

ALPINE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Alpine City Hall, 20 N. Main, Alpine, UT
February 28, 2017

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Sheldon Wimmer.

A. Roll Call: The following were present. Mayor Wimmer noted that they did not have a quorum so no action could be taken.

Mayor Sheldon Wimmer
 Council Members: Lon Lott, Ramon Beck
 Council Members excused: Troy Stout, Roger Bennett, Kimberly Bryant
 Staff: Shane Sorensen, Charmayne Warnock
 Others: John Adams, Dale Ihrqe, Loraine Lott, Julie Christensen

B. Prayer: Lon Lott
C. Pledge: Sheldon Wimmer

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of the February 14, 2017 City Council meeting.

Lon Lott said he had made a clarification to the minutes of February 14, 2017 which was noted by the City Recorder. A vote would be taken on the corrected minutes at the next meeting.

IV. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Timpanogos Special Service District (TSSD) Report – Utah Lake Update – John Adams and Dale Ihrke. Dale Ihrke reported on the issues facing Utah Lake relative to harmful algae blooms, and the presence of nitrogen and phosphorous in the lake. He said the TSSD had supported research over the last few years to gain accurate information on the effect of phosphorous and nitrogen in the lake so any regulatory limits placed on discharge from the TSSD waste water treatment plant into the lake was based on sound science. They had been taking a step-by-step approach to lower the phosphorous content by 2020. If they were going to remove the phosphorous down to 1 mg/L, they anticipated an initial cost of \$32 million dollars with an annual ongoing cost of \$5 million in operation and maintenance. The cost of lowering the phosphorous level to 0.1mg/L would be closer to \$100 million dollars. Those costs would be passed on to the rate payers.

Both Dale Ihrke and John Adams questioned if reducing the phosphorous levels in the discharge would solve the problem of the algae blooms. Phosphorous was a naturally occurring element in the lake and eliminating it from waste water discharge may not solve the problem. John Adams said that was why they advocated completing a scientific study before spending a lot of money on a treatment process that may not deliver the desired outcome.

The Utah Lake Commission was being used as the vehicle to conduct a water quality study. The members of the Utah Lake Commission from the cities would be able to appoint members to the Technical Committee, and the Technical Committee would select a Steering Committee. The Steering Committee would in turn nominate five to seven people to the Science Panel.

John Adams said the concern that TSSD had was that, as a stakeholder, they were not represented on the committee. Originally there were two positions for the waste water treatments plants on the committee, but those two positions had been eliminated.

Mr. Adams said the TSSD was asking that each of their member cities contact Eric Ellis who was Director of the Utah Lake Commission, and express concern that the wastewater treatment plants were not represented. The TSSD believed that policy makers needed to be aware of the high costs of treatment which rate payers would bear if more stringent limits were imposed. The proposed limits did not guarantee an improvement in water quality, and current research indicated that algae blooms on the lake could actually increase.

Mr. Adams reiterated that the TSSD believed that all stakeholders should be represented during the study process.

Ramon Beck said they had seen a lot of hot dry years and there hadn't been much water running into the lakes. He wondered if those factors had contributed to the algae blooms. This year they had a heavy snow pack in the mountains and he thought it might help the algae problem.

John Adams said the previous summer had been a perfect storm. They had to look at things in perspective. Toxic algae blooms had been found in Payson Lake and Schofield Reservoir, and neither body of water was located near a waste water treatment facility. He said they wanted to study Utah Lake and see what needed to be done. A cost benefit analysis should be done.

Sheldon Wimmer said he appreciated what the TSSD did and the timely update. He asked if the membership of the Steering Committee was posted because he had been asked to be on it. They said they didn't know.

Lon Lott clarified that Mr. Adams and Mr. Ihrqe were asking the Council to contact Eric Ellis and let him know that they needed broader representation on the committees. Mr. Adams said that was correct. They hoped the mayors would persuade Mr. Ellis to appoint members of the TSSD to the Committee along appointing the mayors. They would like to have representation from both.

Shane Sorensen said Jed Muhlestein had attended the Utah Lake Commission meetings a few times, then Troy Stout was assigned to the Commission.

V. ACTIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Wimmer said they wouldn't be able to vote on any of the scheduled action items without a quorum but they could discuss them.

A. T-Mobile Wireless Telecommunication Upgrade and Collocation – 694 Rocky Mountain Drive – Crown Castle. Mayor Wimmer said the residents in the area of Rocky Mountain Drive had been concerned about the effect of radiofrequencies on health issues. In response to neighbors' concerns, a previous council had adopted notification requirements so people would be informed when changes were made to the towers. He said the Planning Commission had discussed the T-Mobile upgrade at their previous meeting and some residents were present.

Lon Lott asked if there was language in the ordinance that restricted the height of the cell towers.

Shane Sorensen looked it up ordinance and reported later in the meeting that changes to an existing cell tower shall not exceed the height of tower being replaced.

Lon Lott wondered if the trees which were planted as a screen by the towers were getting enough water because they were starting to die. They needed to look at the watering system and make sure it was functioning properly.

B. Resolution No. 2017-05, Appointing a Member Representative and Alternate Representative to the Utah Valley Dispatch Special Services District. Mayor Wimmer said the proposed Resolution would appoint Jason Bond to the Dispatch Board and Shane Sorensen as an alternate. Mr. Bond had been serving as the alternate under Rich Nelson.

Sheldon Wimmer said there was a bill in the legislature that would reallocate the way the fees from the calls were distributed. It would affect the Lone Peak PSD and they would probably need to come up with some extra money.

C. 2017 Municipal Election: Charmayne Warnock said the County had offered to conduct the municipal elections as a vote-by-mail (VBM) election. They had conducted the Alpine City election in 2015 as well as some of the other cities in Utah County. Voter turnout had increased significantly.

Lon Lott said he remembered when the same issue had come to them two years ago and the Council had been supportive. With the exception of Ramon Beck who was newly elected, they had the same Councilmembers they had two years ago. Ramon Beck said he had no issues with the County conducting a VBM election for the City. Mayor Wimmer said he didn't think it would need to be on the agenda again because everyone seemed to be in favor of it.

D. Alpine Days Budget: Lon Lott said Melanie Ewing had prepared a proposed budget which was included in the packet. He had hoped to have the Council go over the items and if they had a problem with a line item, they could talk about it. He said his intent was for the Council to be aware of what they would be spending for Alpine Days so they would need to talk about it when they had a quorum.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

Shane Sorensen reported that the snowpack was 180% of normal. An article would be going out in the Newline asking residents to make sure the waterways near their homes were cleared of debris in order to avoid flooding. He later reported that the City had between eight to ten thousand sandbags and had ordered another twelve thousand. He said usually a culvert plugged and caused problems but they had replaced all the culverts with box culverts except for the one at the top of Fort Canyon, which they were planning to replace.

Mr. Sorensen also reported that a preconstruction meeting on Fort Canyon Road would be held on Monday, March 6th in the Conference Room. Sherry Nash would represent the residents up Fort Canyon. She would attend a meeting with the contractor every Tuesday then update the neighbors. Mr. Sorensen said the City had looked at hiring Horrocks Engineering as a public information officer for the project but the residents up Fort Canyon felt Sherry Nash could relay the necessary information and didn't think the City needed to go to that expense. He said the first order of business would be replacing the culvert at the top of Fort Canyon.

VII. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Lon Lott said Mel Clement had called him about the possibility of parking an emergency preparedness trailer at the Carlisle Well site. They could park it in the LDS Church parking lot but they were concerned it would be difficult to access it in the event of an emergency with all the traffic in that area. If it was parked at the well side, they could access it from the residential side of the hill. Shane Sorensen said he would talk to Greg Kemetsch and they would take a look at it.

Sheldon Wimmer said the emergency preparedness committee in Alpine needed to be staffed. Lon Lott said he was working with the West Stake and other areas. He would see if they could put together a committee. Mayor Wimmer said they could store some emergency supplies in City Hall. They had a generator up at the City Shops.

Ramon Beck reported that Roger Bennett's mother had fallen and broke her hip. His father had passed away a couple of weeks earlier. Roger Bennett was currently in Guatemala on a Humanitarian project.

Sheldon Wimmer said the outstanding water bill balance had dropped from \$40,000 to \$19,000. Carolyn Riley and DeAnn Parry in the front office were doing a great job getting the letters out and collecting the overdue payments.

Mayor Wimmer said he would be gone for the March 14th meeting. Troy Stout would be acting as mayor pro tem.

The meeting was closed at 8:25 pm.