

**Town of Canyon City
Regular Council Meeting
May 16, 2023
Community Hall 5:30 PM**

Present: Mayor Steve Fischer, Council President: Jim Johnston, Councilors: Russ Comer, Rachelle Simmons and Lisa Weigum, City Recorder Tami Kowing, Museum Curator: Kitman Kienzle, Public Works: Tim Madden, Public: Cheryl, Jim Hendron, Linda Kinnaman, Jill Reeves, Scott Harrison, Colby Farrell and Hugh Farrell. Councilor Matt Turner was absent.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Council President Jim Johnston to approve the April 18, 2023 Council Minutes, as presented. Councilor Lisa Weigum seconded. The motion carried with all in favor.

Agenda Items

Farmers Market

Steve Fischer brought to the attention of the council that there is a scheduling conflict with the Farmers Market and '62 Days. Steve then asked what the actual conflict was. Scott Harrison said their biggest issue is with alcohol at the '62 Days event. Linda Kinnamon in support of Farmers Market said she has been involved with '62 Days for the last 10 years and has had a booth at which someone has delivered her alcohol. Steve asked her about the Farmers Market hours. They are 7-2 on Saturday. Sels does not open until 12.

Linda also stated that Farmers Market vendors have to pay a fee but the '62 Days vendors do not. Also, Farmers Market has to follow State and Federal regulations and '62 Days does not. She is worried about the insurance. They feel this is not a family friendly event. Colby stated the Boy Scouts are running the hamburger stand in the afternoon and does not know how this isn't family friendly. '62 Days insurance covers all of downtown for the weekend.

Steve said when Colby brought this to the Council everyone was thinking this was a positive collaboration and never dreamed there would be any issues.

Lisa said the Farmers Market is right in the fact that the Council overlooked the possibility of a conflict. And she apologized on the behalf of the city that we did not contact the Farmers Market to organize a collaboration. She asked if there was a way to resolve this conflict and work together.

Farmers Market organizers stepped out for a minute. Linda stated that they would like to have the vendors check in with Farmers Market and would like to work together.

Steve would like to open up the annex for additional vendors. He would like this to be a pilot program. The City will cover the \$20/vendor cover fees for '62 Days.

Lisa is sure that the two organizations will be able to work together cohesively to ensure a smooth run event by mapping out the vendor spots. The expectation is that this will be accomplished before that weekend.

Scott asked Colby to have his vendors get a hold of Farmers Market to organize placement.

Unscheduled/Other Business

Steve sent Tim to Ontario to represent Canyon City in support of SB5506 for our Capital Improvement needs.

Tim said the meeting was mostly groups talking to the Ways and Means Committee about their opinions and their need for SB5506. He gave examples of what other Cities wanted to use these funds. They were mostly wants not needs.

Steve received a letter from St. Thomas stating concerns about the utility rates for Churches. Tami verified that John Day does not charge their churches a double rate for non-payment of taxes. There are only 3 churches in Canyon City at this time. Lisa doesn't see an issue with the current rates they are being charged. Tami will do a resolution for the next meeting to reduce the fees for a church to 1 edu instead of 2.

Steve has heard some push back from residents that were not being charged for water because they don't use very much. Tami said there is a business that has 2 separate properties. One of them has never been billed for utilities because they don't use much. And there is an elderly woman that is only charged water and no sewer on her duplexes because she doesn't use much.

The Council agreed that if the water is on that there is a base monthly charge.

Colby let the Council know that August 18th there will be a band at Sels and September 16th will be Octoberfest. He was also asking for volunteers for the dunk tank.

Public Comment/Question and Answer Session Regarding Pending Water Project/Rate Change

Council & Staff Reports

Council:

Russ asked if there was an open container law in Canyon City. Steve said not in the park. Lisa said Sels is very careful about people leaving with an open container. Russ suggested that the City pay for the vendor fees for Farmers Market during '62 Days every year. The Council agreed.

Lisa would like to give appreciation to Tim and Elijah for the super job they did during the flood. Steve received compliments from Alan Hickerson about public works taking charge so he didn't have to worry about anything.

Jim talked with a citizen that said there was some line of sight issues on Izee St. and Main St. Tim will take care of it.

Public Works:

Tim talked to Joe and he is still waiting on the State to approve the highwater mark before we can start the bridge project. Joe has talked to the filtration people about our unique situation in order to specify the bidding process.

Museum:

Kitman said the museum has had a good opening. There was an organ and a saddle donated.

City Recorder:

Tami received an email from the City Attorney stating that the Easements should be ready for review shortly. A church is renting the theater to live stream their service from Idaho. Our equipment is so old that live streaming is not working. A laptop and wireless speakers would be perfect for this. Tami said it should run about \$2,000. The projector has given an error about overheating a couple times but should be fine for now. The Council agreed that upgrading is a good idea.

July 30th is the Audit with Solutions.

The Partition was approved for the Teague property. The City will go forward with naming the street Union Alley.

Fire Dept:

Bills before Council

Councilor Russ Comer made a motion to pay the bills, Council President Jim Johnston seconded and the motion carried all in favor.

Adjournment

After all agenda items were addressed, Mayor Fischer adjourned the meeting at 6:47 PM.



Steve Fischer, Mayor



Tami Kowing, City Recorder