**Mona City Council Work Session**

January 23, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Christensen- Mayor

Jay Christensen - Councilmember

TJ Pace **–** Councilmember

Kris Kay- Councilmember

Amy Stanley – Councilmember

Kevin Squire - Councilmember

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Alicia Hills – Mona City Recorder

Sara Samuelson – Mona City Finance Director

Michelle Dalton – Mona City Secretary

Chad Phillips – Gas & Water Operator

Lori Henrie – Planning and Zoning Secretary

Shay Morrison – Regional Planner

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Randy Christensen called the work session to order at 6:00 pm.

* Budget Follow-up:

Regional Planner Shay Morrison reported on how the sewer budget increase would be presented at the following city council meeting. The rate would increase from $52 per month to $72 per month for both residential and commercial billing. He stated that Mona City will have to compensate for planning that has not happened in the past as well as planning for the future. He suggested that the Council discuss creating separate sewer and residential commercial rates. He also stated that in his discussions with the Mona City Finance Director, the sewer budget will have a deficit of $350,000 for the year. He reiterated that every utility should be structured in such a way that they can cover their own costs. He suggested formulating a plan based on upcoming capital expenses and recurring expenses that will implement a schedule that will do a minor rate increase in the next years. He said that by simply doing a one-time $20 rate increase but not implementing minor increases, in 20 years the City Council will be in the exact same situation with another large deficit. He also suggested doing a large study into all of the city’s utilities to determine their current status and propose a plan for the future as well.

Morrison also reported that he talked with the Division of Environmental Quality as well as Tyler Faddis and found that Mona City’s current rates at $52 make it so that the city does not qualify for DEQ grants, which is an important source for funding. To be eligible for DEQ grants, the city will need to be in the range of the mid 70’s. To be competitive Mona City’s rates would need to be $100 plus per month.

Morrison concluded by stating that the Council needs to Compensate, Plan, and Implement. He stated that the $20 rate increase will compensate for the deficit; next the Council needs to plan for the future by determining what increases need to happen over the next years; then they should implement by holding public hearings to implement these fees and then listing the fees on the website and the date when they will take effect.

* Ordinance Suggestions:

Recorder Alicia Hills presented the ordinances that will be presented at the following city council meeting. They included Ordinance 2024-1: amendments to Mona City Code 8-5-1 services; 2024-3: Mona City Code 7-3-2 burials; and Mona City Code 2024-4 mobile food businesses. It was decided that for the food truck ordinance, food trucks will be allowed to park on Saturday mornings and can leave their trucks on public property for up to 12 hours.

Recorder Hills stated that she has received approval from Juab County to have the excessive vans removed from a citizen's property and the cost put onto the individual’s taxes. The Council instructed her to give him a final 30-day warning before completing the removal.

* 200 North Road Project – JHC Funds

There was discussion concerning the funding for this.

* DUP

Councilmember Stanley stated that the DUP is willing to sign a contract for using the building and agreed that if a paying person wants to use the building the DUP will reschedule.

Councilmember Stanley stated that she has had requests from citizens to do more of the old games at the Mona City Celebration. This would include the mayor’s races, a watermelon eating contest, etc. Councilmember Stanley also stated that the DUP is funded using fundraisers and they want to sell lemonade and Lucinda’s pulled pork sandwiches in the community center kitchen during the Mona Celebration. The Council stated that they would agree to a contract with the DUP for the first Monday of every month, and allow them to use the kitchen during the celebration this year.

Finance Director Samuelson stated that in the past, Councilmember Katrina Long had a vendor application for anyone interested in providing food at the celebration, and then her committee would decide who would run the snack shack and who could provide their food in a booth.

Finance Director Samuelson also stated that Recreation Director Quarnberg would like to run the tumbling class in the community center 3 nights per week. She stated that her concern is that the budget for the building is in the hole and allowing her to use it would take rental money away from the City. She said that when she and Director Quarnberg had discussed this, she had suggested that the recreation department could pay a rental fee for the nights they use the building. Director Samuelson asked the Council to think about how many nights they would allow for this.

**Adjournment**

**Mayor Christensen adjourned the meeting at 6:46 pm.**

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Randy Christensen, Mayor Alicia Hills, Mona City Recorder