

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2025
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, Marlene Stowe, Chad Lyman, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Lenza Wilson was excused.

Also present were DeEtte Spencer, Fred Spencer, Karen Munson and Sharla Poast.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2025 MEETING

Council member Orme moved to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2025 meeting as written. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Lyman, Stowe and Porter voting aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DEETTE SPENCER

Ms. Spencer said she appreciates the EMT's and Fire Department. Ms. Spencer said there is a need for Ambulance drivers and if anyone is interested in driving, they can contact Fred Spencer.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES

There were no Planning and Zoning updates at this time.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

KAREN MUNSON – WILD POTATO DAYS FESTIVAL MAY 30-31, 2025

Ms. Munson explained the Annual Wild Potato Day Festival and said she would like to rebrand it to the Escalante Heritage Days and Wild Potato Festival. Ms. Munson explained the upcoming festival's entertainment. Ms. Munson said she has a committee of about fifteen people and asked if they could use the Innovation Center for meetings. Ms. Munson said Sharla Poast has a flagpole she would like to donate to the City for the Heritage Park. Ms. Munson explained the flagpole in the park could be used for numerous events including the Fourth of July. Ms. Munson said they have applied for a \$3000.00 grant from the Garfield County Tourism and are asking Escalante City for a donation. Mayor Torgersen said for events the City will donate up to \$700.00 and told Ms. Munson to work with Nancy Porter to schedule the Innovation Center for

their meetings. Council member Stowe explained the City has purchased signs to put up in the Heritage Park. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Orme moved to donate \$700.00 to the Escalante Heritage Days and Wild Potato Festival. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Stowe, Porter and Orme voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

City Recorder Steed said on January 11, 2025 the City held the Annual Animal Vaccination Clinic but only had around 5 dogs and 10-12 cats.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FRED SPENCER

Mr. Spencer said since the last meeting there have been no call outs. Mr. Spencer explained the Fire Department has furnished two drivers to drive the ambulance to Panguitch.

Mr. Spencer said there has been no word on the radios. Mayor Torgersen said she contacted Sheriff Houstin and the County is working on a phone system that they will fund. Mr. Spencer said it is the new radios they are having problems with and need to be reprogrammed for the sixth time.

Mr. Spencer explained they took the Fire Department ATV to Richfield for a recall and also had it serviced.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN

Mayor Torgersen said she was going to ask the Council their thoughts about when Escalante was established, but it was decided 1876. Mayor Torgersen said she would like to start planning next year's 150-year celebration right after this year's celebration.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman said he has talked to Dave Dodds with the County about chip sealing the City Streets. Council member Lyman said the County will help us with about half the town this year. Council member Lyman said in the meantime there are still potholes we need to fix.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter explained if enough people sign up for the EMT class it will be held in Escalante. Council member Porter said the course is \$350.00 but if they finish and get certified the County has a grant and will reimburse them. Fred Spencer said if anyone is interested, they can contact Lori Porter, Ron Harris or Susan Harris.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said Nancy Porter has been working on a sign for the landfill. Council member Orme explained the sign has all the requirements to come into compliance with the State regulations. Council member Orme said she would like to move forward and order the sign.

UNPAID BILLS

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

**Council member Porter moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m.
Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.**

/s/ Stephanie Steed
Stephanie Steed, MMC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 2/18/2025