



**Town of Mantua Council Meeting Minutes**

**Held on February 15, 2024**

**6:30 at Town Hall 409 North Main Mantua, Utah**

---

**Council Members present:**

Mayor Terry Nelson, Matt Jeppsen, Karen Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones

Sherita Schaefer – Recorder

**Audience present:**

Dave Derricott, Pam Eves, Lisa Wyatt, Dallin Jennings, Marcus Abel, Luke Jennings, Dakota Midkiff, Shanne Coles

**Meeting opened by Mayor Nelson and the invocation offered by Ken Jones.**

**Pledge of allegiance – led by Mayor Nelson followed by all in attendance.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Meeting held on January 18, 2024 (Approved, vote: 5-0)

**Consideration to pay the bills:**

Karen Nelson made a motion to approve the bills, Matt Jeppsen seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

**Public Comment:** No public comments were made.

**Presentation:**

**Lisa Wyatt**, a representative of ES Solar, presented renewable energy services. She explained that solar panels would be placed directly on the roof of the town hall, with a warranty of 30 years and a reinstallation fee if the panels needed to be removed. **Wyatt** then stated that the Town of Mantua could possibly qualify for two tax credits: the federal tax credit of \$13,943 and the Utah tax credit of \$4,648. However, she advised the town to consult with a CPA regarding the tax credits.

**Wyatt** also mentioned that if the Town converted to solar panels, Rocky Mountain Power bills would no longer need to be paid. Currently, the Town pays \$1,973 for electricity, but switching to solar would cost \$10,000 per year. The council ultimately decided not to move forward with switching from electric to solar panels in the town hall.

## Discussion and Action Items:

### Easter Egg Hunt Event

**Karen Nelson** reviewed a presentation provided by resident **Esther Hatch** in response to the Mantua Easter Egg Hunt. The current budget is \$500. **Esther Hatch** is seeking approval to add Easter activities for teens with two separate age groups, ranging from 13-15 and 16-18.

Approval is requested to add fundraising for pictures with the Easter Bunny. A donation of \$5 for a picture with the Easter Bunny for up to 4 children and \$10 for a group of up to 10 children. All proceeds from the donations will go towards purchasing a new bunny costume and expanding future Easter celebrations.

**Karen Nelson** also reported that **Esther Hatch's** report emphasized the need for better announcement of the rules for the Easter egg hunt, as well as clear boundaries for age groups. **Esther Hatch** also requested that 50% of the eggs contain toys and 50% contain candy.

### Jason Evans (Young Ford Automotive Group - Donation to Easter Egg Hunt)

**Jason Evans** of Young Ford Automotive Group donated \$500 for the Mantua Easter celebration.

### Business License – Dallin Jennings Photography LLC

**Dallin Jennings** applied for a business license to establish an in-home brand photography business. The business did not have customers who frequented the location, as Mr. Jennings only took images of items used by various companies to represent the company's products.

**Matt Jeppsen** made a motion to approve Dallin Jennings Photography LLC, **Ken Jones** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

### Brigham City Corporation:

Not in attendance.

### Ken Jones - Emergency Preparedness Generators:

The well in Mantua does not have an alternative source of power. A generator is needed to pump well water in situations where there was no access to electricity. Mantua needed a new diesel generator, which could cost \$80,000 to \$150,000 from the town of Mantua water budget. **Ken Jones** and **Marcus Abel** are working on obtaining bids for a new diesel generator that would fit within the \$80,000 budget. **Ken Jones** also explained that he was working to establish contact with FEMA to obtain a grant in conjunction with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality to assist in applying for a grant with FEMA to help offset some of the costs to purchase a new generator.

### Moratorium on Cemetery Activities RESOLUTION 2024-02-15:

Due to the limited space at the town's cemetery and the increasing number of non-residents purchasing plots, council member **Jared Jeppsen** and public works director **Marcus Abel** have recommended extending the moratorium resolution that was voted in during 2023. The proposed moratorium would be in effect for the entirety of 2024, lasting for twelve months, and would prohibit non-residents from buying plots while restricting residents to purchasing a maximum of two plots. Additionally, transfers of plots to non-residents would be disallowed.

Over the next year, the council will explore options for expanding the current cemetery or acquiring additional property. Discussions have included comparing plot prices in both the town and neighboring areas, exploring alternative solutions for the future, and identifying potential land for expansion.

**Jared Jeppsen** made a motion to pass RESOLUTION 2024-02-15, a resolution authorizing a moratorium, **Karen Nelson** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

#### **PayScale for Fingerprinting Dakota:**

The Police Chief of the town of Mantua, **Dakota Midkiff**, would like to introduce an Ink Fingerprinting service to the public. The FD-258 fingerprint card is provided free of charge to law enforcement by ATF. Midkiff will provide the fingerprinting service Monday to Thursday from 9 am to 1 pm for \$15 per person. The fingerprinting card will then be given directly to the individual seeking the service.

**Karen Nelson** made a motion that Mantua have the fingerprinting ability for the public Monday through Thursday from 9am to 1pm and charge \$15 for this service, **Jared Jeppsen** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

#### **El Dorado Water Utilities - Outsourcing Contract with Freedom Mailing Services:**

**Angela Madsen**, Assistant Town Recorder, proposed that the Town of Mantua outsource the utility bills to Freedom Mailing Services. By outsourcing the billing process, the town will save an estimated \$400.00 per month that was typically spent on purchasing envelopes to mail utility payments. The service with Freedom Mailing Service will begin in April 2024.

**Matt Jeppsen** made a motion to contract with Freedom Mailing Services to mail out El Dorado Water Utilities bills, **Ken Jones** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

#### **Little Valley Days - Approve Fireworks:**

**Fire Chief Dave Derricott** has allocated a budget of \$9,100 for the upcoming 2024 Little Valley Days fireworks display. Fireworks West will be providing 1,888 shells for the show, which is expected to run for approximately 20 minutes.

**Matt Jeppsen** made a motion to approve the amount \$9,100 for Little Valley Days fireworks, **Ken Jones** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

## MOTION PASSES

**Planning and Zoning:** Pam Eaves or Representative  
Nothing to report

**Fire Department:** Chief Derricott or Representative  
Nothing to report

**Public Works:** Marcus Abel

**Marcus Abel**, the public works director, stated that backflow assemblies had to be tested by certified backflow testers by June 1st, 2024, for individuals utilizing culinary water for their sprinkler systems. **Mr. Abel** coordinated with residents to determine State of Utah Certified Backflow Testers.

**Mr. Abel** mentioned that some individuals had put ashes into their headstones. Sometimes ashes were also placed into a burial plot with his knowledge, and **Mr. Abel** was completely unaware if the person who owned the plot had passed away, which makes it difficult to determine where people are buried.

**Grants Update:** Karen Nelson

**Karen Nelson** stated that she will apply for the CDBG grant again next year since it did not go through.

### Council and Mayor Comments

**Matt Jeppsen** met with Box Elder County and the Forest Service about the snowmobile parking lot. The county proposed to Matt that the Town of Mantua clean the bathrooms and tend to the parking lots once the bathrooms and parking lot were built. **Matt** has a follow-up meeting with Box Elder County to further coordinate services and future objectives. The Town of Mantua would no longer take responsibility.

**Karen Nelson** made a motion to adjourn, **Jared Jeppsen** seconded.

**Yes votes:** Mayor Terry Nelson, Jared Jeppsen, Ken Jones, Karen Nelson, Matt Jeppsen

**No votes:** None

**Abstained:** None

**MOTION PASSES**

**Adjourn**