

Kanab City Council Meeting
July 14, 2020
City Council Chambers
26 North 100 East Kanab, UT
6:30 PM

In Attendance: Mayor Robert D Houston, Council Members Arlon Chamberlain, Celeste Meyeres, Michael East, Jeff Yates and Byard Kershaw, Recorder Joe Decker, Attorney Jeff Stott and Treasurer Katherine Ohlwiler.

Mayor Houston explained that the Pre-Bid Meeting for Construction for the Water Tanks Project was the same day and had Joe Decker express what that meeting entailed. Joe Decker explained that the meeting was a few hours long as it was a pre-bid meeting for the water tanks and the water lines that they will be doing through town. The meeting was mandatory so anyone that will put in a bid had to be at the meeting. There were 38 different contractors from a few different states that showed up. Civil Science went through the plans, bids will be opened Tuesday July 21, 2020 at 3:00PM. The time line is 330 days to complete both tanks. The first tank will be online by January 14, 2021 and the second one will be done in June of 2021 also. Project 1 is both water tanks and project 2 is all the water lines and systems through town, some SCADA stuff and some valves on the wells. The same contractor could get both projects and get them done simultaneously.

Mayor Houston explained that the reason he put the add in the paper about wearing a mask within Kanab City was that day he had been at the hospital and there had been a pretty good increase of COVID cases. He felt as Mayor he needed to suggest and encourage people to wear a mask. He hopes people will be more careful. Celeste Meyeres asked that it would be clearer who is leaving the message in the paper. She thought it would be most clear if it was from the Mayor or the City Office as she received messages about it after the ad was in the paper. Mayor expressed he has the authority to state it was from Kanab City.

Jeff Yates offered the prayer and the pledge was led by Byard Kershaw. Roll call was taken and Mayor Houston called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Jeff Yates and 2nd by Michael East to approve the July 14, 2020 meeting agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Celeste Meyeres and 2nd by Byard Kershaw to approve the June 23, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers and Check Registers: A motion was made by Byard Kershaw and 2nd by Celeste Meyeres to approve the accounts payable vouchers and check registers dated June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$313,780.17, July 7, 2020 in the amount of \$255,214.57 and July 14, 2020 in the amount of \$51,997.50. Motion passed.

Public Comment Period: Delaney Matheson a health educator with the South West Utah Public Health Department is also the coordinator with the Healthy Kane County Youth Coalition

and they have a back to school triathlon planned for August 11, 2020 and they will also be doing a temporary bike lane and Mrs. Matheson invited the Council to attend and to see the temporary bike lane. The lane will run from the Skate Park down to the elementary school for the kids to ride from the pool to the elementary school. They are doing this to show what that area could look like in the future as the streets are wide enough to add a bike lane. It will also help with speeds to narrow the road a little and increase the safety of the kids that would be biking that area. Mrs. Matheson passed out flyers as a reminder for the triathlon.

Discuss – Vote on an opinion question to the residents of the City, so that each resident of the City has an opportunity to express the resident’s opinion on the imposition of a local sales and use tax of .1% on the transactions described in Utah Code 59-12-103(1) located within the City, to fund cultural facilities, recreational facilities, cultural organizations, and zoological organizations (RAP tax) in the City of Kanab:

Joe Decker explained the Recreation Programs has been a struggling fund. There is 39.2% of what comes out of the Property Tax the City receives that goes into that Recreation fund. Which is about \$180,000 a year. The Recreation program is growing and have taken on a lot of programs and is trying to continue with that and maintain the facilities that the City has. A few weeks ago there was a strategic planning session for the parks and recreation departments and it showed the City a lot of stuff that needs to be taken care of. With the pool in the rec fund, the debt service is about \$80,000 and it costs about \$150,000 to run the pool every year plus the rec programs. There is about a \$280,000 revenue coming in and about \$310,000 in expenses. The general fund always makes up the difference. The RAP tax is voted on by the Council to be put out to an opinion question to the public on a ballot to vote whether they want to do this or not. It is .1% on sales taxable items. If implemented it lasts for ten years and then it is re-voted on again. It is very similar to the tax the Special Service District has for the Hospital. It can only be used for recreation, arts and parks. Capital expenses, operations and maintenance all for the recreation, arts and parks of the City. This is very specific in Utah code on what is taxed or not. Food that is not prepared is not taxed but food that is prepared is taxed. It is easy to find out what it would produce for the City as the resort tax is similar so the .1% would be about \$89,000 per year. It does not include all taxable items. Unprepared food is the biggest item it is not taxed on. It would include tax on building supplies. Michael East appreciated the work that was done on this and thinks there are a lot of recreational needs in the City and thinks this tax would go a long way on this. He doesn’t know why people wouldn’t vote in favor of this. The Council would be approving to ask the question to the people. Jeff Stott expressed if a majority of the people voted in favor of it, it would then come back to the Council to vote to implement the tax. If people go to Cedar City or St George and buy items that are taxed with RAP tax, they are paying that tax to those cities. The City could not survive as a City without the 1% Resort tax that is collected. Celeste Meyeres wanted to voice a few concerns as this is a tough year on people and they are asking enough, she wondered how badly it would hurt the City to put it off for a year and ask the people then. She feels people are already feeling some type of way about taxes increasing. Byard Kershaw, Jeff Yates and Arlon Chamberlain were in favor of letting the people decide. Joe Decker explained in the code it is a legislative decision by the whole Council including the Mayor.

A motion was made by Michael East and 2nd by Celeste Meyeres to approve a vote on an opinion question to the residents of the City, so that each resident of the City has an opportunity to express the resident’s opinion on the imposition of a local sales and use tax of .1% on the

transactions described in Utah Code 59-12-103(1) located within the City, to fund cultural facilities, recreational facilities, cultural organizations and zoological organizations (RAP tax) in the City of Kanab. Motion passed by Arlon Chamberlain voting aye, Celeste Meyeres voting aye, Michael East voting aye, Mayor Houston voting aye, Jeff Yates voting aye and Byard Kershaw voting aye.

A motion was made by Jeff Yates and 2nd by Byard Kershaw to go into Closed Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Motion passed.

Mayor

Recorder