

MINUTES REGULAR SOAP LAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kovach called the regular council meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Mayor Kovach, Agliano, Arnold, Bratton, Sanderson, and Still.

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

AGENDA ITEMS

- **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – July 21, 2021
 - B. Claim EFTs & Claims #21121-21148 in the amount of \$134,966.91
 - C. Payroll EFTs & Claims #26105-26108 in the amount of \$45,437.22
- **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**
- **REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Park Bathroom & Garbage Maintenance Preliminary Proposal
- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Special Event Permit – Lake & Land Day
 - B. Traffic Safety Grant
 - C. City Council Vacancy
 - D. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof
- **REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS**
- **NEXT ORDINANCE #1319; NEXT RESOLUTION #963**
- **COMMENTS**
- **ADJOURNMENT**

M/Arnold, S/Bratton; move to excuse Councilmembers Rushton and Agliano from this evening's meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Councilmember Agliano joined the meeting on-line at 5:33pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The RV Campground lease was approved by both parties and signed. There will be a slight transition period. The bathrooms/showers should be open now with daily maintenance. Contractors on the small works roster will begin to submit bids for the City Hall renovations. All bids should be received by August 10th and winning bid will be presented to Council at the August 18th meeting.

Mayor wanted to thank former Council Member Tweedy for his service to the community. He thanked him for his mentoring and involvement with the Policy Committee.

REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Mona Keiser gave an update on the basketball court going in at Smokiam Park. She showed a photo of the proposed final design of the court to include basketball stand and court which will feature the City of Soap Lake logo in the center. The committee will send this out to bid in late 2021 and hope to have construction start in 2022. They are looking at other grant monies to possibly move the powerlines underground and pay for benches and garbage receptacles.

She also gave an update on the playground equipment at Lauzier Park. Someone had stolen the bolts from the equipment, so the area was roped off for most of the summer. The specialty bolts have been ordered and are expected to arrive soon. She would like the maintenance department to contact her about spray used on the field to control clover and dandelions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marcia Neihart, 419 Main Ave W: commended the Mayor on his effort to get the garbage picked up in the park.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Park Bathroom & Garbage Maintenance Preliminary Porposal – The Mayor shared a presentation with the Council outlining past and current expenditures/revenue for the parks. With a goal to create revenue to pay for continued maintenance and upgrades to the bathrooms and daily garbage pick-up, the Mayor proposed implementing a parking fee for West Beach and eventually Smokiam Park. As this is a preliminary proposal, the Mayor asked for input from Council Members and would like to take steps to have public feedback and input from the Parks Committee. All ideas and concerns will be considered as this proposal develops over the next few months.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Special Event Permit- Lake & Land Day- **M/Sanderson, S/Bratton**; to approve the special event permit for Lake & Land Day. **Motion carried unanimously.** Debbie Noah explained that there would not be a land race this year, but the paddle relay and moonlight paddle events would proceed. There will not be food vendors, but participants and visitors will be encouraged to support local businesses.

- B. Traffic Safety Grant – **M/Arnold, S/Bratton**; to approve acceptance of the traffic safety grant from WASPC in the amount of \$910.00 to purchase two Sector scanners and one Sector printer. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- C. City Council Vacancy – Council Member Tweedy has resigned from Council as of the end of July. The Mayor explained several options to fill the position. Council agreed to ask Karen Woodhouse, who is currently running unopposed for this position, to attend the next Council Meeting. She could then be nominated and appointed by Council to fulfill the remaining term that was left by Councilmember Tweedy.
- D. A Resolution Declaring Certain Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the Sale and or Disposal Thereof – **M/Sanderson, S/Arnold**; move to approve the resolution declaring certain personal property surplus and authorizing the Mayor or his 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.** The suburban will be traded directly to Guardian Fleet Safety from Clear Lake, MN. This resolution is numbered 2021-963.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

City Administrator Tijerina – Would like to schedule a budget retreat for next Monday. Council agreed to meet at Gate 17 at 1:00 pm.

He will also be preparing for a financial and accountability state audit. One audit was just completed, but this one will cover January- December of 2020. The state will also be auditing grant monies received as the total went over \$750,000.00 due to water and sewer projects.

Chief Cox – He would like to encourage residents with complaints to contact the police department before posting on social media. The Facebook page is not a forum for complaints, but a platform for information.

Fire Chief Sheppard – Average calls are 28-34 a month, but his department received over 125 calls since June 1st. An anonymous donor gave \$765.00 for the purchase of equipment to aid in cleaning the mouth out of an unconscious person. Reminded residents that free smoke detectors are available if you need a replacement or new installation.

City Planner Piercy – The Shoreline Plan will be updated next year as is required by the state every six years. Look for upcoming meeting dates to be announced as much public participation is anticipated.

Building permits are still low due to lumber prices.

Next Ordinance #1319; Next Resolution #964

COMMENTS

Councilmember Sanderson is still working with NCRL for library sign updates. And Marshall Signs will begin work on new welcome sign for entry into Soap Lake.

Chief Cox said new decals for Public Work's and City's vehicles have been applied.

Councilmember Still said new Soap Lake Volunteer Facebook page is up and running. Opportunities for volunteers and forms are available on the site.

Councilmember Arnold wanted to thank the first responders for all their hard work. And gave kudos to the Mayor for his efforts in cleaning up garbage in City Parks and pulling weeds around City Hall building.

ADJOURNMENT

M/Arnold, S/Still; move to adjourn at 6:37 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Alex Kovach, Mayor

Jody Siebert, Administrative Assistant