

MINUTES REGULAR SOAP LAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 6, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kovach called the regular council meeting to order at 5:39 pm.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mayor Kovach, Agliano, Arnold, Bratton, Bryson, Rushton, Taylor and Woodhouse.

City Staff Members Present: City Administrator Tijerina, Police Chief Cox, Fire Chief Sheppard, City Planner Piercy and Administrative Assistant Siebert.

AGENDA ITEMS

➤ **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2022
- B. Claim EFTs & Claims #21662-21695 in the amount of \$643,877.97
- C. Payroll EFTs & Claims #26168-26174 in the amount of \$32,980.47

➤ **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

➤ **REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

➤ **PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ **OLD BUSINESS**

➤ **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Engineering contract Amendment for a Water & Sewer Rate Study
- B. Consultant Agreement for Design Engineering for Daisy Street Sidewalk Improvements
- C. CDSI Rate Increase (2yr CPI adjustment)
- D. High Hill Landfill Feasibility Study
- E. Amendment to the Approval of Tourism Applications
- F. City Hall Roofing Contract
- G. Smokiam Park Power Line Relocation Contract
- H. Walmart Community Grant

➤ **REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS**

➤ **NEXT ORDINANCE #1326; NEXT RESOLUTION #975**

➤ **COMMENTS**

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

CONSENT AGENDA

M/Agliano, S/Bratton; to accept the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

City Hall update: drywall is almost ready for paint and tiling and carpeting should start soon.

A reminder that the Council will have a retreat to discuss City's priorities on Friday, April 22 at 1:00 pm. Location will be announced at next meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Danielle Taylor, 11 N Fir St. (written comment received and read by Mayor)- she asked what tools the City is using to notify residents of upcoming construction projects. She was awakened by construction crew and asked to move vehicles. Her family works night shift. She looked on the City's website for information but did not find anything helpful.

Burr Beckwith, 33 N Dogwood – Would like the City to contact the Bureau and discuss options to raise the water level of the Lake. He believes this process could be initiated by the City and that higher water levels in the Lake are beneficial to the residents and visitors.

Susan Carson, 114 N Gladiola – As a representative of the Soap Lake Business Coalition, she has been working with Chief Cox on organizing the 4th of July celebration scheduled for this year. She is also working on bringing back the Run to the Desert event. She would like to know the status of the RV park usage and if the bathrooms will be available. She would also like to bring back the Soap Box Derby. If anyone is wanting to volunteer to help with any of the events, please contact her.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Engineering Contract Amendment for a Water & Sewer Rate Study – Presentation given by Mike Meskimen from Gray & Osborne. He discussed the previous study was done in 2017 and projected rates for 6 years. This study would focus on rates for the next six years and provide the City with information to keep the rates on a projected target to cover costs. **M/Agliano, S/Bratton**; to approve the Engineering Contract Amendment for the Water and Sewer Rate Study project with Gray & Osborne. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Consultant Agreement for Design Engineering for Daisy Street Sidewalk Improvements – This is for sidewalk improvements along Daisy Street from 3rd Ave Se to main Ave E. Funding is from a grant. **M/Rushton, S/Bratton**; to approve the Consultant Agreement for Design engineering services related to the Daisy Street (SR 17) Sidewalk Improvements, Phase I with Gray & Osborne. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- C. CDSI Rate Increase (2yr CPI adjustment)- this contract is adjusted every two years by Consolidated Disposal Services according to the CPI. This year that calculation is 4.45%. This cost will be passed on to the City and the City will, at

some point, need to adjust rates to cover costs. **M/Agliano, S/Taylor**; to accept the fourth amendment contract between the City of Soap Lake and Consolidated disposal Services. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- D. High Hill Landfill Feasibility Study- Mayor explained that this property was used to dispose of inert material from construction sites by the City. The City received complaints about dumping of material on this property. A feasibility study could be done to give the City options on how to surplus the property in the future. The property is being monitored, as some illegal dumping has occurred on this property. Councilmember Agliano motioned to Table this agenda item until next meeting. Councilmembers are concerned about the cost of this study and where funds would be available.
- E. Amendment to the Approval of Tourism Applications- although these funds were approved in the budget, the applications were not formally approved by the Council. The following amounts are approved from the Tourism Fund:
- Suds N Sun Event \$3000.00
 - Paddle Day \$2000.00
 - Winterfest \$3000.00
 - Visitor Center Operations \$10,000.00

M/Agliano, S/Bratton; to approve the applications to the Tourism Committee from the Chamber of Commerce in the above amounts. Councilmembers Woodhouse and Arnold voted NAY. **Motion passed.**

- F. City Hall Roofing Contract- **M/Arnold, S/Agliano**; to approve the contract between the City of Soap Lake and Frontier Company, LLC. **Motion carried unanimously.** This was the lowest bid with the longest warranty (25 yr). Total cost is not to exceed \$57,789.62.
- G. Smokiam Park Power Line Relocation Contract- **M/Arnold, S/Rushton**; to approve the payment for relocation of the power line in Smokiam Park to facilitate the installation of the basketball court. **Motion carried unanimously.** Cost quote for relocation is \$2,166.00
- H. Walmart Community Grant- **M/Arnold, S/Bratton**; to approve the grant from Walmart to the Police Department for \$1500.00. **Motion carried unanimously.** This grant money is used for Shop with a Cop and Trunk R Treat events.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

City Administrator Tijerina – working on final touches to the audit before it is submitted to the State. This includes the 2017-18 audit and a financial audit for 2019-2020. He is hopeful that everything can be done before the end of this month.

Police Chief Cox – There are youth bicycle helmets available at the Police Department. Officer Geates is attending EVOC Instructor Class this week. Surplus sales generated \$45,000.00 to be put toward the next patrol vehicle purchase.

Fire Chief Sheppard – his department ran 39 calls in the City last month of which 13 were EMS calls and 3 were fire alarms.

He would like the City to have correct addresses on residential buildings.
The district received \$100,000.00 in ARPA funds. This will cover the cost of a refill station to refill the self-contained breathing apparatus equipment.
He is looking forward to the transport license being issued this summer.

City Planner Piercy – Presented a 1st Qt. Report for Permit Activity. There were 19 permits issued with a total project value of over \$2 million. Higher inflation and interest rates could potentially disrupt future permit applications.
He will be working with local cities and Grant County to update the Shoreline Plan. Last time this was done, the City worked with the County through an Interlocal Agreement to help share cost and planning responsibilities. He anticipates that the Lake Liaison Committee will also be involved.

Next Ordinance #1326; Next Resolution #975

COMMENTS

Councilmember Agliano asked about an update from Public Works. The Mayor said he had talked with Supervisor Fronsman about the current construction project. Public Works is replacing water mains on Main Ave W. Residents may experience temporary water shut offs. Water work along Daisy will start soon. They are also peeping for the sewer installation for the Purple Sage RV Park.

Councilmember Arnold asked about the progress of ordinances for recent discussion about bicycle helmets, dead-end roads and parking by fire hydrants. All of these are with the City Attorney and are being reviewed.

There was discussion about pot holes. The Mayor will check on options again once construction equipment is no longer driving up and down streets.

ADJOURNMENT

M/Arnold, S/Bratton; move to adjourn at 7:02 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Alex Kovach, Mayor

Jody Siebert, Administrative Assistant