



Parowan City Council Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Parowan City Council Chambers
35 E 100 N, Parowan, UT 84761

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Mollie Halterman, Councilmember David Burton, Councilmember Sharon Downey, Councilmember Matthew Gale, Councilmember Jim Shurtleff, Councilmember Rochell Topham

City Staff Present: Dan Jessen, City Manager; Callie Bassett, City Recorder; Judy Schiers, City Treasurer; Stacy Gale, Deputy Treasurer; Heather Shurtleff, Deputy Recorder; Jeremy Franklin, Power Superintendent; Stephen Ward, Shop Manager

Excused: Attorney Scott Burns

Public Present: See attached sign in sheet.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Mayor Halterman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Opening Ceremonies:** Councilmember Rochell Topham offered the invocation. She then led the council and the public in the pledge of allegiance

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

3. **Proposed ICSD School Bond Proposition:** Lance Hatch, Superintendent; Todd Hess, Business Administrator; and Ben Johnson, School Board President

Superintendent Hatch addressed the council and explained that they want to make sure that the council and the public understand the facts about the proposed school bond that will be on the general ballot in November. He said the school district is growing and has over 15,000 students. He said the bond in 2021 did not address all the needs of the district, and they knew that would be coming back with a bond in 2023.

Superintendent Hatch updated the council on the Parowan Multi-purpose building. They will break ground on this in the spring of 2024. He said that bond funds can only be used for construction. This 2023 bond will address growth, adequate facilities, and access to needed programs and facilities. They need to build a new elementary school. They also need a stand-alone facility for the SEA and Launch programs. Canyon View High School needs 9 new classrooms & a separate dance, wrestling, and weight room. This would bring the capacity up to Cedar High School. Another need is adequate football fields. They are proposing artificial turf for all three high schools in the district. Artificial turf makes the football fields available for many different uses. The final need is special needs accessible playground equipment.

Todd Hess said that they are proposing a \$75.5 million dollar tax neutral bond. The bond would be split in the following way: New Elementary School, 41%; Alternative Programs and Launch High School Facility, 32%; Canyon View High School Addition, 15%; High School Turf, 8%; and ADA Accessible Playgrounds, 4%. The promise is that this bond will not increase property taxes from their current levels. All the older bonds, except for the 2021 bond, have been paid off, which results in no incremental property tax increase.

Ben Johnson said that people have sacrificed to build the schools that we have. He said this bond is a good and positive thing for the kids in Parowan. He said we need to get the information out so that Parowan will help to pass this bond.

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA CONTINUED:

4. Declaration of Conflicts With or Personal Interest In any Agenda Items: No conflicts were declared.

5. Approval of Meeting's Agenda:

MOTION: Councilmember Downey moved to approve the agenda.

SECOND: Councilmember Topham seconded the motion.

VOTE: All councilmembers voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

6. Public Comment:

Mike Stagg, ULGT Risk Manager, addressed the council. He said that in 2021 the state of the city swimming pool was in complete disarray. He said what the community has done by banding together to get the pool open again and the way that the swimming pool was turned around to what it is now is incredible. He said when he saw the remodeled pool, his jaw hit the floor. He said Parowan's swimming pool is easily one of the top outdoor swimming pools in the state. He said this has been fantastic to see; the changes that were made and the things the community did were amazing. He awarded the City and Pool Manager Kirstin McCoy a ULGT safety award for the fantastic work that was done to bring the pool up to standard and to make it a facility where kids will be safe. He said the remodel was done the right way. He said he will be back to inspect the pool each year, and he knows the city will continue to receive this recognition.

CONSENT MEETING:

7. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2023

8. Approval of Warrant Register for September 28, 2023

MOTION: Councilmember Topham moved to approve consent meeting agenda items #7 and 8.

SECOND: Councilmember Burton seconded the motion.

VOTE: All councilmembers voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

ACTION MEETING

9. Vote on Pickleball & Pump Track Location (pending approval of conditional use permit).

Dan said there is an individual who is offering up services to do some design work who lives in town. They are talking about using him. The Mayor of Paragonah is also an engineer and he has offered to do some design work as well. The next official step is having a hearing and getting a conditional use permit from the Planning and Zoning committee. He cautioned the council that if they did vote on anything that it be conditional upon being approved in Planning and Zoning.

MOTION: Councilmember Shurtleff moved to send the pickleball and pump track location to the planning and zoning commission for approval; the pump track being located at the retention pond area and the pickleball courts in the area west of the soccer fields in the southeast corner of the city properties.

SECOND: Councilmember Topham seconded the motion.

VOTE: All councilmembers voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

WORK MEETING

10. Power Department Report: Jeremy Franklin, Power Superintendent

Jeremy gave the council a brief update on how the power cost adjustment (PCA) is going. He said the last couple of months the under collection has started to make a turn in the right direction, and the power purchase costs have started to level out. The PCA is at 4 cents, and the revenue is helping to eat away at the under collection. The recommendation is to keep it at 4 cents. He said they will need to discuss whether to adjust the PCA. He said the goal is to get it down below 1 cent. If purchase costs continue to decline, that may be possible. Jeremy reported that Red Creek will be up and running in a couple of weeks.

Jeremy reported on the Firm Power Supply Project. Parowan is one of the only UAMPS members not in the program. The Firm Power Supply Project manages various power supplies for participating members. The project agreement provides flexible terms for the purchase and the sale of capacity and energy from multiple resources. The project includes long-term market purchases; wind energy, geothermal/solar, and three utility scale solar projects. He feels the city should join the Firm Project, and the need to replace carbon-based resources continues. This would need to be approved by resolution at the next meeting.

Jeremy reported that the nuclear project is still trying to move forward, however they are lacking subscription. He also discussed Hunter Power Plan and the Sunnyside Waste Coal Plant. Jeremy feels that it is best not to join the Sunnyside project because it does not really fit our needs or load.

11. Reports, Updates, Old Business Follow Up – Elected Officials and Staff:

Councilmember Shurtleff said he did not have anything to report. However, he said the veterans met with the high school. They are going to help with the flag retirement ceremony. They want to do that up at that veteran's monument. He will need to get administrative approval to do that.

Councilmember Gale reported that they had a power board meeting. He said Jeremy covered everything they discussed. He also reported that Frank Showers and Ron Clayton have tested and lubed 236 hydrants. They told him three hydrants had clearance issues, and there was no access to turn them on. There were four hydrants hidden with brush that they cleaned away. There are a few hydrants that do not work. He said this is concerning. They have been doing some good work. Dan said there is a plan to get the broken hydrants fixed. They need to change out some hydrants that have the old Salt Lake thread pattern. He said they require special adapters to open that type of hydrant. They do not make that thread anymore, and there is only one adapter in Parowan.

Councilmember Downey did not have anything to report.

Councilmember Topham reported on the theater board meeting. They have a very good board that show up and want to participate. They have the theater booked out from October through December. They are planning on doing the spook alley again with the Inter Act club with students from PHS. The theme this year is "Nightmare Before Christmas." They are doing a food drive again and the food will be donated to the Sub for Santa. She reported that she is still working on the RAP Tax process. There will be a flyer coming out in the mail in the next couple of weeks. She has gotten some questions from the public, which she appreciates. She wanted everyone to know that there will be a required committee that will determine what the RAP tax funds will be used for.

Councilmember Burton recognized Mike Stagg for being so supportive of the city in helping to get the pool open. He reported on the Meeks pond. He said they are going to mow the pollinators on the east side in October. He talked with Justin about it and will schedule a time to do that. He commented on the crossing signs by the Dairy Freeze. He said people have started noticing them, respecting them, and using them. He thinks perhaps they might suggest to UDOT that they put them at 100 N/Main and then on Center Street/Main.

Councilmember Burton said the shade tree committee did not meet. He reported that the following items were discussed in the Planning and Zoning:

- McClean Farmer with Jones and DeMille came to talk about the master transportation plan and the identified crossings on the flood channel. There will be a public hearing on the 18th on the master transportation plan. Dan explained there is a group of property owners that are working to have the general plan amended and the transportation plan because 1200 W is identified as a major road and it goes through their properties. Planning and Zoning is considering downsizing that road instead of dropping it as a crossing. They want to downgrade it from collector road to a residential road.
- The Stowells want to abandon an easement next to their house. There will need to be a public hearing on that.
- A public Hearing is pending on Appendix A. They are getting legal opinion on how to adopt it.
- They decided not to address issuing a conditional use permit for landing helicopters on private property. They closed the issue.
- They are also working on the language on recreational courts to amend the ordinance.

Councilmember recognized all those who worked to get the pool open and thanked them for their time and their sacrifices to make that happen this year.

Dan Jessen reported that there has been some talk about political campaign signs in the public right-of-way. He said we have sent out reminders to the candidates. He did say that he researched the state code and found that we may be operating under an assumption that is not 100% the way we think it is. The council may choose to do something about this, but it is not exactly prohibited by state law to have campaign signs in the right-of-way. UDOT does not allow them in their right-of-way. In the state code 20A-17-103, basically states that if the city allows someone to post on public property, they must allow everyone to post on public property. The city must make it a fair playing field for all. Dan said we need to decide what we want to do and then put it in the code.

Dan gave an update on the library. They had a company come in and remove the asbestos flooring. They can put new flooring over the top of it. The mold mitigation included ceiling removal where there was water. That should have been completed today. The library is open. They are going to next stage. The insurance adjuster came out this week. They are cleaning the books that had the mold on it. The leak on the roof that caused the problem has been repaired.

Dan said he went to a CDBG workshop. He said only specific projects can apply and receive funding from the CDBG. The library qualifies, but libraries are low on the priority list. He will meet with the Five County Association of Governments sometime in November and if it looks like there is a descent change, they will apply for that grant.

Dan said that the airport runway project is moving along well. They found some soft spots that are not holding compaction. They had to fix those before they could move forward. The compaction tests are looking good. We still have a healthy buffer on time.

Dan said Jennelle Zajac has been working on writing a T Mobile grant for funds towards a phase of the rock church project. The grant has been sent off. It is a \$50,000 grant. If we get that grant, along with fund raiser money, they might be able to re-roof the rock church. Dan gave an update on the pool. September 16 was the last day it was open. They have winterized. Kirstin is working on standard operating procedures. The pool company is going to do a die test to see if there is a leak. They will have to find it and hopefully they will be able to fix it. The plaster will need to be repaired in the future. They are looking into putting a cover on the pool for the winter that decreases evaporation and increases safety. This specific cover will hold the weight of a person. The bid came back at \$9K. The water has been drained to below level the skimmer levels so they could blow out all the lines. They do not want to expose the plaster. They have sealed the concrete which will help it not be slick. Everything has been winterized and the equipment is off. They took down the climbing wall.

Mayor Halterman said they are close to getting the active transportation plan back. They have been asked for recent photos of people on bikes, people on trails, in historic areas, etc. to include in the transportation plan. The mayor reached out to USA Pickleball Association director and they started to go over the location, design, and goals of the community regarding the pickleball courts. He is willing to come out and look at the facility design. People have reached out to help with the pickleball courts as well as the rock church. They are hoping to protect areas of the church from the weather. They still do not know where they want to put the bricks. She mentioned that with the proposed location of the pump track they need to get an update to the grant people.

The mayor asked Mary Hanley to update the council on the shelter. Mary said the shelter is full with no prospects for adoption. They need a new shelter. They only have 4 runs. These dogs have all been abandoned. They would like to redo the fencing and the ground. She said all the shelters in the area are full. She said she would be happy to take the councilmembers out to give them a tour of the shelter. She will look up grants for shelters.

Mayor Halterman had a conversation with Mayor Calloway about getting the HOV signs up. She hopes they can get that done soon.

12. Closed Session: The Council may consider a motion to enter in to a closed session for specific purposes allowed under the Open and Public Meetings Act (Utah Code § 52-4-205), including to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or sale of real property; litigation; the character, professional competence, or physical/mental health of an individual; for attorney-client communications (Utah Code section 78B-1-137); or any other lawful purpose.

MOTION: Councilmember Downey moved to go into closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; and the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

SECOND: Councilmember Gale seconded the motion.

VOTE: A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	AYE	NAY	Absent
Councilmember Burton	X		
Councilmember Topham	X		

Councilmember Downey X
Councilmember Gale X
Councilmember Shurtleff X

The motion carried. The council moved into closed session at 8:22 p.m.

Present in the closed session: Mayor Halterman, Dan Jessen, Councilmembers Burton, Topham, Downey, Gale, and Shurtleff, Callie Bassett.

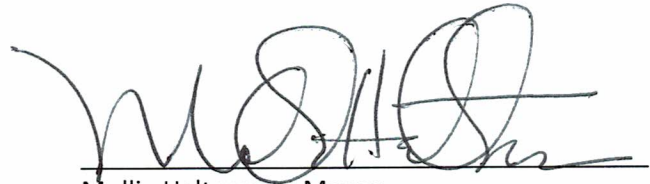
The council moved out of closed session at 9:25 p.m.

13. Adjournment:

MOTION: Councilmember Gale moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Councilmember Downey seconded the motion.

VOTE: The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



Mollie Halterman, Mayor



Callie Bassett, City Recorder

Date Approved: October 12, 2023