



**MINUTES OF THE  
COUNCIL MEETING OF THE  
MAYOR & COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF RUPERT  
JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and the City Council of Rupert, Idaho on the thirteenth day of July, 2021 in the Council Chambers located inside City hall at 624 F Street Rupert, Idaho, at the hour of 7:00 PM.

**Present:** Mayor Michael D. Brown  
Councilmembers Present: Swensen, Jones, Faux  
City Administrator Kelly Anthon  
City Clerk Bayley Maughan  
City Attorney Lance Stevenson

**Visitors:** Roger Davis, Vincent Sandstoe, Suzette Sorenson, Samuel Kuoha, Jeff McEwen, Travis Freeman (Employees)  
Don McCall, Gary Holy (Visitors)

Mayor Brown welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mayor Brown led everyone in the Pledge.

Lance Stevenson gave invocation.

Mayor Brown called for any addenda to the agenda and there were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Items: A. & B. Approval of the Bills, Payroll, & Minutes**

Councilman Swensen made a motion to approve the bills, payroll, and minutes of the June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 council meeting. Councilwoman Jones seconded and the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item: A. Discussion & Possible Action Regarding Operation Underground Railroad Grant**

There was general discussion regarding the policy that had been submitted by Kuoha and Freeman regarding the handling of the K9 that would be obtained through the grant. There was also discussion regarding the use of the K9 by other entities. It was discussed that the grant process could be initiated, however, the final policy and any agreements to come from the grant would need to be brought back to the agenda for a later meeting for final approval.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to authorize Samuel Kuoha and Travis Freeman to move forward with the Operation Underground Railroad Grant process to obtain a K9 for the department, with the

understanding that the final policy and any agreements or contracts in connection with the grant would come back to Council for final approval. Councilman Swensen seconded and the roll call was as follows:

**Ayes:** Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Faux, Councilman Swensen

**Nays:** None

Councilman Heward was absent and not voting. The motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Item: A. Water Department Annual Report**

This item was postponed until a later meeting.

### **Item: B. Discussion & Possible Action Regarding Fencing for Boys & Girls Club**

Roger Davis explained to the Mayor and Council that there had been a miscommunication with the Boys and Girls Club regarding the installation of a fence at the facility. A fence was needed to keep the kids secure while playing outside, especially with the adjacent roadway. The only response Davis was able to get regarding the construction of a fence was an approximate verbal quote from Fence Solutions in the amount of \$12,000.

There was no formal action taken. Davis was instructed to try to gather more bids and bring them back to Council for formal action.

### **Item: C. Discussion & Possible Action Regarding SIED Membership**

Mayor Brown had previously notified SIED that the City of Rupert would be withdrawing its membership from SIED going into the next fiscal year. The organization was not fulfilling its obligations in representing the City of Rupert, as well as several other cities in the area, and the Cities had all made a unanimous decision to terminate membership. This notification was done before formal council action could be taken, in order to allow for the organization to adjust their budget before it was set for the upcoming year.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to ratify the Mayor's decision to withdraw the City's SIED membership. Councilman Swensen seconded and the roll call was as follows:

**Ayes:** Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Faux, Councilman Swensen

**Nays:** None

Councilman Heward was absent and not voting. The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don McCall & Gary Holy – Had concerns about the high sub water in their neighborhood. The City has two irrigation pumps in that area that help keep the sub down, however the pumps are both in disrepair and houses have been getting an excessive amount of water under their homes. Other neighbors are continuing to flood irrigate their yards causing even more sub water in the neighborhood.

There was discussion regarding the efforts that are being made to get the pumps back to an operational status.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to move to Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 to have discussions under subsections (1)(a) and (1)(f). Councilman Swensen seconded and the roll call was as follows:

**Ayes:** Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Faux, Councilman Swensen

**Nays:** None

Councilman Heward was absent and not voting. The motion carried.

**Executive Session Began 8:17 PM.**

Discussions under subsections (1)(a) and (1)(f).

**Open Session Resumed: 8:29 PM.**

With no further business before the Mayor and Council, Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.