

MINUTES REGULAR SOAP LAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 18, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tempore Agliano called the regular council meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

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

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

AGENDA ITEMS

- **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE**
- **OATH OF OFFICE** – Mayor
- **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2022
 - B. Claim EFTs & Claims #21748-21776 in the amount of \$40,665.63
 - C. Payroll EFTs & Claims #26181-26193, 26197 in the amount of \$68,903.59
- **MAYOR’S MESSAGE**
- **REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Mineral Water Right Agreement
 - B. Fireworks Discussion
- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof
 - B. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof
- **REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS**
- **NEXT ORDINANCE #1330; NEXT RESOLUTION #976**
- **COMMENTS**
- **ADJOURNMENT**

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

M/Bratton, S/Bryson; to appoint Councilmember Agliano as Mayor of the City of Soap Lake. Hands were raised in support for appointment of a Mayor Pro Tempore.

M/Bratton, S/Arnold; to appoint Councilmember Taylor as Mayor Pro Tempore of the City of Soap Lake. **Motion carried unanimously** (Councilmember Taylor did not vote.)

OATH OF OFFICE – Mayor

City Administrator Tijerina administered the Oath of Office to Michelle Agliano, swearing her in as Mayor of the City of Soap Lake. Councilmember Agliano will serve out the remainder of former Mayor Kovach’s term (remaining two years).

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MAYOR’S MESSAGE

Mayor Agliano asked Council to add item (B) Fireworks Discussion to Old Business on this evening’s agenda. **M/Rushton, S/Bratton**; to add item (B) Fireworks Discussion to Old Business. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on street projects: the West Beach Park access is complete. Utility patches and punch list will be completed soon. The Daisy Street Pedestrian Crossing, Daisy Street Sidewalks and Marina’s Drive will all go to bid by November of this year.

Bids will open for the basketball court on May 26th.

Deb Still, the volunteer coordinator, is looking for volunteers. A meeting will be held on May 24th at 4 PM at the Visitor Center for those interested.

Alex Kovach gave a quick update on progress at City Hall. The carpet tiles and laminate are installed. Plumbing and light fixtures will go in next. An electric panel is on a 20-week lead time so a smaller panel will be installed so staff can use the building in June. Once the larger panel is delivered, it will be installed and be efficient for the whole building.

REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A reminder for committees to fill out form and submit to City Hall for record of active committee chair/members and meeting times.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Burr Beckwith, 33 N Dogwood: he is glad that the City and Resort have come to an agreement and encouraged the City Council to accept the agreement. He believes both parties are acting in good faith.

Marcia Neihart, 419 W Main: stated a complaint about new waterline that has been installed in her part of the city. There is air and low water pressure in the line and blue plastic pieces clogging her water fixtures in her home.

Peter Sharp, 625 2nd Place SE: presented his letter of interest for the open City Council position. Is concerned about the City giving water rights to the Resort and local residents not having access to the mineral water.

Lee Er, 625 2nd Place SE: wanted to know the details of the agreement with the Resort and wanted to know when a decision would be made.

Raymond Gravel, 119 1st St N: said that the negotiations for the agreement between the City and the Resort have taken over six months. Per RCW 90.14.180, the rights are lost after 5 years on non-use. The agreement is non-exclusive. The Resort wishes to honor Resolution 2016-848 and put forth a business plan that allows conservation of the mineral water. He urged City Council Members to accept the proposed agreement.

Judith Gorman, 207 Ginkgo St: she believes that the Council's decision is very important. She moved here because of the Lake and believes the health of the Lake is important. She also believes the Resort owners are committed to the health of the Lake.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Mineral Water Right Agreement – **M/Rushton, S/Bratton**; to accept the Mineral Water Rights Access & Use Agreement. **Motion Passed**. Councilmembers Woodhouse, Arnold and Taylor voted “Nay”. Mayor Agliano broke the tie vote with “Aye”. This was a lengthy discussion between Councilmembers. Mayor Agliano stressed that this agreement was only for water right and the Resort still needs to get various permits for the development of a mineral water system for the Resort to use. Councilmembers seemed concerned about the fee stated in the agreement. City Attorney Norton said that the agreement allows for the fee to be adjusted and a 3% increase in the fee per year. Councilmember Arnold was still concerned about not having the mineral water metered. City Planner Piercy was asked about permitting process and answered Council's questions regarding SLMC.
- B. Fireworks Discussion – this discussion was tabled by Councilmember Arnold and brought back for discussion on this evening's agenda by Mayor Agliano. **M/Rushton, S/Bratton**; to approve a ban on private fireworks within the City of Soap Lake's city limits. **Motion Passed**. Councilmembers Woodhouse and Arnold voted “Nay”. Mayor Agliano reminded Council that Chief Sheppard is and has been in favor of the City taking action to ban private fireworks within the city limits. Chief Cox encouraged the Council to set aside tourism funds during the budgeting process to go towards a fireworks show sponsored by the City for the 4th of July events that could be planned in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof – **M/Bratton, S/Arnold**; to authorize the Mayor or her designee to sell the personal property items in any commercially reasonable manner and to execute necessary documents to complete the sale and conveyance of the personal property items. **Motion carried unanimously**. Surplus vehicles will be sold directly to Guardian Fleet Safety for the total amount of \$18,000.00. This resolution is numbered 2022-976.
- B. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof – **M/Arnold, S/Rushton**; to authorize the Mayor or her designee to sell the personal property items in any commercially reasonable manner and to execute necessary documents to complete the sale and conveyance of the personal property items. **Motion carried unanimously**. Surplus body cameras will be sold directly to the Missoula Police Department for the total amount of \$1,000.00. This resolution is numbered 2022-977.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

City Administrator Tijerina – the power has been out at City Hall off and on since last Wednesday. This has interrupted the City’s phone lines. Everything should be up and running now.

Police Chief Cox – The PD is using Public Safety Testing for background checks and hiring process for new applicants. If you know of anyone interested in law enforcement, send them this information. Chief addressed the mass of traffic cones placed along Daisy Steet last week. This was not done by the Police Department and was addressed by contacting the Department of Transportation.

City Planner Piercy – the School District has applied for a permit to remodel the elementary school, giving access to the second floor for expansion of classrooms. Construction should start in June once school is out for the summer. The City is still receiving permits for single family construction. City Council was reminded that he will be leaving his position soon and can start the process for his replacement.

Mayor Agliano – The City Council will accept letters of intent from residence that are interested in the open City Council Position. Letters will be accepted through May 31, 2022 and should be sent to City Hall. Those interested need to have residency of at least 1 year and be at least 18 years old. Notice will be placed on the City’s website and posted around town/in the paper. Applicants should attend the June 1, 2022 Council Meeting where they will be interviewed by Councilmembers. An Executive Session will follow to allow Councilmembers to review applications, and then a new member will be appointed.

Public Works – the Mayor said that paving will be this Friday and next Friday along Main Street.

Next Ordinance #1330; Next Resolution #978

COMMENTS

Councilmember Taylor asked if the speed limit sign could be placed along Main St. due to the complaints of the construction workers speeding.

ADJOURNMENT

M/Arnold, S/Rushton; move to adjourn at 6:40 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Michelle Agliano, Mayor

Jody Siebert, Administrative Assistant