

COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 30, 2023

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Garth O. Green; Councilmembers: Terri Hartley; Craig Isom; W. Tyler Melling; R. Scott Phillips; Ronald Riddle.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Paul Bittmenn; City Attorney Randall McUne; City Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; City Engineer Jonathan Stathis; Police Chief Darin Adams; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Henderson, Ann Clark, Candace Howes, Tom Jett, Brittany Fisher, Kathy Long, Clayton Neilsen, Jon Oglesby, Carter Wilkey, Rob O'Brien, Andy McCrea, Roice Nelson, Andera Nelson, Gary F. Player, Alysha Lundgren, Robert Cox, Lance Weaver, Steve Decker, Mike Platt, Dave Clarke, Steve Nelson.

CALL TO ORDER: Pastor Jay Knobel of Threshing Floor Fellowship gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Jason Norris.

AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL: Councilmember Phillips moved to approve the agenda order for council & RDA; second by Councilmember Hartley; vote unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF

COMMENTS: ■ Water Discussion – **Mayor** I want to give a report on Martin's Flat. We hit coal depth; Jay Grimshaw was drilling. We have been delayed for several months waiting for parts to come. Jay was concerned that as he started to artesian, he had no way to control it. He had an idea to drill through the ground. He needed valves and apparatus so that we wouldn't be in trouble with the State by putting water into Coal Creek, we had a pit up there. We were about 675 feet when we stopped. He drilled through fracturing and pressure with water. A well that went 800 feet deep and it is under pressure over 300 lbs. per square inch, it is a unique situation. We don't know the quality yet, I asked to have it artesian for a week and then we will run tests. We ran a test before we shut down, the tds was higher than Quichapa, substantially, it is in a mountain area with a lot of minerals. It is within the State maximums, it was around 860 tds. As he went deeper, he hit fracturing around 700 feet which gave him an idea that he hit fracturing. He went on through to 800 feet, the last 100 feet was in fracturing rock, what we were looking for and there could be a significant amount of water. I am grateful we hit water and hopeful for a good well. There is iron in the well, it is treatable. I don't know where it will go. I want to let it artesian, get the test back and see the results, it will take 10-12 months. We will continue in other areas and at that time we can see what we have. At that point we can run some piping. **Rob O'Brien** – I am a mechanical engineer. I was in the pump, is it a test well and is the pressure of 300lbs at the surface? **Mayor** – no, we have not tested it there. The water would come up the top instead of sideways. **Jay Grimshaw** – after we control the rotating head for the flow, about 100 lbs. of pressure at the surface with an orifice used to choke the well where it discharged, if we had too much pressure and restricted it too much then the formation would take our fluid and so the fact that we had that kind of artesian pressure at the surface of the well meant that we had somewhere in the 450-500 PSI at depth pressure for it to be able to force itself up and if we left it it would move all the drilling fluid and the chemicals and product that we were using