

MENDON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, February 13, 2020 at MENDON CITY HALL at 6:00PM

In Attendance:

Mayor: *Ed Buist*

Council Members: *Jon Hardman, Bob Jepsen, Ian Nemelka, Ron Campbell*

Clerk: *Camille Randall*

Recorder: *Paul Cressall*

Treasurer: *Daphne Carlson (excused)*

Public Works: *Kirk Taylor*

Engineer: *Eric Dursteler*

Excused: *Greg Taylor*

Public Attendance: Gary Pence, Eric Bowen, Travis Clark, Keilani Ludlow

Council meeting began at 6:03. Ron Campbell led in the pledge. Ian Nemelka said the prayer. Mayor Buist asked if meeting minutes have been reviewed by council. Jon Hardman noted that Nathan Daug's name was spelled incorrectly. Minutes were approved. Mayor Buist asked if council had a chance to review bills. Mayor entertained motion. Bob Jepsen motioned. Ian Nemelka seconded. All were in favor.

Deputy Clark will be back over Mendon as the other deputy was re-assigned. He has an unofficial traffic study going on for the highway. He will be able to give a report next month. He watched on the north end, but hasn't needed to pull any drivers over. He feels that we are doing well. He said that he needs to sit in Mendon on a Sunday. There would be a lot of people to stop then. Mayor noted that Mendon residents need to drive safely on Sunday too. Deputy had a question about the speed limit on near the school. Mayor remembered that we wanted 25. The sign going east says 30 and the sign going west says 20. Mayor asked this be put on next month's agenda to clarify the speed limit. Mayor met with Dep. Clark last month. He has given the deputy the code to the Station to have access to a drink, etc.

Eric Dursteler said that they are bidding out the well and the piping project. We will be reviewing the bids Pre-bid in Mendon on 20th at 10:00 AM and 11:00 for the other project. The later meeting will be February 27 (Eric's office in Logan). The market has stabilized since the end of last year. Eric is working on the cemetery bid as well. Jon said to put the General plan on his radar. Jeri Hansen will be contacting him soon, as she is over transportation. Jon Hardman noted that we will fine tune the plan and correlate it with the ordinances.

Re-issue check. Paul Cressall said that this policy addresses when a check needs to be re-issued. He felt that we should leave. Mayor noted that delays in cashed checks can mess up finances if it crosses over fiscal years. Ron Campbell said that maybe we could add the wording that if this is for a replacement check. Mayor noted that it sounds like an occasional problem, but when it comes up it can cause grief. Mayor asked if we need to re-word it and pass it next month. Paul noted that specifying the fee would help when this. The proposed change in wording may be

taking out the 2-month time frame, as it is unclear as to whether they only have 2 months to pass it. Ron said that he will re-word it with Paul before next year. Ron will bring it next month.

Cemetery pricing. Eric Bowen (cemetery sexton) noted that the fees are for flat fee, opening and closing. Bob Jepsen invited Eric to address some things that we may have left out of cemetery pricing. Bob also wanted to address the next phase for the cemetery. Eric B. noted that currently we have one four-plat, on three-plat, and one two-plat, and a dozen or so singles. Also above the juniper tree there are some lots that we may open up. There are 8 available there. There is also lot 25 and 26. He is making sure everything is laid out correctly. People wonder why they can't be buried in no-mans land. There are already 20 burials there. We can have about up to 20. Bob's concern is that we really need to get going on the cemetery expansion. Mayor said he is hearing urgency. We have \$85,000 in the budget for perpetual care. We need to get things going so we have plots available as the need arises. Eric B. felt that it should cost less for burial for burying an infant or cremated remains. Eric's numbers included perpetual care fee on top of the basic pricing (that can be a large burden). Bob noted that he did a cemetery analysis fee and noted that Mendon is at the bottom. Eric said it is hard for him to know who has paid and who hasn't. We need to account for this better. Eric needs to be kept in the loop so he knows when he can actually give people a deed. There needs to be improvements in the process and the paper trail. Since 2006 when Eric took over, he's kept careful records. Mayor asked that Bob, Daphne and Eric get together monthly to be on the same page. Bob said that where there are red flags, then let's address them. Mayor noted that when we brought this up initially, the intent was not to make it a money maker, but we need to make sure that we cover our costs. Eric noted that the fees listed in CC didn't take into account perpetual care. Bob's study included the opening, closing and plot cost. He didn't ask about perpetual care. Ron said that if it's cheaper here then people will want to be buried here. Millville, Richmond, Newton, Hyde Park, Paradise have cemetery boards. There are people who try to buy plats for re-sell. In Richmond they won't let you dig your own grave because it is under a cemetery board and they want to charge money. Eric said it is hard to meet with families with the numbers and talk price when it is very costly. Eric gave council a pamphlet from Providence City that discusses pricing. Ron asked about the weekend. The money should be time and a half on holidays and weekends for Kirk Taylor. Eric wondered if it is appropriate to have Sunday lumped into the weekday group. Bob feels Sunday should be a weekend cost. Bob asked Eric to provide a proposal to council. Eric noted that there is no vault for an infant or cremation. In infant burial there is a uni-vault (fiberglass that is sealed). Providence requires a vault for infant burial. Infant/cremation is just a few feet in diameter. He has done some and has not charged a fee. He feels \$850 is a steep cost. Bob noted that we will have to draw up a proposal and have a public hearing. Mayor asked if Eric is uncomfortable with the non-resident. Eric feels some fees are a little steep. Mayor noted that resident/non-resident has been an issue, but there still needs to be that line. Mayor feels that our fees need to be in the same ball park as other cities. Bob noted that we've been putting money away in the perpetual fund, but it is not enough to cover what needs to be done. Eric noted that in the middle there are

unoccupied sites, but there may not be deeds. Mayor asked that Eric figure out what is fair for infant burial, cremation for non-resident and resident. In the mean time go off the pricing that was passed for January 1. There needs to be more detail in, taking into account perpetual fees. Mayor asked, hypothetically, with plot, open/close, perpetual fee what would it be. Eric said \$1050 unless it is a holiday. Ron noted that the cemetery fee pamphlet would be nice to have. The pamphlets are available in the Providence cemetery. Gary Pence asked about the change in cost being so much. Mayor noted that Mendon was losing money on burials in the past. Ron noted that it would be nice to have the proposal prior to city council meeting next month so we can finalize as much as possible next month. Mayor noted that in the setting of fees we don't need a public hearing.

Kirk Taylor is excused.

Bob Jepsen had a chance to meet with the canal board and proposed the plan for cemetery expansion for their approval. Bob reach out the Kurt Lindley and Nathan Dausgs asking if there is funding to help with the cemetery. He said that they feel confident that there will be money about January of 2022. Bob feels it is still do-able to approach the expansion in phases. Jon noted that the Wellsville-Mendon conservancy district is in the process of purchasing the canal. Bob asked Jon if we need to fill out that application. Jon said that piping the canal is at least 3-4 years out because they need to address environment and stormwater in phase I. Then they will do phase II, which is piping the canal. Bob asked Brad Murray to give us a bid. He's hoping that we can address that bid, particularly the road. Bob's fear is that contractors are so busy. Mayor asked if Eric D. is bidding the road paved. Eric D. is bidding it paved. He could bid it sub-based, to reduce cost. The construction crews will come in the back way. The road will connect to the existing cemetery road. Bob would like this to go out to bid soon. Eric D. said he'd get it out.

Bob met with the May Day committee. Everything looks good. There may be some changes next year.

Greg is excused.

Ian said last night's planning and zoning was uneventful. However, they had a chance to discuss the general plan assignments from a couple weeks ago. The plan will be finalized by three members of the city council and three P&Z. Housing Transportation, Land Use, Public Services, etc. The general plan addresses 2020 to 2040. Then they will hand it over to P&Z and get it codified. Ian was grateful for the public input to this point. In the P&Z meeting they nominated Jeremy Martin as chair and Phil Zobell as co-chair until May. Then Phil will be chair and they will get a new co-chair. Bob noted that Burke Neilsen is in the bull pen if needed. Jon noted that Kevin's term is up in March but hasn't made up his mind. Ian and Kirk will do a monthly ride around to prioritize the needs of Mendon. They have discussed a chip and seal prioritization to keep our roads nice. Bob asked about LeGrand Johnson's work, does there need to be more follow up. Mayor asked Ian to touch base with Kelly. LeGrand is very interested in making things right with Mendon City, as they want Mendon's continued business. Ian and Kirk went

through the equipment and capital list on vehicles. He wants to know priority in terms of addressing equipment needs. Kirk has a plan, but he wants to bounce his plan off some peers. Animal control – it is time to license dogs. There is a dog licensing clinic. Regarding grant writing he got in contact with the USDA contact and they are looking at fulfilling the requirements.

Ron Campbell stated that on parks and recreation he has not addressed this yet. Ed asked if it was because it was covered with snow. On emergency preparedness Ron he said that the Bear River Association of governments had a meeting. They are sending him minutes from the meeting. Ron asked about the CCEMS situation and if he can help. Mayor noted that there is a difference between emergency services and emergency preparedness. Mayor noted that there used to be a trails committee, but it disbanded. There has been renewed interest. Mayor would like trails around the main square. Mayor feels that there may need to be some new blood on the trails committee, but that is up to Ron. Ron is working with Zac Covington on BRAGG planning. P&Z does have a draft copy of the zoning ordinance, but that goes hand in hand with the General Plan. Jon noted that as we update the standards and specs in the zoning code to correlate with the General Plan. Eric D. will work with Ron on that. There was a library board meeting. A city council member is an official member of the library board. Mayor has been in contact with Will Lusk, the CCEMS emergency manager. They want ham radio managers to practice each month for a preparedness drill or federal government compliance. Mayor noted that this building contains an EOC where we have a Ham radio. We still need a generator to run TV access in the Mayor's office. Every Tuesday there is a check in for Ham radio operators. Mayor recommended that Ron set something up with Will Lusk for city council.

Jon Hardman said that Kirt Lindly came last month to update us on their pursuit of canal developments. Jon and Eric D. met and submitted their proposals for developments in Mendon. They were shooting for the first of March, but they may have more time. Monday they met with 5 irrigation pipeline groups to look at possibly participating in the proposal. At this point this is just a broad look at things where they look at everything from the start of the canal to the end of the canal. One of the groups noted that they are already have pvc pipe issues. The discussion addressed replacing old systems and/or connecting systems. It also addresses if piping can be used for storm water management. As this gets closer they should be able to see a draft. Bob asked what the reaction was from the pipeline owners. So far they have only addressed whether they want help replacing systems. Bob asked if we are looking to get more people on the system. 85% are on a pressurized system. 300 North still needs to get on a system. 300 north does give us a piping zone from storm water management, which could also be used for 2nd water. Eric has submitted bids for pipeline and well. 600-700K to do the system. The money we have in the budget we may only be half way there. Jon feels that it would be prudent to do an evaluation. We may have to look at our water rates and we may need to consider doing a loan. Jon's inclined not to go back to the division of drinking water and jump through the hoops, we may want to seek other avenues. Mayor noted that once the water is in we will see development. Eric D. is working on the impact fee to see where we come out on

that. The next General plan meeting will be next Wednesday. This Saturday preliminary documents will be shared.

Mayor Buist shared a letter from our county executive Craig Butters. This addresses the CCEMS which will be done away with by the end of the year. EMS include ambulance, paramedic, fire department. Logan is pulling out. The rest of the valley is trying to pick up the pieces. Mayor has been in constant contact with Craig Butters. They have chosen a consultant to analyze calls for every community and the costs involved, how many EMS or fire people need to be in each community as well as the cost for the community. The hope is that the information will be available the first part of June. Mayor will be involved in the decisions on what to do. Mayor takes his stewardship very seriously for this community. They are looking to have a Logan, a North Cache and South Cache station. In the initial meeting Mayor asked about the West. After that meeting, he approached Logan city for pricing to continue coverage from them. Mayor thinks in the next 10-15 years he believes the whole county may be unified. Once the information from the county is available there will be a public hearing. Mayor talked with Logan fire chief. There are trade-offs to living in Mendon. That is where they are in the process. Mayor's interest is in this community and it's residents. He is very vested in this issue. Mayor will keep us posted.

Mayor received word from the county fire chief. We receive about \$4,444 from county to cover calls near us that are not in Mendon proper. They increased the budget to \$32,079 because to the range of places that Mendon may cover. Mayor is grateful to let Ray Olsen know the new budget and to have a council member over the funds as well. Fire Dept. budget year is opposite of Mendon City. Mendon will get a check for the upcoming calendar year. Mayor said that is something that doesn't happen very often. So we are grateful to the county for that.

Mayor is beginning preliminary number for next fiscal year's budget. He will talk to each council member individually as they look at what their needs are going forward. As Kirk addresses capital funds. Mayor put \$25K in. Kirk would like to carry this over. There is a possibility of getting another truck for pushing. He did get a new mower. Fiscal year starts July 1. June will be the public hearing at 7:30.

Mayor has talked about 24th with Julienne. Mayor asked if there were any questions or concerns going forward. In 2004 when CCEMS was built the fees were small. Logan argues that the county population has increased a lot, which spurred Logan pulling out. Ambulances and machinery will be split when the county starts its EMS. We will have to increase taxes to address this.

Ian will attend Tues Apr 28 road meeting.

Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn. Jon H. motioned. Bob J. seconded. All were in favor to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.