

# Utility Departments of Hildale/Colorado City

Utility Board Meeting Minutes  
320 East Newel Ave, Hildale Utah  
March 27, 2018 6:00 A.M.

## **Present: Utility Board**

| Board Members:       | Present | Absent | Excused |
|----------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Craig Roundy         |         | X      |         |
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X       |        |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X       |        |         |
| Arvin Black          | X       |        |         |
| Jason Black          | X       |        |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X       |        |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X       |        |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X       |        |         |
| Vacant               |         |        |         |

Staff Present: David Boshard, Weston Barlow, John Barlow, Susie Barlow, Vance Barlow, Jim Peterson

Court Monitor: Roger Carter

Public Present: Mayor Allred, Carl Johnson, Jared Nicol

## **#1 Call to Order**

Ralph Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:04 AM. Vance Barlow called roll. Quorum present.

JVar Dutson requested the record excuse him for his absence last meeting, there was a scheduling conflict.

## **#2 Welcome New Board Members**

Ralph Johnson welcomed Alma Cawley to the Utility Board.

## **#3 Reorganization of the Utility Board Officers**

Ralph Johnson requested Vance Barlow present.

Vance opened nominations for chairperson. After being nominated, Arvin Black said he is willing to fill the role.

**Nathan Burnham nominated Arvin Black.**

**Alma Cawley seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

Vance opened nominations for vice-chairman.

**Sterling Jessop nominated Ralph Johnson.**

**Arvin Black seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        |     |    | X       |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

Vance opened discussion for secretary/treasurer roll. Mayor Allred addressed the board with an explanation of the duties of this position. This matter was tabled for gathering of further information; the position may no longer be needed.

#### **#4 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**JVar Dutson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 27, 2018.**

**Nathan Burnham seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

#### **#5 Public Comment**

None

**#6 Consideration of Utility Waiver Requests**

David Boshard presented. Pioneer TC #8 had a water leak during January/February which has now been repaired. Staff recommends we use the previous months to calculate his sewer rate.

**Nathan Burnham moved to approve the staff recommendation to use the previous month’s usage when calculating the sewer rate for Pioneer TC #8.**

**Arvin Black seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

At 280 West Township there was a small gas leak on the city side of the meter. Customer feels that they did not use the amount of gas that registered through their meter, and that the leak affected that usage. Staff recommended denial of the waiver and installation of a 3 meter manifold. There was some discussion about whether or not the gas was used by the customer. Weston explained that the gas did go somewhere. Jason Black stated that it might be good to address this matter once the readings for March have been input. Weston explained that the usage for March likely will not be as high as that for January. Arvin gave input about setting precedence for future requests.

**Jason Black moved to deny the waiver request for 280 West Township, but give the customer a reasonable amount of time to pay the amount due (60-90 days).**

**Arvin Black seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried. If the customer wishes to bring this matter before the Board again, with more supporting information, it will be allowed.

The customer at 769 West Uzona was gone for 2-3 days and a frozen pipe broke Staff recommends changing the water bill to match the average usage.

Alma Cawley made a recommendation that in the future the staff include information from the previous year for the Boards consideration.

**Alma Cawley moved to approve the waiver for 765 West Uzona changing the usage to the average rate of 31.50.**

**JVar Dutson seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

### **#7 Discussion and Possible Action on Washington County School Districts Water Concerns.**

John Barlow presented. Water Canyon School is looking for support from Hildale City to be a back-up source of culinary water for a vocational training center with a cafeteria as well as three sports fields (football, softball, baseball). It is a huge benefit to the community to have Water Canyon invest in the community and make these upgrades. He recommended that we offer the statement of support. David Boshard referred to the discussion held in the City Council meeting previously regarding water rights and the suggestion of using artificial turf. John explained that the School District is just looking for something to take before the School District Board showing support, Hildale does not need to figure out their water rights or water issues. Jason Black explains his understanding that this entire request is simply asking Hildale City to provide water services to a paying customer if they need it, John confirmed that is correct. There was discussion on how the school did have a failed lawn in the past due to lack of water, but they are not blaming the City for this. Jared Nicol addressed the Board saying that he has attended a few meetings with the school district and they strongly feel that there is not a lack of water, just a lack of support. Arvin Black expressed concerns about the school possibly using more water than they should as the reason they are requesting this support. Ralph Johnson felt that a representative from the School District should have been at the meeting to present this request. Alma Cawley feels education is very important to good quality of life. In Centennial Park there was a similar request which was approved and a burden was felt during the summer months, but his opinion is that what the school provides made it worth it. He feels a study should be done by an engineer to determine if the water is really there. Mayor Allred addressed the Board to expand on this. He voiced his opinion that giving the support would be fine, as long as they are on the same restrictions as every other customer. He feels it may cause conflict in the future to simply show our support but not have a contract, there also might be concerns regarding water rights if they were not transferred properly, that should be looked into. Jason Black feels like the issue is being over complicated, there was a misunderstanding in the past, but that should not keep the school from trying again. JVar agreed we need to move forward, not dwell on the past. Arvin gave input that we are all vested in the community and we have an obligation to make informed decisions. If we are going to make a comment of support, it needs to be done properly so that no one gets the wrong impression. Ralph went on to say that our water is our life and if the water pattern continues there will be a shortage and the City will have a hard time giving culinary water to the school, we want to support them, but they need to know that we don't have the ability to

guarantee culinary water as a back-up. Nathan Burnham asked about water regulation policies in place and feels those protect us.

**Jason Black moved to approve the decision to give the Washington County School District a letter of support to use the city water as a back-up source.**

**JVar Dutson seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

### **#8 Reports:**

**Business Manager Report:** Presented by Dave Boshard.

**Gas Department:** There has been normal seasonal use for gas and propane. Leslie and Weston recently received their gas piping credentials allowing staff to complete technical piping that used to have to be hired out. He gave his congratulations to them. JVar requested that the customers be informed that if the propane tanks are owned by the town of Hildale they need to get their propane from us.

**Wastewater Department:** No wastewater problems. He did receive the Odor Logger results. Inorganic solids such as flushable wipes are a problem. Long-term solution is a screen that will remove those types of items. The team is excitedly awaiting delivery of a new pump truck. Jvar Dutson recommends that the staff figure out a pricing on the sewer pond screening and move forward with that.

**Water Department:** Most requests for waivers have been from smaller groups of families moving into homes of those that larger families moved out of. He suggested that all new customers start at the lowest rate rather than the rate based off the previous year. JVar asked David Boshard how many water meters are presently running. David believes there are approximately 350 vacant meters. JVar expressed concerns on the lost income from these vacancies.

David presented a graph showing metered water monthly comparison. Staff attended the Rural Water Conference and were able to obtain ideas on the treatment of the iron and manganese problem. Water meter replacements continue, radio read meters have been very beneficial to the department since they have been understaffed.

He discussed the Academy Well, staff recommends the well be flushed out with compressed air. An estimate on the cost for such was included for the Boards consideration.

Ralph asked if there was a correlation between the pump failure and depth of the well, David was not aware of anything. They believe the pump motor overheated. Carl Johnson addressed the Board regarding the possibility of incorrect voltage for the pump. David stated that several other wells have the same equipment and have not had the same problem, but they will take the suggestions into consideration. They have plans to install a shroud that will force the water to go down around the motor before it is picked up to avoid future overheating. Alma Cawley gave discussion about installing a permanent line for resurgence; Centennial Park has done this and had good results.

Utility Department is still looking for another staff person. They need help with meter reading and propane routes. JVar expressed his thanks to David and Weston for their hard work.

**Office Managers Report:** Presented by John Barlow. Staff is doing an amazing job, catching on very quickly.

### **#9 Financial Report**

Presented by John Barlow. John provided copies of reports to the Board Members for them to review. He discussed financing of the pump truck, more details will be provided next meeting. Percentages on revenue and expenditures are lower because of contingency. JVar requested clarification on a few items. There has been a priority list compiled and a budget created to plan for the future.

### **#10 Consideration of Approval to Pay Bills**

John Barlow requested that this item be tabled.

### **#11 Large Purchases**

Spring Ranch LLC Estimate for the Academy Ave Well Project. With the additional information provided the staff would like to do further investigation and requested the board approve additional funds.

**JVar Dutson moved to authorize the financing to pay for fees relating to the flushing of the Academy Well and other improvements with a budget of \$12,000.**

**Alma Cawley seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

**#12 Closed Executive Session**

John Barlow suggested that the board move to executive session for discussion of pending or contemplated litigation, claims and demands.

**Nathan Burnham moved to approve the motion to move to Executive Session.**

**Arvin Black seconded. Roll call vote:**

| Board Members:       | Yes | No | Abstain |
|----------------------|-----|----|---------|
| Sterling Jessop, Jr. | X   |    |         |
| Ralph Johnson        | X   |    |         |
| Arvin Black          | X   |    |         |
| Jason Black          | X   |    |         |
| Nathan Burnham       | X   |    |         |
| JVar Dutson          | X   |    |         |
| Alma Cawley          | X   |    |         |

Motion carried.

Meeting called back to order at 8: 56 AM.

**#14 Other Business**

Jvar commented that the UEP approached him about access to their water. He would like the Boards vested interest in moving forward with that proposal.

Nathan Burnham feels it would be to our benefit.

There is a required training on the updated policies and procedures on March 30, 2018 at 1:00. All members of all boards, commissions, and staff involving housing and utilities must be in attendance. If anyone cannot make it, it will be recorded. The Court order was very specific that all receive the training within 30 days of hire, and must sign a certificate. There are three separate ones to watch.

**#15 Adjournment**

Ralph Johnson called the meeting to a close at 9:01 AM.