



Hildale / Colorado City Utility Advisory Board

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 6:00 PM

320 East Newel Avenue, Hildale City, Utah 84784

Minutes

Welcome, Introduction and Preliminary Matters: Presiding Officer

Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call of Board Attendees: Utility Management Assistant

PRESENT

Chair Ezra Nielsen
Board Member James Broadbent
Board Member Theil Cooke
Board Member Sterling Jessop, Jr.

ABSENT

Board Member Jesse Barlow

Staff Present: Jerry Postema (Zoom), Nathan Fischer, Athena Cawley, and Maxene Jessop

Public: Roger Carter

Pledge of Allegiance: By Invitation of Presiding Officer

Board Member Jessop led the pledge.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Board Members

None given.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: Board Members

1. Utility Board Minutes of March 28, 2024.

The board discussed the previous minutes with no mentioned changes.

Motion made by Board Member Cooke, to approve the Utility Board Minutes of March 28, 2024.
Seconded by Chair Nielsen.

Voting Yea: Chair Nielsen, Board Member Broadbent, Board Member Cooke, Board Member Jessop, Jr.

Motion carried.

Public Comments: (3 minutes each - Discretion of Presiding Officer)

No public present, no comment

Financial Report:

2. Approval of Utility Financial Report and Invoice Register

Chair Nielsen brought up the Natural Gas import line item and Board Member Cooke asked about the apartment rent used for consultant staff that travel. Director Postema and Nathan Fischer explained the questioned line items in detail.

Motion made by Chair Nielsen, to approve the Financial Report and Invoice Register. Seconded by Board Member Cooke.

Voting Yea: Chair Nielsen, Board Member Broadbent, Board Member Cooke, Board Member Jessop, Jr.

Motion carried.

Reports:

3. Utility Monthly Report

Superintendent Fischer presented the April monthly utility report for Gas, Sewer, and Water operations.

4. Utility Director Report and Updates

Director Postema presented on Administration and Grants.

Unfinished Board Business:

None.

New Board Business:

5. Consideration, discussion, and possible recommendation on the Draft Utility Operations and Maintenance (O&M) FY25 Budget.

Director Postema presented the proposed draft budget for Fiscal Year 2025, expenditures only. Board Member Cooke asked if there would be a cost of living raise for the new year and Director Postema explained that it's up to the City Council's decision. Director Postema explained the proposed budget in detail for the Joint Utility, Water, Sewer, Gas, and Fiber funds. He highlighted the gas fund (propane vs natural gas costs), the PHMSA grant, fiber fund agreements, and possible changes in the future. The Board questioned when the deadline for the budget to be adopted. Roger Carter clarified the deadline for the budget to be adopted and submitted to the Utah State Auditor's office is the first week of June.

Chair Nielsen asked about the TBD items marked in the budget. Director Postema explained that they will be worked through with the City Manager and Council, and then brought back to the Board.

The Board had questions about when the water rate increases would be in effect. Director Postema gave an update that the rate increases are scheduled on the June agenda with the Councils and are scheduled to be in effect in July.

Motion made by Chair Nielsen, to recommend the City Councils accept the Draft Utility Operations and Maintenance (O&M) FY25 Budget. Seconded by Board Member Broadbent.

Voting Yea: Chair Nielsen, Board Member Broadbent, Board Member Cooke, Board Member Jessop, Jr.

Motion carried.

6. Review and discussion of Water Restrictions.

Director Postema presented Water Restrictions as defined in the Water Ordinance. The Board discussed and questioned staff about the water deficiencies and possible outcomes for the summer months.

7. Review and discussion of the Water Ordinance.

Director Postema presented, highlighting the water scarcity section of the Water Ordinance as it pertains to new development and requirements that must be met by developers. The Board discussed the Water Mainline Extensions with Director Postema.

Board Comments: (10 minutes total)

Board members comments of issues not previously discussed in the meeting.

Board Member Cooke asked about the grant progress with representative Maloy's office to do pressure zone improvements. Director Postema responded that it is in the City Manager's hands and hopeful to move forward next year.

Chair Nielsen asked about the status of the Colorado City ARPA Water Project (2 new wells and Raw Water Transmission Line) and Well 17. Director Postema touched on the project's progress and the budget shortfall of funds with the Mohave County ARPA grant. Staff is researching the potential for more grant funds and WIFA loans.

Board Member Broadbent asked about the water restrictions for this year. Discussion was had with the Board over water needs and expanding the system with the current projects.

8. June 2024 Utility Calendar

Chair Nielsen discussed the June calendar with the Board Members and asked if there were items to cover for a June meeting. Director Postema explained that the budget and water rates will be on the agenda with Councils in June. These are the only pressing items at this time. The Board discussed scheduling a future meeting. They agreed to tentatively plan for August 22, 2024, for the next meeting with the option to schedule a meeting earlier if there are items to address. Staff will notify the Board of a meeting.

Executive Session: As needed

None

Infrastructure Improvements Advisory Committee Session: As Needed

None

Adjournment: Presiding Officer

Chair Nielsen adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the Utility Advisory Board Meeting September 9, 2024.

Sirrene J. Barlow

Sirrene J. Barlow, City Recorder

Shirley Zitting

Shirley Zitting, Town Clerk

