

Mendon City Council Meeting
September 14, 2017
Mendon City Hall & Library
15 N Main
Meeting began at 7:00 PM

In Attendance:

Mayor: Ed Buist

Council Members: Karole Sorensen, Greg Taylor, Jon Hardman, Bob Jepsen

Excused: Kelly Barrett, Kirk Taylor

Clerk: Teena Young

Treasurer: Daphne Carlson

Recorder: Paul Cressall

Attendance: Steve and Lana Archibald, Bob DeGasser, Shepherd Watkins, Eric Dursteler, Daniel Gyllenskog, Stephen Bevan, Kyson Myers, Randall Barker, Brayden Jarrett, Jace Shelton, Joseph Robins, Troy Teeples, Jason Young, Jonathan Young, Dave Bindrup, Will Bindrup, Joni Endicott, Cassidy Nemelka, Devron Andersen, Sara Lemon, Lance Bohm, Jeremy Martin

Mayor Buist called the meeting to order at 7PM. Kyson Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance with Teena Young saying the prayer. Mayor Buist excused Council Member Kelly Barrett.

Council approved the August 2017 minutes. Jon motioned to approve the August bills, Karole seconded and the council approved unanimously.

Abe Edlund presented his eagle scout project. He organized a cleanup at Pioneer Park. Plants had overgrown at the sign and with the help of others, they put in 20 man-hours for cleanup at that location. He has worked with Kirk Taylor. He would like to clean up the area surrounding the statues also.

Jonathan Young reported on his Eagle Scout project. He dug the holes and poured cement pads for the six trash receptacles on Mendon Square. He covered all the costs with the fundraising. He thanked his Troop, Kirk Taylor, Mendon City, Steve Sorenson and Matt Funk. Council thanked him for his work.

Will Bindrup presented his plan for his Eagle Scout project. He will make a retaining wall dry-stacked out of field stone at Pioneer Park. He presented pictures of what it is like now and examples of what it will look like. He and his troop will collect rocks from a field in Petersboro. He plans to be done in the middle of November. Council approved of the project. Will Bindrup will report back upon completion.

Bob DeGasser – Storm Water Discussion

Bob D is a ditch master for one of the lines in the Mendon North Irrigation company. He has seen some concerns with storm water that need to be addressed. Building has altered the storm water a little bit but mostly the problems arise because of the lay of the land.

Water is coming from HWY 23 flowing south to 300 N. At that point the water coming down from the canal and the runoff water from HWY 23 run into the irrigation water system. The infrastructure is owned by the irrigation company. There are 150 shares in that company. The concern is that their system is currently getting all the waste water and its dumping into the mixing towers.

This year was a particularly bad year. Bob D realizes that the city has been fighting this. Another concern is the water coming down 400 N; it turns the corner and goes under the road and ties into the irrigation system.

Water also comes out of the subdivision to a grate, but what doesn't go into the grate proceeds down and drops into their system. Bob D stated that the system can't handle all that water. It isn't the ditch company's responsibility to get rid of the city's waste water.

Another problem is the water melts between Main and 100 E and makes a lake at 300 S. Kirk dug a trench to try to get the water to flow to the hollow. There is a high spot so the water puddles. We need to get rid of that water and quit dumping it into the irrigation tower.

Bob D proposes to make a little dam or another head gate and install a pipe under the road at 300 S to the stream. Also, reshape the swale along 100 E so that it is mow-able.

Bob Jepsen stated that these things make sense. He thinks that the citizens all agree that this is a glaring issue. Almost every year we are having an event. Council knows that we have to do something and wonders if we can reach out to the state for some assistance. Bob D stated that a lot of the water is from the state coming down Hwy 23.

Bob J asked what project would take a bit of pressure off. Bob D stated that he wants to block tower 1 and get the water to the hollow. This is priority number one. Mayor Buist stated that Kirk and Kelly are working with Bob DeGasser.

Bob J stated that there is a similar issue on 250 S. Lance Bohm stated that the issue is when that development was put in the drainage line wasn't done correctly. There was nothing done to mitigate the water coming down that way. They would like to develop drainage system behind their homes but at some point the water will come onto city property. Eric stated that the intent is to get the water into the ground. Lance Bohm stated that the water will flow down through the system, but we just need the system in place to take care of that water. Eric will work with these citizens to develop a plan.

Bob D asked if we can at least agree that we will get a swale along 100 E. Mayor Buist stated that it is the way to go and that Kirk, Eric and Bob J have a plan and will move forward before winter.

Eric Dursteler, City Engineer

We are still on hold to check the perforations at the Booster Station Well. Concerning the Mendon South test well they are working to get approval for funding. The COG presentation is Monday.

Planning for the 250 S pipeline is in process; he has spoken with Jeremy Martin and Lance Bohm. The HVAC surge protector should have been installed in the city building today. We are getting close to our 11mo warranty period for the new building and he recommends a walk-through before the year warranty expires.

Mayor Buist asked about how far out we are before getting the information about the south well. They are about a week out. Jon asked about the filing change on the water rights. Eric said he can do that at any time.

Karole asked about when the water in the canal will be out. Jon stated that they are planning on the end of September, but if it cools down, they may cut it off earlier.

Council Reports

Jon Hardman

Jon stated that the application for the Urban Deer application is filled out and will need to be submitted to the state. DWR will work with us to have a deer control plan. Jon stated that we have to answer the questions on the guidelines sheet he has provided. We want to do a city map with the areas we would allow. We can choose to have certain hunters participate or open it to the public. Bob D asked about limiting to muzzleloader. Jon thought about a shotgun with a slug as it doesn't shoot long range. The hunt would be in Nov/Dec. Jon stated that we need to put some thought into this and negotiate with DWR.

Bob Jepsen

Bob thanked the citizens that are great stewards and have reached out to help; Bob D is one of those. The city will do what we can to alleviate some of these issues.

Bob invited Devron Andersen and Sara Lemon to come to council meeting. Devron stated that he is a land surveyor for the State of Utah. Devron stated that they are both looking into doing a minor subdivision and they both have property in Cache County close to Mendon boundary. As part of their application, Cache County is requiring a letter from Mendon City making a statement that the city doesn't plan to annex at this point. They are not petitioning for annexation. They are not skirting any review, just trying to get a statement in order to move forward.

Mayor Buist asked about whether the county is looking for a time frame. Devron stated that they weren't given that information from Cache County. They are not opposed to annexing at the time neighbors choose to annex. All access for the lots would be from county roads. Bob stated that there was an issue with the house on the corner owned by the Cooks; they had come to the city at a point wanting to extend the water line. Mayor Buist is thinking that as soon as the new water is in, we may see that home owner wanting to extend the water line to their home because their well went bad. Jon stated that if they hook onto the city water, the wells would have to be turned over to the city or abandoned. Sara stated that the other wells in the area are fine, but the Cooks are having trouble finding a well.

Jon stated that we can say we are not planning to bring a water line down at this time. The Cook's had petitioned a year ago; it could be a potential in the future. Devron stated that they are aware that it could happen but with how long the annexation process takes and then subdivision and home building, they could be potentially another year out. Teena will draft a letter for Sara Lemon and Devron Anderson stating that there is no intent to annex at this time.

Bob stated that Ethan and Shannon Poppleton came into P&Z to discuss the multi-family housing code. Bob sees some issues such as water and septic issues. Jon stated that the septic system is the biggest one. If you look at the soils reports, we are at a bad to severe septic tank mapping because we don't have the good soils for septic systems. This is the biggest challenge until we get sewer. These other cities have sewer systems. Mayor Buist stated that another thing to be mindful of is that we will have a capacity for a certain number of hookups with the new well. We want to grow but we need to look at doing it properly. We need to put together a plan to stretch these hookups out.

Jon mentioned the situation with Greta Anderson concerning the irrigation line that has been damaged. The city has no filing on this irrigation line or water. The people that do, aren't using it. The options would be to go to court, spend thousands of dollars, and file forfeiture paperwork to try to get those rights. It is a court battle and we couldn't protect the water for city use anyway. It isn't to the city's benefit to do this. So the question is, whose responsibility is it to fix that line? Do we take the position that the homeowner who damaged it needs to fix it? Or do we as a city fix it? Bob DeGasser stated that Greta is saying she wants to have an open ditch. Once again that water goes into the other irrigation system and they don't want that water. Bob D stated that when they talked to Shawn Kidman and Greta, they got a bid to repair the line, but it was a lot of work and expensive. Someone had the idea to take it south to the hollow along Main street but that is just as expensive. Jon stated that these are all expensive options. Jon stated that he doesn't know if we can enforce the home owner to fix the pipe. Bob asked if this could be a shared cost. Jon stated that first thing we need is a plan. We need to identify these and where the cost is. Bob J stated that his proposal would be to involve those four property owners. Bob D stated that the water is going behind those houses and if we don't get it in a pipe, we don't have control of where it goes. Bob J stated that we need to develop a plan.

Greg Taylor

Greg stated that there was an eagle project to help fill in the cement cutout in the station basement but that fell through. The sink at the food stand will be looked at so that it will be fixed and ready to go next spring. The mosquito count is dropping, they are still spraying. Greg talked to Richard Rigby and he will come to council at some point to address any questions and inform the public about what they do.

Mayor Buist

Teena and Daphne reported on the ULCT conference. Daphne stated that there may be an option to get a scholarship for the Treasurer's training in May. If she could get that scholarship, then she has a housing option.

Mayor Buist is looking to go to the ULCT convention in May and looking for one more councilmember to go also.

Karole Sorensen

Karole stated that the librarians are working on the books upstairs. Mayor Buist stated that the librarians are upset about taking phone calls on their personal phones. Mayor Buist asked if we need something here. Karole stated that she is hearing from other cities that the library is getting a lot of involvement. If they are getting enough calls than that is something we need to do. Daphne stated that we do get a government rate on the cell phones. So they could get the discount and pay for a cell phone from their funds. . Mayor Buist would prefer to get one phone that stays here.

Jon motioned to adjourn. Greg seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM