

MINUTES REGULAR SOAP LAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Bratton, Bryson, DuPuy, Taylor and Woodhouse.

City Staff Members Present: Police Chief Cox, Finance Clerk Treasurer Wade, City Planner Kovach and Administrative Assistant Siebert.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes CORRECTED – April 19, 2023
 - B. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2023
 - C. Claim EFTs & Claims #22435-22463 in the amount of \$40,804.54
 - D. Payroll EFTs & Claims #22436-26324 in the amount of \$48,067.60
- **MAYOR’S MESSAGE**
- **REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Spring & Fall Clean Up
 - B. Status of High Hill Property/GCHD Letter
 - C. City Hall Business Hours of Operation
 - D. Suds N Sun Special Event Application
- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Maintenance Agreement Between the City and WSDOT for Installation of the RRFB at the Crossing of Daisy Street at 3rd Ave SE
 - B. Weekend Vendor Change
- **REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS**
- **NEXT ORDINANCE #1338; NEXT RESOLUTION #997**
- **COMMENTS**
- **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember DuPuy asked that Old Business item (C) be added as: City Hall Business Hours of Operation. Councilmember Woodhouse asked that Old Business item (D) be added as: Suds N Sun Special Event Application.

M/DuPuy, S/Bratton; to excuse Councilmember Rushton from this evening’s Council Meeting.
Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Mayor Agliano read the resignation letter from Councilmember Sanderson. She has resigned her position as Councilmember position number 6.

Mayor Agliano will be attending the AWC Business Meeting in June. This meeting will be held in Spokane. She encouraged Councilmembers to attend the meeting online on Thursday, June 22, from 4:00 pm – 5:45 pm.

The sewer lines will be relocated at the Soap Lake RV Park. The tree roots are causing problems with the pipes in their current location.

Filing deadline for those interested in running for open Council positions is this Friday at 4:00 pm.

She would like Councilmembers to consider filling positions on active committees.

Council Workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 31st, at Cloudview from noon to 4PM. There will be no Workshop on the 24th.

REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Economic Development: Councilmember Bryson gave a reminder for the meeting to be held tomorrow at 6PM at the Soap Lake Library. Discussion will focus on preliminary applications for joining the Creative District. She also mentioned the success of the recent Lava Links Sand Blaster Open. Everyone had lots of fun and the event was covered in the local newspaper.

Councilmember Taylor, speaking for the Lake Liaison Committee, said the Outstanding Resource Water process is ongoing and July will bring opportunity for public comments. When a location and time are announced for this, she will pass along the information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mel Kovach, 913 3rd Ave NW – Caulkins Guitar Duo will give premier performance of “Dry Falls” this Saturday, May 20th, from 4-5 PM at the Soap Lake Natural Spa & Resort.

Alli Larson, 1176 Hwy 28 – shared her concerns about the High Hill property and the unsightly dumping of debris. She would like the City to clean up the property. Mayor Agliano invited her to make a comment during Old Business item (B).

Peter Sharp, 65 2nd Pl SE – said that the Soap Lake Police Department is doing a good job.

Mayor Agliano read a letter from Daniel Morgan, - he would like the Council to consider adding direct postal service delivery of mail to Soap Lake residences.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Spring & Fall Clean UP – After Council discussion, this item was tabled by Councilmember Bryson. The Mayor will gather more information to help answer Councilmember’s questions and this item will be revisited next meeting.
- B. Status of High Hill Property/GCHD Letter – Local resident, Alli Larson, shared her concerns about a letter that she had received in June 2021 from GCHD. She feels that the City has dumped used road asphalt and concrete from City projects onto

the property and is not doing anything to clean up the property or maintain security on the property to prevent further dumping. Mayor Agliano said that the City had also received a letter in June 2021 and more recently a follow-up letter in April 2023. The City took action in 2021 to secure the entry of the property by locking the gate and no longer dumping any debris on the land. However, the lock has been broken, the fencing cut and debris has been dumped by trespassers. The photos received by the City in 2023 show new areas of dumping which were not done by the City. The Mayor has been talking with City Attorney Norton on a solution. The cost to apply for a solid waste permit and subsequent clean up will be brought to Council either during the upcoming Council Workshop or Council Meeting. This item was then tabled by Mayor Agliano.

- C. City Hall Business Hours of Operation – Councilmember DuPuy made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Woodhouse, to have the current ordinance stating that the City Hall would be open Monday – Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm (found in Municipal Code 2.16.010) used to designate current hours of business for City Hall staff. After much discussion, Councilmember DuPuy amended his motion. **M/DuPuy, S/Woodhouse**; motion to use the hours of operation for City Hall stipulated in the Employee Handbook, which is Monday – Friday from 8 am to 5 pm with one hour lunch. **Motion carried unanimously.** Mayor Agliano said that the new hours of operation will start on Monday. Councilmember DuPuy still has concerns about overtime being paid to City Hall staff and would like this topic revisited.
- D. Suds N Sun Special Event Permit – Susan Carson would like Council approval of the upcoming event so that event planning can move forward. The application has been turned into City Hall, but Council has not been able to review. This item was tabled by Councilmember Bryson. In the meantime, planning for the event will continue as the permit will most likely be approved by Council at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Maintenance Agreement Between the City and WSDOT for Installation of the RRFB at the Crossing of Daisy Street at 3rd Ave SE – **M/Bryson, S/Woodhouse**; move to approve GMB 1234 Construction and Maintenance Agreement for Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon. **Motion carried unanimously.** Routine maintenance for this item is expected to be a change of battery once every three years.
- B. Weekend Vendor Change – Susan Carson presented a range of fee changes for special events held in the City. Although the current fees were changed not too long ago to reflect the City’s cost, Carson feels that lowering the fees will attract more vendors and encourage them to participate in several events throughout the year. Since this may need to be reviewed by the City Attorney and passed by a resolution, this item was tabled by Councilmember Bratton.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

City Planner Kovach – He will be gone next Council Meeting because he is attending the Soap Lake Prevention Coalition’s Key Leader Event along with Ryan Boldman, the Coalition’s Co-Ordinator.

He gave a reminder for the Public Hearing regarding the SEPA Checklist from Rocky Dessert Properties LLC. The Hearing will be Monday, May 22, 2023, at 5 PM at the Soap Lake Community and Senior Center.

And, some national building code requirements were recently updated. These updates will be implemented into the City’s code starting July 1st.

Police Chief Cox – Next week, he will be attending Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) in Spokane, and the following week, the National Traffic Safety Conference in Wenatchee.

Governor Inslee called a special session this week to address the possession of controlled substances. HB 5536 was signed and makes knowingly possessing or use of a controlled substance a gross misdemeanor.

Next Ordinance #1338; Next Resolution #997

COMMENTS

Councilmember Bryson encouraged residents to have lunch at the Senior Center. The cost is \$8. for members and \$10. For non-members.

Councilmember Taylor would like the City Staff’s notification to residence of any construction effecting parking or scheduled water shut-offs to be communicated in a timely manner.

ADJOURNMENT

M/Bratton, S/Bryson; move to adjourn at 7:13 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Agliano, Mayor

Jody Siebert, Administrative Assistant