

River Heights City Council  
Minutes of the Meeting  
July 8, 2014

Present were: Mayor James Brackner  
Council members: Doug Clausen  
Richard Okelberry  
Dixie Wilson  
Blake Wright  
Recorder Sheila Lind  
Public Works Director Clayton Nelson  
Treasurer Wendy Wilker  
Excused: Councilmember Geoff Smith  
Finance Director Clifford Grover  
Others Present: Gayle Brackner, Dru Brown, Morgan Davidson, 2 Cub Scouts, Eric Dursteler

The following motions were made during the meeting:

Motion #1

Councilmember Clausen moved to “adopt the minutes of the June 24, 2014 Council Meeting, and the evening’s agenda.” Council member Okelberry seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Okelberry, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Smith was absent.

Motion #2

Councilmember Wilson moved to “pay the bills as listed.” Councilmember Clausen seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Okelberry, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Smith was absent.

Proceedings of the Meeting:

The River Heights City Council met at 6:30 p.m. in the Ervin R. Crosbie Council Chambers in the River Heights City Building on Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

Opening Remarks and Pledge of Allegiance: Councilmember Okelberry expressed how he is impressed with the diversity of the people in our country. PWD Nelson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Previous Minutes and Agenda: Minutes of the June 24, 2014 Council Meeting, were reviewed.

**Councilmember Clausen moved to “adopt the minutes of the June 24, 2014 Council Meeting, and the evening’s agenda.” Council member Okelberry seconded the motion, which**

46 **passed with Clausen, Okelberry, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Smith was**  
47 **absent.**

48 Pay Bills: In the absence of FD Grover, Treasurer Wilker presented and answered questions  
49 regarding the bills.

50 **Councilmember Wilson moved to “pay the bills as listed.” Councilmember Clausen**  
51 **seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Okelberry, Wilson and Wright in favor. No**  
52 **one opposed. Smith was absent.**

53 Finance Director Report: Mayor Brackner was unsure if there is enough money budgeted in  
54 capital improvements to get 400 South done. If the bid comes in higher than expected, he’ll  
55 recommend adding more to the budget. PWD Nelson reported that Engineer Rasmussen is reviewing  
56 the design. When he approves it, it will go out to bid, which should be soon.

57 Purchase Requisition Requests: PWD Nelson requested approval to pay Holbrook Asphalt  
58 \$42,063 for the high density mineral bond road sealant. The seal itself is \$31,000. The other \$11,000  
59 is for crack sealing before the final coat is applied. The plan is to resurface 600 South from 600 East,  
60 up to the new subdivision (including Dan Weston’s cul-d-sac) and 800 South (including Stone Creek  
61 and 525 East). These areas will cover almost a mile. Holbrook Asphalt is the only company qualified  
62 to install this type of seal and therefore, are the only ones that bid the job. Councilmember Clausen  
63 asked how long they’ll wait before they know if they want to use the seal on other roads. Mr. Nelson  
64 said they’ll know within the year if they want to do more. The Council agreed to approve the amount.

65 Mayor Brackner and PWD Nelson have discussed the quality of the 400 South job, done last  
66 year. Mr. Nelson said it is sub-par. They talked about having a different company look at it to help  
67 determine what they can do to fix it. Mr. Nelson suggested they probably don’t want the same  
68 company to fix it again.

69 Public Works Report and Discussion: PWD Nelson reported on the following:

- 70 • There have been a number of skateboarders riding around in the park and on the benches. They  
71 are also smoking in the pavilion. He asked if he should order and install some signs to  
72 discourage these types of activities. The Council felt this would be a good idea, but it was  
73 unsure whether the city had an ordinance of this nature. Recorder Lind will look into it. Mayor  
74 Brackner recommended doing some research and then discussing it at the next meeting.
- 75 • He asked if he could replace a tree that recently died on the east side of the city building.  
76 Mayor Brackner said he could remove it at his convenience.

77  
78 Administrative Report: Recorder Lind informed that she neglected to change the council’s  
79 salary from \$300/month to \$400 on the compensation ordinance adopted at the last meeting. The  
80 Council had discussed and decided to include the increase in the upcoming budget, at their workshop  
81 held on May 13, 2014. Councilmembers Wilson and Clausen didn’t remember agreeing to raise it.  
82 Although it’s included in the budget, Councilmembers Wilson, Clausen and Okelberry agreed to leave  
83 their salaries at \$300/month. Mayor Brackner supported the raise, as did Councilmember Wright. It  
84 was decided by majority to leave it.

85 Public Comment: There was none.

86 Discuss Trail Possibilities: Councilmember Clausen tried to get in touch with the Stone Creek  
87 Homeowners Association President, Dan Vinton, but wasn’t able to reach him. He left him a message  
88 that said, the city would sketch a trail in their neighborhood and then present it to the homeowners  
89 association for their comments. He and PWD Nelson will come up with an idea.

90 Discuss Tennis Court Backboard: Councilmember Clausen had a resident ask if the city would  
91 consider having a tennis court backboard, which would provide younger children a place to practice.

92 Councilmember Wilson has researched this idea. She found there are no outdoor backboards in Logan  
93 or USU. After questioning, she was informed they have indoor courts where they can practice. They  
94 also don't have outdoor ones because of the risk of graffiti and liability. She has contacted the tennis  
95 court repair company to come do some maintenance in River Heights. When they come, she has a list  
96 of questions for them concerning backboards which cost between \$2,000 and \$7,000. She suggested  
97 other locations for a backboard such as; the school, homes, on the back of the basketball backboards,  
98 etc. The smallest commercial size made is 10' x 8.' Mr. Nelson pointed out if it was inside a tennis  
99 court, a whole court could be taken up by one person. Mayor Brackner was in favor of doing  
100 something to help the younger children who are just starting. Ms. Wilson will have more information  
101 at the next meeting. Councilmember Wright asked how many people have requested a tennis court  
102 backboard. He was told there has only been one person.

103 Discuss LED Streetlights for Saddle Rock Subdivision: Councilmember Clausen introduced  
104 city engineer Eric Dursteler, in case they had any questions. Mr. Clausen explained, roughly three  
105 years ago the city investigated replacing all street lights in River Heights with LED lighting. The cost  
106 to do so would be about \$75,000. It was figured that in six years the city would recoup this back.  
107 They decided not to, at that time. When the Saddle Rock Subdivision was approved the council  
108 decided the city would install two LED street lights to see how they look. If the council now decides  
109 they don't want to do this, they can still go with regular light poles and lights. He asked the council  
110 how they felt about requiring LED lighting for phases 2-6.

111 Forsgren Engineers have drafted a 'Standards for Street Lighting Design' document and done a  
112 study on costs. Councilmember Clausen handed out the cost findings. The poles would need to come  
113 from Rocky Mountain Power. They would be installed and maintained by the city. The cost estimate  
114 for two street lights in Saddle Rock would be about \$1,200 to \$3,000/each.

115 Councilmember Wilson asked where she could go to look at LED lights. She was told there are  
116 communities that have them in Salt Lake, Jackson, Park City and Heber. There was a grant available a  
117 few years back, which is when these cities switched to LED. Discussion was held on installation  
118 options. It was unsure how Rocky Mountain Power currently bills and how much costs would go  
119 down with an LED fixture. PWD Nelson will get a hold of George with Rocky Mountain Power to ask  
120 about billing. Mr. Clausen volunteered to be part of the discussion.

121 Mayor and Council Reports: Councilmember Wright didn't have a report.

122 Councilmember Wilson said the T-ball season went great.

123 Councilmember Clausen handed out copies of a letter from the DEQ. The state is getting less  
124 federal money, so they are going to the legislature to see if they can collect more fees from cities. He  
125 asked the council to look at the information and plan to discuss it next meeting. He'd like to write a  
126 letter to our state senator, informing that our city is opposed to these increases. PWD Nelson interprets  
127 the letter to mean the increases are for services the state currently provides for free, which would  
128 mainly be used by cities who don't have their own engineer. Councilmember Wright agreed.  
129 Apparently, River Heights hasn't been using the services that are being increased in price. PWD  
130 Nelson agreed with Mr. Clausen if he wanted to write a letter to the state senator.

131 Councilmember Okelberry would like to look into the possibility of having the school gym  
132 available for groups to rent out during the months school wasn't in session since the city has an  
133 interlocal agreement with them. He'd like the discussion on a later agenda.

134 Mayor Brackner explained, in the past, the council and mayors salaries have been paid from the  
135 administrative budget. He suggested charging 15% to the water fund and another 15% to the sewer  
136 fund. The remaining 70% would be taken from administrative. He feels this would be a better  
137 reflection of how they spend their time. The council agreed.

138 Mayor Brackner discussed blue stake charges and wondered if the requestors could pay the fees  
139 that are being passed on to River Heights. PWD Nelson informed that blue stakes is a free service for  
140 those requesting it. It's governed by law. Mr. Brackner felt this was unfortunate and reported this  
141 month, the city was billed \$75 for blue stakes.

142 Mayor Brackner reported the cost of building the finance office downstairs was \$1,500, which  
143 is half of the amount they budgeted. He thanked the public works department for their work on it.

144 Mayor Brackner informed of a letter he received from a 'concerned citizen' about posted signs  
145 that are violating the River Heights ordinance. Some of the signs being complained about are actually  
146 located in Logan. Councilmember Clausen suggested Mayor Brackner ask those that are violating the  
147 ordinance to come into compliance.

148 Mayor Brackner said the Red Cross is looking for community hero's. He read the letter of hero  
149 ideas. They suggested Quentin Gardner for his work on the HAM radios.

150 Mayor Brackner reported he has done a lot of analysis on the cost of the new wastewater  
151 treatment in Logan. He discussed his findings. In order for Logan to cover their costs they will need  
152 to increase charges by 30%. He sent a letter of his recommendations to the other mayors asking for  
153 their opinion. He hasn't heard from all of them yet.

154 The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Sheila Lind, Recorder

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James Brackner, Mayor