

CITY OF DELTA, UTAH
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2010

PRESENT

Gayle Bunker	Mayor
Robert Banks	Council Member
Bruce Curtis	Council Member
John Niles	Council Member
Tom Stephenson	Council Member
Betty Jo Western	Council Member

ABSENT

Gregory Schafer	City Recorder
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ALSO PRESENT

Kaela Jackson	City Attorney
Alan Riding	Public Works Director
Karen Johnson	Assistant City Recorder
Nathan Ipson	Boy Scout
Martha Ipson	Boy Scout Parent
Matt Broderick	Boy Scout
Kim Broderick	Boy Scout Parent

Mayor Bunker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He stated that notice of the time, place and agenda of the meeting had been posted at the City Building, on the Utah Public Notice website and provided to the Millard County Chronicle/Progress and to each member of the City Council at least two days prior to the meeting.

Council Member John Niles provided opening remarks following which Mayor Bunker led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

The proposed minutes of a Regular City Council Meeting held March 4, 2010 were presented for consideration and approval. Mayor Bunker requested that "Delta City" be inserted on the blank line on page 4, line 30. Council Member Robert Banks MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held March 4, 2010, as corrected. The motion was SECONDED by Council Member John Niles. Mayor Bunker asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Council reviewed the accounts payable, a copy of which had been given to them two days prior to the meeting. Following review, Council Member Bruce Curtis MOVED to approve the accounts payable, dated March 18, 2010, in the amount of \$12,375.45. The motion was SECONDED by Council Member Tom Stephenson. Mayor Bunker asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments from the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MAYOR GAYLE BUNKER: COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE (U.S. CENSUS)

Mayor Bunker advised Council Members he had talked to one of the census trainers last week and told her we had concerns about whether the hispanic community would be afraid to complete and return the census form. He also suggested the census workers contact local dairies and other businesses which employ a number of hispanic workers in an attempt to answer any questions they may have about the census form.

Council Member Betty Jo Western reported that some local census workers had come to Delta Technical Center to put up a spanish language census poster in the building. They also asked for other locations where the posters could be placed. They planned to place posters in restaurants and hispanic specialty stores. Local census workers are being instructed to dispel myths associated with the census and stress the importance of the hispanic population completing the census form.

Following discussion, Council Member Betty Jo Western MOVED to continue encouraging completion and return of the 2010 U.S. Census form. The motion was SECONDED by Council Member John Niles. Mayor Bunker asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

MAYOR GAYLE BUNKER: WEST MILLARD MUSUEMS AND COMMUNITY CENTER

Mayor Bunker stated that he had visited with some members of the community who either do not know or are misinformed about what we are attempting to accomplish with the proposed museum and community center facility. Mayor Bunker also noted that Council Member Banks and Council Member Curtis are the only Council Members which were in office when the project began. Mayor Bunker reviewed the process of how and why we got to this point with the project. Great Basin

Museum needs more space and it needs to be located on Main Street. About the same time Great Basin was discussing their need for additional space, Topaz Museum expressed desire to build a museum because they have very little display space for the historical items they have obtained. A short time later, Daughters of Utah Pioneers expressed interest in having a place to display items they have collected. Several areas along Main Street were discussed as possible sites for a museum facility.

Around the time the museums were discussing their goals, the Law family expressed interest in selling their property on Main Street and members of Great Basin and Topaz museums felt that would be the best location for a museum facility because of its proximity to the City park. The parcel of property was purchased by Great Basin Museum and Delta City. In addition, an approximately ½ acre parcel was purchased across 50 South Street for additional parking. The property purchases were completed in about 2004-2005.

A Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) \$30,000 matching grant was received for museum planning. The planning process took approximately one year then bids were received from architects for plan drawings, with Alan Kawasaki being chosen to draw plans for the facility.

We are now at the point where funds are needed to begin construction on the facility. Topaz Museum recently received a \$100,000 grant for the museum and Great Basin Museum has received a \$100,000 grant. An appointment has been set up to speak with Jim Hewlitt, of Intermountain Power Agency. IPA has committed their assistance in construction of the facility but we have not discussed how much financial assistance they will provide. Topaz Museum has been doing a great deal of fund raising in the San Francisco Bay area. Delta City has been lobbying with state and federal legislators for the past four years to obtain funding toward construction. Of the four entities involved, Topaz Museum and Delta City have greater ability to raise funds than either Great Basin Museum or Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

Mayor Bunker is in favor of building the West Millard Museums and Community Center for two reasons: 1) it will improve our Main Street and appear that we care about our community; and 2) the facility can be an economic boost to our business community by bringing people to town. People who come to our town and stay for a day spend money in our community. Statistics show that 90,000 people visited Great Basin National Park last year and there is a great deal of “nothing” between Delta and the park. Mayor Bunker feels that, along with the improvements we have made to our city park, building the museum facility will encourage more people to stop and spend some time here.

Mayor Bunker is concerned that people in the community do not know what is going on with the project and we have had limited attendance at the public hearings. Mayor Bunker asked for suggestions to get citizens to come and express their concerns because public meeting notices do not get their attention. Mayor Bunker stated that funds for construction and maintenance of the facility will have to come from sources other than tax payer funds or the facility will not be built. Attempts are being made to obtain adequate funds to create an endowment for facility maintenance and

operation.

Mayor Bunker indicated that there is some concern about the windows in the architect's drawings and how they would be cleaned but noted that the glass front could possibly be eliminated because of cost. There could be numerous changes in the design before the building is constructed. He asked for suggestions for getting the public informed because public meetings do not bring people to the meeting. Council Member Tom Stephenson agreed that people do not understand that they are not going to be taxed to build the facility but felt that, if built, it will draw a lot of people who are driving through and are ready to take a break. When Council Member Stephenson owned a service station in Delta, he had many travelers ask where the museum was located.

Suggestions for getting information to the public included: 1) create a public relations group to get information out and provide answers to possible questions, 2) mail out a one page insert to local residents, 3) have a newspaper article written about the project, 4) put flyers in stores showing the facts of the project; 5) distribute flyers to schools for children to take to their parents.

Mayor Bunker indicated that we will not get large manufacturing companies to come to Delta so we need to look at what assets we have that will bring people to the area, and most of those have to do with natural resources. We will have industries which mine salt, fossils, beryllium, or other elements available in the area, or we will have people come to our area for rockhounding.

Mayor Bunker thanked all of those who had made comments.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR ALAN RIDING: UPDATE ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

Public Works Director Riding advised Council Members that public works employees continue changing water meters to radio read meters, and we currently have seven meters that have not yet been changed. They are also working on the fence at the airport.

Public works employees cleared tree roots from a sewer main. The roots had originated in a sewer lateral line and the roots moved into the main line. There was no damage or loss associated with the sewer problem. A tow truck driver ran over a fire hydrant on Saturday night so employees had to make repairs, but the business owner has agreed to reimburse Delta City for costs of the repairs.

While attending the Rural Water Association of Utah conference earlier this month, it was learned that the arsenic in drinking water ruling is going to be reopened for further study. When the Environmental Protection Agency made the ruling, it was based on a study done in Taiwan and, to this date, there has only been one study on the effects of arsenic in drinking water done in the United States, and that study was done in west Millard County. The Environmental Protection Agency refused to use the information gathered in that study because it was not a true cross-sectional study of the U.S. population. It is possible that the ruling will be "softened" when further studies are completed. If the rule is softened, we will be able to put one well back on line which measures just

barely over the current limit.

Council Member Tom Stephenson asked what is taking place at 300 South and 300 East where brush is being removed. Public Works Director Riding indicated that the property has recently been purchased. The new owner is not developing it at this point but is talking about the possibility of a subdivision at some point.

Mayor Bunker asked Public Works Director Riding to report on the skate park. Public Works Director Riding told Council Members there had been some damage to the skate park, the parks maintenance building and the park restrooms so the skate park has been closed. Information was provided today as to the suspects responsible for the damage so the skate park will be reopened next week.

Council Member John Niles thanked Public Works Director Riding for replacing the street sign at Manzanita Avenue and Main Street.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Bruce Curtis reported that he had attended Millard County Fire District meeting last evening where discussion was held regarding refacing the Delta Fire Department building. They were in favor of refacing the building with stucco, and they have requested bids for the project. The fire district requested assistance from Delta City in paying for the project. Council Member Curtis will report back to the Council when bids are received and provide the amount they are requesting that Delta City pay toward the project.

Council Member Betty Jo Western reported that the sign at the trailer park has graffiti and questioned whether we or the owner is going to clean the sign. Public Works Director Riding advised Council Members that ownership of the property has recently changed, and the new owner is going to replace the sign.

Council Member Western asked if Utah Department of Transportation is responsible for sweeping Main Street quarterly. Public Works Director Riding stated that, in the past, that has been the practice of UDOT; however, with current budget cuts, that is one of the budget cut areas so, if we want Main Street swept, we need to do it ourselves.

Council Member Western reported a resident who was upset about the cost of irrigation water and

that the ditch going to his home had been covered. Mayor Bunker responded that the same resident talked to him, and the ditch has been reopened. It was temporarily covered to allow access for equipment to clean a neighbor's property. Council Member Western asked if we cover ditches that are not being used. Public Works Director Riding responded that unused ditches are covered for safety and maintenance issues and to reduce risk to the city because abandoned ditches become hazards. Mayor Bunker indicated that he had talked to Mr. Woolsey and told him the reason the ditch was covered and that the ditch would be reopened right away. Mr. Woolsey had no questions about whether he was losing his right to irrigation water. Council Member Tom Stephenson asked if we have an ordinance stating that ditches that have not been used for a period of time can be covered and, if not, do we need to adopt such an ordinance. Mayor Bunker told Council Member Stephenson that we do not have an ordinance governing irrigation ditches. History has been that, if a ditch has been abandoned for a year or two and there is no intent to use it, the ditch will be covered.

Council Member Western reintroduced the possibility of purchasing a new marquee sign to be placed on Main Street. The marquee sign which was purchased from Bona Signs in 1997 cost \$27,000. She has requested additional information from Bona Signs on the cost of upgrading the current sign but she has not received an estimate from them. She had spoken with Salt Creek Signs in Nephi who thought it would take \$5,000 to \$10,000 to do a technology upgrade of the existing sign. Council Member Western noticed from meeting minutes when purchase of the sign was approved that Council Members agreed to keep the sign operating. Council Member Western requested that upgrade of the sign be discussed at a future meeting. Mayor Bunker stated that the sign became a maintenance headache when light bulbs burned out faster than they could be replaced and maintenance parts became difficult to obtain.

Mayor Bunker reported that we have received approval from the Pentagon for a July 4th flyover this year. Mayor Bunker indicated that Council Members had previously agreed to honor Korean War veterans as Grand Marshals for our celebration this year and asked if Council Members were in agreement to go ahead with honoring them as our Grand Marshals. Council Members agreed to honor Korean War Veterans as Grand Marshals for our 2010 Fourth of July celebration.

Mayor Bunker stated that Greg Schafer is scheduled to see his doctor the end of March and, if everything is still looking good, he will be able to return to work. However, he will be limited to sitting in his wheelchair for an hour or so and will need to get out of the chair and lay down for a period of time. Mayor Bunker proposed that he and Greg could trade offices to provide room to place a sofa in Greg's office. He could then lie down without the need to go home for his rest periods and would still be able to do some work from the sofa. Mayor Bunker proposed that Delta

City purchase the sofa to be placed in the office at a cost of approximately \$800.00. Council Members agreed to purchase a sofa to be placed in Greg's office. The matter will be placed on the agenda for ratification at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Bunker asked if there were any comments, questions or other items to be discussed. There being none, Council Member John Niles MOVED to adjourn the meeting. The motion was SECONDED by Council Member Tom Stephenson. Mayor Bunker asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bunker declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



GAYLE BUNKER, Mayor



GREGORY JAY SCHAFAK, MMC, City Recorder

MINUTES APPROVED: RCCM 04-01-10