCE BARNES

Mr. Barnes said this is the Mark Austin Property behind the Entrada Inn and last the Council delt with this they were going to go to the site and walk through it. Mr. Barnes asked if that happened and if the council was satisfied. City Attorney Huntington said yes it has all been reviewed.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Council member Orme moved to close the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Wilson, Orme and Lyman voting aye.

ORDINANCE 2024-18 ENTRADA ESCALANTE PROPERTIES, LLC PETITION TO VACATE CITY STREETS AND PARTIAL VACATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITY EASEMENTS

Council member Wilson said he thinks all the issues that have come up on this item have been addressed. City Attorney Huntington said we have been working on this item for years and have taken our time on it. Council member Lyman said his understanding is the Ordinance has been written as we have discussed and asked. Attorney Huntington said all the concerns have been addressed and he has reviewed this item with Mark Austins Attorney David Bird and the County Recorder. City Attorney Huntington said Mr. Austin has been paying taxes on this property and if it goes to court, we do not have a case. Mayor Torgersen asked City Attorney Huntington what his recommendation is. City Attorney Huntington said his recommendation is to move forward and approve Ordinance 2024-18. **Council member Wilson moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-18. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Lyman, Wilson and Orme voting aye.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES

There were no Planning and Zoning items or updates at this time.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

FIRE DEPARTMENT – REPAIRS ON FIRE TRUCK (LADDER 1)

BILL WEPPNER

Mr. Weppner said, as we have discussed before, there is an issue with Ladder 1, and we have received two quotes to get it fixed. Mr. Weppner explained both quotes. **Council member Porter moved to follow the Fire Departments recommendation to repair ladder 1. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT

Mayor Torgersen explained the city received a notice that we were awarded the 2023 Assistance to Firefighter Grant. Mayor Torgersen explained the grant amount is \$85,238.00 federal with the city match of \$4,261.90 for a total of \$89,499.90. City Recorder Steed said the grant will be used

to purchase new turnout gear for \$73,999.95 and new hoses for \$15,499.95.

MEDICAL CENTER ADDITION BID AWARD – CONTRACTOR

Mayor Torgersen explained this is the second time the city has requested bids for the Medical Center Addition. Mayor Torgersen said we received four bids. Mayor Torgersen explained the bid from Nielsen Contracting was missing two pages, so it is an incomplete bid. Mayor Torgersen explained the bids were broken into a base bid, and four schedules. Mayor Torgersen said the lowest bid is PRT Builders, LLC with a base bid of \$1,586,385.00, schedule one \$47,686.10, schedule two \$28,204.00, schedule three \$56,769.10 and schedule four \$275,599.00 for a total of \$1,994,643.20. Mayor Torgersen said schedule one is the utilities, schedule two is the sidewalk, schedule three is the East side parking lot and schedule four is the West side parking lot. Mayor Torgersen said Garfield County is willing to help with the parking lots so we can eliminate schedule two through four to get closer to our budget. Mayor Torgersen said if the city awards the low bidder and eliminate schedule two through four, we will need to go back to the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) and ask for an additional \$400,000.00 to move forward with the project. Mayor Torgersen explained that the current CIB funding is sixty percent grant and forty percent loan at one percent interest. Council member Wilson asked what the likely hood would be to get additional funding approved by CIB. Mayor Torgersen said CIB has been very generous and she feels they would approve an additional \$400,000.00 to complete the project. **Council member Wilson moved to award the Medical Center Addition base bid and schedule one bid to PRT Builders, LLC with the contingency the city receive an additional \$400,000.00 in funds from CIB. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Lyman, Wilson and Orme voting aye.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-19 - MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER PLANNING PROGRAM REPORT FOR 2023

City Recorder Steed explained Resolution 2024-19. **Council member Porter moved to adopt Resolution 2024-19. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Lyman and Porter voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **ADMINISTRATIVE**

City Recorder Steed said the city needs to collect water samples to determine the lead and copper levels in our tap water. City Recorder Steed said this is a mandatory testing and must be completed by September 30, 2024. City Recorder Steed explained the Public Works Department will bring a sample bottle kit by each Council member's residence on August 30, 2024 with instructions on filling the bottles. City Recorder Steed said the samples must be taken on Tuesday September 3, 2024 for the Public Works Department to collect the bottles and take them to Salina to mail them overnight to Sandy.

City Recorder Steed reminded the Council of the Garfield Memorial Health Care Foundation dinner on August 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and asked who could attend.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

BILL WEPPNER

Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department had one call since the last meeting on a water break at the Padre Motel.

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 said the Airport was closed for a few hours yesterday for the final friction testing and now the pavement rehabilitation is complete.

Council member Wilson said the water tank road needs work on it due to the recent rainstorms and he is willing to help fix it. Council member Lyman said he has contacted the County, and they are willing to help fix the road.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said the city has been notified by the State that the landfill has some violations. Council member Orme explained City Treasurer Porter has been working on the issues and has been in contact with the State.

Mayor Torgersen asked if the landfill is allowed to take old vehicles. Council member Orme said with a title the landfill can take old vehicles but would have to flush and properly dispose of all fluids. Council member Orme said it is not beneficial to the city to take old vehicles but could provide contact information for people to have someone come pick them up.

UNPAID BILLS

Council member Wilson stated a conflict of interest due to having an invoice on the unpaid bills list. **Council member Orme moved to pay the unpaid bills. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Lyman and Porter voting aye. Council member Wilson abstained.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

**Council member Orme moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m.
Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Stephanie Steed, MMC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 9/3/2024