

MINUTES OF A JOINT CITY COUNCIL & HYRUM IRRIGATION MEETING HELD JULY 1, 2024 AT THE HYRUM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 60 WEST MAIN, HYRUM, UTAH.

CONVENED: 7:33 P.M.

CONDUCTING: Mayor Stephanie Miller

ROLL CALL: Councilmembers Jared Clawson, Paul James, Michael Nelson, and Craig L. Rasmussen; Hyrum Irrigation Board Members President Jared Clawson, Craig Rasmussen, Stephanie Fricke, Jack Brown, Floyd Burnett; Watermaster Royal Jewkes, Watermaster John Brown, and Dam Tender Kirt Lindley.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Steve Adams

CALL TO ORDER: There being four members present and four members representing a quorum, Mayor Miller called the meeting to order.

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Recorder Hailey Brown recorded the minutes.

WELCOME: Mayor Miller welcomed everyone in attendance and invited audience participation.

AGENDA ADOPTION: A copy of the notice and agenda for this meeting was emailed to The Herald Journal, posted on the Utah Public Notice Website and Hyrum City's Website, provided to each member of the governing body, and posted at the City Offices more than forty-eight hours before meeting time.

ACTION Councilmember Clawson made a motion to approve the agenda for July 1, 2024. Councilmember Rasmussen seconded the motion and Councilmembers Clawson, James, Nelson, and Rasmussen voted aye. The motion passed.

5. SCHEDULED DELEGATIONS

A. Discussion on improvements of Hyrum Dam and approval of Hyrum City working with Hyrum Irrigation Company on delivery of irrigation water for little feeder ditch.

6. ADJOURNMENT

SCHEDULED DELEGATIONS:

DISCUSSION ON IMPROVEMENTS OF HYRUM DAM AND APPROVAL OF HYRUM CITY WORKING WITH HYRUM IRRIGATION COMPANY ON DELIVERY OF

IRRIGATION WATER FOR LITTLE FEEDER DITCH.

Mayor Miller asked Councilmember James to give a brief review of the improvements to be done on Hyrum Dam.

Councilmember James said there has been a discussion on the spillway for nearly twenty years. A design has finally been made and the cost is about fifteen million dollars. The Bureau wasn't going to bid until next fall, but plans have been moved up to December and work will start next fall. The plan is to drain the reservoir over winter to enlarge the outlet and then start redoing the spillway. If the spillway was lost it would be catastrophic. This will be a four-year project. Water was not going to be deliverable to anyone for two years but that has changed to be able to get water to the canals. It is going to be a struggle to get water to the little feeder.

Councilmember Clawson asked if they are anticipating getting 100% water to everyone.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said the plan is 100% unless Wellsville, Mendon, or the pump canal interfere then they will cut them off. The dam was only going to be kept at 30%. Pipe outlets to the dam will be fixed. They will release fifty second feet of water and hoping to get two hundred second feet out at a price tag at six million. Water users will be on the hook for 15% of the cost. With two hundred second feet the reservoir will be held at the level it is in fall when watering is over. The big problem with the little feeder is that the East feed canal poses a problem, but the east field canal is not part of the South Cache Water Users, which are partners with the reservoir. South Cache Water Users is Hyrum, Wellsville, & Wellsville-Mendon. Wellsville is talking about pumping and Kirt Lindley suggested piping the canal. The problem with the little feeder isn't the water level but it runs along the side of the hill and crosses over the top of the spillway. The new spillway will be built and come back down but will need two hundred feet of pipe cut off. It is impossible to build the new spillway and leave the little feeder in service because of the two-hundred-foot span of pvc pipe.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes asked if a different pvc pipe could run down across the old spillway.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said the Bureau will not work around it and it would be a high pump fee.

Councilmember James said Hyrum City could backfill from the irrigation ditch to the feeder ditch.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said he spoke with Water Superintendent Kade Maughan and there are only a few water users including Jack and John Brown, Chad Poppleton, Bobby Ropeleto, and Larry Andher.

Councilmember Rasmussen said he spoke with Water Superintendent Kade Maughan, and it would work to take a ninety off and run straight spool into the ditch to get water to the little feeder. Ag users will have to balance with other users on the East side because of the water outlet going into the pond.

Councilmember Clawson said the secondary inlet must be at a certain level to drop more water in. There shouldn't be scheduling issues getting water into the pond. A few years ago, the city installed measuring devices that failed. The canal shouldn't be an issue, and there are old items inside the inlet that could be removed.

Councilmember James said the city could back feed the water with reclaimed water.

Councilmember Clawson said the water would get co-mingled.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said the guys on the little feeder ditch only use three to four second feet of water at most.

Councilmember Clawson said the field stream is three second feet.

Jack Brown said three second feet of water is plenty, and there needs to be a water schedule.

Councilmember Clawson said he is on a seven day on four days off schedule, so all ag users would need to be coordinated.

Jack Brown said that would work for him.

Councilmember Clawson said it works best to be staggered so the irrigation pond doesn't take a dive. Clawson asked how many days John Brown would need the little feeder to run.

John Brown said about every two weeks for ten days.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said the only kink is Bobby Ropeleto may not water corn for two weeks but once Jack & John Brown water they are basically done until they cut again.

Councilmember Clawson said less water will be received so watering will have to be done differently.

Councilmember Rasmussen said he is confident there will be three second feet of water.

Councilmember James said if modifications have to be made it should be done as part of the reclamation project.

Councilmember Clawson said a six-inch line won't move a lot of water.

Councilmember Rasmussen said the static pressure is sixty psi.

Councilmember Clawson asked if plans needed to be engineered to sustain pressure.

Councilmember James said there should be an engineered stamp.

Stephanie Fricke is wondering if Wellsville East field has shares and if there was an option with Wellsville East field to take pressure off.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said Wellsville East field is thirty-five second feet and isn't sure if it would give more water than the pond. Kirt Lindley would do everything to not deal with Wellsville East field.

Councilmember Michael Nelson said Water Superintendent Kade Maughan showed him where a tee could be dropped into the pond. Michael asked if there was a closer spot water could be taken from the sewer pond to put into the little feeder ditch. Kade said there may be a location on 900 West. Pressure wouldn't be an issue this way but there would be a higher cost.

Councilmember Clawson asked what the psi would be.

Stephanie Fricke said 1500 gallons.

Councilmember Rasmussen said around the time of the project Hyrum City will be getting more water as Millville connects to

the sewer plant, but water may gradually flow as citizens have to connect their own service. A connection on 900 West will be three-four times more expensive as the pump station is already a clean quick tie in. Schedules need to be looked at with the larger ag users as they will have an effect on the water system.

Councilmember Michael Nelson said Water Superintendent Kade Maughan told him they could put a blow up in the house to separate the water.

Stephanie Fricke asked how much water is in the little feeder storage. It was also mentioned that more water could be sent down from the Bureau.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said he doesn't see an issue and long as East field continues to get water. One year the dam didn't fill up because the gate forgot to be shut. On March 15, 2021, water was held all winter before they let it start to spill.

Councilmember Clawson said when Hyrum Dam was built, Hyrum Irrigation received thirty-three-hundred-acre feet. Along the river picks up and loses water from diversion to Hyrum Dam and is gauged right before dropped into the dam. These amounts are deducted from the storage.

Stephanie Fricke said every year there is lots of water sitting at Porcupine Dam and understands it is Hyrum Cities water but asked if the city could work with Hyrum Irrigation to supplement with some Porcupine water.

Councilmember Clawson said the first water to go after would be the exchange water that hasn't been used. Once water drops to a certain level, it should be used. There is six hundred- and sixty-acre feet of exchange water in Porcupine Dam. It is best to keep water held in Porcupine and use the exchange water first.

Stephanie Fricke clarified that it's better for the system to not take water from Porcupine.

Councilmember Clawson said its better if it's not needed.

Stephanie Fricke asked why it wouldn't be needed.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said it wouldn't be needed if the river stayed high enough to satisfy water needs.

Councilmember Clawson said previously a few deep-water wells have been ran and the highline canal ran out August that year.

Councilmember James said it is not a big deal to bring that water down.

Councilmember Clawson said nobody would have a problem bringing that water down and if the water can't suffice what Hyrum City needs then ag users would get cut off.

Councilmember James said water on top is worth more than on bottom, and water is lost either way, so it needs to be monitored.

Councilmember Clawson said there are three main ditches coming out of the canal. The Obarry is a 3/10 split and is not always spilled. Water needs to be monitored on what is taken.

Councilmember James said the city may have to notify residents of a few days they can't water if needed to put water into the little feeder.

Councilmember Rasmussen said only so much water can be brought out of Porcupine Dam through the black pipe.

Councilmember Clawson said Paradise had charged whether water was brought or not which is great if they can guarantee the water.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley asked if there was a way to get water to the pond at the end of the highline canal.

Councilmember Rasmussen said that water goes straight into the irrigation system.

Councilmember Clawson said that water won't do much. He would like the capacity to put water from the reservoir into the pipe there. Clawson told Kirt Lindley he was worried about keeping the pond full.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes said in order to keep the pond full, Hyrum City needs to get the stick rake fixed.

Councilmember Clawson said most of the big items come from 6600 South and agreed the rake needs to be addressed. Cody Mathews

sometimes backs up the water which puts pressure on the canal. Cody could be asked to wait on backing up the water until water is sent to West bench.

Stephanie Fricke said she doesn't want Hyrum Irrigation to impact Hyrum residents as the pond can't fill as fast as it is taken out.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes said Corey Nelson has lines running for a week while on vacation. Royal told Corey the water was draining fast at seven to eight second feet.

Councilmember Nelson said there is also a well next to Clawson Dairy.

Councilmember Clawson said that well is marked strictly for irrigation water because it has too much nitrogen. It has been a source of pride for Hyrum Irrigation and hasn't been turned on during the dry years. It is a high charge to run that well. Before the pond expansion, the pump ran all the time and now with conservation efforts it is not ran much.

Councilmember James said if the pump has to run then the charge on irrigation goes up by a certain percentage.

Councilmember Clawson said the spool up charge is what costs the most.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said if the pump has to run Hyrum Irrigation should be responsible for the bill.

Councilmember Clawson said it depends on what Hyrum Irrigation is doing because they can't control flow.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said in all other towns the irrigation companies are different than the city.

Councilmember James said when the pond was built the city called in all the water shares to own the water.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley explained that Wellsville Irrigation has eighteen hundred second feet and Wellsville City has eleven of the eighteen but the city has nothing to do with cost other than they get charged per acre foot. With Hyrum City, someone has convinced the city to pay for all irrigation. Wellsville Irrigation in the next two years will pressure Wellsville City.

Wellsville City doesn't pay for repairs because they are part of the irrigation system with Wellsville Irrigation.

Councilmember Rasmussen said Hyrum residents turned all shares into the city and the city owns all water outside of the pond.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley asked why Hyrum City wants the pressurized system and not make Hyrum Irrigation take it over.

Councilmember Clawson said Hyrum Irrigation doesn't want the system.

Stephanie Fricke told Watermaster Royal Jewkes that Water Superintendent Kade Maughan is thinking the pond can't fill because of the inlet.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes said when all farmers are sprinkling and the town is using water, the pond would fill up if the rake was fixed.

Councilmember Clawson said once the pond gets full it bails over. If X amount of water is sent, it wants to go past the inlet and bail over. If there is lots of water trying to get down the pipe, all that needs to be done is raise the pipe above by six inches. Clawson doesn't see a problem getting water to the pond.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes said he doesn't see a problem, if the rake is clear water will flow well.

Stephanie Fricke clarified that if the fix is made there will be enough water provided to create a schedule that provides water to the little feeder and helps the East bench.

Councilmember James said this won't be settled overnight. Scheduling needs to be done, fixes need made, and engineering needs done. Hyrum Irrigation needs to be responsible to make changes in the pumphouse.

Councilmember Clawson asked if the Bureau could be approached for a refund.

Councilmember James asked if a cost estimate could be given to propose to South Cache Irrigation.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said if the modifications can be broken

up to be under \$2,500 it doesn't need to be sent through finances.

Councilmember Nelson asked if the dam size will be increased at all.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said the way the project is going now the size won't increase. If the project would have taken as long as anticipated the answer may be different. Several South Cache Water Users want to see if it is feasible to raise the level thirty feet, which would be years down the road.

Watermaster Royal Jewkes asked why the Army Corps engineers don't increase the dam size.

Councilmember Nelson said if there isn't time to do it twice, it should be done right the first time.

Dam Tender Kirt Lindley said right now while the Bureau owns the dam, the State of Utah won't do anything. South Cache Water Users have discussed water users owing no money to the federal government for the reservoir. It was paid off three to four years ago. They can apply for a three-year process to petition to the Bureau to take 3 title to the dam so in other words it will become a private dam. Franson Engineers are looking at feasibility but can't get that done in time to stop the spillway with the construction process speeding up. The Bureau thinks that once South Cache Water Users gets into this for ten to fifteen million dollars then the Bureau has them on the hook for the next fifty years for half a million dollars a year. Casey Snyders take is that he can't get the new spillway stopped and if so, a new spillway would have to be built. Casey said to do a feasibility study and let the Bureau build the new spillway which would make the debt to the Bureau be ten to fifteen million. Hyrum has five million. If the feasibility came back to build the dam up, then pay the remaining ten million and South Cache Water Users take 3 title and build the dam up. This is why this project would be ten years down the road. Kirt mentioned to the engineers to put a thirty-foot spillway gate rather than a twelve-foot gate.

Councilmember Clawson asked what Mayor Millers take was on this discussion.

Mayor Miller said she is good with the discussion but asked instead of raising the dam thirty feet if the silt could be

cleaned out of the dam.

Councilmember Clawson said it wouldn't make any difference.

Dam Tender Kirt Linley said sonar was done on the bottom of the reservoir four years ago there is a quarter inch of silt on the bottom of the reservoir. There hasn't been any storage lost.

ACTION

Councilmember Rasmussen made a motion that Hyrum City coordinate with Hyrum Irrigation to further evaluate backfilling the little feeder ditch from the Hyrum irrigation system as well as getting cost estimates for that, ask Hyrum Irrigation to check their schedules, and potentially send out a letter to adverse users saying if they are caught using water outside of their schedule, they could be subject to fines. Councilmember James seconded the motion and Councilmembers Clawson, James, Nelson, and Rasmussen voted aye. The motion passed.

Councilmember Nelson asked to make an amendment to get the rake in the pond fixed.

ACTION

Councilmember Rasmussen accepted the amendment. Councilmember James seconded the amendment. Clawson, James, Nelson, and Rasmussen voted aye. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

ACTION

There being no further business before the City Council, the Council Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stephanie Miller
Mayor

Stephanie Fricke
City Recorder

Approved: _____
As Written