

**MINUTES**  
**ENOCH CITY COUNCIL**  
**November 5, 2014 at 6:00pm**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**City Offices, 900 E. Midvalley Road**

**Members present:**

Mayor Robert Rasmussen  
Council Member Destry Griffiths  
Council Member Steve Johnson  
Council Member Kirk Lovell-phone  
Council Member Mike Olenslager  
Council Member Gary Wilcken

**Staff present:**

Julie Watson, Recorder  
Dan Jessen, Treasurer  
Nick Turner Asst.City Atty.  
Robert Dotson, City Mgr.-phone  
Earl Gibson, Pub.Works  
Jackson Ames, PD Chief

**Public present:** Doug Jones, Kay Ayers, David Owens, Bob Graul, David Benkert, Sue Abbiss, Brenda Killian, Dilworth Armstrong, Natalie & Braxton Higgins, Aaron Alton, Worth Grimshaw, Dennis Ayers, Abe Fawson, Mike Berg, Lyle Goulding, Donna Crase, Bruce & Jolene Lee, Tim Watson, Cathy Wentz, Cassie Easley, Christine Spencer, Michelle & Donna Pritchard, John Frisby, Mike Criswell, Carol Rohrer and Carolyn Olenslager

**1. CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-** By Mayor Rasmussen at 6:00pm. He welcomed the audience saying Council Member Lovell is still at POST and will join the meeting by phone. City Manager Dotson will also join the meeting by phone.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance-**Led by Council Member Wilcken
- b. **Invocation-**Audience invited to participate-Given by Council Member Griffiths
- c. **Approval of Agenda for November 5, 2014-**Council Member Wilcken wanted to clarify about opening the budget. Dan said we need to make some housekeeping adjustments and also address items relative to the election. **Motion to approve agenda by Council Member Johnson. Motion seconded by Council Member Wilcken and all voted in favor.**
- d. **Approval of Minutes for October 15, 2014-**Motion to approve minutes by Council Member Wilcken. **Motion seconded by Council Member Olenslager and all voted in favor.**
- e. **Conflict of Interest Declaration for this agenda-**none stated

**2. DISCUSS OPTIONS/COSTS FOR THE TEST WELL**

Mayor Rasmussen asked City Manager Dotson to recap the history of the test well. He said we drilled to 920 feet with an 8" casing. With the 8" hole we could only pump 145GPM (gallons per minute) for the test pumping. At that rate there was no draw down of the well so there are many indicators that this is a good location. We are not able to discover the full potential until we enlarge the test hole. We got a quote from Grimshaw Drilling to increase the size to 16" and drill to 1000 feet plus adding another 250 feet in a 10" casing. The quote includes casing and perforations in proper locations and that cost was \$671,000. After that we would have to do more to make it a culinary water source which involves more cost with the well house and equipment. This quote is only to enlarge the test hole and do the test pumping. So far we have spent about \$98,000 and that leaves \$400,000 in the budget allocated to this project. Dan added we received a quote today for a 12" casing at approximately \$80,000 less than the 16" quote. We have good data from geotechnical people we hired and we also dowsed the site and had that confirmed by another dowser; so you could say we used science and "other" science. Dan said basically we have three options; (a) enlarge the test hole to 16", case it down to 1000 feet and test pump it for \$671,000. That is all we can do before we have to stop on December 31<sup>st</sup> per BLM regulations. We would do the other permitting processes for the culinary well over the winter months. City Manager Dotson explained more details of the BLM lease we currently hold for the water tanks at a cost of \$100 per year. They would tie this use into that old grant and rewrite it. With option (b) we could save about \$80,000 and go to a 12" hole with casing; or (c) we improve the current hole, case it and have a small well with perhaps a solar unit that would pump in the daytime into the water tanks but not produce much.

Dan said normally this would go to the Water Board for their recommendation but we have a very narrow window of time before we have to be off the site due to mule deer winter habitat. We need a decision today for one of the options. He recapped the options saying the casing is a big part of the well cost and at 16" that is the normal culinary well size.

Our agreement with BLM is for a test well only and that option meets the current agreement. City Manager Dotson said he would apply for CIB or CDBG funds to cover the other costs of the equipment and well house. #1 on the CIB/CDBG list has been a new culinary well and we can apply next year for grants and loans.

Council Member Wilcken expressed concern with spending all this money and then we ask the BLM for a permit and they say no. It was noted that due to the time frame we cannot obtain the permits in advance of doing the work. Mayor Rasmussen asked if there is any chance they would say no. Earl said they have been very supportive and good to work with and he feels confident that when we turn in the application they will approve it. City Manager Dotson said in our conversations with BLM they are very positive however we have to follow the process. We want to be sure the water is there before we do the whole process which also includes moving water rights into that well. To change the point of diversion is another big process and local individuals can protest the City's application. If all is in order with our application and we are pumping with minimal drawdown to the wells of others then the State Engineer will allow us to move rights into that well. Dilworth said the City water rights that are being used now are in all of the wells and he explained more of the process.

There was more discussion of the options with Aaron Alton of Grimshaw Drilling adding more technical details. It was noted there would be considerably more cost to improve this test hole later if we decided to wait because you are essentially "double doing" it so there is more cost. Mayor Rasmussen asked Aaron's opinion and he said when you get that deep you can't get a visual but he gave more details for what the fractures can mean. Big fractures tend to have a lot of water in them. With only an 8" test hole, the results indicate really good signs so far. He added they bear some risk drilling in this type of zone so that also adds to the cost. Some drillers won't even do it. Aaron added most municipal wells are 16" so they already have the equipment for that. They would have to buy more equipment if we choose the 12" hole which accounts for not much savings to drill that size.

Dan added another factor to consider is this well site has the potential for lower cost per gallon because it is right by the tanks and will not require uphill pumping like we have for the other wells. We are at capacity in the peak of summer now. It is imperative we find another well and this will be lower cost per gallon. Dan discussed how to pay for this saying we have \$500,000 in the budget for this year. We have spent \$100,000 and if we want to move with Option A we will be over budget and will have to adjust the budget for that. Dan said we do have the cash on hand to do this right now. The water company has 1.3 million in cash and about \$400,000 in the impact fee account some of which can be used. We have saved for this project and could pay for it with cash. There was a discussion about interest rates and that we make very little. A CIB loan for a well house and equipment would be at 1.5 % interest and if we use our own cash we save 1%. We have put much due diligence into finding a good place and drilling will not get cheaper.

Council Member Olenslager said he votes go with 16" well and get it done. If we had one of our other wells go down we would have to ration water. Council Member Johnson said this is what we saved for and we should move on and test our options out of this well. We are still actively pursuing other water sources but they are 20 years or more in the future. Dan said City Manager Dotson and the Water Board are always pursuing multiple options. This project represents at least a year's work. Council Member Wilcken said there is still risk but all things point to a good outcome. Mayor Rasmussen asked City Council if they are ready to decide on an option and he asked for a motion.

Council Member Olenslager made a motion that we choose option A and enlarge this test well to 16" and drill to 1000 feet. Council Member Lovell seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Aaron Alton said they can do this in the time frame required but needed to know right away in order to finish by December 15<sup>th</sup>. City Manager Dotson added we have already been in discussions with BLM and we will continue with the process.

### **3. DISCUSS OPENING THE 2014-2015 BUDGET AND SET A DATE TO OPEN**

Mayor Rasmussen asked Dan to tell them the dates we looked at. Dan said if we open the budget at the next meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> and discuss it then he can get the direction the Council wants to go. We could hold the public hearing on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. He could have a tentative budget ready on November 19<sup>th</sup> however the budget has to be available for the public to view for 10 days before the public hearing. After the public hearing the Council can make any changes and close the budget in the same meeting.

Council Member Wilcken said they need good information to make decisions and he asked Dan to let them know where they stand adding we may need to call a special work meeting to dig through it. On that note Dan said he was hired last January and we started going through the budget in February. He said he has analyzed it and created tools looking at past history. He is now able to do better forecasting than when we started back in March. He said he has found a few things regardless of the vote or political issues where he can tighten the budget and make better decisions than before.

Some things are set by the cost of fuel and we can't change that. City Manager Dotson said we have come up with some different revenue numbers that are surprising and the budget looks better when looking at the next six months. Budgeting is always a "best guess" Council Member Wilcken said and variables happen.

There was more discussion of the time frame with it being noted again that the public has to have access to a tentative budget ten days prior to the public hearing. Dan noted one time sensitive area is the funding of the library which is also funded by the county and state so they need to know where we stand for their own budgets.

Council Member Wilcken said we should move as quickly as is appropriate and strive to end the suffering and angst in the City. Dan said before the next meeting he can get the Council some information lining out what we need to do to get a balanced budget. He added he has analyzed things and has some better ideas of the direction we need to go in today's dollars. We budgeted about \$171,000 to pull from savings to balance and that may not be a real number anymore. Council Member Wilcken asked Dan to get them the information and also provide a hard copy. Dan said November 19<sup>th</sup> for a tentative budget may be a bit too tight adding if we open the budget next time there is no deadline for closing it but sooner is better. It was agreed the Council will start the process on November 19<sup>th</sup> and if more time is needed they could set a work meeting.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bruce Lee said he was one of those in favor of the tax increase. The debate is now over and the process worked. The community needs to become united and keep Enoch a great place to live. It is time to move on. There was applause from the audience.

Worth Grimshaw said he became aware this morning that someone volunteered to take all the signs down for both sides and he does not know when that happened. He has come to find out that signs from both sides are missing. ***Officer Mike Berg said there are 17 signs missing and the PD has started an investigation. They are checking at recycling places as the fence posts were taken too and it may be about that. The value is in the \$400-\$500 range.*** Worth added he listened to the radio and a caller said they had seen people removing signs and the people seemed to know each other. This was by the bowling alley. ***The PD will continue to investigate Mayor Rasmussen said.***

Christine Spencer said she was against the tax increase and she wanted to say she felt sad about all the angst that was created but appreciates what they went thru. As she sat in meetings she could see the City has needs and it brought her to an appreciation that taxes may need to be raised. The public will be coming to find out why and to be involved so they know what they are complaining about or support. Maybe a tax increase will be required but not such a big one. David Benkert and he thinks the City Council should put in a 3% yearly tax increase to cover for inflation and so we have some funds to rely on.

Dennis Ayers said he was for the proposition and it is a great process. He did a little reminiscing and almost 29 years ago today when he was on the City Council Bruce Lee had just won by 2 votes to be the next mayor. It was November 6, 1985 and in that meeting he made a proposal as a Council member that the Council members needed some remuneration for what they did for the City adding he repaired many broken water lines in his day. Maybe we need to go back to more volunteerism.

#### 5. CORRESPONDENCE-none

#### 6. COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS

Council Member Wilcken echoed some of the things said adding this has a tough deal and very unpleasant. He appreciates that things can now draw to a close and that the citizens can be one and not divided. We will pull together and do what is right. We will not always agree but let's be civil in our discourse.

Council Member Griffiths said it has been good to see people involved and should continue to stay involved and vote.

Mayor Rasmussen said almost 56% of registered voters voted. The question was asked how the voter list is cleaned up when people have moved away so we know a more real number of actual registered voters. Julie said she would ask the County Clerk about their procedures for that. We now show 2730 registered with 1523 voting in the last election.

Council Member Lovell thanked everyone for participating adding he is glad Christine and others are now involved. Civility was off a bit especially in social media however it has been better in City Council meetings. He met with lots of people and found that when information got to be second hand it deteriorated. He suggested more people check with good sources to get accurate information on issues. A difference of opinion is fine.

Chief Ames echoed the same sentiments adding there were only a couple of issues with signs and vandalism until this big theft came up today.

Earl Gibson reported they set the first manhole today and are laying 48 inch pipe on Half Mile. If anyone needs fill dirt let them know and they will make arrangements to get it to them. The project is going good and hopefully we will get it done before bad weather. We planned for 40 working days. The Family Dollar paving did not pass the compaction test so they are getting that remedied and hope to pave and patch Midvalley Road soon.

Dan Jessen said he loves his job and has been on a fast learning curve but has found through analysis that budget forecasting can be done with greater accuracy. He intends to do that as well as continue to find ways to save money in areas like electricity use for water pumping which he has done an exhaustive study of.

City Manager Dotson said Iron County donated the use of their roto-miller that chews up asphalt so we can reuse it. Also Ampac donated a plotter, which is a large format printer to print maps and large size plans. We have picked it up and sent a thank you letter. We rely on donations and rely on citizens to take care of their own property and help their neighbors. He added that the people who work for Enoch City are some of the hardest working you can find. They love what they do and try to do their jobs with diligence, frugality and effectiveness.

Julie Watson reported that Family Dollar applied for their business license and it has been mailed out to them.

**7. ADJOURN-Motion to adjourn by Council Member Wilcken. Motion seconded by Council Member Johnson and all voted in favor.** The meeting ended at 7:25pm.

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**Julie Watson, Recorder**

**Date**