

Hildale City Council Work Meeting

320 East Newel Avenue, Hildale, Utah 84784

Tuesday May 22, 2018

Present:

Mayor: Donia Jessop

Council Members: Maha Layton, Jared Nicol, JVar Dutson, Stacy Seay, Lawrence Barlow

City Recorder: Vincen Barlow

City Manager: John Barlow

Staff: Mariah La Corti, Christian Kesselring, Dean Cooke, Nathaniel Barlow, Weston Barlow, Leonard Black,

Public: Joan Barlow, Brian Meldrum, Mayor Allred, Vance Barlow

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jessop called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Vincen called roll. Quorum present.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Prioritizing Hildale City Strategic Plan

John Barlow presented. He presented a list of items that need to be taken care of and asked the council to prioritize each of them individually.

Regarding insurance, presently the City is not insured and is uninsurable. It will be a 3-4 month process to get an assessment. The concern is, are we okay with having uninsured officers until we can get insured, or do we temporarily want to hand policing over to the county. The new chief hired by Colorado City is not aware of the budgetary or insurance constraints as of yet. Internal policies and procedures has a big impact on insurance; how they look and are implemented. This is necessary but very time consuming. General liability insurance will be very pricey, but is also very necessary.

There is currently 4 pending litigation cases.

Apple Valley is in the process of annexing right up to our border. We need to move forward if we do not want to be locked in on growth.

Fiber Optic contract is presently unclear, we have a proposed contract in place to explain things further. We need to research tax consequences, what we own, what benefit it will provide to the community, etc. This will take up a lot of staff time.

Regarding employee benefits, Colorado City is doing a lot of the research on this. These will be done in correlation with Colorado City.

Business licenses procedure needs revamped, this may take 2-3 weeks.

City Ordinance overhaul; depending on the ordinance, it may take a week or two per ordinance. Six month timeframe to prioritize which ones need overhauled.

Culinary water: our system is dated. The entire process of how we are handling our culinary water can be revisited. This could potentially be handled by the utility department.

Developing a tourism plan: there is reason to believe tourism will increase a lot in the next few years.

Big Plains Junction takes you to Gooseberry Mesa and Rockville. If Hildale wants an opinion on this we need to take action, even though this is not affecting Hildale directly. It may bring tourism traffic to the area.

Asset Management: this is an information systems tool. We need this to provide better understanding and reporting of everything that Hildale owns.

Auditor's training needs to take priority. Auditors will come out once a week and we will drop anything that is not absolutely critical to accept the training.

Hildale City Cemetery: this is important because of the way people will view how the city treats their deceased. Staff will need a week or so to look into regulations, and a week to get staff trained properly to be in compliance.

Transient lodging, Airbnbs, glamping, etc.: we need to have a policy in place as to how many, regulations, etc. There is a certain amount of risk associated with these activities. Health and safety problems are going unnoticed and documented.

Utility on-line payments: this has been budgeted and paid for. Staff will need approximately a week of training.

Leadership in parks and recreation: it may be good to have a parks department and have a department head to take care of them. This will involve a lot of research and may or may not involve Colorado City.

Physical and Cyber security of Hildale City administration: there are a few concerns, this should be an item on the executive session on the next council meeting.

Manholes/Wastewater Infrastructure.: this needs to be done by the Utility Business Manager, Hildale City council should consider that any health and safety issues may be worth directing Hildale City staff to take an active role in.

Updated website: some information such as staff can be updated right away. Everything else needs an overhaul.

Maxwell Park acquisition and renovation: our current lease with BLM is expired.

Roads: In order to do employee benefits the city took money out of capital improvement projects. This will affect business owners. Staff needs to figure out where funds will be available for improving roads, time to research grants, etc.

Street lights: Garkane has a program for LED lights. This is not a priority at the moment.

Chief Barlow has concerns about the fire department operating because of lack of volunteers. This is something that staff will need to help with, research, look for money, insurance, etc.

Emergency response plan: if Hildale were to have an emergency we need to know how to respond.

Payroll services: it is worth investigation to determine if Hildale should be doing it ourselves rather than Colorado City.

Industrial lot sales: anything that is not in litigation can be reviewed.

Council Chamber equipment: we would like to get tablets to save on paper usage.

Due to time constraints, the meeting was suspended at 6:05 p.m.

The work session was reconvened at 9:11 p.m.

4. Discussion on Fireworks for the 4th of July

Jvar was approached by “Uncle Tom” who has been in charge of the Fireworks for the 4th of July celebration in the past, to see if Hildale would be willing to help at all monetarily. There is nothing budgeted for such. Chief Kevin told Tom that he is not interested in the Fire Department getting involved. If Hildale cannot donate monetary funds, perhaps we can have the fire department help. Lawrence explained his knowledge of fireworks licensing, and suggested that we get the facts before requiring anything of the Fire Department. Vance informed the council that in Arizona it is specifically excluded from all insurances unless a special one is purchased. Historically, it has been handled by a private licensed individual(s) because of the liability. Brian Jessop used to be the Fire Marshal, when he was there they gave a permit, for an emergency response if something went wrong, but required a liability insurance be provided.

5. Discussion on Garkane Rates

JVar presented. There needs to be a letter drafted by the City of Hildale to Garkane informing them that we want to be a “Class A customer” to get better rates. Christian and John were asked to take this task on. There is a public hearing in Hatch on the 4th of June. John suggested that he be allowed time to do research and prepare before approaching this.

6. Discussion on Strategic Plan

Chief of Police needed to be discussed. Insurance may be the deciding factor. Vance addressed the Board with information on the Colorado City insurance. When they were dropped they spent two years getting back onto a decent insurance. It cost them quite a bit, but they hired a Nationwide Broker to find adequate insurance for them. Prices are not as bad as they thought they would be, but they are not cheap. They have 7 policies at approximately \$50,000.00 each. It was a big job for the staff to put everything together; he wouldn't be surprised if it takes at least a month to get a solid quote.

Jared moved the discussion on; he feels that the Marshals office is important, and he will fight to make sure we are doing everything we can to make the Marshals office stay here, intact and move forward.

Although no action can be taken tonight, the council needs to make a choice before Colorado City gets into a contract. Lawrence feels that the risk is calculated, even though it is a ticking time bomb. John explained that the risk that exists will not be mitigated within the next two months, but the risks can be overcome by making sure officers are well rested, trained, experienced, have the necessary equipment, and have policies and procedures in place. Mayor Allred feels like the mitigation can start with a new chief. He thinks that disbanding the Marshal department is a bad idea; he feels that if we voluntarily give up the Police Department it will not erase the risk. Mayor Jessop asked if the Chief understands the risk, Mayor Allred and Vance feel that he does, they spent a long time with Mark discussing everything. Lawrence spoke his opinion against disbanding the department listing many reasons why.

Stacy suggested looking into an umbrella policy, and possibly seeing if the one Colorado City has can cross state lines since it is the same officers.

The council all agree that the Marshal Office should be maintained. Budgetarily, we are getting a really good deal on Law Enforcement right now.

Colorado City would like to do a combined Press Release, staff put a draft together and emailed it to the council members.

7. Discussion on Employee Benefits

JVar encouraged staff to hustle along. Lawrence informed the council of a life insurance policy available for officers.

With no other business, meeting was adjourned at 9:57 P.M.

I verify that a copy of the notice and agenda was delivered to the Mayor and City Council members and posted at the City Hall, 320 E. Newel Avenue, Hildale, Utah and sent to the Utah State Public Meeting Notice coordinator.

Minutes were approved at the City Council Meeting on June 20, 2018.



Vincen Barlow, City Recorder

