

MINUTES OF AN EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL
MEETING HELD AT THE SANTAQUIN CITY HALL
SEPT. 2, 1987

Meeting was opened at 7:07 p.m. by Mayor Kevin Steadman. LaMar Openshaw led the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation was offered by Chuck Greenland. Those in attendance were: Mayor Steadman, Councilmen Pust, Jones & Openshaw with Goudy arriving at 7:20 and Adcock at 7:30.

Chuck Greenland-International Institute of Municipal Clerks : Meeting to be held Oct 22 & 23 in Salt Lake City. Permission requested to attend. It is usually held in Denver, Phoenix, San Francisco etc. which we have never been able to attend. The cost is \$85.00. Openshaw motioned that Chuck be allowed to attend, Jones second, vote unanimous.

USF&G Insurance survey recommendations : In March a representative from our Fire Insurance company made a survey of City owned properties and made some recommendations that should be considered. Fire extinguishers in the City Hall, at the snack bar and in the rental units; smoke detectors in the rental units, barricade by the A/C unit behind City Hall, roof and chimney repaired on rental units, trash cleaned up etc. Mayor Steadman suggested that the City crew do the cleanup and locate smoke detectors & fire extinguishers and install them. Jones motioned to do so, Pust seconded, vote unanimous.

New Business Licenses : ElRay Davis-Agricultural, Seasonal to sell produce at his home which has been raised in the County.

Marilyn Anthony-Preschool-Home occupation has been approved by Planning & Zoning Commission;

Joe Christensen-Aerial Photography-Home Industry, has been approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilman Pust motioned to grant the licenses, Goudy seconded, vote unanimous.

Bonding for Old School : The architect has stated that the \$170,000 he has shown for remodeling the City Center portion can be adjusted in many ways. The previous figure of \$22-25,000 was for mechanical system only. The tour on Saturday will help Council to make the decision. Sr. Citizens to be invited to attend that tour.

Approval of those who will be authorized to sign at Stringham Hardware : The names approved to sign were: George Higginson, Ed Neff, Dennis Barnes, Wade Eva, Ramona Rosenlund, Cheryl Russell, Ralph Coomes, LaRue Jarvis, Brad Peterson & Joe Davis. Sherman Jones motioned for the above approval, Openshaw seconded, vote unanimous.

Bids for replacing sidewalk 50 West Main to 100 West Main : Property owners have asked the City to go 50-50 on the cost. The bid for 255 ft x 13 ft was \$2200.00. The City partially agreed to go half of that cost. (This was in Feb or March of this year). For curb & gutter the cost would be \$4200.00. The State has been asked to repair the curb & gutter and have refused. The decision was delayed pending the resolution of the budget problem.

Budget deficit resolution : Earl Andrews informed the Council that there was

an outside possibility that, because of the clerical error, the City could still have a tax increase but it would have to be done immediately. He talked to the County Auditors Office today. The increase would be \$45,000 which would average \$54 per household or 15¢ per day. Earl suggested that the cuts be considered and that the City also pursue the tax increase as an alternative so that there will be a resolution tonight one way or another. Mayor Steadman stated that there were three alternatives: 1) Cut services; 2) Raise Taxes or 3) A combination of the two. A poll of the Council indicated that there would not be support for a tax increase. Councilman Pust suggested that the City reduce the total staff by one policeman, one parks and cemetery employee, have no comp time allowed and eliminate the Council and Mayor compensation. Art stated that he didn't want to see the Police Dept reduced, as 2 officers can't cover the City. The receipts would be cut as well as the liability increased. Councilman Jones proposed that the City crew be cut from 5 to 2 men during the winter months, then rehire in the Spring. He also suggested that the Library be closed during the school year while the school library is available to the children. Councilman Openshaw suggested that one working foreman with 2 men under him could handle the City. He also said that he hated to see the Library open when there was no one out maintaining the streets and parks, so he suggested that the library remain open but be handled by the City Office crew. Councilman Goudy told about the Library being on a separate levy so that if it were closed the funds could not be touched for any other purpose. She felt that the City expenses have already been cut to the bare bones and that a tax increase is the only alternative. She had no other suggestions for cuts. Councilman Adcock asked what there might be in the budget (like the rodeo) which could be cut without hurting anyone. Goudy suggested that cemetery opening/closing fees be raised to \$175. This would bring in about \$2500/yr. Adcock objected to charging that much when the plot for 1 grave costs only \$100. Openshaw agreed that the rates should be raised but that wouldn't balance the budget. Mayor suggested that those type of increases be noted to be addressed at a future Council meeting. The employees were asked for their suggestions to decrease expenses. Ed Neff stated that there could be approx \$1-2000 savings in miscellaneous expenses in his dept. Raising the rent on the Bowery was suggested by Joe Davis but that would increase total revenue by such a miniscule amount that the suggestion was added to the one for the cemetery fees to be brought up at a later meeting. Chief Coomes suggested that the raise previously approved for the Judge, be rescinded. Earl Andrews stated that there was another, minor possibility. The City could borrow about \$350,000 on a bond anticipation note on which could be made an extra 1-1 1/2% by investment. This could bring in another \$3500-5000. Mayor Steadman placed each suggestion on the blackboard and each one was discussed in turn. By reducing the Police force by one, \$21,000 could be saved in wages & benefits but the income he would generate would be reduced so that net saving would be approx \$7,000. To reduce to one working foreman would save \$29,000. The Library funds could not be used for the general fund so nothing could be saved by eliminating the library. The suggestion was made that the Library should pay its fair share of heat, light, telephone etc. for the City Hall building.

In summary, Mayor Steadman stated that the following were possibilities:

Eliminate one Police Officer	save \$7000
Eliminate salaries for Council & Mayor	save 5400
" one person in Parks & Cemetery	" 14700
by having a summer/winter crew	" 48700
Library	" -0-
by having one working foreman	" 29000

He then asked for further discussion and suggestions. He asked for a vote for those in favor of eliminating one Police Officer. No one voted in favor. A

poll of the Council indicated that there was a unanimous agreement at this time to abolish the Mayor/Council compensation. After a discussion of who would be laid off Councilman Goudy stated that the tax increase must still be considered as the only alternative. The Council has done its best at the cuts now the tax increase must come. She felt that the citizens would agree. Adcock stated that the County has indicated that a tax increase is still feasible. The one already indicated on the tax notice would bring in \$14,000, cutting the Council Mayor wages would save \$5400, cutting one City employee would save \$14700 for a total of \$34,000. The Pro-Benefit savings would be at least \$20,000. Counting only half of that would balance the budget. Earl indicated that the earlier tax increase may not be a possibility, as the clerical error might be the only criterion on which to base the request to the County for a tax increase and that error was \$45,000, not \$12,000.

Mayor Steadman reviewed the prior meetings wherein the citizenry were apparently quite opposed to a tax increase. He stated that even if some industries were to move into the City it would take a number of years before the tax base enhancement would have any effect on the real tax income for the City. He informed everyone that there was a Municipal election coming up and that there were 3 Council seats and the Mayors seat that would be vacant and he encouraged everyone to take an active part in the City by running for those positions.

Councilman Openshaw motioned that the Parks & Cemetery employees be terminated (all 3 of them) for a savings of \$63,471. There was a question as to the validity of the figure, which being resolved, a 2nd was called for and there was none. Mrs. Rosenlund & Cheryl Russell told the Council of the public opinion that taxes should be raised. There is a petition with 130 names of citizens who asked for their taxes to be raised in order for the budget to be balanced. Councilman Jones stated that there was a larger petition with perhaps 300 names of those who did not want taxes raised. Mrs. Rosenlund pointed out that that petition had not been made a part of the official record. Mrs. Rosenlund objected to balancing the budget on the backs of 13 employees rather than on the backs of 2500 residents. Mr. Greenland reviewed the revenue sharing history and the fact that taxes have not been raised nearly as much as they would have been and since revenue sharing is now ended, taxes need to be raised to make up for it. Inflation has tripled in the past 20 years but taxes have gone up less than double.

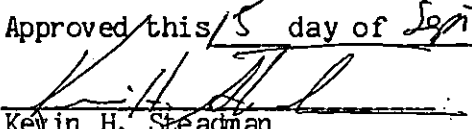
Councilman Goudy motioned that Earl Andrews find out the final details on the possibility of a tax increase in order to pay for the deficit and if they can be raised that they be raised by \$45,000.00. Adcock seconded. Vote: Goudy, Adcock for; Pust, Jones & Openshaw against.

After discussion of alternatives Goudy again motioned as before with the addition of "and then work at building up a surplus for next year which would entail spending as little as possible". Adcock seconded. Vote: Goudy, Adcock and Jones for; Pust and Openshaw against, motion carried.

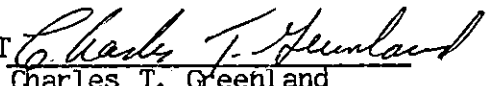
Pust motion to eliminate one employee that works at the cemetery, effectively immediately. Openshaw seconded. Vote unanimous.

Goudy motioned for dismissal of the meeting, Jones second, vote unanimous. Dismissed at 9:45 p.m.

Approved this 5 day of Sept, 1987


Kevin H. Steadman
Mayor

ATTEST


Charles T. Greenland
City Recorder/Clerk