

**MINUTES**  
**ENOCH CITY COUNCIL**  
**August 15, 2018 at 6:00pm**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**City Offices, 900 E. Midvalley Road**

**Members present:**

Mayor Geoffrey Chesnut  
Council Member David Harris  
Council Member Jolene Lee  
Council Member Dave Owens  
Council Member Katherine Ross  
Council Member Shawn Stoor

**Staff present:**

Julie Watson, Recorder  
Ashley Horton, Treasurer  
Justin Wayment, Atty.  
Robert Dotson, City Mgr  
Jackson Ames, PD Chief  
Earl Gibson, PW Dir.-absent

**Public present:** Dilworth Armstrong, Debra Ley, Alan Wade, John Horstdaniel, Michelle Pritchard, Alan Blake, Mike & Nina O'Rourke, Scout Troop, David Benkert Sr., David Benkert Jr., Ilene Hamblin, Bruce Lee, Heather Harris, John Ellison, Delaine Findlay, Rhett Taintor, Mike Pagal, Angela Pool-Funai, Artemesia Chappell, Richard & Judy Stuart, Michael Samson, Brady Ramsay, Jim & Lynn Clark, Ed Pectol, Cynthia Gossett, Jim Peck, Lisa Hensen, Charles & Sandra Triplett, Deena Marchal, Joy Grimshaw, Colin Nielson, Dezaree Chesnut, Cameron Greenhalgh and Lisa Jensen

1. **CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**-By Mayor Chesnut at 6:00pm.
  - a. **Pledge of Allegiance**-Led by Council Member Stoor
  - b. **Invocation**-Audience invited to participate-Given by Artemesia Chappell
  - c. **Inspirational thought**-Given by Mayor Chesnut
  - d. **Approval of Agenda for August 15, 2018**-Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Council Member Owens and all voted in favor.
  - e. **Approval of Minutes for August 1, 2018**-Council Member Harris made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Council Member Owens and all voted in favor.
  - f. **Conflict of Interest Declaration for this agenda**-none stated

2. **DISCUSS SCOUT CHARTER**-Cameron Greenhalgh

Cameron said the LDS church is ending its relationship with the Boy Scouts of America. He was assigned to go to the different cities and other churches to ask if they would like to sponsor a scout unit. They believe in scouting but now it has changed and is no longer feasible for the Church to use that program. They are here to ask the City to charter a unit for \$40 a year. The membership for the adults is \$33 per year. The program sponsored by the LDS Church will end in 2019 so they are getting a head start on figuring out how to continue the scouting program in the community. There was more discussion of the costs and that most parents will cover their kid's fees. There will also be fundraisers to help with that cost. They also need a place to meet from the sponsor and we have the library. They may still be able to use church buildings but that is not settled yet. There are many non-LDS boys in troops too. He is asking if the City Council would entertain this. Council Member Stoor recapped saying the cost to the City would be \$40. They will do fund raisers to help with the fees for the scouts. They can get other sponsorships also. Lisa said they could consider charging dues that are minimal to help out. Council Member Lee said this is uncharted territory in Utah but is done other places. How would this work regarding a

representative for a charter? It could be someone you appoint, Lisa said. Chartering is using your name and providing a place to meet. Council Member Lee asked if a City Council Member has to be on it as the charter rep. Lisa said it could be anybody who wants to do that. They will find scout masters and expect many to volunteer. They have about 18 months to figure this out for the 66 scout troops in the area and then it all goes away. Many will step up to help. There is time to plan. Cameron said he was asked to go out and talk about this. They are starting now to get on top of it. Cameron said many mothers are concerned about their kids being able to get their Eagle Scout award. That is good thing to have. City Manager Dotson asked about payments made through the LDS Church and then it goes to the scouts. Would this be the same? Cameron said the Church pays it outright. The boys would pay the troop. They would open an account and collect funds from parents. The money does not come through the City in our budget. The City only pays \$40 for the charter. Mayor Chesnut told about his experience with scouting outside of Utah. As a kid he did fund raising all the time to cover costs and activities and that is common outside of Utah. Cameron said they are still learning how this will work when the Church steps out of it. Council Member Stoor said he is in favor of it and Council Member Harris said he was too. We will put it on an agenda in the future.

### **3. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING 2018-2019 BUDGET AND NEW CERTIFIED TAX RATE**

**Council Member Harris made motion to open the public hearing on the new certified tax rate. Motion was seconded by Council Member Stoor and all voted in favor.**

*Mayor Chesnut thanked everyone for coming out saying we do our public hearings different. He likes to answer concerns as they are stated. The budget is in balance except to add two new officers. Based on population and the work they have to do we need two more officers. We got the numbers together and absorbed a lot of it to defray some cost to add two officers. This is additional services based on population and what is going on here. The City Council passed that and we are going through the Truth in Taxation process to inform the public. He asks that we be polite. Sometimes we are angry but does not have to be vile. Do understand this is well considered. We have been talking about it since early March. We need to treat it as a dialog. We can figure a way to deal with this. This is straight up. We need two officers or not. It is that simple. He wanted to be sure that is understood. He has always discouraged money projects but this is needed. The question is "yes or no" to this specific service. We balanced the budget the rest of the way. He asked the audience to state name and address for the record if they want to speak.*

John Horstdaniel of 5459 Enoch Rd. said his question is on budget and what do we currently pay the Iron County Sheriff to work the midnight shift. Is that equal to the cost of two officers?

**Mayor Chesnut said we don't pay Iron County for night time coverage. Our officers are on call when there is not coverage so there is a delay in response when no one is on duty.**

Angela Pool-Funai of 4223 Quarterhorse said Iron County is 3,300 sq. miles. Enoch is .002% of Iron County. Some comments say we should abolish the PD and go with the sheriff. If there was an emergency in Beryl and then we had an emergency in Enoch we would be out of luck. We have had increases in everything but taxes and taxes upset people. She compared living here to when she lived in Texas. She said there are 50 new homes per year. People are coming from CA and all over and she wants her neighbors who have lived here for decades to appreciate that taxes have not gone up. She researched this and is a professional in this field and knows what this means. She is advocating for two new PD officers and knows for a fact this is not an extraordinary thing or misuse of public funds and she is in support.

Alan Blake said he is asking what we are talking financially. **Mayor Chesnut said the two new officers will cost approximately \$200,000 for salaries, benefits and mandated things like retirement. We built the cost of gas and so on into the existing budget. We defrayed a lot of the**

*hard costs of adding an officer. This cost is for the salaries and benefits.* Alan asked per capita what does he pay in taxes for this? *Mayor Chesnut said this is the weird part. As a portion of the actual operating budget the general fund that comes from taxes is about a 7% increase to our budget.* Alan asked has Enoch ever raised taxes? *Mayor Chesnut said no never. We have never asked for this since 1966 when the City incorporated. You have seen taxes go up due to other things like the school district, Water Conservancy District etc. What Enoch gets has never gone up in 30 years. Cities all over the State are doing this process now. He told about his own tax bill for an average home and it is about 49% of his bill and similar for most except the more expensive homes. He paid \$120 per year to Enoch. This year it is about \$188 for the year if this is approved. Given that we have never raised taxes this is valid. If you balance the budget you don't need to raise taxes every year. We don't have that problem. In part, this is a necessary service. The cost outpaces the growth that families bring in. We are not hiding the ball. We are being straight up. We are not raising the budget by 49% but by 7%. That is a big concern to people. The portion for Enoch is less than \$300 for the year for even big homes. Dan Jessen, County Auditor said this is State statute not him making the rules.*

David Benkert Sr. said you want two extra PD and he does not understand why crime has run rampant in Enoch that it is necessary. How many calls do they get at night, he asked? *Mayor Chesnut said it is not just that time of day. Our PD responded to more than 3000 calls for the year. That is about 9 a day with only one guy on duty. Council Member Harris said when an officer is on duty he has more to do than be on patrol. They have to go to court sometimes and are not here. They may need to be at CJC for interviews and are gone from Enoch for that. They may be doing training and reports. We have four officers now and we have not had the adequate coverage that we would like for our population. Even with two more we are far below the recommendation. We should have 13. Mayor Chesnut asked Chief Ames what kind of calls they get. He said drugs, domestic abuse and child abuse are a lot of it. With only one guy on they have a hard time doing things like tracking down drugs and building a case.* Mr. Benkert said maybe they need to have more relief. *Mayor Chesnut said we don't have enough guys and they work 10 hours of OT already. They still have to do that to do it all Mayor Chesnut said. Ask any Police Department; they all work OT. They get no holidays off.* Mr. Benkert said he is confused that we need this because he does not see the crime problem and would defend his own home and help others. *Mayor Chesnut said we are fortunate that we have good officers. How long do we go until we get a bad problem. Do we wait until it gets bad and no one wants to live here anymore. Mayor Chesnut said the goal is not to use your weapon to protect yourself but to call the PD who are the professionals.* Mr. Benkert said he thinks \$200,000 is too much. *Mayor Chesnut said that is just the salaries.* Mr. Benkert asked do they have to sign a contract. *That is against the free market Mayor Chesnut said. We don't want to train them. We want someone who is already POST certified. We don't want to do the outlay to train them and have them leave. The goal is to hire two new officers and integrate them in with no capital outlay. Last time we paid so much less per hour we had to hire guys who had not been to POST, send them and pay for the training. Now we have corrected that and we are competitive with salaries. You lose that if our guys can never take time off because we don't have enough help and they are at risk when responding alone to calls.* Ok, Mr. Benkert said.

Justin Wayment, City Attorney said his neighbor's house burned down Sunday. He heard the explosion and then heard sirens. That incident took someone's life. There were 8 officers there and 16 firemen. They put the fire out fast. He was shocked at how many came to guard the roads for the fire and secure it by his house. No one wants to go in on domestic violence call and get killed. You need two people on domestics. You don't have enough. He said he is the attorney for Parowan and they just lost two officers to other agencies. Both made more money leaving Parowan. One even raised his pay enough to cover his mortgage payment for the increase he got.

It is important to stay ahead of the game. That costs the City when trained staff leave and it is harmful.

Debra Ley said in CA they have to stay and work for five years per a contract they sign if they get State help with their education. **Mayor Chesnut said we have started to do that if we train them. We require them to stay two years per contract. If they leave early they have to reimburse the City. Mayor Chesnut said we sent them to POST last time and we had contracts for that. We would put them under contract if we pay to train them. If we don't have that expense we won't do that. We have a great relationship with Cedar and Iron County and we help them too when needed. It is a good collaboration Mayor Chesnut said.**

Alan Wade said he is going to annex into Enoch if his taxes don't go up too much. Over the last few years in the County taxes went up \$300. He said he has lived here 23 years on Hwy. 91. When he moved out here 23 years ago his taxes were much lower. A lot goes to schools. Iron County charges a municipal services fee. It was \$150 the first year and now it is \$200 a year for that. He is curious if he annexes into Enoch would that go away. **Yes it would City Manager Dotson said. It would be a bit less but about a wash.** Alan said he worked for the County as a Department Head and when he hired a new employee at \$40,000 a year he needed another \$50,000 to cover the benefits. He said he looked through things and checked and brought up all Enoch's expenses and revenues and compared them and Enoch is pretty frugal and is doing a good job. He thinks we need to bring in business and get more tax base. We have to have the businesses in and they will need law enforcement to take care of them. He told about a bail bonds business he owned and got out of. He warned the former Sheriff Dude Benson about it a long time ago about the people he was bailing out in WA County. Before long they were showing up in Parowan and going to jail. They moved here because they saw there was less law enforcement. He had repeat customers. He told everyone what he was seeing and he could see what was happening. People can't afford WA County and they come here. When he moved to his house he had no one around him and then last few years he is seeing pry marks on his house now. He just spent \$1000 on cameras. He supports the City on hiring the officers. We need them. OT kills a budget. If you can't cover the shift you are short changing the taxpayers. He commends the City Council for doing this now that he understands things. To spend only \$200,000 you can't go wrong. With the bad element moving in we will be in trouble. This is the smartest thing to do and he is in favor. He is on a fixed income and retired but this won't kill him and he supports the City. **Mayor Chesnut said on businesses we are recruiting them and we are doing what we can so they can come in. Next door is a dentist office that is being built. If we all patronize local businesses that brings more business in here.**

Artemsia Chappell said they are in support of new officers. In talking with some neighbors she said we don't trust the officers that they have our back. With the recent shooting she hopes that training is better. We sometimes wonder if the leadership is not there for training. If the officer comes to the house do they shoot first. She has concerns but we do need more officers. **Mayor Chesnut said Chief Ames takes that very seriously. He is big on community policing. We want guys to be trained to handle anything if they need to and we also need warm and fuzzy. The public doesn't see all they do in the background. We don't have time to send them to the schools, Mayor Chesnut said. Hiring two more officers will help with that. Council Member Harris said we can't do a lot of community things we would like to because we are short handed.** Mrs.Chappell said she is concerned about trusting them and being supported. **Mayor Chesnut said we can build these things with more help. There was a lot of bad said about law enforcement last time and with that step comes expectations of professionalism. They need to feel Enoch supports them as well. We have your back and we need to say that and will add quality guys and make it better together.** She said we need to trust them and it goes both ways.

John Ellison of Old Scout Trail said he supports the PD. He enjoys Enoch's low key feel. If you have a problem you can come and talk to the PD and get satisfaction. He said he watched the

Mayor's video and wonders if anyone else gets paid here. *It translates to about 7% of the operating budget as a City Mayor Chesnut said. All others get paid too. This comes down to if we add two officers or not. The City Council has said we need two more officers and the audience seems to agree.*

Debra Ley cited figures about OT. In terms of the need she only sees one officer on duty. *Mayor Chesnut said we are not doing this because the OT is higher. We are doing it because only one guy is on during the day. We can't leave all three on duty all the time but they are all on call all the time and that is what it comes down to. They are never off. The officer on duty can call for help but they can never be gone.* Debra said she was looking at that and the frugality and neighbors taking care of neighbors and the more we put into more government means we take other things away. *Mayor Chesnut said that is the balance. Where do we say this is not enough for the population and when do we do this to get the balance we need now.* Debra said she can see one officer but not two. *Council Member Harris said to backtrack and only do one we have already done this process of Truth in Taxation and we can't change that now. With this process there was discussion to only hire one. We talked about three and said no to that. We decided on two. Mayor Chesnut told about the budget discussion and then we have to do this again next year if we only hire one. Let's get the need in place and we may not have to do this again for a while. Adding two officers is just barely catching up, Council Member Harris said. Mayor Chesnut said we used to have five officers and when one left we cut back. We submitted this proposal and we can't go back and change that now. We have to hire two but one was discussed. We made the decision.*

Alan Blake stood up and asked the audience how many are in favor and most raised their hands. *Mayor Chesnut said we come together as a community and this will impact some folks financially and how can we help. He said he would be willing to donate and get some kind of program to help them. Maybe we can voluntarily help others who are hurt by this. We can come together as a community and discuss that option.*

Elaine Findlay said she is wondering with how the tax rate has never gone up property values go up and taxes go up. Will the rate of the property values and people moving in cover budget needs in the future. *Mayor Chesnut said we are adding about 50 new homes a year and that is like \$10,000 more a year in taxes and does not begin to cover this need. City Attorney Wayment explained as property values goes up the mill levy goes down. You are taxed the same amount. If you look at prior years other agencies increase their take too. City Manager Dotson said there is a growth calculation involved and it is very complex. The revenue we get goes up based on growth. The County and State figures that out and sends it. The mill levy goes down and they reassess our property values.* Mrs. Findlay said in a few years then we go through this again. *Mayor Chesnut said yes. When they put in Truth in Taxation it required this meeting so people had the chance to ask questions, make comments and understand the process. No one ever raises taxes until it is absolutely necessary because it is so hard. We run a tight ship here. We evaluate everything and our efficiency.* Mrs. Findlay asked when property values go up does the City get more. *Mayor Chesnut said no, only from the new people moving in we get a little more but it is not near enough to cover this need. Mayor Chesnut said for numbers sake we have 1600 homes and they appreciate because of value going up. To meet a \$200,000 need it would have to be a huge increase to cover it. Mayor Chesnut said the purpose of this meeting is to inform the residents. We have no extra funds to move around. City Attorney Wayment said if you stay ahead the criminal element goes where there is no PD.*

Alan Wade said again that he has relatives in the PD in WA County and he asked them how they are doing down there. The legislature changed the law and the criminals are let out into the community on things that should be automatic prison terms and are not anymore. What happened that no one goes to jail anymore. Since the State changed the law the local PD in WA County says they have to camp on those guys and get a case on them so they leave. They make them

miserable and they leave and come here. And that is our problem and we need to stay on top of it or we will lose control. We have responsibilities for our own property but need the PD and he will not pull his gun in your house. You have to be careful if you back the PD with a weapon pulled. We need the PD. They do the work. He is 100 % behind this.

*Mayor Chesnut thanked all for coming saying the City Council takes their opinions seriously. We pay taxes too. He mentioned it last meeting saying some people were saying we should just go to the Sheriff for coverage and we used to be with them. He talked to Sheriff Elect Carpenter and he said they could not cover us for this cost. He was here when we started the PD and said that would be unwise to get rid of the PD. The amount of money it costs to put an officer on the road is a lot. The real issue is manpower hours. If you want half the cost you get half the coverage. They can't commit officers just to Enoch City. They cover the whole county. We would pay more to have less. In 2014 Sheriff Gower said the same thing. They can't provide the level of service for any less money. He understands the concern. We don't want to over militarize but we need coverage we don't have now. Our PD is asking for what they need and no more. They need to be appreciated and respected.*

John Horstdaniel added he is retired PD with 20 years in Phoenix. It is not much different than here. An officer knows what his area is to cover. With the guys we have they will know the potential problems and they will concentrate there.

Council Member Harris made a motion to close the public hearing and go back to the regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Council Member Owens and all voted in favor

**4. RESOLUTION NO. 2018-08-15 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED TAX RATE**

Mayor Chesnut asked for a motion. Council Member Harris made motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-08-15, a resolution adopting the proposed tax rate. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ross and a roll call vote was held as follows:

Council Member Harris-Yes	Council Member Stoor-yes
Council Member Ross-Yes	Council Member Owens-yes
Council Member Lee-Yes	Motion passed

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS-**

Taylor Barney said he speaks for all the boys here. They want a skate park here. *Mayor Chesnut said how much money do you have to pay for that? Council Member Ross said that sounds like a good Eagle project. Mayor Chesnut cited the dog park deal. We gave the land but they paid for it. City Manager Dotson said from a liability standpoint we would say no way. The issue is it costs money to put it in and kids go there and get hurt and sue the City. That is an issue Mayor Chesnut said and that is a problem. Get some facts and figures and how to deal with issues then we can talk again.*

**6. COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT-none**

**7. ADJOURN-Motion to adjourn by Council Member Harris. Motion seconded by Council Member Owens and all voted in favor. The meeting ended at 7:38 pm.**

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Julie Watson, Recorder                      Date