

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 56 NORTH 100 WEST**

Mayor Melani Torgersen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Blaine Porter, Sally Orme, Lenza Wilson and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. City Attorney Barry Huntington joined electronically. Council members Chad Lyman and Marlene Stowe were excused.

Also present were Margie Weppner, Bill Weppner, Fred Spencer, Karin Simmons, Harriet Priska, Lawrence Barnes, Lindsey Lindsay, Andi Lindsay, Julie Brugger and Terence Tontlewicz.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Council member Orme moved to adopt the agenda as written. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2024 MEETING

Council member Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024 meeting as written. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Wilson, and Orme voting aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HARRIET PRISKA

Ms. Priska presented the Constitution Week Proclamation and asked the mayor to sign it. Ms. Priska read the proclamation (attached).

Ms. Priska explained there will be a Constitution Presentation this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Show House.

LAWRENCE BARNES

Mr. Barnes said there are problems and safety issues at the intersections in town. Mr. Barnes said there are variable signage for speed limits and no yield signs on the side streets. Mr. Barnes asked the council to look at the issue and put signs up.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES

There were no Planning and Zoning updates at this time.

SCHEDULED ITEMS**LINDSEY LINDSAY – DONATION FOR INSURANCE FOR JUNIOR RODEO**

Ms. Lindsay asked if the city would sponsor the insurance coverage for junior rodeo. Ms. Lindsay explained the events. Council member Orme asked how many kids she will be hosting. Ms. Lindsay said she does not have a number yet but this will be a trial run to see if there is enough interest in it. Mayor Torgersen explained Ms. Lindsay tried to go under the umbrella of the youth sports and riding club insurance but their insurance will not cover them. **Council member Porter moved to sponsor the insurance for the Junior Rodeo (attached). Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

KARIN SIMMONS – DONATION FOR ESCALANTE CANYONS ARTS FESTIVAL CHILDREN’S AWARDS

Ms. Simmons said the Escalante Canyons Arts Festival would like to request \$1000.00 to cover the children’s awards and the Mayor award. Council member Orme said the city has set a limit of up to \$700.00 per community event. **Council member Orme moved to donate \$700.00 to the Escalante Canyons Arts Festival. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.**

KARIN SIMMONS – CLOSURE OF 100 NORTH FROM CENTER STREET TO 100 WEST FOR THE ESCALANTE CANYONS ARTS FESTIVAL THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2024 10:00 A.M. TO FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 10:00 A.M.

Ms. Simmons explained the road closure and said it helps the vendors load and unload their supplies. **Council member Porter moved to allow the Escalante Canyons Arts Festival to close one hundred North between Center Street and 100 West September 26 through September 27, 2024. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Wilson and Orme voting aye.**

DELINQUENT UTILITY BILLS

City Attorney Huntington explained this item. **Council member Orme moved to schedule a public hearing for this item. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS**ADMINISTRATIVE**

City Recorder Steed said the budget and financial reports are available for review. City Recorder Steed said the annual audit is scheduled for October.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT**BILL WEPPNER**

Mr. Weppner said they have had one call since the last council meeting.

Mr. Weppner said Graham Fire was here looking at Ladder 1 and it is the diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) system. Mr. Weppner said they have to order parts to fix the truck but Chief Porter can

replace the DEF and coolant tanks. Council member Orme asked if Chief Porter does the work will it void the warranty on the truck. Mr. Weppner said the truck is five years old so there is no warranty left.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN

Mayor Torgersen asked if the Council would like to do a 9/11 city day of service. Council member Wilson asked what has been done in the past. Mayor Torgersen said the City has not done it every year but when we have it has been on a Saturday. Council member Orme said she would like a list of things to do if we do it. This item was discussed at length and decided to have a City wide pick up where people can put stuff in front of their yards and the city employees will pick it up. Council member Porter said he will talk to the public works to see what day will work best for them.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson said with the last rainstorms and flooding there are places in the Airport fence that need to be worked on.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter said Niels Fugal Sons Company will be here in the next few weeks to do the boring under Main Street.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme reported on the landfill violations and said City Treasurer Porter is doing an excellent job reporting to the State. Council member Orme said the City needs to look at a new sign for the Landfill with all the updated requirements.

UNPAID BILLS

Council member Wilson moved to pay the unpaid bills. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Wilson and Porter voting aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council member Porter moved to go into executive session at 6:28 p.m. for a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Council member Wilson amended the motion to go into executive session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and for a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Wilson and Orme voting aye.

Council member Porter moved to go out of executive session and back into regular session at 7:04 p.m. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Wilson and Porter voting aye.

Council member Orme moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Stephanie Steed, MMC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 09/17/2024