



**MINUTES OF THE SPRINGDALE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020**

**This Council meeting did not have an anchor location and was conducted entirely via electronic means. Council members connected remotely. The meeting was available to the public for live viewing/listening.**

Meeting convened at 5:00pm

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Stanley J. Smith, Council members Randy Aton, Lisa Zumpft, Adrian Player and Suzanne Elger

**ALSO PRESENT:** Town Manager Rick Wixom, Director of Community Development Tom Dansie, Town Treasurer Dawn Brecke, Police Chief Garen Brecke, Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Gubler, Public Works Superintendent Robby Totten, Deputy Town Clerk Katy Brown, and Town Clerk Darci Carlson recording. See attached sheet for attendees signed into the meeting.

**Motion made by Lisa Zumpft to approve the agenda for July 8, 2020. Seconded by Adrian Player.**

**Aton: Aye**

**Player: Aye**

**Elger: Aye**

**Zumpft: Aye**

**Smith: Aye**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**A. Discussion and Information**

**1. General announcements:** Mayor Smith provided information from the Mayor's Meeting held yesterday. Washington County reported 71 new cases of COVID-19. Part of this number included 40 inmates at the county jail. The long-term facilities that previously reported COVID-19 cases were now under control with the help of the State. The hospital ICU was 80% full with 50% being coronavirus related. The hospital was utilizing an alternative to ventilators which were not as harsh and shown to be successful. County COVID-19 numbers were trending similarly to the State. Mayor Smith emphasized the importance of hand-washing, mask wearing, and social distancing. He said Governor Herbert was considering a statewide mandate for masks.

- Information on the number of people who tested positive for coronavirus in Springdale were not available.

Ms. Elger asked if testing was limited to symptomatic people. The number of people being tested fluctuated and she questioned why. Ms. Elger also asked why Southwest Utah Public Health District (SWUPHD) testing numbers were only updated every few days.

- Mayor Smith said the testing numbers were statewide. He noted testing facilities were closed over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend which could account for the fluctuation.
- The SWUPHD was busy with contact tracing and setting up back-to-school protocols which could explain the delay in reporting.

Over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend the county paid St. George Shuttles to run in-town shuttles. An RFP was out to identify a shuttle provider to run in Springdale for the remainder of the season. Shuttles would likely run again with the help of CARES Act funding.

**2. Zion National Park update:** Superintendent Bradybaugh reported.

- Total visitation in June was 328,000 compared to 597,000 the previous year. 2020 year-to-date visitor totals were 1,024,000 compared to 2,005,000 last year.
- Fourth of July weekend was busy but not as much in previous years.
- The shuttle ticketing system was working well. The Park was able to collect data and make changes in real time. Approximately 3,600-3,700 seats were filled per day. Lines were staying short, riders were able to social distance, and load efficiently. The intent was to increase capacity when more busses were added to the system.

Ms. Zumpft heard garbage and graffiti were bad.

- Superintendent Bradybaugh indicated it was worse earlier but getting better; however, behavior could improve. Problem areas remained and there were a few isolated graffiti spots. Some of these issues were attributed to first-time National Park visitors.

**3. Council department reports:**

Mr. Aton reported:

- The Hurricane Valley Fire District June meeting was canceled. The June call report was provided with the meeting packet. Numbers were low compared to normal due to lack of visitors. It was a busy Fourth of July weekend down canyon.
- The Streets Department continued normal activities including keeping multi-paths clean, stenciling at the River Park which seemed to correct some of the recent issues, and striping in several Town parking lots. Staff worked with Sunrise Engineering on updating construction standards. A letter was drafted to contractors and utility providers regarding blocking sidewalks. A draft RFP was in process for Tiley Hill sidewalk construction bids.

Mr. Player reported:

- Public Works continued to flush fire hydrants and install culinary water meters.
- The Southwest Mosquito Abatement District continued their work controlling mosquitos. The catch basin in Moenave had been treated almost weekly.

Ms. Elger reported:

- Parking issues at the River Park had worked themselves out.
- Hazardous materials removal at the History Center would begin next week. Ms. Elger complimented Ryan Gubler for his work in lowering the contractor estimate. The following week Luke Wilson would begin demolition of the interior.
- The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) met on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and approved using historic ditch stone for the Under the Eaves National Registry of Historic Places plaque monument. Historic stone use was not approved for the monument to commemorate the mosaic posts on Lion Boulevard. The HPC recommended design standards for these monuments that would be forwarded to the Council for approval. Rich Levin was nominated as chair. Ms. Elger wanted to be sure the duties of the HPC did not conflict with the Historical Society with respect to the History Center
- Ms. Elger planned to listen in on the Washington County School Board call July 14<sup>th</sup> regarding their plans to reopen schools.

Ms. Zumpft reported:

- Housing consultant meetings continued. Before their report was finalized, the Council may need to consider the definition of affordability.

- The Zion Regional Collaborative meeting was held last week. Extension of the pedestrian bike trail from St. George to Springdale was discussed. This trail would be the backbone for others in the area.
- Over the last month, the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) held ZOOM meetings on COVID-19, racial equality, and the special legislative session. HB5002 was approved allowing a provision for virtual meetings to continue after the Governor's Executive Order expired August 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Zumpft asked staff to provide information during the August Council meeting to discuss the process under which electronic meetings would continue.
- Utah Cultural Alliance and Utah Department of Arts and Museums conducted a number of calls to determine how activities and performances could resume.
- There was a new show in the CCC Gallery that would continue through mid-August. Z-Arts was considering a ZOOM artist reception.
- The Land Use Association of Utah, part of the ULCT, held a number of online training sessions on the General Plan, and the Open and Public Meetings Act. They were good refreshers.

Mayor Smith reported:

- The Transit Committee was still considering a go-forward plan.
- Possible installation of fiber optics to Springdale residences inched forward with receipt of a preliminary quote. With this information, Mayor Smith could engage the USDA in discussion about their rural broadband program. If the initiative moved ahead, the Town would issue a formal RFP to obtain firm installation figures.

**4. Community questions and comments:** Sophie Will asked the final visitation numbers to Zion National Park over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend.

- The unofficial total for July was approximately 38,362 visitors.

## **B. Administrative Action Items**

### **1. Discussion and possible action concerning the required use of face coverings in Springdale:**

Governor Herbert allowed a mask mandate in Springdale. This would include wearing of masks in commercial establishments, while waiting to be seated or served at a restaurant, and during social gatherings. A mask did not need to be worn when social distancing or outdoors; however, if you were around people, masks should be worn.

Mr. Aton said this was a proactive approach and he appreciated the work of Mayor Smith and Ms. Elger. He noticed more people wearing masks which protected employees and helped keep businesses open. As long as numbers continued to go up locally and nationally, Mr. Aton wanted to keep the mask requirement in force for the foreseeable future.

Yesterday, Ms. Elger listened into the Grand County Council meeting. She said they had an excellent public health order that outlined conditions when to wear masks. The meeting included discussion of continuing the mask mandate even if the area moved to 'green'. Enforcement was not done except in cases where people were aggressively non-compliant. Focus was on education and providing masks to the public. Grand County also pushed out messaging via social media.

- Mayor Smith indicated lower levels of color in the COVID-19 phases did not mean lower risk; it meant more personal responsibility.

The Council discussed establishing a deadline for requiring masks. They decided to leave it open-ended and discuss at each Council meeting.

No action was taken.

**2. Trust for Public Lands report on Springdale conservation finance options and possible action concerning preparations for an open space bond – Conor Hall:** The Town had been working with the Trust for Public Lands (TPL) on a feasibility report investigating finance options for the purpose of acquiring open space. TPL had produced a similar report four (4) years ago; this report updated that information based on current conditions.

TPL representatives Conor Hall, Andrew DuMoulin and David Weinstein were in attendance to present to the Council.

Mr. Hall shared his screen to present (Attachment #1) *“Establishing Dedicated Conservation Funding in Springdale, Utah”*

- The TPL mission was to create parks and protect land. They also pioneered conservation finance work through legislative appropriation or ballot measures, including sales taxes, bonds, and property taxes.

Mr. Hall discussed TPL’s successful long-term approval rate during a wide range of economic conditions.

- Appreciation for the outdoors was increasingly strong and people supported parks and conservation measures.
- Key ingredients for conservation funding included a demonstrable need, community support, and strong elected leadership. Good ballot language was also important.

Mr. Hall outlined the critical steps and process for a successful ballot measure.

Mr. DuMoulin explained that creating a revenue stream for open space and trails was likely viable through general obligation bonds rather than implementing a property tax increase.

- General obligation bond proceeds were limited to capital projects and could not be used for operational or maintenance expenses.
- Bonding capacity, financing options and implementation were discussed.
- Issuance of a general obligation bond must be authorized by resolution and approved by a majority of voters in an election.

In looking at historic voting data, Mr. DuMoulin indicated Springdale was friendly to conservation and fiscal measures.

State and federal conservation funding partnerships could broaden the base of support for the Town’s goals. It was noted several programs had a cost-share requirement.

- Next steps would include public opinion surveying to determine support for conservation funding and test voter priorities. Surveying could occur through mail and online.

Ms. Zumpft asked how long a bond was typically held.

- Mr. DuMoulin indicated bond calculations were typically based on a twenty-year (20) pay-off.

Ms. Zumpft asked if the Town needed to know what it wanted to acquire before the bond was on the ballot.

- Mr. Hall said this would be helpful to know. He suggested the Town create a priority list of potential acquisitions and a ballpark of the funding amount needed.

Ms. Elger wanted to confirm the expense of a bond was added to property taxes.

- Mr. DuMoulin explained the property tax increase would be based upon the annual debt service on the bond. Since the bond would be spread across many years, it represented a lower tax rate than just a property tax increase.

Ms. Elger asked if the bond cost was significantly higher for businesses versus residences.

- Mr. DuMoulin said it was higher, however he would need Springdale's tax rates in order to calculate.

With a general obligation bond, Mr. Aton noted funds would be more immediately available versus collecting them over time through a property tax increase.

Ms. Zumpft asked about grant opportunities.

- Mr. Hall said the TPL Land Protection Team could identify state and federal opportunities specifically for land acquisition and protection.

Mr. Wixom added the Town of Springdale had not done a general obligation bond previously. The Town had bonded for buildings and other revenue related issues which were Council-approved rather than voter-approved.

Since the population in Springdale was relatively small, public polling would likely cost between \$12,500 and \$17,500. Funding was available in the current Community Development Department budget.

- The public polling expense would include questionnaire design, sample acquisition, programming, email, telephone interviewing, data entry, analysis, and reporting.

The Council considered the best time to conduct public polling and move a bond initiative forward given the current conditions.

- Both a mail and online poll would be most effective given the small sample size.

**Motion made by Lisa Zumpft to have the Trust for Public Lands continue the work based on the report given today and to do mail and online polling to determine options for supporting and funding open space in Springdale. Seconded by Randy Aton.**

**Aton: Aye**

**Elger: Aye**

**Zumpft: Aye**

**Player: Aye**

**Smith: Aye**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Dansie clarified the public polling component would need to go through the Town's procurement process.

### **C. Legislative Action Items**

**1. Continued from June 10, 2020 – Ordinance 2020-04 – Addition of the Erosion Hazard Zone, establishing regulations for development in erosion hazard areas:** Mayor Smith appreciated the revisions; his questions and concerns raised in the previous meeting had been addressed.

In the revision, a minor land disturbance was defined as 2,000 square feet or less. Minor land disturbances could be approved administratively without going through an erosion hazard study.

- As originally presented, a minor land disturbance was defined as 1,000 square feet. However, it was determined this area may not be enough to accommodate some types of disturbances; therefore, the area was increased to 2,000 square feet but now included more restriction and regulation standards in order to mitigate impacts.

As an example, Ms. Elger asked if a 2,000 square foot patio could be built.

- Mr. Dansie answered 'yes', but said it would require administrative review. If the review revealed major impact the project could be required to go through a full erosion hazard analysis.

- Ms. Elger expressed concern about this amount of area being possibly covered by an impermeable surface. Additionally, she noted 1,000 square feet was the consistent threshold that triggered review in other ordinances. Ms. Elger supported the Erosion Hazard Zone ordinance as a whole but did not support the increase in area allowed for a minor disturbance.

**Motion made by Adrian Player to adopt Ordinance 2020-04 the Erosion Hazard Overlay Zone and adopt the erosion hazard map as presented in the packet material and establish the fee for an erosion hazard permit at \$750.00 and the fee for a minor land disturbance permit at \$25.00. Seconded by Randy Aton.**

**Aton: Aye**  
**Elger: No**  
**Zumpft: Aye**  
**Player: Aye**  
**Smith: Aye**  
**Motion passed.**

**D. Administrative Non-Action Items**

**General Council Discussion:** Mr. Wixom said Parks and Recreation Department personnel were considering upcoming reservations and how possible pandemic restrictions could create changes. One specific concern was the Red Rock Music Festival scheduled in November. The event organizers wanted to proceed with a maximum attendance of 400 people and had provided a proposed list of controls to help protect people.

- The Council would put discussion of this event and consideration of any action on the August regular meeting agenda.

Mr. Gubler said staff was considering options for the Butch Cassidy 10K/5K Race including making it a virtual race. The event would be scaled down this year yet still maintain some fun.

- Mayor Smith indicated Washington County had canceled nearly all their events for fall.

Mr. Aton forwarded an email from the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the draft environmental impact study (EIS) on the Lake Powell pipeline. A webinar was scheduled at 6:00pm tonight and tomorrow night to explain the EIS.

Mr. Wixom forwarded emails to the Council concerning toxins found in the North Fork of the Virgin River in the Park. The Town conducted testing on both raw water and water at the treatment plant. Both returned results showing no toxins. The Town, Zion National Park and the State agencies would also continue to sample and test.

**E. Consent Agenda**

Invoice Date	Invoice No.	Vendor	Amount	Budgeted	Description
6/10/2020	SI-1662851	Axon Enterprise	\$ 1,113.00	Y	Taser
6/5/2020	2020-05	Broschinsky, Korral	1,000.00	Y	History Center Intensive Level Survey
6/16/2020	14541	Conservation Legacy	2,167.00	Y	ZRC Vista Intern
11/9/2019	133854	Fehr and Peers	6,444.63	Y	ZRC Feasibility Study Progress Billing
6/16/2020	138750	Fehr and Peers	4,402.53	Y	ZRC Feasibility Study Progress Billing
6/11/2020	487	Genesis Construction	4,924.00	Y	Sidewalk Repair
5/4/2020	1	Interstate Rock Products	22,821.09	Y	Asphalt Patching/Parks Shop Paving
6/17/2020	6/17/2020	Kallerud, Cornelia	573.05	Y	Mosaic Project Progress Payment
6/1/2020	6/1/2020	Purchase Power	1,041.98	Y	Postage
5/31/2020	0233-00064138	Republic Services	1,569.33	Y	Dumpster Services
6/9/2020	Consolidated	Rocky Mountain Power	4,296.41	Y	Electric Service
5/8/2020	6471260-00	Scholzen Products	823.18	Y	Rockville Meter Connection Supplies
6/18/2020	6260009926	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	622.44	Y	Police Truck Tires - Jake
6/18/2020	6260009953	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	622.44	Y	Police Truck Tires - Matt
6/18/2020	6260009973	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	622.44	Y	Police Truck Tires - Royce
6/18/2020	6260010088	Southern Tire Mart, LLC	602.84	Y	Police Truck Tires - J.J.
6/12/2020	110731	Sunrise Engineering	2,050.00	Y	Wastewater Master Plan Progress Billing
6/11/2020	110687	Sunrise Engineering	6,475.00	Y	Stormwater Master Plan Progress Billing
5/26/2020	110282	Sunrise Engineering	1,652.75	Y	Engineering Services
6/11/2020	110694	Sunrise Engineering	5,850.00	Y	Irrigation Master Plan Progress Billing
3/12/2020	108933	Sunrise Engineering	900.00	Y	Annual GIS Subscription
5/14/2020	110127	Sunrise Engineering	2,354.50	Y	Water Treatment Plant Pay Request #20
6/17/2020	110859	Sunrise Engineering	14,627.00	Y	Water Treatment Plant Pay Request #20
			\$ 87,555.61		

**Motion made by Lisa Zumpft to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Adrian Player.**

**Aton: Aye**

**Elger: Aye**

**Zumpft: Aye**

**Player: Aye**

**Smith: Aye**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn at 7:07pm made by Lisa Zumpft. Seconded by Adrian Player.**

**Aton: Aye**

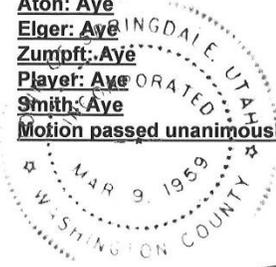
**Elger: Aye**

**Zumpft: Aye**

**Player: Aye**

**Smith: Aye**

**Motion passed unanimously.**



Darci Carlson  
Darci Carlson, Town Clerk

APPROVAL: [Signature] DATE: 8-12-2020

A recording of the public meeting is available by contacting the Town Clerk's Office. Please call 435-772-3434 or email [springdale@infowest.com](mailto:springdale@infowest.com) for more information.



PO Box 187 118 Lion Blvd Springdale UT 84767

## REMOTE MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD

### Meeting: Town Council Regular Meeting 07/08/20

Jeff Bradybaugh

K. Sophie Will

Janet Mika

David Weinstein

Conor Hall

Andrew du Moulin

Crystal Wilson

Steve

Tyler Kylas

Dawnita Udall

Eric Rioux