

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
DECEMBER 12, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Joe B Lyman Robert Ogle Taylor Harrison Kd Perkins
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Recreation Director:	David Palmer

Absent: Councilmember Cheryl Bowers

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Diane Balch, Mike Lee, Scoot Flannery, Kara Laws, Jesse Fabula, Logan Shumway.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kd Perkins.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the November 25, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

### 3. **OPEN FORUM**

A. The following statement was read by Robert Ogle, “Every City Council we stand and pledge our “allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands.” What is a republic?

*A republic is a form of government where the citizens hold free and open elections to elect representatives at the city, county, state and federal levels. Those duly elected representatives at the city, county, state and federal levels are then obligated to protect and preserve the rights, freedoms and liberties provided by our constitution for their constituents. These duly elected representatives at the city, county, state and federal levels must work together and unite their efforts in order for the republic to be “indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”*

*On December 15th all these principles will change. On December 15th Blanding will be fractured into pieces and its citizens disenfranchised. On December 15th a treasonous, traitorous judge will rip out the county representation for Blanding and give it away. Judge Shelby, by name, will not only steal the county representation for Blanding and give it away, he will give it to an entirely separate, independent, sovereign nation.*

*The next county representative for Blanding will be a member of an entirely separate, independent, sovereign nation. The next county representative for Blanding will have their allegiance to an entirely separate, independent, sovereign nation not to Blanding; and within that entirely separate, independent, sovereign nation the citizens of Blanding have no rights and are considered persona non grata.*

*In order to achieve this heinous injustice Judge Shelby will intentionally commit blatant acts of tyranny and sedition. Judge Shelby will maliciously mock all principles of good governance. On December 15th the American republic and the constitution upon which it is built will no longer be in full force in Blanding.”*

B. Jesse Fabula representing Armstrong Consultants introduced himself to the Council. Mr. Fabula will be working with the City on the scheduled airport project in the spring.

### 4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

#### **A. Terry Ekker presented the November 2017 Water Report**

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation is currently at 7%.

#### **B. Chief Torgerson presented the November 2017 Police Report**

Chief Torgerson reported total incidents were 101 for November. The total number of citations was 167 compared to 103 a year ago. 13 dogs were picked up, 11 were returned to their owners.

#### **C. David Palmer presented the November 2017 Recreation Report**

Mr. Palmer reported that annual memberships are up 286 from last year. This is partly attributed to UNHS and San Juan Public Health paying for memberships for their employees. He also shared that the new playground at Centennial Park has been quite busy, and he has received positive comments about the new play equipment from residents.

**5. AGENDA**

***A. 2018 City Council Meeting & Holiday Schedule - Kim Palmer***

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the 2018 City Council Meeting Schedule and the 2018 Holiday Schedule. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting**

**was**

**as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Resignation & Midterm Vacancy - Joe Lyman/Jeremy Redd***

Councilmember Lyman tendered his resignation by reading the following, *“I wanted to take a moment to tender my resignation as a member of City Council effective January 1, 2018 in order to assume the duties as Mayor for the next four years.*

*It has been my pleasure to serve for 10 years as a Blanding City Councilmember. I have served with 13 different councilmembers and two mayors. I have been gratified that they have largely served with integrity and a spirit of statesmanship and the heartfelt interests of the community rather than personal politics as motivation.*

*We recently elected three new councilmembers, Robert Turk, Logan Shumway and Cheryl Bowers who was appointed last spring. I look forward to serving with them as well as KD Perkins, who with my resignation will become our senior council member.*

*Any wishing to seek appointment to fill the remaining two years of my term should contact Jeremy Redd and apply online for the vacant position by January 4th for consideration by the remaining four councilmembers. The appointment will be made at the first scheduled City Council Meeting of 2018 on January 9th at 7pm.”*

***C. UAMPS Behind the Meter Solicitation - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that UAMPS is requesting information regarding the City's interest in a behind the meter system. The system would be solar and most likely designed for property east of the Visitor Center. The system would not be the solution to the reduction of coal fired power, but could supplement. This project would be a diversification in the City's power sources. The number of panels that would be necessary to provide a request of 500kW has not been determined. Mayor Balch asked for advice and consent from Council to allow Mr. Redd to move forward in participation of the solicitation program for solar power. It was unanimously given.

***D. Visitor Center Restroom Damage - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared that there has been substantial water damage in the restrooms at the Visitor Center. The damage is extensive in the floors, subfloors and walls. The insurance adjuster has inspected the damage and is currently working on recommendations. Local contractors have also inspected the damage and are working on bids for the repairs. Councilmember Harrison asked how long it would take to complete the job. Mike Lee, local contractor, responded at least a month. It is not known what might lie behind the walls and floors until the damaged material is removed.

***E. Ordinance 2017-3-Animal Control - Joe Lyman***

\*The discussion and action taken on the animal control ordinance was held following the public hearing on the ordinance.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve changes to *Ordinance 2017-3 Animal Control*  
Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***F. Plaque Presentation - Outgoing Mayor & City Council - Joe Lyman***

Mayor Balch presented plaques of service to Councilmember Taylor Harrison and Councilmember Robert Ogle. Councilmember Harrison stated how grateful he was for the opportunity he has had to serve the people of Blanding.

Councilmember Lyman presented a plaque and centennial quilt to Mayor Balch for 10 years of service as Blanding City Mayor.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance 2017-3-Animal Control - Joe Lyman**

Council entered a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. as scheduled.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to enter a public hearing regarding Ordinance 2017-3-Animal Control, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman Councilmember Harrison Councilmember Perkins Councilmember Ogle</b>
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<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

There were no public comments regarding the ordinance change.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the public hearing and return to open meeting. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman Councilmember Harrison Councilmember Perkins Councilmember Ogle</b>
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<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**7. INFORMATION**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
NOVEMBER 28, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Cheryl Bowers

Robert Ogle

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Robert Turk, Valerie Turk.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Jeremy Redd.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the November 14, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Bowers**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mayor Balch requested a line be added to the minutes regarding the vote on alcohol, beer and wine that had taken place earlier in the month.

3. **OPEN FORUM**  
None
4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

Mr. Ekker reported the project began on Monday. A meeting will be held weekly with the contractors to discuss the project's progress. An outage will take place on December 13th to move those customers on the 4kV line to a temporary transformer while the new substation bay is constructed. Residents and business owners who will be affected will be notified either through personal contact or social media.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

Mr. Ekker shared that the project is scheduled for bid this upcoming year. The project will start after April 1st.

***Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project***

The new odorizer equipment has been delivered. The project is anticipated for completion during 2018.

***Airport Runway Project***

Mr. Hosler shared that the project is scheduled to begin Spring 2018. The project is scheduled to take place over a 45 day period. The airport will be unavailable to handle flights during this time period.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Resolution 11-28-2017-1 - Event Sponsorship Policy - Joe Lyman***

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 11-28-2017-1 - Event Sponsorship Policy. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Following the discussion, Mayor Balch called for a vote.**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Councilmember Ogle expressed his feelings regarding the role of government in sponsoring events stating it is not the role of government to sponsor private events.

***B. Snow Removal Flyer - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the attached flyer would be included with customer bills in November.

Mr. Redd explained that Chief Torgerson is gathering a list of vehicles that have been parked on the street for a number of days. Owners of these vehicles will receive a letter asking for them to

be stored off City streets. It was suggested that vehicle owners who refuse to remove their vehicles receive a citation when snow plows are unable to remove the snow in that location.

**C. Approval of 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer reported that the financial audit was conducted in August by the accounting firm of Kimball and Roberts. She continued to share the following information from the audited statement report. City assets exceeded liabilities by \$48,518,784 during FY2017. Revenues and expenses were less than budgeted. The City's total increased by \$907,031 during the year, due to the 1.4 million dollar bond for the electric project. Total debt outstanding was at \$6,696,309. It was noted that the debt is secured by revenues only, not City assets. Ms. Palmer also pointed out that although the report shows a decrease in the net position of the general fund it does not show the funds that were used from Savings. She reminded Council that funds had been designated to come from savings to be used during the 2017 budget year. The City's overall net position increased by \$615,481. Mr. Redd shared that there were no compliance findings during the audit and commended Ms. Palmer on another great year and a clean audit.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**6. INFORMATION**

A. Mr. Redd told Council that a public hearing has been scheduled for the Animal Ordinance at the December 12th meeting.

B. The City Holiday Party has been scheduled for December 7th at 6:00 pm at the Arts and Events Center.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
NOVEMBER 14, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch  
Cheryl Bowers  
Joe B Lyman  
Robert Ogle  
Taylor Harrison  
Kd Perkins  
Jeremy Redd  
Kim Palmer  
Terry Ekker  
David Palmer  
Chief Torgerson

City Manager:

Finance Director:

City Engineer:

Recreation Director:

Police Chief:

Others Attending: Logan Shumway, JJ Bradford, Kendall Laws, Kara Laws.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kim Palmer.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the October 24, 2017 meeting with corrections. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the October 2017 Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation is at 7.4% of normal. It is very dry.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the October 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported the department had 89 calls of service during October. The number of citations had also increased. Eight dogs were impounded and four were returned to their owner.

Councilmember Perkins asked how many Blanding City officers participated in the traffic checkpoint held in LaSal. Chief Torgerson responded that 3 officers assisted in the checkpoint.

***C. David Palmer presented the October 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer told Council the increase in Wellness Center revenue is largely related to the annual memberships being paid by UNHS for their employees.

The playground equipment is installed and it is anticipated the surfacing installation will be completed by Thursday afternoon. A walk through of the new area will be taking place on Friday morning.

Councilmember Bowers asked if pickleball was available at the Wellness Center. Mr. Palmer responded that the center has the equipment and the court is laid out for the game. It is an activity that is becoming quite popular throughout the state.

5. **AGENDA**

***A. Ordinance 2017- 2 - Permitted Uses in an R2 Zone - Jeremy Redd***

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Ordinance 2017-2-Permitted Uses in a R2 Zone. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**B. Resolution 11-14-2017-1 - Board of Canvassers Certifying the Municipal Election - Jeremy Redd**

The following election results were reported during the meeting:

<b>MAYOR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Joe B Lyman	658
<b>COUNCIL CANDIDATES 4-YEAR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Robert Turk	443
Cheryl Bowers	434
Taylor K Harrison	392
Robert G Ogle	335
<b>COUNCIL CANDIDATES 2-YEAR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Logan Shumway	581
Cory D Raisor	279
<b>Question 1 - Should the City allow the sale of beer and wine in Blanding City Limits?</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Yes	306
No	579

Additionally the following voter turnout statistics were reported.

<b>TURNOUT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Registered Voters	1,320
Number of Ballots Cast	1,005
Turnout Percentage	76%
Ballots Rejected	15

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve Resolution 11-14-2017-1 - Board of Canvassers Certifying the Municipal Election. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mayor Balch noted that the question of whether alcohol, beer or wine should be sold in Blanding was defeated by 273 votes.

***C. Redistricting Hearing - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared the information regarding the public hearing concerning the redistricting of County Commission and School Board voting districts within the County. The public hearing will allow for comments about the proposed maps, which were designed by a Special Master selected by the United States District Court of Utah. Mr. Redd told the Council that each of the proposed voting district maps split Blanding into multiple districts. It was also noted that each of the proposed districts give no indication of population numbers.

Council discussed the question of whether the proposed maps are constitutional. It was common knowledge by all involved that the maps were designed based on race according to Councilmember Lyman. The public hearings being held will take place in Monticello and Bluff. The hearings are scheduled during workday hours, making it difficult for residents to attend.

Councilmember Lyman directed Council to the document and the three questions be addressed by those who attend the hearings including; 1) Do you notice any inaccuracies in the proposed maps?; 2) Do you prefer one proposed preliminary County Commission plan over another?; 3) Do you prefer one proposed preliminary School Board plan over another?

Councilmember Perkins asked City Attorney Kendall Laws why the Federal Court can ignore State public hearing guidelines. Mr. Laws responded that Federal Court rules allow them to overlook those state laws.

Councilmember Bowers asked if the County had population numbers on these districts. Mr. Laws responded that yes, they have numbers, but because of the gag-order that was issued those numbers cannot be shared at this point. Councilmember Lyman stated that this means they are most likely hiding something, meaning they are out of compliance. Mr. Laws stated that a preliminary report by the Special Master included some figures on population, but not all

numbers are included.

Mr. Redd reminded the Council that the City needs to primarily focus on the impact on Blanding, not necessarily on the County. Each of the proposed maps splits Blanding City into three different districts. This is not healthy or fair to this community and minimizes the vote of each member of the community.

Councilmember Lyman stated that the current proposed maps are very similar to the maps that were proposed 5 or 6 years previous. He asked for Council's approval on a resolution he had drafted that was in response to the proposed maps. The resolution will be read at each of the two hearings being held in the coming days. The resolution was read in the meeting and is as follows;

**RESOLUTION 11-14-2017-2**  
**A Resolution Regarding County Redistricting**

WHEREAS, Blanding is the largest community in San Juan County and has a diverse population; and

WHEREAS, Good governance dictates that districting plans not split political subunits or communities of interest if possible; and

WHEREAS, No current proposal leaves Blanding intact as a political subunit and community of interest, and the plan can be improved to better meet good governance standards; and

WHEREAS, Any proposal that splits Blanding into multiple districts disenfranchises the citizens of our community and weakens their representation as a community.

WHEREAS, The law should be color blind and it is clear that a racial result is the stated objective of this process; and

WHEREAS, There exists decades of case law that prohibit political gerrymandering to achieve a racial result.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council of Blanding, Utah opposes any three member commission districts that divide our community, consisting of the Incorporated boundary as well as the immediate surrounding area.**

FURTHERMORE, IT IS OUR OPINION THAT,

The fact that Blanding will be dramatically affected by the redistricting and there was no hearing held in Blanding is unacceptable. The location and timing of the hearings in Monticello and Bluff during the workday and with short notice is unreasonable, leaving little time for proper research for individual citizens or for the City Council to discuss and form comments and attend.

We assert there are better solutions. Perhaps a five member commission elected at large with a residency requirement for each of the five school board districts, or three commissioners elected by districts with an additional two commissioners elected at large.

Pending such a solution, we believe that all three commissioners should be elected at large. There is nothing more fair than every voter having an equal voice in electing all three commissioners. Commissioners represent all of the citizens of the county, so it is inherently unfair to have districts whereby every voter is denied the ability to vote for two of their three representatives. Districts create division and inequity.

**The Blanding City Council opposes any option that splits our community into multiple voting districts. This is not the only option, and is clearly at odds with good governance standards.**

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 14th day of November, 2017.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 11-14-2017-2- A Resolution Regarding County Redistricting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Dog Questions/Dog Licensing Late Fees - Mayor Balch/Cheryl Bowers***

Mayor Balch led the discussion by stating he has no problem with the licensing fees for dogs, but has some concern over late fees being charged. He pointed out that the resolution outlining the fees does not include the late fees. Councilmember Lyman responded that the ordinance states

late fee to be 50% of the license fee. Mayor Balch disagreed stating that the ordinance says that the fees will be established by resolution. Councilmember Harrison responded the fee was established by the ordinance/law, which states that the late fee is 50% of the registration fee. The amount of the late fee is established there.

Councilmember Lyman shared that the first law passed by the City was the dog ordinance, in 1914. He reminded Council that the ordinance was brought back the forefront most recently, by residents who were feeling threatened by dogs as they walked or ran in the community. Since the policy was revamped and brought back, he has had less complaints. He then recommended no changes be made to the existing ordinance and policy. Councilmember Ogle suggested that the late fee be removed, so the responsible citizen is not penalized.

It was determined that item 6 will be removed from the ordinance, eliminating the late fee. The ordinance change will have to be presented in a public hearing and changed by ordinance.

Councilmember Bowers shared that a few concerned citizens have offered to provide blankets, and toys for impounded dogs. Some are also willing to walk the dogs daily. She then stated that these same individuals are concerned over the treatment of the animals. She asked Officer Bradford to explain how they are cared for. Officer Bradford responded that the animals are fed daily and each pen is cleaned daily. He then stated that although the blankets and toys are a generous offer, they are destroyed quite quickly by the animal and the material is finding its way to the drains. He is having to clean out those drains to avoid plugging the sewer line.

Councilmember Bowers then asked if there were any other options to handling these stray animals other than euthanizing them. Chief Torgerson responded that each stray animal picked up is put on FaceBook in an attempt to locate the owner. Many animals have been adopted rather than euthanized. The City does not have the facility, man-power, or funding to run a full adoption program. It has been tried by individuals in the community, but because it has not worked well it did not last long. Councilmember Lyman stated that he was pleased by how many animals are being adopted. Councilmember Bowers asked if there was any issue with individuals helping to find homes for the animals. Council agreed that was not a problem.

Kendall Laws commented that allowing community members to spend time walking these animals could lead to a liability issue. He recommended that only City personnel handle the care of the impounded animals.

***E. CIB Meeting Update - Joe Lyman/Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker told Council that he and Councilmember Lyman had attended the CIB meeting held in Moab last week where they requested grant funding for needed equipment. CIB did not offer grant funding but rather a \$500,000 loan. They also recommended the City investigate the possibility of leasing equipment rather than purchasing. In the end, the request was placed on the

pending list. The next CIB meeting will be held in February and the City will have another chance to make a case for grant funding.

***F. Event Sponsorship Discussion - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Ogle restated his opposition to the sponsoring of any activity, restating that it is not the role of government to support these activities. The Mayor agreed, although he would support the Easter Egg Hunt. Councilmember Lyman stated that he agrees with Councilmember Ogle, unless the objective of the event meets some goals and benefits City residents. Councilmember Bowers agreed. Mr. Redd stated that it can be done by resolution or just as a policy. Council asked that it comes back as a resolution for approval at the next meeting.

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Perkins shared at the San Juan Transportation meeting it was announced that the district is anticipating next year's funding to be only \$400,000. The funding received in 2014 was \$1.6 million dollars. The City will receive only the \$100,000 for the loan payment. Mr. Redd reminded Council that funding for the Transportation District is collected through oil and gas mineral lease payments, which have declined over the past few years due to the low price of oil and other extraction commodities.

Councilmember Bowers stated that a meeting to discuss the Food Bank is being held on Thursday evening for all interested parties. The meeting will be held in the Council chambers.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

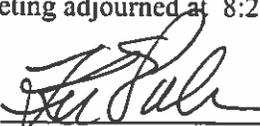
**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
OCTOBER 24, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Robert Ogle

Kd Perkins

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Kara Laws, Logan Shumway.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Calvin Balch

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the October 10, 2017 meeting and the removal of item D, Event Sponsorship Discussion from the agenda. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

None

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that the City budgets are within in budgeted amounts. She then asked if there were any questions or comments, which there were none.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. Resolution 10-24-2017 Revising the Blanding City Business License Fee Schedule - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer reminded Council of the previous discussion regarding home-based businesses. Home-based businesses will be required to have a business license from the City, but there will be no charge for it. Mayor Balch asked if a business located in another building on the same property as the businesses owners personal residence is considered a home-based business. The response was no, that would be a commercial business and must adhere to all guidelines for them. **Councilmember Lyman moved to Resolution 10-24-2017 Revising the Blanding City Business License Fee Schedule. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Following the discussion Mayor Balch called for a vote.**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**B. County Budget Request - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer told Council that the City will be sending a request for three items to the County for the 2018 County budget. The first items is \$60,000 for airport improvements. Those Improvements include the local share of the \$2,000,000 runway project set for spring. The second item is a request to waive landfill fees for the disposal of a old home located on City property. This is a request from prior years that was not granted as is item number 3, the request for survey work on the County master transportation corridor plan.

**C. ISO Residential Classification Regression - Bret Hosler**

Mr. Hosler told Council that during a recent evaluation by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) it was determined that the City's current classification of 3 be dropped to a class 4 rating. The drop in class has an affect on the cost of insurance for residents. Mr. Hosler told Council that the main finding was in training requirements. The ISO sets the amount of training required by City building officials. The question was raised about how often the ISO completes the evaluations. Mr. Hosler responded that evaluations are completed every 4 years. He also stated that the drop in classification will not occur if the City provide a plan to them on how they will fix the issues they noted in their review. Included in the packet was a letter to the ISO stating their intention to improve the number of training hours recommended by the ISO. Ms. Palmer asked if online or webinars would be an avenue in gaining additional training requirements. Mr. Hosler responded that was an area he and City Manager, Jeremy Redd had also discussed.

6. **Public Hearing - Ordinance 2017-2-Permitted Uses In An R2 Zone**

**Public Hearing - Eastside Sewer Bond**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to enter a public hearing. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

The public hearing was an opportunity for public comments on both Ordinance 2017-2 and on the Eastside Sewer Bond. There were no public comments on either.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the public hearing. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left a public hearing and reentered the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**7. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Ogle announced that the Daughters of Utah Pioneers will be presented their plaque to the local camp on November 5th at 2:00 p.m. at the Swallows Nest.

Councilmember Harrison shared that the chamber is working with a group who is interested in creating an organization that would operated the women's shelter and the food bank. This is just in the planning stages and more information will come as it progresses.

Councilmember Harrison also shared that the City crew had done an excellent job in setting the concrete at the location of the new playground. Contractors for the installation of the equipment stated that concrete was set with in 1/8" of what was needed. They were impressed with the work

done by the crew.

Mayor Balch stated that a discussion on dog license fees is needed. The item will be included on the next meeting agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
OCTOBER 10, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Cheryl Bowers

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Chief of Police:

Jason Torgerson

Community Development Director:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Kelly Pehrson, Natalie Randall, Kendall Laws, Logan Shumway.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Taylor Harrison.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the September 26th meeting minutes and financial disbursements. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

**None**

#### 4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

##### ***A. Terry Ekker presented the September 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker told the Council that the state water year ended at the end of September. The irrigation water year will end on October 31st. The year ended with 95.5% of average annual precipitation.

One natural gas service was added in September and usage was up slightly from last year.

##### ***B. Chief Torgerson presented the September 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported the department handled 81 calls for service during September. The number of arrests and calls were down from last year. The number of citations was up from 2016.

He also told the Council that Officer Bradford will be taking over the animal control responsibilities. Officer Bradford picked up 10 dogs of which 3 were from the County and 3 were returned to their owners.

Councilmember Bowers asked if any dogs were being adopted from the pound. Chief Torgerson responded that yes there have been several dogs adopted. Dogs that are picked up are placed on FaceBook in an effort to reunite them with their owners. When that does not occur, those dogs are available for adoption.

##### ***C. David Palmer presented the September 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer reported that the flag football season had just finished and girls' basketball registrations are occurring. The area for the new playground equipment is currently being prepared. The equipment is scheduled for delivery on the 17th of October.

Memberships are continuing to climb in comparison to last year.

#### 5. **AGENDA**

##### ***A. San Juan County Economic Development Review - Jeremy Redd/Natalie Randall***

Mr. Redd introduced Natalie Randall, San Juan County Economic Development and Visitor Services Director. Ms. Randall told Council that the Economic Development office wants to collaborate and partner with communities in the County in developing economic growth in the area.

One area the department is looking at is what the assets are in the County and how those assets might be used in developing the County. She used the sewing factory located in Montezuma Creek as an example.

Councilmember Lyman stated that it is going to be important that the County/City figure out who they are and who they don't want to be. It is important to find that answer before determining what to promote.

Ms. Randall then shared the County’s strategic plan that meets the requirements of the Governor’s 25K jobs initiative. The five key focus areas of the plan are transportation, broadband, business expansion and retention, diversification, and culture and heritage. The document is currently being reviewed and suggestions have been made by the San Juan County Commission. When the plan is finalized, a presentation will be made to the State.

***B. Ordinance 2017-1- Creating a Community Reinvestment Agency - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd presented the Ordinance for creating a Community Reinvestment Agency.

Councilmember Lyman stated that the City would have to provide the initial funding to the CRA. But the question of how much that might be has not been answered, nor can it be until a project is on the table. Mr. Redd stated that as each project for CRA funding is reviewed, research in the project will have to be completed to ensure a fair payback schedule is set and interest is charged. This would be different for each entity and project. Councilmember Harrison stated that until a project is requesting assistance, there is no way to actually see how it will all play out.

Councilmember Lyman stated that he had a conversation with Merri Shumway from the San Juan School District Board regarding the CRA. Ms. Shumway is familiar with the program and is generally supportive of the concept. No other board members have been approached.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Ordinance 2017-1- Creating a Community Reinvestment Agency. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting**

was

**as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Implementation of SB81 - Home Based Business Licensing - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated that Blanding City has never required a business license for businesses run seasonally by community youth. The State of Utah has a new code which states that a municipality may not; require a license or permit for a business that is operated: only occasionally, by an individual who is under 18 years of age or charge a license fee for a home-based business, unless the combined offsite impact of the home-based business and the primary residential use materially exceeds the offsite impact of the primary residential use alone. Mr. Redd continued that at this time the City needs to determine how it would like to manage future

licensing of home-based businesses. He suggested that each home-based business complete a business license online, with no charge attached to it. The business owner could print their license right from the online form. By completing the online registration the City could monitor the numbers and types of businesses operating in the community, but it wouldn't require additional City resources without compensation. Council agreed that it was important to require the license, but did not see a need for a fee attached.

***D. Event Sponsorship Discussion - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman told Council that the policy was being developed to set guidelines for organizations, businesses, and individuals seeking financial assistance from the City for their event. The draft policy requires those seeking assistance to do so during the budgeting process in February. Council determined to table the discussion until the next Council meeting to review the document further. Councilmember Lyman requested that suggestions or comments be inserted to the draft document online during the two week time period.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to table the Event Sponsorship discussion. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**6. INFORMATION  
None**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Cheryl Bowers

Robert Ogle

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Fire Chief:

Corey Spillman

Others Attending: Kara Laws, Scoot Flannery. Kendall Laws, Todd Moon, Harold Lyman, Craig Simpson

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the September 5, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Bowers**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Harold Lyman shared information he had gathered from an economic development conference he had recently attended. He encouraged the Council to get involved in the Governor's 25K Jobs initiative. The initiative is to create 25,000 jobs throughout rural Utah. Councilmember Ogle stated that San Juan County has been challenged to create 150 new jobs. Mr. Redd stated that he has met with Natalie Randall, San Juan Economic Development Director and discussed the initiative.

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been awarded to Cache Valley Electric and the contracts have been signed. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled when the project materials arrive. The project will then begin.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

Right of way acquisition has been completed. The project is in the final design phase with an anticipated start date in the spring.

***Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project***

The new odorizer equipment has been delivered. A building to house the odorizer will be ordered and the necessary piping modifications need to be designed. It is anticipated that the project will be completed during the current budget year.

***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer asked for questions on the Financial Report. There were none.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Regional Fire School - Chief Corey Spillman***

Chief Spillman shared information regarding the upcoming Regional Fire School that will be held October 13th and 14th at Centennial Park. The event includes not just training for firefighters but also activities for the community including a dutch oven cookoff and a free lunch sponsored by Clark's Market.

***B. Resolution 9-26-2017-1 Amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for Blanding City to Set Policy for Elected Officials Retirement Eligibility Status - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that a Utah Retirement System (URS) audit had took place in August. Auditors from URS visited Blanding and reviewed the City's URS account with her. The audit went well, with only one request needed to comply with state guidelines. URS requires that cities address the retirement benefits associated with elected and appointed officials. The resolution that she presented would meet that requirement and be added to the City's personnel policy.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve Resolution 9-26-2017-1 Amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual for Blanding City to Set Policy for Elected Officials Retirement Eligibility Status. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Resolution 9-26-2017-2 - Consideration for and adoption of a Parameter Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$3,000,000 in Parity Wastewater Revenue Bonds of the City of Blanding, San Juan County, Utah and calling of a public hearing to receive input with respect to the issuance of such Bonds and any potential impact to the private sector from the construction of the Project.***

Mr. Redd explained to the Council how a parameter resolution worked. The resolution sets a maximum on the amount the City chooses to bond for a project. The amount is generally above the actual amount bonded. Mayor Balch expressed his concern regarding the parameter bond's figure of 3 million, as that would give Mr. Redd the authority to increase the cost of the project. Mr. Redd responded that would not have that authority as it is the Mayor who signs the final bond documents. Mayor Balch then asked what the final amount was projected on the project, to which Mr. Ekker responded that the final design on the project is being finalized. Mr. Redd commented that when the final bid is done Council can make the decision to move forward with the project, scrap the project or make alterations if possible. Councilmember Lyman spoke stating that the amount stated in the parameter resolution gives the City some headroom if the bids came in higher. This has been the process with all major projects that have been bonded. He does not see a reason to not move forward with the resolution. Mayor Balch expressed again his concern with the figure of the parameter bond and also with lack of final design figures or bids. He then asked how the \$3 million amount was determined. Mr. Redd responded that the amount was determined by the bond attorneys, as has always been the process. He also stated that if Council desired the amount could be reduced or changed to an amount the Council might prefer.

**Councilmember Perkins approve Resolution 9-26-2017-2 - Consideration for and adoption of a Parameter Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$3,000,000 in Parity Wastewater Revenue Bonds of the City of Blanding, San Juan County, Utah and calling of a public hearing to receive input with respect to the issuance of such Bonds and any potential impact to the private sector from the construction of the Project. Councilmember Harrison**

**seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Event Sponsorship Discussion - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman stated that the idea behind the Event Sponsorship policy was to give guidelines on how the City might respond to a request for donations. The document he presented is a start to that policy. The policy currently states that donations would only be made to nonprofit entities to which Councilmember Bowers commented she was not entirely comfortable with that stipulation. She felt there were other organizations and individuals that could benefit from the assistance who are not a non-profit organization. Councilmember Ogle stated that there are many worthy causes but it is not the role of government to support with charitable contributions. He suggested contributions made go to those events that are creating economic benefits to the community, such as the 4th of July. The event should draw from outside the community and bring in new money. Councilmember Lyman suggested that the item come back for further discussion and asked each member to make comments or suggestions to this draft.

***D. Permitted Uses In an R2 Zone - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman stated that currently in a R2 zone the only businesses allowed are hospitals, nursing homes, sanatoriums, medical and dental clinics. The Planning Commission is recommending that a change is made to include professional offices such as medical and dental clinics, law, insurance, architect and accounting offices. A public hearing will be scheduled on the proposed changes.

**6. Public Hearing - Proposal by the City to seek funding from the Community Impact Board for the purchase of major equipment.**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to enter a public hearing. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Redd told those in attendance that the City would like approach the Community Impact Board (CIB) for funding to purchase needed equipment. The estimated cost of the equipment is \$500,497.79. These figures were estimated by accessing state contracted prices. He asked if a grant was not offered would the Council entertain taking a 1.5% loan from CIB. Mayor Balch responded that if a grant is not available the City should use savings to make the purchase.

There were no comments from the public on this item.

Mr. Redd told Council that the attached ordinance to create a Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA) is being presented for public comment. Councilmember Lyman spoke in favor of the CRA stating that it is a tool to use to assist developers with their own tax dollars. Mayor Balch responded that they would still be lost tax dollars to the City. Councilmember Lyman commented that the tax dollars would not exist if the development did not occur, so it's not really a loss. Mayor Balch felt this was just a backdoor avenue to an incentive. Councilmember Harrison spoke in favor of the CRA stating the benefit it would be to bring developers to the community and how that benefit would ultimately benefit the entire community. Mr. Redd commented that the Council will be the board of the CRA and would determine which projects would be qualified for the assistance. Councilmember Bowers also voiced her support of the CRA as a tool to bring in businesses.

Bret Hosler commented that through the years the City has used several different tools in assisting development. In his opinion this is just another tool that could be used to assist and encourage development in the community.

There were no comments from the public on this item.

**Councilmember Perkins moved leave the public hearing. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the public hearing at 7:52 p.m.

**6. INFORMATION**

A. Mr. Redd told Council that a sample ballot for the November 7th election was in the packet.

B. Councilmember Ogle shared that at the ULCT a resolution was passed that encourages local community the control over land use decisions. It firmly states that the all control belongs to the community, not the state or the Federal government.

C. Councilmember Lyman was not appointed to Utah League of Cities and Town's board.

D. Mr. Redd reported that the Centennial playground equipment removal bid was won by Joey Holliday for \$2,000.00. The installation of the new playground equipment will start on the 17th of October.

E. Councilmember Perkins shared that she had attended a regional board of health board meeting, which she found very informative.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Cheryl Bowers

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Community Development Director:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Steven Harlow, Kara Laws, Bill Haven, Kendall Laws, Phil Lyman, Harold Lyman Bill Short.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Cheryl Bowers.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the August 23, 2017 meeting with corrections. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

None

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Chief Torgerson presented the August 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported there were a total of 87 incidents during August. Incidents are down from last year. Officer Bradford attended narcotics training. Electronic speed signs have been placed at Albert R Lyman Middle School in an effort to slow drivers down as they travel down Blue Mountain Road. Signs have also been placed to designate a drop off zone for those bringing their children to school.

***B. David Palmer presented the August 2017 Recreation Report***

The winterization of City parks will begin at the end of September. Memberships at the Wellness Center are up from last year which has been a trend over the past few months. There were 2,445 membership visits during the month. Mr. Palmer told the Council that the pool heater will need to be replaced. This is the original heater that was installed when the pool opened in 2011. This current heater is both expensive to replace and to repair, and it has failed many times this summer. He continued to share that he has found less expensive and more efficient heaters to purchase. Council will be updated when a final determination is made on the purchase of the new heater.

**5. AGENDA**

***A. Regional Fire School - Chief Spillman***

This item was tabled.

***B. Award Centennial Park Equipment - Jeremy Redd/Bill Short***

Mr. Redd stated that the requested Council changes to the playground equipment have been made, including the addition of music instruments and a climbing boulder. Councilmember Lyman asked if the musical instruments were mechanical or electronic. Mr. Short from Burke Playground Equipment responded that they are electronic. To ensure they continue to function properly he will visit twice each year to check on on them.

Councilmember Perkins asked about the necessary maintenance to the playground canopies. Mr. Short responded that they require little if any maintenance. The shades are designed to withstand high winds and pitched so steep that snow will not stay on them. There will be no need to remove them in the winter. The warranty on the shade fabric is 10 years.

Councilmember Bowers asked what areas of the playground would be accessible for 2-5 year old children. Mr. Short responded that in addition to the swings there is a lower slide and a few rope climbs that they might enjoy with the assistance of their parents. The entire design was designed for 5-12 year old children in mind.

The question was asked when playground installation would be completed. Mr. Short responded that it could be in by the end of October.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the purchase of the playground equipment from Burke Playground Equipment for \$174,898.00. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Following the vote, Mr. Redd shared that to meet the timing of installation there will be a need to remove the current playground equipment. He recommended that be sold by sealed bid, with the removal of the equipment by the buyer. They will be required to remove the playground equipment, the existing concrete footing and repair any damage they may cause while removing the equipment.

Mayor Balch asked if each piece could be sold separately. Mr. Redd responded that because it will take equipment to remove the pieces he is recommending all pieces be sold together. The bid will close on the 20th of September. Advice and Consent was given to put the Centennial Park playground equipment out for bid.

***C. Award Electric Project Bid - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker expressed appreciation to the Council for rescheduling the meeting so the Electric Project bid could be awarded. Three bids were received for the project. Cache Valley Electric was the low bid at \$1,577,771.43. ICPE, the engineer on the project, recommends that the City Council award the project to Cache Valley Electric.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to award the Electric Project to Cache Valley Electric for the amount of \$1,577,771.00. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Eastside Sewer Bedrock/Updated Financials - Terry Ekker/Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Ekker reported that the Geo-testing has been completed on the project and the survey report has been received. The survey indicated that there are areas in the project where the bedrock is at 6 feet and the pipeline needs to be at 11 feet and various other areas where there will need to be rock removal. With that additional information, the final design estimate from Hansen, Allen & Luce for the project is \$3,039,000. Excavation is estimated to be \$432,000. This amount could fluctuate up or down as the project is completed depending on what is discovered along the route.

Mr. Redd told Council that the difference between the projects beginning design estimate and the final design is \$282,000. Two options were presented by Mr. Redd. One option was to approach the Department of Water Quality and request an increase of \$300,000 to the original award or take it from City sewer savings. He recommended approaching Water Quality for the additional amount. The loan payments can be made as were discussed during the budget meeting. He then asked Council for their input.

Councilmember Ogle asked what the next sewer project would be. Mr. Redd believed it was more residential line replacement, and not a large project like this one. He also reminded everyone that money needs to be set aside for emergencies, such as the leak at the sewer lagoon that occurred last year.

Councilmember Harrison asked if it would be possible to wait until contractor bids have come in before approaching Water Quality again. Mr. Redd stated that would be possible. Mr. Ekker stated that may not work as contractors may not be willing to wait. Councilmember Harrison asked when the bidding was going to take place. Mr. Ekker responded that he is anticipating that it will take place in January. Council made the decision to wait and see what the bids were before approaching Water Quality for additional funds.

***E. Economic Development Discussion - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle shared a presentation on economic development to the Council. He encouraged the City and Council to take control of the changes that he foresees coming to the community. His presentation included 46 economic ideas that Blanding could use to get those passing through the community to stop. He stated that Blanding should maximize what is here, develop it and share it. One idea he shared was the installation of signs that would give direction

to places such as the Edge of Cedars Museum or to other local attractions. He also shared that developing a gateway to the community would be beneficial. He suggested the development of picnic areas, walking paths, and restrooms at Recapture Reservoir, making it a recreation area near the community.

As a final suggestion he talked about the 4th of July. The event should be a model for other events in the community. Events that would draw individuals to the community in the same way the 4th of July does would be beneficial to economic growth. He believes the Huff to Bluff Marathon and the ATV Safari have potential to be that type of event. He reminded everyone that it is not the City's role to organize these events but to be that of a support tool. He also recommended the City change its current slogan to one that is more action driven. In conclusion he stated that Blanding needs to be a destination, not a place to pass through on the way somewhere else.

***F. Development Agency Creation - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the City needs to determine what role it would like to play in economic development, aggressive or passive. Over the past few years the City has taken a passive role and with current discussions, is that the route they would like to continue?

One option the City could take that would be more aggressive is the development of a Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA). The CRA would allow the City to play more of a role in the economic development of certain areas of the community without offering tax incentives or reductions in connection fees or other areas associated with business development. The CRA is a tool used by many communities to develop designated areas within their borders. The CRA is established under Utah Code 17-C-1 and states its purpose as a, "Special funding agency created for the sole purpose of promoting and developing designated areas of the community."

Mr. Redd continued to share more information about a CRA including the following; A CRA is a separate entity from the City with separate minutes, accounting and resolutions. The CRA board is comprised of the City Council with the Mayor as its executive director. A CRA is funded by using a formula that uses incremental increase in property taxes collected in the project area. The City may contribute money, land or provide infrastructure to the CRA project area.

Councilmember Lyman commented that this is one way the City could help a developer. Mr. Redd responded that was correct and nothing would happen unless there was a developer. At that point the infrastructure that may be needed would also be completed. Councilmember Lyman then stated that it would create a partnership between the developer and the City. This would give the City a little more control over what is being developed. Councilmember Harrison agreed, that it would also allow the City to regulate and control its growth. Mayor Balch asked if there had been any discussions with the County or the School Districts regarding the property tax dollars associated with the CRA. Mr. Redd responded that he has contacted the County but has

not discussed it with San Juan School District. That discussion will happen when there is a project area and a potential developer.

Councilmember Bowers spoke of her desire to see businesses other than tourist businesses in the community and like the idea of a CRA to facilitate that. She feels that it would be a drawing tool for developers and businesses.

Mr. Redd stated that an ordinance passed by the Council will be necessary to enact the CRA. He also told Council that the City would have to fund it to get it off the ground, but once it was up and functioning it can be self-sustaining. Councilmember Lyman asked if information could be shared by other smaller communities that have a functioning CRA. Mr. Redd stated he would gather that information and start drafting a resolution.

***G. CIB Application - Schedule Public Hearing - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that a list of equipment purchases has been developed by staff to take to CIB. The total amount of the equipment is \$500,497.79. He continued to remind Council that per budget discussions it was approved to approach the CIB for 50% and the remaining amount would be from money that has been saved for this purpose for the past 15 years. All equipment estimates were gathered from the state contract list. He told Council that a public hearing would be necessary prior to the completion of the CIB grant application. The grant is scheduled to be submitted the first of October.

***H. Voter Registration Flyer - Cheryl Bowers***

Councilmember Bowers shared a voter registration flyer that could be included in the utility billing. Advice and consent was given to include the flyer with the September utility statements.

***I. Food Bank - Cheryl Bowers***

Councilmember Bowers shared that the Utah Food Bank in the area will be closing. There are currently 300 families being served by them. She is working with the Utah Food Bank to see what assistance they can continue to provide to the area. A truck will continue to come that will drop "food boxes" in the area.

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Ogle reported that the results were quite positive from the survey on recycling.

Councilmember Lyman stated that she has applied to be considered for the board of the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

Mr. Redd reported that Alan Pincock has resigned from the Transfer Station and as a Crossing Guard. He has been at the Transfer Station for about 13 years.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The Council left the executive session and entered regular session at 10:49 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 22, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Cheryl Bowers

Robert Ogle

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Scoot Flannery, Kendall Laws, Kara Laws, Nicole Perkins.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Joe Lyman.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the August 8, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Bowers**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Balch announced that there will only be one open forum agenda item and it will be at the beginning of the meeting. There will no longer be an open forum opportunity at the end of the meeting.

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

Mr. Ekker told Council that the project has been advertised and is currently out for bid. A mandatory pre-bid has occurred and the bid opening will be held on August 31st. The project is anticipated for completion in March of 2018.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

The right of way acquisition is 100% complete. The geotechnical investigation has been completed. A report of the findings is expected to come any day. The final phase of the design process will now begin.

***Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project***

The new odorizer equipment has been delivered. A new building will be ordered and the appropriate piping modifications designed.

***Seal Coat Project***

This project has been completed.

***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that the report is the first of the new fiscal year. She asked if there were any Questions. There were none.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Resolution 8-22-2017-1 - Certifying the Official Canvassers' Report of the Primary Election - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained that by law the canvassing of election now requires a resolution. He reported the number of ballots cast was 697 and turnout was 52%.

-

<b><i>4 Year Council Candidates</i></b>	<b><i>Total</i></b>
Robert Turk	310
Robert Ogle	262
Cheryl Bowers	248
Taylor K. Harrison	231
Logan J. Monson	206

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<b><i>2 Year Council Candidates</i></b>	<b><i>Total</i></b>
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Logan Shumway	360
Cory D. Raisor	169
Wendy Black	138

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve Resolution 8-22-2017-1 - Certifying the Official Canvassers' Report of the Primary Election. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

**Following the discussion Mayor Balch called for a vote.**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Councilmember Ogle was not in attendance during this portion of the meeting.

***B. Award Airport Project Bid - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler told Council that two bids for the airport runway project were received. Nielson Construction was the low bid at \$1,895,000.00. The City's share of the project will be \$50,000.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to award the airport project to Nielson Construction for a total contract price of \$1,895,000.00, upon receiving concurrence from the FAA Program Manager. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Councilmember Ogle was not present during this portion of the meeting

***C. Centennial Park Equipment Proposals - Review and Accept - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told the Council that seven companies had submitted proposals for the Centennial Park playground equipment. Each of the seven companies included three or four options in their proposal. He and Recreation Director David Palmer have reviewed the proposals and reduced the number to four potential designs. He asked the Council to review the four companies and select a company from them. Mr. Redd and Council continued to discuss the different companies and their options. They also discussed the advantages and disadvantages to the different ground covers available. Wood fiber would be the least expensive option, but the rubberized base would last longer and require less maintenance. Councilmember Perkins asked what the budget was for the equipment. Mr. Redd responded that \$172,000 had been budgeted.

Mr. Redd stated that he and Mr. Palmer were recommending that Burke Equipment be selected. Their warranty is better and their bid price is reasonable. They have also offered to visit the playground twice a year to ensure it is safe and in compliance with insurance regulations.

Mayor Balch recommended that Council give advice and consent for staff to work with Burke Equipment. Council gave advice and consent.

Mr. Redd and Mr. Palmer will continue to work with Burke to get a finalized plan and cost. When that is completed the final project design and cost will come back to Council for final approval.

***D. Freedom Fest - Cheryl Bowers***

Councilmember Bowers told Council that Freedom Fest 2017 is scheduled for September 9th. She then invited Nicole Perkins, one of the event organizers, to share additional information. Mrs. Perkins shared that the event has been organized to be a unifying event and everyone is invited. She then asked if the City would be willing to cover the event on its liability insurance. Mr. Redd responded that the City's liability insurance company will not allow the coverage unless the event is organized, administered and sponsored by the City. Mrs. Perkins then asked if the City would be willing to donate to the event to help with the cost of the insurance. Councilmember Lyman responded that the City would need to determine if it is an event that benefits the community or only a select few. Mayor Balch reminded everyone that the City can not afford to donate to all events. Councilmember Harrison asked if it would be possible to use TRT dollars for the donation. Mr. Redd responded that TRT dollars are allocated to areas that market the City and to the operation at the Visitor Center. However, Council approves their spending recommendations. Councilmember Harrison recommended that the City donate \$800 towards the cost of insurance for the event and then approach the Travel Council for reimbursement of those funds. He continued to state that in his opinion the event is worthwhile to the entire community.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to donate \$800 to San Juan Freedom Fest to help with the cost of their insurance and then approach the Travel Council for reimbursement of those dollars. Councilmember Cheryl seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Councilmember Ogle voiced his opposition to asking for a reimbursement from the Travel Council. Councilmember Lyman expressed his concerns with taking dollars to pay for the event from those that may not support the idea. He also recommended that event organizers consider running the event as a business and find ways to cover expenses without the need for donations.

**Following the discussion Mayor Balch called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***E. Economic Development and Tourism - Cheryl Bowers***

Councilmember Bowers recommended that the City Council discuss economic development issues/topics on a monthly or quarterly basis. Councilmember Ogle stated that he will be doing a presentation on economic development at the next Council meeting. Councilmember Harrison suggested that the Blanding Area Travel Council chairman present to the Council on a quarterly basis. Councilmember Lyman stated that economic development is not the responsibility of the City, but rather private business. The role of government is to not impede the path of economic development but to provide the infrastructure for growth. A discussion on economic development should include what would the City is willing to do to help that development occur. Mayor Balch disagreed saying that government does support economic development. The State has been known to encourage businesses to come to the state by several avenues and one familiar route is through tax incentives. Councilmember Lyman stated that the City must determine what it is willing to do to facilitate economic growth.

***F. Council Meeting Schedule Update - Jeremy Redd***

The meeting scheduled for September 12th will not have a quorum and was rescheduled for September 5th.

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Harrison shared that he had just returned from attending the UAMPS conference. The conference was informative and he was impressed with what UAMPS does for the City of Blanding. He also expressed appreciation to Jeremy for his efforts in working with UAMPS.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Councilmember Bowers moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**                      **Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Harrison**  
**Councilmember Ogle**  
**Councilmember Bowers**  
**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**                      **NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered an executive session at 8:49 p.m.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**                      **Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Harrison**  
**Councilmember Ogle**  
**Councilmember Bowers**  
**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**                      **NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the executive session and re-entered a regular session at 8:58 p.m.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**                      **Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Harrison**  
**Councilmember Ogle**  
**Councilmember Bowers**  
**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**                      **NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 8, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Cheryl Bowers

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Wendy Black, Jade Powell, Michael Bryant, Scoot Flannery, Trent Herring, Mary Palmer, Michelle Monsen.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kd Perkins.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the July 25, 2017 meeting with corrections. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Trent Herring suggested a post be made reminding residents to continue to conserve water even

though the reservoirs are full and it has been a wet few weeks. He also mentioned that he has noticed people watering during the rain.

#### **4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

##### ***A. Terry Ekker presented the July 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation was up 92% at the end of July. Since that time it has risen to 102%. Farmers are still receiving water through both the upper and lower ditches.

One gas service was added in July.

##### ***B. Jeremy Redd presented the July 2017 Police Report***

Mr. Redd reported that the number of violations had increased and was more than double last year. Officers have been working shifts monitoring speeding on Main Street. Officer Harlow has been doing a good job rehoming stray and lost dogs.

##### ***C. Jeremy Redd presented the July 2017 Fire Report***

Mr. Redd reported that July had been a slow month for fires and training. A regional fire training event is scheduled for September at Centennial Park.

##### ***D. David Palmer presented the July 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer reported that annual memberships were up over last year's numbers. Councilmember Bowers asked how advertising was done for recreation programs. Mr. Palmer replied that advertising takes place through flyers, FaceBook, the City webpage and through the San Juan Record newspaper. She then inquired about the Red Cross assessment of the swimming pool. Mr. Palmer reported that a member of the Red Cross visited the Wellness Center to evaluate and make suggestions. The report from the visit has not been received yet.

Councilmember Lyman suggested that Wellness Center staff brainstorm ideas on how to make the courts available to more individuals. He suggested scheduling them. Mr. Palmer responded that there are some prime times of the day when everyone wants to use the courts. This does create a problem with too many people and not enough gym availability.

#### **5. AGENDA**

##### ***A. Southeastern Utah - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd introduced Jade Powell and Michael Bryant from the Southeast Utah Association of Local Governments. Mr. Powell told the Council that there has been an increase in funding to the Community Development Block Grant program over last year. The rating and ranking process for those funds will be approved soon. He recommended the City make their comments on where those funds should be allocated based on ranking.

Mr. Bryant shared information regarding the variety of programs offered through the SEUALG/SEUEDD. Councilmember Bowers questioned where the funding for the programs come from. Mr. Bryant responded that funding for the programs comes through county, state and federal grants.

***B. 4th of July Parade Awards - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle presented the 4th of July parade awards.

First Place: San Juan Public Health

Second Place: Utah Navajo Health Systems

Third Place: Blue Mountain Hospital

Honorable Mention: San Juan Health Services and Stewards of San Juan

People's Choice Award: Utah Navajo Health Systems

Councilmember Ogle complimented the winners and all those that participated in the parade. Mayor Balch expressed appreciation to Councilmember Ogle and all those that helped to organize this year's celebration.

***C. Recycling - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman stated that the recycling flyer that was placed in with the billing statements would not be a City operation. The recycling operation is being offered by San Juan Counseling, which has established a 501C3 organization for it. The operation has been organized to provide a benefit to the community as well as those individuals treated through San Juan Counseling. Councilmember Ogle commented that the organization has no funding and although he feels it is a great idea, he does not want to ever see it become a City operation.

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Ogle shared that the tentative date for the placement of the Daughter of Utah Pioneers plaque at the Swallow's Nest is scheduled for September 22nd.

Councilmember Perkins shared that she has accepted an appointment to the San Juan County Public Health Board.

Councilmember Harrison reminded everyone of the 25K Jobs activity taking place on Thursday from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in Monticello.

Councilmember Bowers asked if it would be possible to send a letter to Monticello City thanking them for a wonderful July 24th celebration.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Trent Herring shared information regarding the City recycling program. The cost to residents will be between \$10 and \$15. There will also be a potential cost of \$30 for a bin. He continued by recommending the City alter their agendas to include an opportunity for citizens to respond to important topics after Council's discussion and prior to any vote on the topic. Mayor Balch responded that is not something that will occur while he is Mayor.

Councilmember Lyman reminded all in attendance that City Council meeting is not meant to be a discussion between citizens and their elected officials. It is a time for Council to meet and discuss items of concern, interest or need regarding the City. The open forum portion of the

meeting is also not a time for discussion between the Council and citizens. Those discussions should be held outside the meeting. Councilmember Perkins stated that it would nice if people would meet with Council members prior to the discussion.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JULY 25, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Cheryl Bowers

Robert Ogle

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Others Attending: Kate Palmer, Troy Palmer, Joel Redd, Logan Monson, Kara Laws, Cody Nielson, Scoot Flannery.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Jeremy Redd

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the July 11, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

### 3. OPEN FORUM

Joel Redd spoke regarding Wellness Center passes for foster children/foster families. He explained that when children are removed from their homes they become the responsibility of the state, making them the responsibility of all citizens. Children who are in the custody of the state have suffered some type of trauma. Trauma affects a child's ability to regulate their emotions, control impulsive behaviors, concentrate in school, maintain social relationships and have consequential thinking. These children are more likely to not graduate from school, become disruptive in classrooms, more likely to commit acts of vandalism and aggression and are more likely to suffer from suicide ideation. Research has shown that physical activity can reduce these tendencies. He asked the City to make a small investment that has real financial and social returns by providing free Wellness Center passes to these foster children.

### 4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

#### *A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report*

##### *Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project*

Staff is currently reviewing the plan set for the distribution upgrades and the substation. Bids have been received for the 69kV to 12.47kV transformer. These bids are within budgeted Amounts.

##### *East Side Sewer Trunk Line*

The right of way acquisition is currently 83% complete, meaning easements finalized and recorded at the County. There are three remaining to be completed.

##### *Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project*

The odorizer equipment has been ordered and the site location for the odorizer has been selected. Councilmember Perkins asked if the power issues had been resolved. Mr. Ekker explained that it had been determined the best site for the odorizer was the current site. The odorizer will be powered using solar power.

##### *Million Gallon Tank Repair*

There has been some success with the specialized grouting inside the tank. The tank is still showing some minimal leakage, however it has been reduced. The tank is currently back online and staff is evaluating options for completely sealing off the leaks.

##### *Seal Coat Project*

Funding has been received from San Juan Transportation Special Service District to complete the project. The roads to be completed are those that were part of the last year's street project.

Councilmember Lyman requested that the Airport Project be included in the monthly project status report.

Councilmember Perkins asked the status of the sewer pond sheet piles. Mr. Redd responded that pressure has been placed on the engineer in getting them returned or sold. The manufacturer is

willing to take back their product at a 50% restocking fee. He is continuing to work to reduce that fee.

***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer asked if there were any questions regarding the financial status report.

There were none.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Wellness Center Passes - Foster Families - Cheryl Bowers***

Councilmember Bowers expressed her appreciation to Council for listening again to the topic of Wellness Center passes for foster children. She had learned that both Moab and Monticello offer special financial considerations to those families with foster children. She feels the City of Blanding should offer free passes to foster children.

Councilmember Lyman commented that all at risk children need to be cared for, those who have been removed from their homes and those who have not. He continued to state that he would prefer private contributions rather than public contributions. Private contributions could be taken at the City office and tracked by City staff.

Councilmember Bowers responded there is a difference between the foster child and a child at risk not in the program. That difference is that the foster child is in the custody of the state. So tax dollars are already caring for these children.

Councilmember Harrison stated that he has been a foster parent and understands the program and the system. The tax dollars to care for these children will continue regardless of what the City of Blanding does. The question is, is this the role of Blanding City? Is it Blanding City's responsibility to provide free Wellness Center passes to a child in state custody? He continued to question if the City provides free passes to this group, will it also be forced to provide free passes to other at risk individuals?

Councilmember Ogle stated that he does not believe it is the role of government to provide these free passes.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to establish and administer a volunteer fund for donations for Wellness Center passes for foster children. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Councilmember Ogle asked what the guidelines would be for individuals to access these donations. How will the fund be administered. Mr. Redd responded that details of the fund would be developed. Councilmember Ogle stated that he anticipates more individuals coming to Council requesting free passes.

**Following the discussion Mayor Balch called for a vote.**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. RFP - Centennial Park Playground Equipment - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the RFP is ready to be advertised for the purchase of new playground equipment for Centennial Park. The RFP does not include specifics as it is the intent to have those interested provide what they could offer given a specific budget. Those proposals would then come to Council or a group designated by Council to select the best option. Councilmember Ogle asked where the \$172,000 budget was generated. Mr. Redd stated that the budget amount had been set during the budgeting process.

Councilmember Ogle asked how long the current equipment has been in place. Mr. Redd responded it has been there since approximately 2003. It no longer meets safety requirements.

**Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the Request for Proposals for new playground equipment at Centennial Park.. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Award Transformer Bid - Electric Project - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker shared that four bids were received for the new 7.5 MVA transformer. The low bid was Virginia Transformers with a bid of \$189,481. The total cost including delivery and testing would be \$208,981. Councilmember Bowers asked what had been budgeted. Mr. Ekker responded that it was included in the \$4 million dollar project budget. It was anticipated that the

transformer would cost approximately \$325,000. Mr. Ekker also shared that this particular transformer had been recommended by others.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to accept the bid for \$208,981 from Virginia Transformers for the 7.5 MVA transformer. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Award Seal Coat Project Bid - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker explained that funding for the seal coat project is coming from the San Juan County Transportation District (SJCTD). The streets that will be coated include those streets that were affected by last year's street project. Holbrook Asphalt Company's bid was \$90,210.00. Mr. Ekker continued to explain that the seal coat had been used on other streets in the community. The coating protects the streets and extends their life. Any remaining funds received from SJCTD will be used for a chip seal project next spring.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to accept the bid for \$90,210.00 from Holbrook Asphalt Company for the street seal coat project. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***E. Muddy Creek - Recovered Energy Generation Study Project - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained that UAMPS is studying a new energy project in southwest Wyoming. They

have named the project Muddy Creek. The project being studied is the ability to take wasted heat created in a compressed natural gas line and generate electricity. The cost to the City is \$188,000 to investigate the feasibility of the project. Mr. Redd then told Council he would keep them informed regarding the study.

***F. CNHA / Visitor Center Agreement Renewal - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared that Canyonlands Natural History Association provides products to the Visitor Center that is sold. The agreement up for renewal states that 20% of the revenue from these sales are returned to the City. The Center also has the right to sell other items in the shop. Mr. Redd also stated that sales were up 18% from last Year.

Councilmember Bowers stated that she had visited the Center and was disappointed in the items offered for sale. She did not think they represented our community or area very well. She also stated that local items are sold for cash Only. Ms. Palmer commented that was because CNHA owns the credit card machines.

**Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the Canyonlands Natural History Association agreement. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Ogle provided an update on the Daughters of Utah Pioneers plaque. The plaque has been ordered. Mr. Redd commented that windows are currently being replaced in the cabin.

Mr. Redd reported that the primary election ballots have been mailed.

Councilmember Harrison shared that the 25,000 job fair is scheduled for August 10th. The event is being held at the college.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Cody Nielson told Council that he doesn't feel like his family Wellness Center pass is as equal as those of the College. He has been unable to use it during the evening hours with this family. The

courts and weight rooms are overrun with College students. He asked if there was not something that could be done to allow others to access the center in the evenings. He also asked if it would be possible to have more weight benches and more of the lighter weights.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JULY 11, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Cheryl Bowers

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Police:

Chief Torgerson

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Wendy Black, Logan Shumway, Kara Laws.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kim Palmer.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the June 27, 2017 meeting with corrections. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the June 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation is currently at 80%. He also shared that one half-inch natural gas service was installed.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the June 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported that the department responded to 84 calls during the month of June. Citations were up from last year. The department participated in a mock disaster organized by Blue Mountain Hospital. Councilmember Bowers asked if it was known why the number of citations were up from last year. Chief Torgerson responded that it was most likely due to the number of officers compared to this same time last year, when the department had only four.

***C. Jeremy Redd presented the June 2017 Fire Report***

Mr. Redd reported that the department did not respond to any fires during the 4th of July. The department also participated in the mock disaster. The Chief and Mr. Redd have been identifying properties that could be a fire hazard. When those properties are identified a letter is sent to the owner asking them to clear the hazard. This has been effective and several lots have been cleared or cleaned up.

***D. David Palmer presented the June 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer reported that during the month of June a total of 5,277 membership cards were swiped at the Wellness Center. This was a large increase from May when 1,556 were swiped due to the swimming pool being open. Mr. Redd pointed out that the income and yearly memberships at the Wellness Center are up slightly from last year. A tournament was held for the oldest boys baseball teams and the 5th and 6th grade girls. Soccer registrations are being finalized and football registrations will begin in the next couple of weeks.

**5. AGENDA**

***A. Amendment to Solid Waste Service Contract - Waste Management - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd restated the proposal made by Dan Darnell at the previous Council meeting regarding commercial garbage. He told Council that the contract also addresses the instances where cans are overfilled or additional non-Waste Management cans are used. These activities will result in additional cans being placed and residents charged for them if it is a continual thing. Mr. Redd reminded the Council that Waste Management is offering a 5% discount on commercial rates if the City agrees to the contract revision.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the amendment to the Waste Management Solid Waste contract. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Resolution - 7-11-2017-1 - Personnel Policy Change - Taylor Harrison***

Councilmember Harrison stated that after the previous Council discussion this policy has been cleaned up. The policy change requires a full-time permanent employee to resign their employment with the City before they take the oath of office for an elected City position.

**Councilmember Bowers moved to approve Resolution - 7-11-2017-1 - Personnel Policy Change. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Foster Care Request - Wellness Center - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated that Joel Redd from Utah Foster Care has requested that the City offer free Wellness Center memberships to foster children in the area. He explained that many families that have foster children are unable to pay the expense of purchasing memberships. Mr. Palmer stated that the increase to a family pass would be approximately \$4.16 a month.

Councilmembers Perkins and Bowers stated that foster families do not receive enough funding to really care for the children. They do not receive enough for this additional expense. Both Council members have been foster parents.

Councilmember Ogle commented that the process is in place and did not see a reason to offer free passes. It was suggested that rather than offer free passes, the foster child is allowed to be added to the family pass. When that child leaves the family he or she can be dropped from the pass with no penalty.

Mayor Balch asked for advice and consent to allow families to add foster children and drop them when they move without penalty. Councilmembers Lyman, Harrison and Ogle provided consent, Councilmembers Perkins and Bowers did not because they wanted to see a better incentive given.

***D. Airport Project Update - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler reported that the project completion date has been pushed from August to next Spring. The project is currently being advertised for bid. It is hoped more bids will be received for the project if contractors have until next spring to complete the project. The bid approval could be brought to Council by the end of August. Mr. Hosler also thanked Mr. Ekker for his assistance in getting the project deadline extended to next year.

***E. July 4th Celebration - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle expressed his appreciation to all those that assisted in organizing and providing the celebration, including all the volunteers and City staff. He continued to stated that plans for next year's event are already beginning.

The Mayor commented that there were many floats throwing candy. Mr. Redd shared that it was discussed during City staff meeting that the event is growing and how we need do our best to properly manage that growth and ensure that it remains a safe activity for the many families and individuals that attend. Staff will work on ways to do more public awareness prior to the parade and events next year to increase safety.

**6. INFORMATION**

None

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Ekker reminded everyone of the Forest Service management plan public comment opportunity being held on Thursday, July 13 from 5 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Blanding Library.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JUNE 27, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Cheryl Bowers

Robert Ogle

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Absent: Councilmember Kd Perkins

Others Attending: Chris Ewald, Eva Workman, Dana Nielson, Cardon Slade, Dan Darnell, Kara Laws, Bill Haven, Colby Monson, Kayla Bradford, JJ Bradford, Jared Hillhouse, Deb Bayles, Janet Wilcox, Wendy Black, Merri Shumway, Jayne Holliday, Punk Holliday, Claudia Orr, Jolynn Orr, Quinn Holliday, Daschelle Holliday, Nicole Perkins, Jolene Kartchner, Bret Hosler, Scoot Flannery, Joe Begay, Lehi Lacy, Leslie Nielson, Ryan Benally, Steven Harlow, Phil Lyman, Toniee Lewis, Tammy Redd, David Redd, Asa Lyman, Kendall Laws, Devan Palmer, Charlie Taylor, Anna Tom, Betty Jones.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Mayor Calvin Balch.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the June 13, 2017 meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mayor Balch asked if the new sign at the Visitor Center met City code, as it sits next to the curb. Mr. Redd replied it complies with the City sign ordinance.

### **3. OPEN FORUM**

Jared Hillhouse told the Council he has been employed with the City since 2008. When he made the decision to come to the City it was heavily influenced by the benefit package offered by the City. He encouraged Council to continue offering the excellent benefit package to their employees.

Janet Wilcox spoke to Council about the Bears Ears National Monument. She referred to a recent article written by Jim Stiles called "Take it or Leave it: The New West's Big Lie." The article basically states the importance of a City determining what it would be. As a community we need to determine our future. She continued by stating the need to be careful in making decisions regarding the community. Those decisions will have a large impact on the future of our little community.

Phil Lyman stated his appreciation to the City Council for the good people they are. He reminded Council that when the whole Bears Ears started, the people of San Juan County stood up and voiced their opposition. The voices of the local communities have made a difference in their efforts to eliminate or reduce the monument. Those on the other side seek only their agendas and have no positive plans for Blanding. He requested that a hard stance continue by the Council until the final decision is made.

Merri Shumway requested the Council hold off on any decision regarding Bears Ears until the final decision is made by the President.

Nicole Perkins expressed her agreement with those that had spoken before her in regards to Bears Ears. She stated that there is no one against a business doing what they need to do to make a living and be successful.

Cardon Slade stated that if the Council chooses to embrace this Monument they are condoning the actions of President Obama. He encouraged them not to do so.

### **4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

#### ***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

The progress status report was tabled until the next meeting.

#### ***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer asked if there were any questions regarding the financial status report. There were none.

### **5. AGENDA ITEMS**

#### ***A. Amendment to Solid Waste Services Contract - Dan Darnell***

Dan Darnell from Waste Management gave a presentation on the Waste Management/Baker Sanitation agreement. He reminded the Council that Waste Management purchased Baker Sanitation in March 2016.

The contract between the City and Waste Management is for a five year period. The contract automatically renews if neither party asks for it to be cancelled or changed. Residential rates are set by contract with the City and commercial rates are set by Waste Management. Increases are determined by the yearly CPI index. Currently this agreement is exclusive for residential garbage only. The commercial side is handled directly by Waste Management under a franchise agreement with the City, but is not exclusive.

During his presentation, Mr. Darnell presented the City an amendment to the contract that would provide an exclusive contract for commercial garbage in Blanding as well as the current residential service. In return the City would benefit from no costs on their dumpsters, free dumpsters for the 4th of July, and Waste Management would participate in community clean-up days with community dumpsters at no cost to the City. In addition, they will give commercial customers in Blanding a 5% discount on their rates.

Mayor Balch asked if the 5% would be a reduction for the commercial customers. Mr Darnell stated that the 5% would be off of Waste Management rates, not those set by Baker Sanitation. It would affect each commercial customer differently depending on the size and frequency of their service. Councilmember Lyman suggested Council take some time to review the materials distributed by Mr. Darnell before taking any action. Other members agreed, and the item was tabled until the July 11 meeting.

***B. Resolution 6-27-2017-1 Adjusting the FY2016-2017 Budget - Kim Palmer***

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 6-27-2017-1 Adjusting the FY2016 -2017 Budget. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting**

was

**as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The following adjustments were made to the FY2016-2017 Budget: \$6,359 in expense was reclassified to the Wellness Center; \$170,000 was transferred from the General Fund to the Capital Projects fund for future projects.

***C. Resolution 6-27-2017-2 Adopting the 2017 General Property Tax Rate - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained the certified tax rate. The state uses a formula to determine the tax rate. The new growth portion of the rate is based on new building that has occurred in the community in the past year. Mr. Redd showed property tax comparisons with other similar sized cities. The City collects about \$69 per resident in property taxes compared to Parowan who collects \$235 per resident. A resident only pays property tax on 55% of the assessed value of their primary residence. A second home is taxed on 100% of the assessed value.

The funds received from property taxes goes to the general fund which helps fund police, fire, streets, visitor center, airport, and parks and recreation. Mr. Redd reminded Council that government and not-for-profit entities are exempt from property taxes.

Mr. Redd proposed that the City approve the certified tax rate of .002449.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 6-27-2017-2 Adopting the 2017 General Property Tax Rate. Councilmember Bowers seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting**

was

**as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Resolution - 6-27-2017-3 - Personnel Policy Change - Taylor Harrison***

The resolution would set the guidelines for an employee that chooses to run for a City office. Councilmember Harrison shared that the policy would allow a full-time permanent City employee to request a leave of absence from their employment to run or serve on the City Council or as the Mayor.

Councilmember Lyman commented that you can not deny anyone the right to run for a City office, but it is a conflict to work full-time for the City at the same time.

Councilmember Ogle asked how the leave of absence would affect an employee's ability to be rehired. Mr. Redd responded that he was not sure but would gather that information if Council would like. Council agreed and the item will be placed on a future meeting agenda.

***E. Planning Commission Appointment - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch appointed Leslie Nielson to serve on the Planning Commission. Advice and consent was given by the Council approving the appointment.

***F. Bears Ears National Monument - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch stated the Bears Ears is a National Monument and the only question now is how big it will be and who will manage it. In order for it to go away Secretary Zinke would have to recommend that to the President, and his recommendation was not for it to be rescinded.

Councilmember Harrison said that we have never had a President like Donald Trump before and he may rescind it without the recommendation of his Interior Secretary. The Mayor continued that the City needs to start welcoming the many visitors and share information with them. The City needs to capitalize on the increase in visitation.

Councilmember Lyman said that most people would agree that the time to move forward will be when the situation is settled. When it is settled people will move forward. The position the City has taken is clear, we are not happy with the process that was taken to designate the Monument. There has been no statement by the City regarding visitors. The City must stand behind its stated position. He continued by saying that private businesses and community members should take care of the tourism and visitors.

Councilmember Ogle requested clarification from the mayor on exactly what he would like to see the City do differently. The Mayor responded that the City needs to work with the Visitor Center and businesses to promote Bears Ears. Councilmember Harrison responded that was occurring through the Blanding Area Travel Council. Brochure about the area that are available to visitors.

Mr. Redd shared that during every Travel Council meeting Bears Ears is discussed. The conclusion has been they will not specifically promote the new monument, but rather the entire area.

***G. Trail Working Group - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd asked for Council's support to convene a trail working group to assist in locating areas where walking, hiking, biking, horseback or ATV trails might be established. When those potential areas were determined, trail experts would be brought in to assist in the final design and completion of those trails. Council expressed their support and encouraged Mr. Redd to move forward.

***H. Airport Project Update - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler reported that one bid was received for the runway project. The bid however was close to \$500,000 over budget. The City had determined at that point to rebid the project in the Spring, hoping for more favorable bids. He has since learned that if the project is postponed it could be up to five years before funding would be available again. He is currently seeking information on designating the funds to the project and bidding the project for a Spring start.

***I. Employee Benefits - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle told Council that the cost of benefits was 41% of wages five years ago and today they are at 54%. He would like to recommend the City look at ways to slow the increase in benefit costs to the City. One option to reduce the cost to the City would be to ask employees to share in the cost. Councilmember Harrison stated that the City's policy of paying benefits has been a great tool in recruiting and retaining excellent employees. Councilmember Ogle concluded by saying he will bring up the cost of benefits during the budget process next year.

## **6. INFORMATION**

Mr. Redd announced that registration was open for the ULCT Fall Conference. He would like to know who is attending so rooms could be booked. Councilmembers Bowers and Ogle said they would attend.

Councilmember Lyman told those in attendance that the Forest Service is taking comments on their management plan. There will be an open comment session held in Blanding on July 13th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the library.

Mayor Balch told Council that the Blanding Irrigation company has approached USDA for funding to place a pipeline in the last portion of their water line coming into Dry Wash. Currently the water flows in an open ditch and loses a large deal of water to evaporation.

## **7. OPEN FORUM**

Eva Workman spoke to clarify that those that have been organizing and working against the monument do not enjoy fighting. These individuals are fighting for the constitution, not for a love of fighting. She reminded Council that there are individuals that will be negatively affected by the monument. The tourism industry is not suffering, we are seeing a lot of visitors. Regardless of our opposition to the monument we are not rude to those that visit the area. She encouraged the Council to hold their position until the final word has been received from the President. She concluded stating that she is not fighting against anyone, but rather fighting for a way of life and the community.

Wendy Black stated that the Forest Service and BLM are not moving forward with the Monument until the final decision is announced.

Dashelle Holliday quoting Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Charlie Taylor spoke regarding comments made by Councilmember Ogle about employee benefits. As a former Councilmember, he recalled the times when the benefit package offered by the City became the final reason many employees accepted a position with the City. The benefit package has been the best recruiting and retention tool the City has. He encouraged Council to remember how their decision on benefits will affect current and future employees.

Scot Flannery clarified that the amount of water evaporating or leaking in the Blanding

Irrigation Company ditch feeding Dry Wash Reservoir is about 40%. He encouraged community members to show their support of the project by commenting on the project through the USDA.

Punk Holliday told Council that all of his gravel pits currently sit within the Bears Ears National Monument borders. If the Monument is not rescinded or reduced, the costs for gravel, rock and concrete will increase due to increased costs to him. He may also be unable to operate his pits. Without his pits residents would have to buy out of Moab, increasing the costs for these products. He asked Council to continue to stand firm against the monument.

Nicole Perkins stated that she took exception to the Mayor's comment about those who are fighting against the monument just love to fight.

Colby Monson expressed gratitude to those that are organizing the opposition against the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument. These individuals do not love to fight, but rather are fighting for something they love.

Steven Harlow shared that the benefit package offered by the City was the largest influence in his accepting a job with Blanding City.

Jayne Holliday thanked Councilmember Lyman for stating that it would be best to wait until a final decision is made regarding the monument before any effort to embrace it is made. She continued by stating that designing and publishing pamphlets before it is known what was decided would be foolish and expensive. She also stated that with the increase of people visiting our area, it is important the City hire qualified, good employees. These people will be taking care of the increase in visitors as well as the residents.

Anna Tom encouraged the City Council to stand by their opposition to the Monument. The best way to protect the area is to leave it alone.

Toniee Lewis stated that she is neutral in the discussions regarding the Bears Ears National Monument. She also stated that she had organized the event that took place in Comb Ridge a few weeks ago, not as a Bears Ears event but rather to grow solidarity among the tribes of the area. The gathering taught classes regarding the heritage of the tribes.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JUNE 13, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch  
Cheryl Bowers  
Joe B Lyman  
Robert Ogle  
Taylor Harrison  
Kd Perkins  
Kim Palmer  
Terry Ekker  
Bret Hosler  
Chief Torgerson  
Corey Spillman  
David Palmer

Finance Director:

City Engineer:

Community Development:

Police:

Fire Chief:

Recreation Director:

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Wendy Black, Logan Shumway.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Taylor Harrison.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the May 30, 2017 meeting with corrections. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Kim Palmer presented the May 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Annual precipitation is currently at 83.3%.

Natural Gas use was up during May compared to last year. One half-inch service was installed.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the May 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported that he had attended the Governor's Public Safety Summit. He continued to report that Officers Bradford and Lacy had written twenty plus citations during May. 95 incidents occurred in the City during May.

Councilmember Perkins commended Chief Torgerson for the quick response in evaluating citizens' traffic and speed concerns on 600 West.

Councilmember Perkins asked if the DARE program was as effective in building relationships with youth as it had once been, or if there was a better program. Chief Torgerson responded that he would like to look into the NOVA program, but feels the most important thing is to have an officer visiting the school and building relationships with the kids.

***C. Chief Spillman presented the May 2017 Fire Report***

Chief Spillman reported that the department responded to 11 calls during May. Those calls included four vehicle accidents, a structure fire, smoke coming from an apartment, a lightning strike fire and one missing child call. Fire Fighter I & II training is still taking place, with testing beginning soon.

Mayor Balch commented that Chief Spillman is currently look at lots that could be a potential fire hazard. The owners of those lots will be contacted and requested to clean up their lots.

***D. David Palmer presented the May 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer reported that in May 1,556 individuals scanned their membership card at the Center. This does not include those that paid a one time fee or weekly memberships. June has started off busier with the first 12 days surpassing the attendance of May by almost 300.

The trees at the Wellness Center were moved to Centennial Park by Monson Brown who was completing his Eagle Scout Project.

T-Ball and Machine Pitch has finished for the year. Baseball and Softball are mid-way through their seasons. Soccer registration has begun.

5. **AGENDA**

**A. Resolution 6-13-2017-1 - Adopting the 2017-2018 FY Budget - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer told Council that the 2018 FY budget was ready for Council's approval. She reminded Council that budgeted expense and revenue amounts were based on historical data.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 6-13-2017-1 Adopting the 2017-2018 FY Budget, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Councilmember Ogle expressed his disapproval of the City employees health benefits being paid with no employee contribution. For this reason he will vote Nay on the budget. Mayor Balch recommended that the discussion of employee benefits be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

**Following the discussion Mayor Balch called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Bowers  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**B. Surplus Sale Approval - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer told Council that there are three vehicles that need to be surplus. The 2006 Ford Explorer is wrecked and the cost to repair it would be more than it was worth. Local scrap yards have expressed interest in the vehicle for parts. The 1997 Dodge Ram and 1998 Utility trailer were abandoned several years ago. Replacement titles were acquired for them. Council gave advice and consent for the sale of these vehicles through the bidding process.

6. **INFORMATION**

**A. Candidates Filed for Election - Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer reported that eight have filed for Council seats at the upcoming election. Three individuals for the 2 year seat include, Logan Shumway, Wendy Black and Cory Raisor. Those vying for the two, 4 year seats include, Taylor Harrison, Robert Ogle, Cheryl Bowers, Logan Monson and Robert Turk. A primary election will take place on August 15th where only six candidates will move to the November election. Joe B. Lyman was the only candidate to file for the Mayoral race.

B. Bret Hosler shared that the airport runway project will take place between August 1st and August 30th. The total cost of the project is close to two-million dollars.

C. Councilmember Ogle reported that the 4th of July planning was going well.

D. Mayor Balch shared that Jami Bayles will fill the open seat on the Planning and Zoning Board. The approval will take place at next Council meeting.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Logan Shumway told Council that a meeting is being held on Thursday, June 15th at the Arts and Events Center for public comment on the renewal of the license for the White Mesa Uranium Mill. It is anticipated there will be several there speaking against the mill. He is seeking positive comments from the community. He asked for support from the City Council.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MAY 30, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Present:**

**Mayor:**

Calvin Balch

**City Councilmembers:**

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

Robert Ogle

**City Manager:**

Jeremy Redd

**Finance Director:**

Kim Palmer

**City Engineer:**

Terry Ekker

**Community Development:**

Bret Hosler

**Others Attending:** Diane Balch, Janet Wilcox, Wendy Black, Robert Turk, Mrs. Turk, Trent Herring, Kara Laws, Kendall Laws, Chas Jacobsen, Logan Monsen, Relva Bowring, Corey Raisor, Travis Whatcott, Scoot Flannery, Cheryl Bowers, Scott Young.

**Prayer/Thought -** The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the May 9, 2017 meeting, with corrections. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

Relva Bowring requested permission for the Daughters of Utah Pioneers - Primrose Camp to place a marker at the Swallows Nest Cabin located behind the Visitor Center. She also asked if it would be possible to place new glass in the windows that have been broken.

Approved: June 13 2017

Wendy Black requested that Council not regulate vacation/short-term rentals. In her opinion short-term rentals are well taken care of and are an asset to a neighborhood, while some long term rentals are not.

Kaeden Kulow suggested the City collect tax id numbers on short-term rentals to monitor the tax revenues generated by them.

**4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

The design process has started. There will be a need to acquire a small amount of property for the new substation bay.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

The right of way acquisition for the line is 78% complete. Mayor Balch inquired when the entire acquisition phase would be complete. Mr. Redd responded there were four more easements left to acquire. The project will begin in spring 2018.

***Sewer Lagoon Winter Storage Pond Dam Repair***

The grouting of the dam has been completed. The crew will monitor the pond to ensure the prairie dogs are eradicated.

***Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project***

The odorizer equipment has been selected and will be purchased in the current budget year. Money for the actual construction is budgeted in the 2018 budget.

Mr. Ekker introduced Chas Jacobsen as the new gas operator.

***Million Gallon Tank Repair***

There will be some specialized grouting taking place on the interior of the tank during the next month. When it is completed the tank will be put back into operation to determine if the grouting process sealed the leak.

***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Sales tax is up 8% from last year at this time. City budgets are in good standing with expenses below budget and revenue at or above anticipated numbers.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. City Council Appointment and Oath of Office - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch stated that the open council seat will be filled for the time period of May 30th to December 31st. The open position will be on the ballot for election in November.

Each of the six applicants vying for the open seat were given five minutes to make a short presentation.

Cheryl Bowers expressed appreciation for the opportunity to apply for the open Council seat. She told those in attendance that sitting on the Council is important to her because she loves Blanding. She was raised here and has come back to raise her children here. She would like to see economic growth in the City making it possible for her children to live here and raise their families if they choose. She also feels that her experience in business will be a great asset to her as a Councilmember. She would like youth programs and economic development to grow in a manner that will keep the feel of Blanding that everyone loves.

Robert Turk stated that his reason for applying for the open seat was for no other reason than to be a part of developing the community. He has no agenda or projects, he just wants to serve. He continued to share that he is in his 24th year of teaching at the elementary school. Mr. Turk returned to Blanding in 1994 and has raised his daughters here. His daughters still reside in Blanding and are raising their families here. He concluded by saying his only desire is to serve the community.

Travis Whatcott stated he appreciated the opportunity to speak to the Council and to apply for the open seat. He and his family have lived in Blanding for 3 years, which is the longest they have lived anywhere. Mr. Whatcott shared that he has experience in both the military and as a police officer. He currently sits on the Planning and Zoning commission, where he is enjoying the learning process and the opportunity to serve. If selected he would like to continue to sit on the board.

Corey Raisor told the Council that he was not born in Blanding, but was a city boy. It took some time for him to fall in love with Blanding, but he now desires to be nowhere else. The desire to serve came to him through an experience he had while working as a health care aid. The experience he had caring for a veteran who had served in WWII made him realize he needed to serve. He would like to be a part of making Blanding a safe and good place to raise a family.

Logan Monson stated he has been anticipating running for City Council for the past several months. He has attended City Council meetings in an effort to understand the role of a Councilmember. He said he has no agenda, but only a desire to serve. He is employed as the assistant nursing director at Blue Mountain Hospital and his wife is a teacher. He feels their careers give him insights that others may not have. He would like his children to have the same opportunities and experiences he had growing up Blanding. He wants to help make that happen. He stated that his opinions will be those of City residents..

Trent Herring stated that as a Councilmember he would be a voice for the community. As a Councilmember he would encourage residents to attend City Council meetings. He was raised in Blanding and chose to live and raise his family here also. As a Councilmember he would like to focus on economic development and on the youth of the community. He has been employed

at Blue Mountain Hospital for 10 years.

When the presentations were completed, Mayor Balch asked the Council for comments or nominations. Each Councilmember expressed their appreciation to the six applicants. Councilmember Lyman stated that any appointment made would be the right one.

Councilmember Lyman nominated Cheryl Bowers and Mayor Balch seconded the nomination. Councilmember Ogle nominated Travis Whatcott and no second was received.

Councilmember Lyman made the motion for nominations to cease, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion.

**Councilmember Lyman made the motion to appoint Cheryl Bowers to the Blanding City Council. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The Oath of Office was administered to Cheryl Bowers by the City Recorder, Jeremy Redd.

***B. Swallow's Nest - Daughters of Utah Pioneers - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle restated comments made by Relva Bowring regarding placing a plaque at the Swallow's Nest Cabin. He then said that if the property belongs to the City it needs to be maintained in a way that represents the City the best it can. Mr. Redd responded that the windows that were originally in the cabin were actually made from the same type of glass used during the time period Albert R. Lyman lived in the cabin. The glass was broken multiple times and has not been replaced. The glass will need to be replaced with something more resilient than glass. Council chose to continue discussion regarding the refurbishing of the cabin at a later meeting. Advice and consent was given by Council to place the Daughters of Utah Pioneers plaque at the cabin.

***C. Short-Term Rental Regulations - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch stated that after speaking with the Mayor of Moab he felt the topic of short-term rentals should be discussed by the Blanding City Council. Moab faces several issues with their short term rentals including parking limiting the number of people allowed in a rental. He encouraged members of Council to discuss regulations regarding Blanding City rentals.

Councilmember Lyman said the same problems seen in short-term rentals were actually the same seen with permanent residents. What is the difference between a permanent residence, short-term rentals and long term rental? He questioned how to regulate one without regulating the other. Mayor Balch replied the short-term rental is a business and that is how you can regulate it. Councilmember Harrison stated that just because they are businesses doesn't give the City the responsibility to regulate them.

Councilmember Bowers asked if the discussion has resulted from complaints from Blanding residents. Mayor Balch responded no there have not been any complaints. He had a discussion with the Mayor from Moab who shared some of the issues they are finding in Moab. Councilmember Bowers asked what Moab was doing to fix their problems. Mayor Balch responded that they have a new set of regulations in place for their short-term rentals.

Councilmember Lyman commented that if you regulate short-term rentals, you have to do the same for long-term rentals.

Councilmember Harrison asked who would monitor the rentals and enforce the regulations? The City currently has only 10 short-term rental properties Councilmember Ogle commented that short-term rentals are an asset to the community and feels regulations would discourage those currently owning rentals and those contemplating opening one.

Mr. Redd commented that no complaints have been received regarding short-term rentals, but complaints have been received from neighbors of long-term rentals. Council determined there was no need for staff to research the topic of short-term rental regulations at this time.

***D. Independent Recycling Program - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle told the Council that Ryan Heck is starting a Non-profit recycling program that will allow those he works with at San Juan Counseling to gain some job skills. The program would not be a part of the City in any manner. All facets of the recycling program would be handled through the program. The group is only asking the City to help gather information from residents to gauge their interest in paying for recycling. Council gave advice and consent for staff to assist with information gathering for the non-profit program.

***E. Visitor Center Volunteers - Community Ambassadors - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told the Council that there have been individuals desiring an opportunity to volunteer at the Visitor Center. He informed the Council that volunteers are covered by Workers Compensation and liability insurance. Both Councilmember Bowers and Perkins expressed approval of the idea. Advice and consent was given to allow volunteers to help at the Visitor Center.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED FY 2017/2018 GENERAL FUND AND ENTERPRISE BUDGETS.**

**Councilmember Lyman moved to enter a public hearing, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

There were no public comments made.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to leave the public hearing, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Bowers</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**7. INFORMATION**

**A. Mr. Redd state that those desiring to run for City Council must complete Declaration of Candidacy between June 1st and 7th. This must be done in person at the City office during normal business hours.**

**B. Mayor Balch shared that Councilmember Perkins has accepted a seat on the San Juan Public Health Special Service District.**

**8. OPEN FORUM**

Robert Turk asked if the City could place a speed sign or children at play sign on 600 West. The street is a direct route to the Edge of the Cedars Museum. It was his opinion that there has been an increase in the amount of traffic and speeding on the street. His concern stems from the number of children that live on this street and their safety. Mr. Redd responded that there are options to help regulate the speed on the street other than signs, which are only effective for a short period of time. He assured those in attendance that he would ask staff to look into the situation.

Kara Laws commented that tourists are not watching for children as they are searching for the museum.

Corey Raisor suggested Council review short-term rentals on a yearly basis to monitor and evaluate their contributions and any issues.

Kaeden Kulow shared that because of the new regulation in Moab many short-term rentals are moving south outside of City limits.

Trent Herring expressed his appreciation to those overseeing the cemetery grounds.

Scott Young stated he was pleased to see the shrubs and flowers that have been planted on Main Street.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to enter to an executive session for a discussion on land. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered an executive session at 8:42 p.m.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to leave the executive session and return to an open**

**meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left an executive session at 9:05 p.m.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

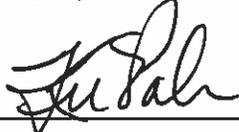
**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Bowers**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

Approved: June 13 2017

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MAY 9, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Trevor Olsen

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Police:

Chief Torgerson

Fire Chief:

Corey Spillman

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Absent: Councilmember Kd Perkins

Others Attending: Scoot Flannery, Corey Raisor, Dave Seiter, Ryan Heck, Logan Shumway, Logan Monson, Boston Monson, Preston Imlay, Collin Baker, Jaden Baker, Lennon Done, Kirk Bengé

Prayer/Thought was offered by Trevor Olsen

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the April 25, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Olsen</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Dave Seiter asked if the City had any projects available for boys needing an Eagle Scout project. Mayor Balch suggested those needing projects contact Mr. Hosler or Mr. Redd. Councilmember Olsen stated that Jared Palmer has projects available at the Blue Mountain Guest Ranch.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**A. Terry Ekker presented the April 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report**

Mr. Ekker reported annual precipitation at 84.9%. Starvation and Dry Wash Reservoirs are full.

It is anticipated that Recapture Reservoir will also be full by mid-June. Councilmember Lyman inquired about the City deep wells and when they were last exercised. Mr. Ekker responded that he did not have that information, but David Lyman has been exercising them periodically.

Mr. Ekker also shared that natural gas usage was down slightly during the month of April compared to last year. One new half-inch service was installed.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the April 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported that 84 calls were responded to by City officers during the month of April. The number of violations were up compared to last year. Inmates from the San Juan County jail completed painting and repairs on the dog pound.

***C. Chief Spillman presented the April 2017 Fire Report***

Chief Spillman reported that the month of April consisted of mostly trainings by the department. Fire Fighter 1 & 2 trainings were conducted.

***D. David Palmer presented the April 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer reported an increase in softball and baseball participants for the season. The machine pitch league included teams from Monticello this year. The disc golf course is being completed as an Eagle Scout project by Stellar Perkins and is almost finished. All work on the course has been completed by volunteers. Councilmember Ogle asked about the amount of sprinkler repairs that were necessary this spring as compared to other years. Mr. Palmer responded that the current year is not much different than any other. Most of those repairs come as a result of individuals driving through the grass and breaking sprinklers and pipe.

Total Attendance at the Wellness Center was 1,756 during April shared Mr. Palmer. The number does not include those that pay each time they enter the facility. Mayor Balch asked Mr. Palmer how the new software was working. Mr. Palmer responded that staff is still learning all the aspects of the software. Kristen Helquist, City Recreation Assistant, is learning all aspects of the software and passing that training on to staff. He commended Kristen for the good work she is doing for City recreation programs and the Wellness Center.

**5. AGENDA**

***A. Resolution 5-9-2017-1 - A Resolution of the City of Blanding Consenting to the Inclusion of All Property Within the City of Blanding within the San Juan Public Health Special Service District – Jeremy Redd***

Kirk Bengé San Juan Health District Director told the Council that if the City chose not to be a member of the San Juan County Public Health Special Service District an inter-local agreement would be necessary for the District to provide care to City residents.

Mayor Balch stated that the residents are paying taxes and the County has to provide public health care to the community. Mr. Bengé responded by saying that was correct and that is why the agreement would be needed. He continued to share that some public health funding is based on the utilization of programs within the district. Less utilization could affect the funding provided for needed programs. The question was raised regarding the oversight of the district, to which Mr. Bengé replied a seven member board oversees public health in the County. This board's function will not change.

Councilmember Olsen summarized the discussion by stating that the County must provide public health for residents whether they are a member of the special service district or not. However, if they are not a member of the district an agreement between Blanding, the County and the Public

Health Special Service District is required to provide services to Blanding. He continued to state that funding could be affected if County communities did not join the special service district. Mayor Balch expressed his approval of the resolution under the condition that Blanding would have a member on the board.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 5-9-2017-1 - of the City of Blanding Consenting to the Inclusion of All Property Within the City of Blanding within the San Juan Public Health Special Service District, on condition that Blanding City Council receive a seat on the Board under the bylaws of the San Juan County Public Health Special Service District. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE      Councilmember Lyman  
                                 Councilmember Olsen  
                                 Councilmember Harrison  
                                 Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY      NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Storm Water Master Plan Update - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker reminded Council that during discussion regarding the storm water rate increase it was determined the utility's master plan needed to be updated. That update has now been completed and a draft copy prepared for review by himself and the Council. No prior projects were removed from the plan during the update process. More details and current pricing was made to those projects during the plan update.

Areas that are focused on in the plan include 200 E. Grayson Parkway where water is pooling on the highway during storms; 300 S. 400 W. on USU's undeveloped land south of the campus; 200 W. 800 S. near the hospital.

The entire master plan project estimate, which includes the three projects discussed, is roughly estimated at \$1.4 million. Mr. Redd told Council that funding for the projects will come from the savings created from the rate increase and matching funds as they become available.

***C. San Juan County Resource Management Plan Comments - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that he has reviewed the County's Resource Management Plan and feels the document is first-rate. Councilmember Lyman commented that what he had read was good, very detailed, and spoke to adhering to local plans and voices. A letter expressing the Council's approval of the plan will be drafted and sent to the County.

***D. City Council Date Change/Additional Meeting***

Councilmember Olsen read the following the letter of resignation.

*Dear Blanding City:*

*It is with a heavy heart that I formally resign from the Blanding City Council effective today, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Over a year ago, I was elected by the good people of Blanding to represent them on the City Council. I want to thank all of them for allowing me to serve. By resigning at this time, the good people of Blanding will have the opportunity to fill my seat in the fall election.*

*I have learned from so many during this opportunity to be on the council. I want to thank the Mayor, Council members Robert Ogle, Taylor Harrison, Joe B. Lyman and KD Perkins for their willingness and sincere desire to serve the people of Blanding.*

*I want to thank the many good Blanding City employees. They are good people with genuine interest in providing quality services to the people of Blanding. They are to be thanked for their dedication, hard work and desire to see Blanding City successful.*

*The people of Blanding are amazing. I have loved my opportunity to learn and grow from being a part of Blanding City Council. I will continue to support, promote and advocate for the city as it continues to be an amazing place to live.*

*I would encourage the council to continue their direction in making Blanding a wonderful place to live and work! I love this city and am humbled by this opportunity I have had to serve. Thank You!*

*Trevor Olsen  
Blanding City Council*

**Councilmember Lyman moved to regretfully accept Councilmember Olsen’s resignation, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman Councilmember Olsen Councilmember Harrison Councilmember Ogle</b>
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<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mr. Redd proposed to move the scheduled May 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting to May 30<sup>th</sup>. This would allow the required time for applications for the open Council seat to be collected. He also told Council that interviews for the position and the selection will take place in an open meeting. Council agreed to move the meeting from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**4. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Ogle announced the opening of a new furniture store on Saturday. The business will be located on Grayson Parkway next to Four Corners Adventures.

Mayor Balch requested that short term rentals be on the May 30<sup>th</sup> Council agenda. He recommended the City consider a policy for dealing with those rentals. Mr. Redd commented that the state legislature has discussed regulations for short-term rentals.

**5. OPEN FORUM**

None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn, Councilmember Olsen seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE      Councilmember Lyman  
                                 Councilmember Olsen  
                                 Councilmember Harrison  
                                 Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY      NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
APRIL 25 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Trevor Olsen
	Joc B Lyman
	Taylor Harrison
	Kd Perkins
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development:	Bret Hosler
Recreation Director:	David Palmer
Police Chief:	Jason Torgerson

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Kara Laws, Scoot Flannery, Logan Monson, Phil Lyman, Logan Shumway

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Joe Lyman

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the April 11, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison**

Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

*A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report*

*Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project*

The design portion of the project has begun. To make the transition smoother and easier to complete, staff is working to acquire about 20 feet of property next to the substation.

*East Side Sewer Trunk Line*

Right of way acquisition is 70% complete, meaning that easements are finalized and recorded.

*Sewer Lagoon Winter Storage Pond Dam Repair*

Crews are waiting for the grouting to be completed. It is expected that will occur in the next week or so. Staff is still working to sell the vinyl sheet piles.

*Storm Water Master Plan Update*

The final draft review is in process. It will be presented to Council and a priority list will be developed.

*Natural Gas Odorizer Relocation/Replacement Project*

The odorizer equipment has been selected and it is intended that it will be purchased in the current budget year. Staff is working with Williams to coordinate the location of the new odorizer. Money has been budgeted for the construction in the upcoming budget year.

*Million Gallon Tank Repair*

Staff has been working to identify the leak on the inside of the tank. Several repair options are being considered that would cut the repair cost by 90%, if successful.

*B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report*

Councilmember Ogle asked if the increase in revenue from the Visitor Center could be attributed to the Bears Ears National Monument. Mr. Redd responded that it would be hard to make that determination.

**5. AGENDA ITEM**

***A. Resolution 4-25-2017-1 - Adopting Changes to the Net Metering Program - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated currently the net metering policy only applies to residential customers. A policy for commercial customers is ready for Council approval. The policy will limit commercial customers to a system with a generating capacity of either 25kW or 120% of the historical maximum monthly energy capacity.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 4-25-2017-1 - Adopting Changes to the Net Metering Program, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY      NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Resolution 4-25-2017-2 - Consenting to the Inclusion of all Property within the City of Blanding within the San Juan Public Health Special Service District - Jeremy Redd/Commissioner Phil Lyman***

Commissioner Lyman stated that the County is working to establish the San Juan Public Health Special Service District. To be a member of the special service district each incorporated area must consent to their participation by resolution.

Mayor Balch questioned the need for such action if residents are already being taxed for public health. Commissioner Lyman responded that establishing the special service district will remove public health from under County politics. San Juan Counseling has functioned much more

successfully since being established as a special service district. The Mayor then asked if this would mean an increase in taxes for residents. Commissioner Lyman answered by stating that public health is funded through a tax-levy. The levied tax can not be increased without a vote from residents.

It was then asked what would happen if the City did not consent to be a member. Commissioner Lyman responded in that case the tax would continue and City residents would continue to have access to the offerings. It could also reduce the amount of funding the district would receive from the state. He then commented that all Public Health agencies are regulated and overseen by the State. Councilmembers determined they needed more time to look into how the City may or may not benefit from being included in the San Juan Public Health District.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to table Resolution 4-25-2017-2 - Consenting to the Inclusion of all Property within the City of Blanding within the San Juan Public Health Special Service District, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Legal Services Contract - City Attorney - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that City Attorney, Kendall Laws' contract would end on June 30, 2017. The City has been very pleased with the services provided by Mr. Laws, Mr. Redd stated his recommendation of renewing the contract for another three year period.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to renew City Attorney, Kendall Laws' contract for the next three years, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch**

repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

*D. Recapture Canyon Decision - Press Release & Letter - Joe Lyman*

Councilmember Lyman stated the letter included in the packet addresses the City Council's disapproval of the final decision made by the BLM in regards to Recapture Canyon. The BLM's decision on the canyon is much the same as the closure has been for the past several years with only an updated map which designates roads and trails that have been opened on the rim of the canyon. He continued to tell Council that although the media is reporting the Canyon as now open, essentially nothing has changed and the Canyon remains closed to vehicles. He feels the City should document through a letter to the BLM and a press release that they are displeased with the BLM's final decision. Council agreed the letter and press release were necessary.

*E. City Logo Design - Trevor Olsen*

Councilmember Olsen shared that the final design option has been selected for the new City logo and is ready for approval. The selection was made using input from several designers, residents, staff, and councilmembers. The proposed design is simple and clean, which will make it both easy to apply and adjust where needed. Councilmember Harrison commented that the design can be easily transferred to a shirt, hat, letterhead or any other item. The logo design could be altered by changing the colors for the different departments as needed or desired.

**Councilmember Olsen moved to approve the new Blanding City logo design, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Lyman

**Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***F. CIB Funding Meeting - June 1, 2017 - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained that following the CIB meeting in which the board awarded loan and grant funding for the East Side Sewer project it was determined the award could not occur based on State policy. State policy states, "When a project receives funding from another State funding agency, the project has been deemed as receiving funding and alternate funding should not be authorized by another State Board." The Department of Water Quality (DWQ) had previously awarded a request for funding to the City for the project, making the City ineligible for CIB funds. Mr. Redd then recommended that the City withdraw the funding request to CIB and accept the award from DWQ. Councilmember Lyman asked if the award was still available from DWQ. Mr. Redd responded that he would visit with DWQ and ensure the award was still available, before withdrawing the CIB request. By declining the offer from CIB, the City can easily approach them for needed funding this fall for equipment. Council gave approval for Mr. Redd to withdraw the request to CIB and accept the loan from DWQ.

**6. INFORMATION**

The Mayor addressing Commissioner Lyman stated that the best reason for being included in the San Juan Public Health Special Service District is that there will be better funding available if there are more members in it.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
APRIL 11, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Trevor Olsen

Joe B Lyman

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Police:

Chief Torgerson

Fire Chief:

Corey Spillman

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Community Members: Kendall Laws, Scoot Flannery, Travis Whatcott, Logan Shumway  
Joel Redd.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kd Perkins.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the March 28, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Jeremy Redd presented the March 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Mr. Redd reported that March was a dry month for precipitation. 363 acre feet of water flowed through the pipeline. City reservoirs are full and runoff is now going into Recapture Reservoir. The City is selling excess raw water for irrigation at \$25 an acre foot.

He also reported there are 15 more gas services than at this same time last year.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the March 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported there were a total of 79 incidents during March. An investigation into a theft of solar panels is currently taking place. There were 8 cases of assault that occurred during the month, which were all family fights.

***C. Chief Spillman presented the March 2017 Fire Report***

Chief Spillman reported that March was a slow month for call outs and a busy one for training. A firefighter 1 & 2 course is currently being offered. Four individuals attended the Wildland Red Card class that was held in Montezuma Creek. This certifies individuals eligible to fight wildland fires for state and federal agencies.

***D. David Palmer presented the March 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Palmer told Council that registrations for baseball, T-ball, Machine Pitch and Softball are being taking and will be wrapping up soon. Parks are being cleaned up and readied for the year.

He shared that there were 2068 individuals that scanned their membership card at the Wellness Center during March. That number does not include those that pay each time they visit the center.

Mayor Balch requested that the water fountains at the baseball fields be repaired or replaced. They are in bad shape. Mr. Palmer responded that he has requested funding in the upcoming budget year for replacing park drinking fountains. He also stated that these fountains are expensive to replace but can be repaired. Mayor Balch responded that he has discretionary funds that can be used. Mr. Palmer responded that he would have the fountains replaced or repaired.

5. **AGENDA**

***A. Public Budget Requests for 2017-2018 City Budget***

Mayor Balch asked if the opportunity to request items for the budget was advertised to the community. Mr. Redd responded that it is advertised as part of the meeting agenda but not separately.

Councilmember Lyman asked if it would be possible to move this opportunity earlier in the budget process to allow more time for Council and staff to evaluate those requests. Mr. Redd responded that it was possible.

There were no comments from the public regarding budget requests.

***B. Resolution 4-11-2017-1 - Adopting a Revised Annexation Policy Plan - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman requested a minor change to the proposed document, item 3 on page one include "h. current city policies".

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 4-11-2017-1 - Adopting a Revised Annexation Policy Plan (with changes), Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**            **Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Olsen**  
**Councilmember Harrison**  
**Councilmember Perkins**  
**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**            **NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Resolution 4-11-2017-2 - Adopting the City of Blanding Police Department Policy Manual as Written and Maintained by Lexipol - Chief Torgerson***

Chief Torgerson told Council that Lexipol is a company that provides a policy manual for the city police department. Lexipol keeps the policy updated with changes that occur constantly in the law enforcement area. The manual is 400 pages and Councilmember Ogle asked how officers access that manual. The Chief responded that officers generally access the policy from an app on their phone or computer. He continued to share that as changes are made to the manual officers are required to review those changes and document through Lexipol that they have reviewed them. This is tracked through the software. He concluded by stating that Lexipol is a great resource for keeping officers up to date on changing procedures and case law.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve, Resolution 4-11-2017-2 - Adopting the City of Blanding Police Department Policy Manual as Written and Maintained by Lexipol**

**Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**            **Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Olsen**  
**Councilmember Harrison**  
**Councilmember Perkins**  
**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**            **NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. CIB East Side Sewer Funding Update - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman told Council that the east side sewer project presentation made at CIB went well. CIB offered half loan, half grant for the project. The interest rate for the loan would be 2.5%. The loan offered by DWQ will be declined, although the rate was lower at 1.5% for the entire amount. Taking the CIB offer will save the City \$30,000 in cash flow per year.

**6. INFORMATION**

Mayor asked how the 4<sup>th</sup> of July plans were coming along. Councilmember Ogle responded that everything was under control and moving along, even without a chairman. The parade chairs are Chris and Janae Monson. Laverne Tate's son Josh Tate has been selected to give the speech at the early morning service. He also shared that the theme for the celebration is "A Heritage of Freedom."

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Olsen</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MARCH 28, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:	
Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Trevor Olsen Joe B Lyman Taylor Harrison Kd Perkins Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development:	Bret Hosler
Recreation Director:	David Palmer
Police Chief:	Jason Torgerson

Others Attending: Scoot Flannery, Kara Laws, Kendall Laws

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by: Jeremy Redd

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the March 7, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b> <b>Councilmember Olsen</b> <b>Councilmember Harrison</b> <b>Councilmember Perkins</b> <b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
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<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**  
None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report***

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

The engineering services contract is in place per Council approval. The project design has begun. Preliminary field work is taking place this week.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

The right of way acquisition is currently at 56% complete. Easements are finalized and recorded at the County.

***Sewer Lagoon Winter Storage Pond Dam Repair***

The sale of the vinyl sheet piles is still being pursued. The project is still needing to have the grout work finished. The individual completing that portion of the work has been tied up with a mudslide issue in northern Utah.

***Storm Water Master Plan Update***

The final draft of the plan update has been completed and staff is reviewing it. It will be presented to the Council at a future meeting.

***B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that the financial status of the City is in line with budgeted amounts.

5. **AGENDA ITEM**

***A. Open & Public Meetings Training - Mayor Balch***

Council read through the open and public meetings act. Mayor Balch reminded Council that it is inappropriate for members of public bodies to conduct deliberations in private and then in a public meeting hold the vote. Councils should deliberate in open meetings. If a quorum of Council members get together to discuss a City topic it is considered a meeting.

***B. Water Quality Board Meeting - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated that Water Quality approved a loan for \$2.57 million at 1.5% for the East Side Sewer project. Mr. Redd and Councilmember Lyman will be approaching CIB for the additional funding. If CIB provides funding at a lower interest rate or as a grant, the amount of the loan taken will be reduced.

***C. Emergency Preparedness Plan - Chief Torgerson***

Chief Torgerson discuss the new Emergency Preparedness Plan he has been working. In designing the City plan the Chief reached out to other communities and used their plans as a template. He reminded Council that although the community is one of the safest places there have been disasters over the years. Research obtained from the County showed over the years the area has experienced, floods, blizzards and flooding. He continued that despite the efforts of the City, there is still the potential for a disaster to overwhelm City resources. With that in mind the City recognizes the need for citizens to be prepared, organized and trained to work together.

The City's Emergency Preparedness Plan will assist in the event of a disaster. An emergency commission, which includes a EMG coordinator, an assistant EMG coordinator, the Chief of police, the fire Chief and the Mayor, will manage the response to the disaster.

In a Citywide emergency, citizens are divided into sectors based on LDS stake boundaries. Each sector is divided into zones located along LDS ward boundaries. Those zones are then divided into neighborhoods. The sector headquarters would be the LDS Stake Center.

Councilmember Lyman stated that this plan is not LDS driven, but the City is using resources already in place. Most of the community is familiar with the locations and terminology. Those who are not will be recognized by their neighbors and directed to locations for assistance.

Chief Torgerson stated that if the stake had an emergency coordinator that individual could be the sector leader. He would like to approach each ward and other church leaders about the plan. It is also planned to share the information community wide.

Mr. Redd stated that a copy that had been left on the counter in the front office had been looked over by individuals coming in, many asking questions regarding the document. He continued that the plan will be made available in the office and the website.

Councilmember Ogle asked that information regarding an EMP be included. EMP stands for Electric Magnetic Pulse. If that is set off there would be no communication capabilities or electrical capabilities. Chief Torgerson stated he would consider adding information regarding the EMP.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING - ANNEXATION PLAN POLICY & MAP**

**Councilmember Lyman moved to enter a public hearing for the Annexation Plan Policy and Map, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The meeting moved into a Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Hosler shared that the Planning Commission had spent nearly a year refining the annexation policy and map. It is now complete and ready for Councils approval. The policy is brief and covers all necessary items required by state law. Mayor Balch expressed his appreciation to the Planning Commission for their efforts in completing the revision.

Mayor Balch asked for clarification on the map, which showed both dotted and solid boundary lines. Mr. Hosler responded telling Council that the dotted lines were within current City boundaries. The solid lines were within the annexation plan. Mr. Redd commented that the City has no properties beyond Westwater canyon on the annexation plan. Councilmember Lyman

commented that Westwater is a private community and would have to make substantial upgrades to bring residences up to City code.

Mayor Balch commented how interesting it was that there are thousands of acres on the annexation map that will never be developed. Councilmember Lyman responded that the area is designated as open space.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to leave the public hearing. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council returned to regular session at 7:43 p.m.

7. **INFORMATION**

None

8. **OPEN FORUM**

None

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to enter an executive session to discuss personnel and Map, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered an executive session at 8:00 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the executive session, Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the executive session and reentered the open meeting at 9:07 p.m.

**Councilmember Olsen moved to adjourn, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MARCH 14, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Trevor Olsen Joe B Lyman Robert Ogle Taylor Harrison Kd Perkins
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development:	Bret Hosler
Police:	Chief Torgerson
Fire Chief:	Corey Spillman

Others Attending: Kendall Laws, Rick Meyer, Milt Pipkin, Jeremy Lyman, Trent Herring, Kara Laws, Gary Guymon, Sharon Guymon.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kim Palmer.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the February 28, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman Councilmember Olsen Councilmember Harrison Councilmember Perkins</b>
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<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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APPROVED MARCH 28, 2017

**Those ABSTAINING Councilmember Ogle**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Balch read from Utah League of Cities and Towns Powers and Duties handbook regarding the public comment portion of the meeting. The handbook states that “The public comment portion of the meeting shall be limited to the public speaking to the council on any item not on the agenda. The Mayor and City Council may ask clarifying questions of the member of the public making a presentation and other members of the public may ask clarifying questions of the presenter at the discretion of the Chair.”

Sharon Guymon expressed her support of the proposed resolution to ask residents their opinion on the sale of alcohol within the City. Ms. Guymon stated she is not advocating for hard liquor but rather beer or wine in a restaurant situation. As a business owner, she has found that many of her customers desire a glass of wine or beer with their meals. She continued to share that the City has received negative comments on the webpage Trip Advisor by visitors because of the inability of visitors to purchase alcohol.

Gary Guymon stated that tourism is one of the things that keeps the community running. It would be reasonable to offer beer or wine to customers, especially those from Europe. He also felt it is time to allow the citizens of Blanding to vote on the issue.

Rick Meyer expressed his feelings regarding the sale of alcohol, by stating he would hope the Council would continue to disallow the sale. He shared that Goulding’s Lodge in Monument Valley does not serve beer or wine and are a very successful business. He feels the ban on alcohol sets Blanding apart from other communities. He will vote against the sale of alcohol in Blanding.

Jeremy Lyman spoke in favor of the Council lifting the ban on alcohol and in favor of it going to the voters. He believes it is not the role of government to impede economic development or support it. He does not believe the ban is a good thing, regardless of personal religious beliefs. Many tourists feel the ban is a negative thing.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the February 2017 Water & Natural Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that as of February 28<sup>th</sup> the annual precipitation is at 103% and Snow depth is at 42 inches. The water equivalent was at 15.3 inches.

He also shared that there were four ½” natural gas services installed in February.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the February 2017 Police Report***

Chief Torgerson reported that there was a total of 73 calls during the month of February. This is

very much like 2016 numbers.

***C. Chief Spillman presented the February 2017 Fire Report***

Chief Spillman reported that February was a slow month for the department. The department responded to two calls and four trainings were conducted.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the February 2017 Recreation Report***

Mr. Redd reported that boys' basketball has finished. Baseball, softball and t-ball registrations are currently taking place. High school baseball and softball have started and teams are currently using the fields. City parks and Main Street are being cleaned up and ready for spring. Lifeguards are currently being hired for the upcoming pool season.

**5. PUBLIC HEARING – ELECTRIC REVENUE BONDS**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to enter a Public Hearing regarding the Electric Revenue Bonds, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Redd stated that the public will benefit from the electric system upgrade.

Public Comments:

Gary Guymon stated that the equipment needs to be improved and replaced.

Rick Meyer asked how the project will dovetail with the project that was completed last Fall. Mr. Ekker responded that the project last Fall was done to prepare for this portion of the entire project. When the project is completed, residents on the 4kv line will be moved to the 12kv. Most of those that will be affected by an outage during this final phase will be residential customers.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to leave the Public Hearing, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

**6. AGENDA**

***A. Resolution 3-14-2017-1 Intent to Place Before the Blanding City Voters An Opinion About Changing Blanding City Code to Allow The Sale of Alcohol in City Limits – Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle read the following statement;

"I understand that the sale of alcohol may be the most controversial, emotional issue in Blanding. As an individual member of the City Council, I neither condone nor condemn the sale of alcohol in Blanding at this time. I am not suggesting that City Council, as a whole, prepare a formal position statement either in favor of, or opposed to the sale of alcohol in Blanding at this time.

“What I hope will happen tonight is the discussion of a resolution concerning the sale of alcohol in Blanding, resulting in a resolution question to be placed on the November 2017 ballot, providing the voters of Blanding an opportunity to express their opinion on the sale of alcohol in Blanding.

“Included in your packet is a sample Resolution including a sample City of Blanding Proposal to be placed on the November 2017 ballot. The working of such a proposal would be, "should the city allow the sale of beer and wine in Blanding City limits? Yes or no."

Mayor Balch told Council that he felt it was time for the citizens to voice their opinion on the topic of alcohol sales.

Councilmember Lyman requested a change to the proposed resolution title to read “the Blanding City voters a question”, rather than it reading “the Blanding City voters an opinion.”

Councilmembers agreed and the change was made.

Councilmember Harrison commented that it is time for citizens to be heard. He has heard an equal amount from those that oppose the sale of alcohol and those that support it.

Councilmember Lyman stated that he feels it is a value question that needs to be answered by the community.

Councilmember Ogle reminded everyone that if it passes the City will draft the ordinance, but if it fails it will be dropped. The Mayor then commented that it would be dropped by this current Council, but would not bind any future Council to that decision.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 3-14-2017-1 Intent to Place Before the Blanding City Voters A Question About Changing Blanding City Code to Allow The Sale of Alcohol in City Limits, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Those ABSTAINING**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Resolution 3-14-2017-2 – Regulating the Sale of Goods and Services in City Parks – Taylor Harrison***

Councilmember Harrison told Council that the resolution would apply to all City parks. Selling will be allowed on Friday, Saturday, Memorial Day and Labor Day in South Park only.

Councilmember Lyman asked why these two holidays were specifically named. Councilmember Harrison responded that it was determined that selling would not be allowed on the 4th of July or the 24th of July.

Mayor asked how the rules would be enforced. Councilmember Harrison responded that signage will be placed listing the rules for selling in the park. The City parks department and police department will monitor to ensure rules are followed.

Councilmember Ogle asked how these new guidelines will affect the Farmers Market that is held at the Visitor Center. Mr. Redd responded that the Farmers Market is classified as a special event and an agreement is signed yearly for park use.

Mayor Balch asked Chief Torgerson what his feelings were regarding the monitoring of the parks. Chief Torgerson responded that he visited the park on the previous Saturday and found many were selling and using City tables and sidewalks to do so. He feels posting the signs and initial monitoring will be helpful in spreading the word. Mr. Redd commented that permits are available at the Wellness Center and online.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 3-14-2017-2 Regulating the Sale of Goods and Services in City Parks, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Approve Electric Bond Bid – Jeremy Redd***

Marcus Keller from Zions Bank Public Finance attended by phone. Mr. Keller gave a summary of the bids that were received for the electric bond. He stated his pleasure with how the bids came in and the percentages offered. Pinnacle Public Finance came in at 2.499%; Bank of Utah 2.6%; State Bank of Southern Utah 2.650%. After a 4 year, non-call period the City can call the bond if it desires and pay it off. Pinnacle cannot call the bond. Mayor Balch inquired why the bond was not listed at \$1,400,000 as requested. Mr. Redd responded that after the fees for the bond are paid there will be \$1,375,000 put into the City account for the project. The remaining amount necessary to complete the project will come from electric savings.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to accept the bond bid from Pinnacle Finance for the \$1,400,000 over 10 years. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. 2017 Municipal Election Discussion – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded Council that the City has participated in the mail in ballot process for the past three years. He asked if Council would like to continue with the mail in ballot process for the

upcoming election, taking place in November. He reported that voter participation was up 22% using mail in ballots. Those who choose to vote in person can do so at the San Juan County Courthouse in Monticello. The County is continuing the mail in ballot process. If the City was to discontinue the mail in ballot method of voting, citizens would still have to use the mail in ballot anytime there was a county election, and it could be confusing to residents if the County and the City were each using a different voting method. Councilmember Lyman stated that it would better for residents for the County and the City to use the same method. Councilmember Ogle stated he likes the in person voting, but he could not debate the statistics. Council gave advice and consent to continue with a mail in ballot.

***E. Vehicle Allowance Policy Review – Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle asked for a report on the vehicle allowance policy. Mr. Redd responded that he feels the policy is working well, he has not heard otherwise. Mr. Ekker stated that he feels the policy is fair and working for him. Chief Spillman also stated he feels it is working.

***F. Logo Concept Approval – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated that the logo process has been a long process and now he is looking for some direction from Council. The Council packet included the latest logo design from Fritch Creative.

Councilmember Olsen commented that the proposed logo was growing on him, but he was not entirely happy with it. He asked if Council would be interested in looking at what another online company might offer as a design. The company would provide 50-60 companies an opportunity to share their Blanding City design concepts. The City could then select the concept of their choice at a cost of \$800.00. There would be no cost if the City chose not to select a design. Council agreed to approaching the online company, [www.99designs.com](http://www.99designs.com) and see what results they might have in the design of the logo.

**7. INFORMATION**

Mr. Redd told Council that he has received information that a 1% loan will be offered from the Department of Water Quality to the City for the east side sewer project. Mayor Balch asked if that must be accepted. Mr. Redd responded that he is still working to see if they would be willing to go with a zero percent loan, but 1% is still very good.

**8. OPEN FORUM**

Sharon Guymon addressed the logo discussion. She advised that the City ensure the final design represents the City and what it is. She recommends that the Council open the design of the logo to local citizens.

Gary Guymon suggested that the logo is simple with color and well thought out.

Milt Pipkin commented on the alcohol topic. He expressed his concern with the number of individuals driving after purchasing alcohol in other locations. This creates a dangerous situation.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 28, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Trevor Olsen

Joe B Lyman

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Recreation Director:

David Palmer

Police Chief:

Jason Torgerson

Absent: Councilmember Robert Ogle

Others Present: Milt Pipkin, Trent Herring, Shelby Kartchner, Craig Simpson, Kendall Laws, Kara Laws, Logan Monson, Sharon Guymon.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Mayor Calvin Balch.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the February 7, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**
  - A. *San Juan High School National Honor Society*

APPROVED: March 14, 2017

San Juan High School National Honor Society representative, Shelby Kartchner, requested \$450 for the Community Easter Egg hunt.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve disbursement of the budgeted amount for the Community Easter Egg Hunt to the San Juan High School National Honor Society. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Olsen</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>

**Those voting NAY      NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**B.** Kara Laws shared Blanding City logo designs created by the high school graphic design class as an assignment. The class had requested she share them with council.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**A. Terry Ekker presented the Progress Status Report**

***Blanding Power Distribution Upgrade and Substation Conversion Project***

The engineering services contract approved by the Council is now in place. Mr. Ekker shared that there may be a need for Council approval to order the substation transformer that will need to be ordered for the project before the next budget is approved. There is a 20 week time frame between ordering and receiving the transformer.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

The easement acquisition for the project, including being recorded at the County is 39% complete. Others are in process and expect to be completed soon.

***Sewer Lagoon Winter Storage Pond Dam Repair***

Mr. Ekker reported that staff is still working to sell the vinyl sheet piles that were not used on the Project. There is still some grouting needed to finish the project. He also shared that USU is working on a way to eradicate or control the prairie dogs in the area.

***Storm Water Master Plan Update***

The final draft of the storm water master plan has been received. After staff review, the plan will be presented to the City Council.

**B. Kim Palmer presented the Financial Status Report**

Ms. Palmer told the Council that the City was in great shape, expenses are below budget and

most revenue accounts were above budgeted amounts. She explained that interest rates are on the rise, making the interest generated by the City more than budgeted amounts. Councilmember Lyman asked why the fire department budget was below budget. Ms. Palmer responded that the department had not yet made the purchase of a compressor to fill breathing bottles.

5. **AGENDA ITEM**

***A. Annexation Plan and Map - Councilmember Lyman/Bret Hosler***

Councilmember Lyman explained that the maps included in the packet designate the current incorporated area of the City and the BLM open space. An additional map shows the buildable area within the City, including identifying different zoning areas. He continued to share that in determining the annexation area the Planning Commission and City staff had to determine which areas could be provided services including water and sewer. The BLM open space area is an exception to that and services will not be provided to that area of the community.

Mayor Balch asked if the area on the east was private property, Mr. Hosler responded that yes it is. Mayor Balch then asked about the property owned by the City that includes the airport. Mr. Hosler responded that it is owned by the City, but is not in the incorporated area.

Regarding annexation, Mr. Hosler reminded Council that it is more economical to bring in large areas in annexation rather than just a small piece. When discussing annexation of an area, residents and property owners in that area are approached and offered annexation. Mr. Redd also pointed out the annexation petition requires that City staff review the plan to ensure it is appropriate for the City. It outlines what will need to be reviewed. The review and procedure allows the annexation petition to come to City Council with more complete information on the costs and on the plan itself.

Councilmember Lyman reminded Council that it has been City policy not to typically annex citizens against their wishes.

***B. Resolution 2-28-2017-1 Municipal Wastewater Planning Program - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker told Council that included in the packet was the annual report required yearly by the state of Utah. The report is a self assessment tool. Mr. Ekker told Council that the packet document is missing two items on page 2. Item A should read the year 1949 and on item B 69 years.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 2-28-2017-1 Municipal Wastewater Planning Program with the additional items added. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

APPROVED: March 14, 2017

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY     NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Division of Water Quality Board Meeting - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded the Council that several avenues have been tried to get good affordability figures of the City, and to accurately assess the median household income. Avenues such as Census data and an independent survey have been used. Each of those paint a different picture than the reality of what citizens of the community can afford. The recent survey completed by Zions Bank used data collected from income tax returns. Mr. Redd feels they are the most accurate because they use empirical data and not self-assessment. The results of that survey show a Blanding median household income of \$39,371, and a 25th percentile income of \$16,73. He has learned that both CIB and the Division of Water Quality will accept this data to determine affordability for the City. He continued to share that when presented to the Division of Water Quality board they requested a month to review the numbers. If funding can be secured from the board it may be as low as zero percent interest for the East Side Sewer project. Mr. Redd continued that a final determination on funding from the Division of Water Quality will be announced at their board meeting in late March.

***D. Proposed Interlocal Agreement for Temporary Building Inspection Services***

Walter Bird from San Juan County approached the Council for approval to use the City Building Inspector for inspections in the county for a short time period. He continued to tell those in attendance that the County inspector is no longer licensed to complete the inspections. They are currently in the process of acquiring a licensed inspector. He anticipated that it would be 4-6 months before a new inspector is in place.

Mayor Balch asked how often the County would need an inspector and how would it be scheduled. Mr. Bird responded that if possible using the Blanding City inspector one day a week, by schedule would be sufficient. Any problems or questions by County residents regarding the schedule would be handled by the County.

Mayor Balch then asked for details on who would maintain the records. Mr. Bird responded that it is intended that the City Inspector would maintain the records as he currently does. Mr. Bird also shared that if approved the City would be compensated. That amount has not been determined yet.

Mayor Balch asked how Mr. Hosler, City Building Inspector, felt about helping the County with their inspections for a short period of time. Mr. Hosler stated that he has met with Mr. Bird and discussed his concerns. He is concerned that a resident may choose to do the work without the inspections because they won't want to wait. Mr. Bird commented that the County will take care

of any illegal activity. Mr. Hosler commented that it could be time demanding, especially during the construction season.

Councilmember Harrison asked how sure the County was in replacing the inspector in the time period anticipated. Mr. Bird responded that he is fairly confident that a new inspector will be in place before the end of the year. Councilmember Harrison asked if there were any upcoming projects that might require more attention than just a weekly inspection.

Mr. Hosler asked who would handle inspecting the new Montezuma Creek Clinic. The Clinic will be a large project which could need an inspector on a daily basis to keep the project moving. Mr. Bird responded that particular project may require an outside commercial inspector.

Councilmember Lyman asked about the liability. Mr. Hosler responded that according to the code, it is the jurisdiction of the project that is liable. Any project in the County would be the responsibility of the County in regards to liability.

Councilmember Lyman commented that the City would want to help out, but only if it works for both parties. Mayor Balch stated that he would like to visit with Mr. Hosler about the offer. Councilmember Olsen asked what the County was doing in the meantime. Mr. Bird responded that they will have to use outside independent inspectors. Council will work on the idea and discuss it.

#### ***E. South Park Regulation Changes - Taylor Harrison***

Councilmember Harrison told Council that the amount of individuals using the parks to sell their products is causing some extra work for the parks department and for the contracted lawn care. There is a resolution and guidelines on park use, and some provisions of the ordinance are not currently being enforced. The resolution includes a permit that should be completed by those using the park and they are not securing permits.

Mr. Redd stated that when the resolution was passed there were not as many individuals setting up during the week, but now individuals seem to be using it daily for selling their items. Councilmember Lyman asked what the purpose of the permit was. Mr. Hosler stated that the permit was intended to track who was using the park. Councilmember Perkins commented that park tables being used by those selling makes them unavailable to public visitors.

Councilmember Lyman stated that the City is not opposed to people using the park for selling, just not every day but possibly on Fridays and Saturdays. He recommends specifying the days that it can be used. Chief Torgerson stated that if it is enforced, maybe there is a training period. It might be difficult for an individual to get a permit. David Palmer commented that the Wellness Center would have permits available. On a temporary basis the officer could issue the permit.

Councilmember Olsen questioned if it was good use of law enforcement to put them in the park monitoring park permits. Mr. Palmer responded that the Parks staff could help monitor. They

are in the parks 5-6 days a week, and the police can help on the weekends are they are on patrol. Mr. Redd stated that they could apply for and receive a permit online. Councilmember Lyman would like to see people take responsibility for how they are affecting other visitors use of the park. Councilmember Perkins asked about the insurance/liability. Mr. Redd reminded Council that sales at the south park were specifically exempted from the special event policy.

After further discussion, it was determined the resolution would be redrafted and brought back to the next meeting. Signs will be placed at each park indicating when the park was available for selling after the revised resolution is adopted.

***F. 500 N 100 E - Middle School U-Turn - Mayor Balch***

Chief Torgerson stated that per code a U-turn can not occur within 500 feet of the crest of a hill. This would make a U-turn in front of the Middle School illegal unless people can see far enough to make the turn safely. He has not spoken with the school district about their traffic plan. Councilmember Harrison commented that if there is a state code, is the sign really necessary. The area does not have to be marked but it might make it safer and easier when a ticket is given. Mayor Balch asked if the Council was ready to leave or pull the sign. Council determined that the sign would stay in place.

**6. INFORMATION**

Mayor Balch told Council that the selling of alcohol will be discussed at the next Council meeting. He suggested that each Councilmember research the issue and come prepared for the discussion. Councilmember Lyman stated that he has done some research on the history of the topic of alcohol in Blanding. He learned that a poll was conducted in 1983 to get a feeling for how the residents of Blanding felt about the sale of alcohol in their community. The poll indicated that the community was not interested in the sale of alcohol at that time. Through his research it appeared that each time the topic was brought up it was voted down. He asked if anyone had any information on the history.

Mayor Balch stated that he had received calls from a journalist who is doing an article on the Bears Ears Monument. She is coming to Bluff for a pro-monument activity and has made appointments with several individuals on both sides of the topic.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

City Resident Trent Herring approached Council regarding the sale of alcohol in the City of Blanding. He reminded Council that if a citizen petition to get the item on the ballot is needed it would need to be completed by April 15th, not giving them much time to complete it. He encouraged the Council to put it on the ballot and allow the citizens of Blanding to determine if they want to see the sale of alcohol available in their community. He had anticipated it being on the agenda for tonight's meeting and was disappointed it wasn't. Mr. Redd responded that it was not on the agenda because there were some legal questions that needed to be answered first.

Mr. Herring also requested that the Council have further discussions on the Wellness Center. He feels that the number of college students is hindering the ability of families to use the facility in

the evenings. He also expressed concern that a teenager is being left to control these students. He feels they are not mature enough to handle the issues and problems that are associated with these users. Mr. Redd commented that the college is paying for memberships just like others using the facility. It was mentioned that other recreation centers allow for scheduling to ensure everyone has an opportunity to use the space available.

Milt Pipkin stated that he is gathering cans at the parks and is finding other items that have been placed in the cans. Some of the items are left by those selling at the park.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY      NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 7, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Kd Perkins
	Joe B Lyman
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
City Administrator:	Jeremy Redd
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
Police:	Jared Hillhouse

Absent: Councilmember Trevor Olsen

Community Members: Kara Laws, Trent Herring, Logan Monson, Devan Palmer, Gage Palmer, Cash Palmer, Dallin Tait.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by: Taylor Harrison.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Prior to the motion to approve the minutes Councilmember Lyman asked that the final sentence in item B be changed to read, "...students and asked that the City newsletter promote Blue Mountain Shadows."

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes with the requested change and the financial disbursements of the January 24, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the January 2017 Gas and Water Report.***

Two new half-inch gas services were added during January. Natural Gas usage is very close to 2016 numbers.

Annual precipitation as of February 1st is 111% of average.

***B. Chief Torgerson presented the January 2017 Police Report.***

There were 17 total arrests/charges and 52 citations made in January. There were 62 incidents responded to by officers.

Officer Harlow attended Warrior Mindset Training. Officer Bradford attended radar and firearms instructor training.

Officer Torgerson reported that he has approached businesses who sell firearms to see if they are interested in purchasing the surplus pistol that was available. He asked for bids from those businesses and received one bid from Napa Motor Parts. The funds from the sale will be used to purchase equipment for the department.

***C. Jeremy Redd presented the January 2017 Fire Report.***

There were no callouts during the month of January for the department, making it a quiet month. Ten firefighters attended the Winter Fire School held in St George.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the January 2017 Recreation Report.***

Boys basketball is just finishing up for the season.

The Wellness Center is staying busy. Revenues are appearing to stay relatively stable. Yearly memberships are down by 62 from February 2016.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Resolution 2-7-2017-1 Consideration for and adoption of a Parameters Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,200,000 in Electric Revenue Bonds of the City of Blanding, San Juan County, Utah - Jeremy Redd***

Marcus Keller from Zions Bank joined the meeting by phone to participate in the discussion.

Mr. Redd told Council that the resolution will set the financial parameters in seeking bonding for the Electric project that was previously discussed at the January 24, 2017 Council meeting. Marcus stated that

the total amount of the bond may actually fall between \$1.2 and 1.4 million with an interest rate of around 3%. The term of the bond will be between 10 - 15 years. The shorter the period the better the terms will be. The parameters resolution sets the upper limits of the bond, but the actual bond will most likely come in lower in every respect.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 2-7-2017-1 Consideration for and adoption of a Parameters Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,200,000 in Electric Revenue Bonds of the City of Blanding, San Juan County, Utah, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. ICPE Engineering Services Proposal - Terry Ekker/Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told the City Council that at the beginning of the last project ICPE was determined to be the only engineering firm interested and capable of performing the necessary engineering work for our projects. This makes them a sole source provider and eliminates the need for an entire bidding process. ICPE completed the engineering on the previous project and submitted a proposal for the upcoming project. The City Council at the last Council meeting approved \$200,000 for the engineering work on the upcoming project and ICPE's proposal is below that approved amount. Mr. Ekker told Council that he is comfortable with the proposal made by ICPE and encouraged Council to approve the proposal.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the ICPE Engineering Proposal for \$189,710.00, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. U-Turn Sign Discussion - 100 E 500 N - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch commented that he has been approached by several residents who requested a review of the u-turn sign and law at ARL middle school. There were questions raised as to why law enforcement was not enforcing the sign. He then visited the area and watched drivers ignore the no u-turn sign and make a u-turn. He determined that those who dropped their kids off on the east side of the road, were following the law, but their children were crossing with traffic coming both north and south. It appeared to Mayor Balch that those making the u-turn were actually leaving the road and entering the parking lot area of the school, making their u-turn legal, rather than illegal. It is also much safer for the children because they are not crossing the two directional traffic.

Mr. Redd commented that the sign was placed after a review by the City, and at the request of the school Community Council, with input from the City, school, and district. He and Chief Torgerson met with the school to determine the safest route for parents to drop children off at school. The school is working on a remodel which may include a new drop off/pickup area for students, most likely on the south side of the building. Councilmember Lyman suggested the City work with the school in finding a safe route for dropping off or picking up children. Mayor Balch stated he will not require that the police officers sit at the school and enforce the sign, because he does not feel they are breaking any law. Mr. Redd told Council that it would not be a good idea to just remove the sign. There is a need to look into why the sign was placed there. It is never just a good idea to remove a sign without more research on how the removal might affect unforeseen circumstances.

#### ***D. Economic Development Plan - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle reminded everyone of the previous discussion regarding drafting an economic development plan. At that time a plan was being formulated, now that plan or process appears to have been dropped. He would like to see that plan pick up some momentum and move forward. Mr. Hosler commented that he plans to work with the Planning Commission on the plan. They will use the results from the survey that was shared with Council in developing the plan. Councilmember Ogle will begin attending the Planning Commission meetings as they work through the economic development plan. Mr. Hosler stated that he hopes to have a draft plan ready for review by Council in October or November. Mr. Redd stated that if Council wants something quicker, as the Planning Commission only meets monthly, Council could work on it.

#### ***E. City Logo Status Update/Discussion - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared the latest logo options received from Flicht Creative. Peter Romney from Flicht Creative joined the meeting by phone. Peter asked for feedback on the designs. The City Council provided feedback on the latest options provided. For the most part it was agreed that the font selected is more in line with what the Council would like to see. It was suggested that if a rock formation was chosen as a symbol it must be recognizable to the those of the area and those that visit the area. Flicht Creative committed to taking the suggestions and feedback in completing the design process.

## **7. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Lyman shared information he had found while researching the Mayors of the City. While reading the minutes he found where a vacated Council seat was replaced. During that replacement twenty-

two names were tossed in as a potential selection for the seat, they were then reduced to five, there was a tie among three of them and a vote held of those three. When the winner was selected, it was stated that as a final step in the process, that person would be contacted to see if they would accept the appointment.

8. **OPEN FORUM**

Trent Herring stated his frustration with the Wellness Center and the inability to use the facility with his children during months when the pool is closed. There is really nothing he can do at the Center during the winter months. He challenged the Council to find ways to get people involved at other times than Summer time. He has an annual membership that he has had for a few years, in hopes something will come that will allow his small children to use the facility. Mayor Balch asked what he might suggest. Mr. Herring responded that lowering the hoops would be nice. He also suggested a summer pass be offered, rather than the full year that does not benefit those with young children, who can use other areas of the facility. Mr. Herring stated that he would donate if necessary to something that would allow more activities for young children.

Mr. Herring also commented on alcohol sales in the City of Blanding. He would like to see it placed on the ballot and encouraged the Council to put the question on the ballot. He is also willing to take the steps necessary to get the item on the ballot as a citizen initiative if the Council is not willing. Councilmember Lyman stated he understood that there was an option to put the item on the ballot as a poll, in inquiring how the citizens felt about the item. Mr. Redd stated that Council can add a question to the ballot by resolution. He offered to give Mr. Herring information on adding the question as a citizen initiative. Councilmember Lyman stated that as he has researched the topic of alcohol he could find nowhere where the topic was voted on. There may have been an unofficial poll of the community, but no official vote on the topic.

Logan Monson asked if there was any local graphic designers that had submitted designs for the logo project. He also asked if it would be beneficial to ask for local input into the design. He did not like any of the options that were shown.

9. **Councilmember Harrison moved to enter an Executive Session. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The Council entered an Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the Executive Session. Councilmember Perkins seconded**

**the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

The Council returned to open meeting at 8:45 p.m.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those votin<sup>1</sup>g AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>
	<b>Councilmember Perkins</b>
	<b>Councilmember Harrison</b>

<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JANUARY 24 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

Kd Perkins

Joe Lyman

Trevor Olsen

City Manager:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Community Development:

Bret Hosler

Police Chief:

Jason Torgerson

Community Members: Kendall Laws, Kara Laws, Wendy Black, Milt Pipkin, Laverne Tate, Cameron Redd, Kristy Redd, Jeremy Lyman, Heather Lyman, Scott Meyer, Toby Ward, Daniel Brown, Tyler Bayles, Jayne Holliday, Justin Ivins, Ladd Ivins, Bronson Snyder, Steve Snyder, Zach Palmer, Nicole Perkins, Jared Hillhouse, Dashelle Holliday, Chavis Holliday, Leslie Nielsen, Cheyna Palmer, Robert Hall, Anna Tom, April Charley.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the January 10, 2017 meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

A. Wendy Black read the following letter from the group Stewards of San Juan:

Dear Mayor Balch and Blanding City Council,

The Stewards of the San Juan is a recognized volunteer community organization vested with the responsibility of reviewing and taking actions on matters of local concern that are in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of San Juan County residents. This organization is tasked by the community to use a balanced and inclusive approach to advocate for the values, resources, opportunities, culture, and lifestyle of San Juan County.

Today we would like to express to the Blanding City Council and Mayor our firm opposition to the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument. We have submitted requests to President Trump to overturn this designation, and tomorrow we will be formally inviting Secretary of the Interior Nominee Congressman Ryan Zinke to visit San Juan County. As we continue to fight this designation, we ask that you as a Council halt any press release or statement that may indicate anything other than a strong unity in repealing the monument.

The majority of Blanding citizens are still in opposition and although not every one of those citizens has been able to be actively involved in this movement, many other citizens, including the Stewards of San Juan, have worked tirelessly and non-stop on their behalf.

We hope that the Blanding City Council stands firm with the opposing Resolution 7-26-2016-1 and will support the majority of its citizens who are unequivocally for the reversal of the monument. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Jami Bayles, President  
Stewards of San Juan County

Upon conclusion of the reading the letter, Ms. Black asked the City Council to remove the last paragraph of the proposed press release that will be discussed later in the meeting. The paragraph is redundant in her opinion.

B. Laverne Tate requested funding from the Council for Blue Mountain Shadows to produce a book about the Bears Ears and the history of the monument.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

A. *Terry Ekker presented the Project Status Report*

*Blanding Power Distribution Project*

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been completed.

***East Side Sewer Trunk Line***

Funding requests for the project will be made to the Department of Water Quality and to the Community Impact Board.

***Sewer Lagoon Winter Storage Pond Dam Repair***

Staff is still working to sell the vinyl sheet piles that were unable to be used. Councilmember Lyman asked who was helping with the sale of the sheet piles. Mr. Ekker responded that company reps Tidewall and RB&G are involved in reselling the vinyl sheeting.

***Storm Water Master Plan***

Mr. Ekker stated he has reviewed the first draft of the plan and made comments. He anticipates a final draft in the next couple of months.

***B. Kim Palmer Presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that the financial status of the City is in excellent shape and all accounts are within budget.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Appoint Recreation Board Members - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch asked for advice and consent from Council to appoint Devan Palmer, Kate Palmer and Mark Burge to the Recreation Advisory Board. Council gave their consent.

***B. Resolution 1-24-2017-1 Adopting a Sewer System Management Plan - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker told the Council that the management plan is required by the state through the EPA. A yearly report of the system is required by the state. The question was raised if this will create more work for City staff. Mr. Ekker responded that it would not, as the City is already completing most of the required items.

**Councilmember Perkins moved to approve Resolution 1-24-2017-1 Adopting a Sewer System Management Plan. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Adopt a 10 Year Capital Projects Plan - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded Council that the plan was developed and modified during a work session held on January 10th. He has implemented the changes requested and the document is ready for approval. Councilmember Lyman stated that anything beyond the 2018 year can be adjusted and changed as Council sees fit or as need necessitates. Councilmember Ogle asked if paving trails was really necessary. Before any paving of trails is completed he suggested a trail system plan be developed. Council agreed this was a good suggestion. Mayor Balch stated that he is in support of a trail system and many communities that invite tourists typically have trail systems and brochures available for them.

Councilmember Ogle then questioned the sewer project for 100 E to 600 N. Mr. Redd responded that those residents on the sewer system are actually on substandard lines. The project would also allow those not currently on to connect.

Councilmember Ogle then questioned the priority of the projects. Mr. Redd reminded Council that each utility company has a priority list. Projects listed come from each utility's master plan. They are completed when funding is available in that particular utility and are prioritized within the utility and not necessarily between utilities.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the 10 Year Capital Projects Plan. Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Budget Adjustment - Electrical Project Engineering - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that because the engineering portion of the electrical project was not in the 2017 budget, it was necessary to open the budget and add the item. The \$200,000 will give the project a jump start on the engineering for the \$2.2 million project slated for completion in the next budget year.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 1-24-2017-2 Adjusting the 2016-2017 Budget. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***E. Blue Mountain Shadows Funding Request - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman told the Council that Blue Mountain shadows is working on its next edition which will be a historical overview of the Bears Ears National Monument. They would like to request a donation from the City to help with the publication. Councilmember Ogle commented that he does not feel publishing is the responsibility of government. Mayor Balch agreed. Mrs. Tate responded that the City has been a great supporter of the publications since 1985. Councilmember Olsen asked why the City had supported funding in prior years. Councilmember Lyman answered that the City supported the publication of the water issue, which they had asked Blue Mountain Shadows to complete. Councilmember Perkins asked if the County has provided any support. Mrs. Tate responded that the County has provided \$3,500 for printing. She would like to request \$500 from the City the help with the layout. She also told Council that the schools are using these books in teaching the history of the area. Councilmember Lyman recommended she approach the school district for help in funding the project as it does benefit their students and asked that the City newsletter promote Blue Mountain Shadows.

***F. Press Release - Bears Ears National Monument - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle stated his appreciation and how proud he was for the comments he has received on both sides of the issue since the last Council meeting. He continued by reading the proposed press release. Councilmember Lyman recommended the last sentence on second paragraph be changed from "outlined in" to "required by".

Councilmember Lyman asked Wendy Black who had tasked the Stewards of San Juan to represent the community as stated in the letter she read earlier. He suggested that it was not the entire community, but rather tasked by the group of individuals involved with the Stewards of San Juan. There was not a community wide election, thus making this comment untrue. He continued that the purpose of the press release was an effort to get ahead of the opposition who may choose to paint Blanding as a place that is unfriendly to visitors which is entirely untrue. He reminded everyone that tourists are not the enemy and neither are the businesses that serve them.

Councilmember Ogle clarified that the Blanding Area Travel Council is an extension of the City, and is not an independent voice. He then asked Council if there was a need to remove the last sentence as suggested by Mrs. Black during open forum. During discussion, the letter was not changed except for the adjustment suggested by Councilmember Lyman which changed "outlined in" to "required by".

**Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the Bears Ears National Monument press release with the change. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**6. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Lyman apologized for the comments he had made regarding the pool at the Wellness Center during the January 10th meeting. He explained that those comments were not entirely true. After researching the minutes from Council meetings he realized he had misstated some of the facts. There had indeed been discussions regarding a covered/indoor pool, but those discussions never materialized because of the costs of construction and especially the additional operating costs of an indoor facility. He continued to share that during the construction a space was designed and constructed so if funding was made available in the future the addition of an indoor lap pool could be added.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

A. The following community members made comments during this portion of the meeting:

Dashelle Holliday told the Council that she has worked with many community members in opposing the monument. There is a good chance of having the monument repealed. She agrees that Blanding is full of the nicest people. She then stated that the timing of the press release is really bad. She requested that Council postpone its release until more is learned from the new administration. She feels that because of its wording it could be used by those in support of the monument, and the letter is more about tourism than it is about a repeal.

April Charley stated she feels the last sentence of the press release makes the letter about tourism and not about repealing the monument. She spoke about her grandfather and his love for the land. She feels that the letter is an open invitation to the environmentalist.

Nicole Perkins told Council that the Stewards of San Juan are not anti-tourist, but rather a pro-community, pro-protection group. The group wants to work with the council. She recommends the letter be postponed for 100 days. The timing of the release is everything. She continued to state that it is a sad day when we can't stand up for our cattlemen, gravel yards, hunters, and our watershed. These are issues that are much more important than tourism. Tourists are going to come with or without the monument. She then asked if it was possible to flip the last two

paragraphs of the press release ending with the opposition to the monument. Councilmember Lyman stated that was Councilmember Ogle's choice. Councilmember Ogle opened an invitation to speak with him regarding this.

Anna Tom stated her need to access the area for herbs and wood. If the monument stands they will not have a way to heat their homes. Because they live on the north side of the river, they will not have access to electricity. This is why they are fighting the monument. They are not fighting tourism. She asked the Council to voice their opposition to the monument. She then shared that the words Dine' Bikeyah means "it belongs to the Navajo" not to all people.

Milt Pipkin voiced his opposition to the monument for many reasons.

Wendy Black, representing Stewards of the San Juan, stated that there has not been enough time to review the current press release. She would like to have the press release changed. She then spoke about the statements made at the last Council meeting regarding the Grand Staircase National Monument and its effect on Escalante and Garfield County. She feels Blanding can be compared to Escalante. Blanding is the largest community in the vicinity of the Bears Ears National Monument and will see the most visitors. Currently there are on average 50,000 visitors to Cedar Mesa. In 2014, Grand Staircase National Monument saw 800,000 visitors. This was taken from the Grand Staircase manager's report..

She continued to state that in December, President Obama changed the NEPA from taking local input to not requiring it. The BLM 2.0 document states this change. Councilmember Lyman stated that he thought that was a request to have that changed and it had not actually been approved. Mrs. Black responded that her understanding is that it was changed at the end of December 2016. She further stated that there needs to be more unity in the community. She also told the Council that the County and the State are not ready to roll out the red carpet to tourists.

Councilmember Ogle stated that the letter Mrs. Black shared with the Council states some positive components of the Escalante situation. He pointed out the increase of 50% in payroll and an increase in tourism taxes and healthcare.

Councilmember Harrison commented that the payroll numbers are from seasonal, short-term employment. Individuals are working during the tourist season and then leaving, and an economy cannot be built on tourism alone.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Perkins moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Olsen**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

Approved: February 7, 2017

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JANUARY 10, 2017  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Trevor Olsen
	Kd Perkins
	Joe B Lyman
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
City Administrator:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
Police:	Jared Hillhouse
Fire Chief:	Corey Spillman

Community Members: Lynne Shumway, Bill Haven, Heber Heyder, Jason Johnson, Scoot Flannery, Kara Laws, Chris Brent, Harold Lyman, Kendall Laws, Jared Berrett, Leslie Nielson.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Trevor Olsen.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the December 13, 2016 meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Olsen  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Chris Brent asked Council if it would be possible to utilize the upstairs area at the Wellness Center.

Jeremy Redd responded that the stairway used to access the upper area does not meet ADA guidelines. The area is not heated and there is no air conditioning, and because the area was designed for storage only and not as a public space, it is unlikely this will be used for anything except storage.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the December 2016 Gas and Water Report.***

Mr. Ekker passed out the proposed Sewer System Management Plan and asked Council to review it before the next meeting. It will be an action item for the January 24th City Council meeting.

He also shared that precipitation is at 84% of average. Natural gas usage was down slightly from December 2015 because December 2016 had warmer temperatures.

***B. Jared Hillhouse presented the December 2016 Police Report.***

Officer Hillhouse reported there were 80 citations issued during December and 2 arrests were made. There were 5 dogs impounded. Blanding officers participated with BIA officers and San Juan County deputies in performing a safe school search at San Juan High School and ARL Middle School. One student was found with three knives and e-cigarettes.

***C. Fire Chief Spillman presented the December 2016 Fire Report.***

Chief Spillman reported that December was quiet. The department responded to two calls to check for carbon monoxide or propane smells. Limited training was held due to the holiday.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the December 2016 Recreation Report.***

Mr. Redd reported that boys' basketball is underway. The Wellness Center is busy and the new software is up and running at 100%.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. 2016 Fire Season Review & Forestry Update - Heber Heyder & Jason Johnson***

Mr. Redd introduced Heber Heyder and Jason Johnson who discussed the past fire season. Mr. Heyder shared that there were 56 actual fires in the County, 12 of which were false alarms. The biggest was 46 acres on Lyman's bean field. He reported that one city volunteer fire-fighter worked wildland fires during the summer. A beginning wildland firefighter training is taking place in Montezuma Creek. There are currently 11 individuals registered for the class. It was a slow fire season which is positive for the area.

***B. Bears Ears Press Release - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle shared the draft of a press release regarding the Bears Ears National Monument designation. After reading the document aloud, Councilmember Ogle asked for suggestions, comments and discussion from the Council.

Mayor Balch began the discussion by stating the press release is a good document if the Blanding City Council is making it, but if it is from the citizens of Blanding it does not represent the feelings of all citizens. He expressed that he would not sign the current document as written. He continued to state that in his opinion only 70% of the people of Blanding oppose the designation, while 25%-30% support it. The current draft reads as if all the citizens of Blanding are opposed to the monument which is not true. He further stated that only 50 individuals fought tirelessly against the monument. He then stated that he is against the monument because he doesn't believe in big government taking over little people.

Councilmember Harrison disagreed with the Mayor's view on the number of individuals opposed to the monument. He feels that number and percentage opposed is much higher. In response, the Mayor stated that he estimates less than 200 cars have a "No Monument" sticker in their window. Councilmember Harrison responded that not having a sticker does not mean they are in favor of the monument.

Mayor Balch then restated his opposition to signing the proposed press release as it does not speak for the entire community and their feelings regarding the monument. The Mayor then continued to state that several people that support the monument were offended by the comments of San Juan County Commissioner Bruce Adams which were made at the post-monument press conference where he stated that every citizen of San Juan County was offended by the monument designation. He then reminded the Council that they must speak for the majority and that the majority is against the monument. The Council can issue a statement that adamantly opposes the monument designation, but not one that speaks for all the citizens. Councilmember Lyman asked the Mayor if the document wording was changed to include the word "majority" would he sign it.

Mr. Redd told Council that the idea of the press release was to state disappointment with the monument designation, talk about the unity of the community, and reiterate that Blanding is a community that is welcoming to visitors. Council agreed to state that the majority of people from Blanding are opposed to the designation. Councilmember Lyman stated that adding majority would make that statement more correct.

Councilmember Ogle told the Council that he would suggest that the Council take a firm stand in the press release, rather than it sounding like it is coming from the citizens. Mayor Balch commented that if the monument is going to stand, we need to take full advantage of it. Councilmember Lyman agreed.

Councilmember Olsen shared that within the community there are neighbors, friends, and family that have the potential of losing the means of supporting their families due to the designation. Many are afraid of what the designation might bring. Mayor Balch made the comment that the fear is fear of the unknown.

Councilmember Harrison stated that a lot of people are afraid that the negative consequences that happened in Escalante could also happen here. Mayor Balch asked what happened. Councilmember Harrison answered that Escalante has basically become a ghost town since the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument was designated. Councilmember Ogle also commented that the money being made in Escalante is being made by outside companies. People are leaving the County. Councilmember Olsen stated that the school is about to close.

The Mayor stated he doesn't think the population of Escalante has dropped that much. What were those people doing on the National Monument that got them pushed off? Councilmember Lyman also commented that the timber and ranching industries have been pushed out of Escalante. The Mayor stated that the Blanding area does not have either of those industries. Councilmember Harrison disagreed with Mayor Balch by stating that there are several cattle ranchers that could be affected by the designation. The Mayor responded that he does not feel that is true, there are only three permits on the mountain which only affect three families. Councilmember Harrison stated that more than three families will be affected. The area is 1.35 million acres. The Mayor disagreed stating again that there are no more than three permits on the mountain. He then stated there may be two permits on the Monticello side of the mountain.

Councilmember Lyman stated that he doesn't feel this area will be affected in the same way Escalante was by the designation as Blanding is not as heavily reliant on those industries as Escalante was at the time of their monument designation. Councilmember Harrison stated that the bottom line is that even if we are not affected to the same extent as Escalante, the fact that the Federal Government and people who live outside of this area can make decisions without local area input is wrong. The Mayor then questioned why the Federal government that controls 300 million people care about what 1,000 people feel. Councilmember Harrison stated that the government is supposed to work with local governments in figuring out how to manage the land.

The Mayor then restated that he will not sign the letter the way it is written. Councilmember Lyman suggested that the Council reconsider what is included in the press release and discuss it at the next council meeting. Councilmember Ogle agreed that there may be some revision necessary. No decision was made and the press release was tabled.

***C. Approval to Move Forward on Electric Project Financing - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd asked for Council to approve working with Zions Bank Public Finance to proceed with identifying electric funding options. Councilmember Harrison asked for multiple year options to be included. The Mayor suggested a combination of a loan and using savings. Councilmember Lyman agreed. Advice and Consent was given for Mr. Redd to move forward with Zions Bank Public Finance to identify funding options for the Electric project.

***D. Blanding Irrigation Company - Dry Wash Letter of Support - Jeremy Redd***

The Blanding Irrigation Company is seeking funding to pipe the ditch that delivers water to the Dry Wash Reservoir. The runoff was tracked this summer, and approximately 40% of the water that entered the ditch did not make it to the reservoir. This is due mostly to water lost to seepage in the shale rock that is located in parts of the ditch. This will also make better use of the Dry Wash Reservoir by adding more water during the spring runoff. Advice and Consent was given by the Council approving the letter of support for the project.

***E. Designate Surplus Firearm - Jared Hillhouse***

Officer Hillhouse told Council that the previous owner of the firearm had used it in the commission of a crime. He has relinquished all rights to the gun so it became the property of the City. The department would like to sell the gun. City Attorney Kendall Laws told the Council that the gun can legally be declared as a surplus item and sold according to the City policy regarding the sale of surplus items.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to declare the firearm as surplus property. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***F. Appoint Planning Commission Board Member - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch appointed Travis Whatcott to the Planning Commission and asked Council for advice and consent on his appointment. Advice and Consent was given by the Council.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING - CIB Funding for Sewer System Upgrade**

**Councilmember Harrison moved to enter a public hearing for the CIB Funding for Sewer System Upgrade, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mayor Calvin Balch, opened the public hearing for the Blanding City Eastside Sewer Proposal Public Hearing at approximately 7:30 PM. Mayor Balch stated that this hearing is being called to allow citizens to provide input concerning the proposed funding of the Blanding City Eastside Sewer Project including

the cities intent to seek funding from the Community Impact Board. The Mayor had Jeremy Redd, the City Manager explain the proposal to those in attendance. Mr. Redd explained that the City was in the process of seeking funding for the main line sewer trunk line, and that the City intends to ask the CIB for \$2,750,000. He explained that the project will take pressure off of the existing sewer trunk line that runs down Main Street. The current line is at capacity and another line needs to be added to prevent future sanitary sewer overflows and accommodate new growth. No comments were made by the public. The Mayor then asked for any additional comments, questions and concerns from the audience. There were no questions or concerns. Hearing no other comments the hearing was adjourned at approximately 7:36 PM.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the public hearing and return to open meeting, Councilmember Perkins seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**7. INFORMATION**

None

**8. OPEN FORUM**

A. Kim Palmer told Council that there are 43 grazing allotments in the monument area. There are more than 40 ranchers in the area. She reminded Council that many of these ranchers support their families from these grazing allotments. She also shared there are currently 661 oil and gas leases in the designated area.

B. Kara Laws stated that some of the ranchers provide employment to locals. She also told Council that more than one-thousand "No Monument" stickers have been sold.

Ms. Laws also spoke about Escalante and the situation they have faced after the Grand Staircase Escalante Monument was designated. The timber industry is gone and the number of ranching families has declined. Most people who live there find employment in the summer, but when winter comes the tourists stop coming. The one grocery store can employ people easily in the summer time, but then has to move

everyone to part-time in the winter. Families can not be supported on tourist jobs. Tourism is not a stable economy. She then implored Council to help businesses stay locally owned.

Following her comments, Councilmember Lyman recommended that local tourism businesses get involved with the Blanding Area Travel Council. Councilmember Perkins also suggested that non-tourism businesses participate with the San Juan County Chamber of Commerce.

Bill Haven, President of the Blanding Area Travel Council, stated that the travel council works with the City. The travel council wants to make sure that mistakes made in Escalante don't happen in this area. They would like to see local businesses benefit. The group would like to use Bear's Ears in their marketing. He encouraged the community to welcome those that come to visit the area.

Jared Berrett, local business owner, spoke to the Council expressing his feelings that the press release read by Councilmember Ogle overstated feelings in the beginning of it. He opposes the monument. He makes a living from tourism. He asked the Council how the City is helping businesses exist. He then commented that not all tourists are bad. He encouraged Council not to spend all their time in negativity and be a part of the plan so that you get what you want not what you get.

Leslie Nielson asked Council to not change their stance on alcohol. It is a community standard.

Lynne Shumway, Visitor Center employee, stated that the Visitor Center is receiving many questions regarding the monument. The employees are not sure how to respond to those questions. Mr. Redd responded that things are still unclear regarding the monument. At this point, nothing has changed. Everyone, including the BLM and the Forest Service, are wondering what the plan will be. Until that is known, he recommends the Visitor Center continue answering questions the same way they have been. Councilmember Lyman agreed. Councilmember Perkins responded that the Visitor Center continue to share what they always have such as the best places to visit.

9. **Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Olson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Olsen**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Perkins**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder