

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 7, 2012, ROY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Approval of July 17, 2012 minutes
2. Presentation of Service Awards to citizens
3. Public comments
4. Consideration of Resolution No. 1009 authorizing Roy City to charge a fee for confined space shut-offs
5. City Manager's report
6. Mayor and Council report
7. Adjourn

Minutes of the Roy City Council Meeting held August 7, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Room of the Roy City Municipal Building.

The meeting was a regularly scheduled meeting designated by resolution. Notice of the meeting was provided to the *Standard Examiner* at least 24 hours in advance. A copy of the agenda was posted.

The following members were in attendance:

Mayor Joe H. Ritchie
Councilman John Cordova
Councilman Willard Cragun
Councilman Brad Hilton
Councilman Michael Stokes
Councilman Dave Tafoya

City Manager Chris Davis
City Attorney Andy Blackburn
Secretary Michelle Drago

Also present were: Ross Oliver, Public Works Director; Brent Weston; Marlene Eastman; Bob Dandoy; Marge Becraft; Rick Ackley; Lil Ackley; Rachel Trotter; Sterling Morris; Virgil Tuveson; and Sandy Christensen.

Moment of Silence: Councilman Hilton

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Hilton

1. APPROVAL OF JULY 17, 2012, MINUTES

Councilman Cragun moved to approve the minutes of July 17, 2012, as written. Councilman Tafoya seconded the motion. Council members Cordova, Cragun, Hilton, Stokes, and Tafoya voted “aye.” The motion carried.

2. PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS TO CITIZENS

Bob Dandoy, Chairman of the Roy 75th Anniversary Committee, said the greatness of any city was founded on mutual respect and genuine concern for others. In the early 1960's, Mr. Thomas said success had nothing to with what you gained and accomplished in this life, but what you did for others. Mr. Dandoy was honored to be in the presence of a few citizens whose contributions were welcomed and noticed.

Mayor Ritchie read the Service Recognition Award: “For your generous commitment of time, support and inspiration to Roy City. Your gracious acts strengthen a wonderful community and reflect great credit to yourself.” The recipients had been nominated by members of the community, not the committee.

Mayor Ritchie presented a service award and commemorative coin to Marlene Eastman. Marlene had donated hundreds of hours in the service and care of Roy citizens, particularly those who were patients at the Heritage Park Care Center.

Mayor Ritchie presented service awards and commemorative coins to Sterling Morris, Brent Weston, and Virgil Tuveson. They noticed a neighbor who needed physical rehabilitation due to a long term illness. This individual was restricted to their home because of crumbling steps and a handrail. These gentlemen took it upon themselves to set new concrete steps and weld a new handrail. This individual was longer being held prisoner.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sandy Christensen, 4841 South 3575 West, stated that she was the president of the Roy Association of Senior Adults (RASA). She asked the City Council to support them. They rarely saw anyone at the senior center. She invited the Council to have lunch with the seniors; to visit with them to find out what their concerns were. She asked the Council members to join RASA and support their fund raisers.

Lil Ackley, 5839 South 3260 West, felt there was a problem in Roy because of terrible looking yards. Homes were not being cared for. She didn't feel it was too much to ask for people to turn their water on when it was already paid for. A home four doors north of her was in poor condition. Her subdivision was 15 years old. Some of the owners were beginning to let their homes go. Her son recently bought a home in the vicinity of 5000 South 4100 West with an adjoining yard that was in poor shape. She asked that the City Council make realtors and banks take care of the homes they were responsible for.

Councilman Stokes stated that this was not a new topic. It was next to economic issues in concern. The City had hired a full time code compliance person. She had worked on approximately 1,000 citations already this year. Code compliance was not done on a patrol basis. Because of time constraints, the City's code compliance officer responded on a complaint basis and looked around a neighborhood while she was there.

Lil Ackley felt waiting for complaints to be filed did not work. Homes continued to deteriorate and values of adjoining homes continued to go down. Why didn't the City hold real estate offices and banks accountable?

Councilman Stokes stated that the City had a citation process which it did follow through on. The City could even recoup clean up expenses through property taxes.

Lil Ackley wanted to see more done.

Councilman Stokes stated that the City could hire more code compliance officers, but it would have to raise property taxes to do so.

Lil Ackley stated that she would be back in three months to let the Council know about the status of homes she was watching.

Councilman Stokes said the code compliance officer could not patrol 11,000 homes. When the City received a complaint, it followed up on it.

Lil Ackley felt those receiving citations should fund the City's clean-up effort.

Councilman Cragun stated that he drove around the City a lot. He could see the deterioration. He could see foreclosed homes with yards that were burning up because water had been shut off. He felt the code enforcement process might take too long. The compliance officer responded to a complaint and in the process blanketed a neighborhood, but she might not be back again until another complaint was filed. He felt the Council needed to discuss how to enforce abandoned homes and how to address yard sale signs. He didn't feel one person could do the job by themselves.

Councilman Cordova felt Lil Ackley had brought up a good point. It was naive to think there weren't homes in Roy with problems. Maybe an article in the City's newsletter could plant a seed and reach those homeowners. Someone had to step up and take care of things. There was a need for people to step up and pitch in.

Councilman Stokes asked if things could be done to make the enforcement process more efficient. The City might need to purchase some equipment, but it would be a onetime expense.

Councilman Hilton felt one of the major problems was homes in repossession or owned by banks and realtors. The Council needed to discuss how to get banks and realtors to help maintain the City's appearance.

Mayor Ritchie said it wasn't uncommon for realtors to pay a \$200 fine, add it to the cost of the home and still not resolve the problem.

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 1009 AUTHORIZING ROY CITY TO CHARGE A FEE FOR CONFINED SPACE SHUT-OFFS

Mayor Ritchie stated that the current shut-off fee was \$10. The fee doubled to \$20 for afterhours work. The fee was charged to delinquent customers as well as those who needed their water temporarily shut off. Some commercial services were located

within confined spaces which took more than one employee to access. The Water Department had requested that the fee be doubled to cover the cost of additional time and manpower necessary to provide the services. They recommended that the City implement a \$25 fee with an increase to \$50 for afterhours work effective August 8th.

Councilman Cordova said the City needed to cover its costs. He had asked Cathy Spencer, Management Services Director, if \$50 would cover after hour costs. She felt it would.

Councilman Cragun asked if the City responded to a lot of call backs. Ross Oliver, Public Works Director, stated that there were a few customers that took advantage of the City. Most people were good about it.

Councilman Cordova asked if \$25 would cover the City's cost. Mr. Oliver felt it would.

Councilman Tafoya did not feel \$50 would cover the City's costs after hours.

Councilman Stokes felt both fees were a little low.

Councilman Tafoya felt the shut off fee should be \$50 and \$75 for after hours.

Councilman Stokes felt the fee should be \$50 and \$100 for after hours.

Councilman Stokes moved to approve Resolution No. 1009 authorizing the City to charge a fee for confined space shut offs subject to the fee being changed to \$50 for shut offs and \$100 for afterhours service. Councilman Tafoya seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Council members Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, Cragun, and Stokes voted "aye." The motion carried. (Copy filed for record).

5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Chris Davis stated that a work session was scheduled for Tuesday, August 14th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Hope Center. The Council would discuss moving code compliance to the Police Department and Waste Management's proposal for a recycling program. Councilman Cordova asked that the meeting be held later or rescheduled to allow the Council to attend the Planning Commission's hearing a request to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow some animals in residential zones. The Council asked that the work session be rescheduled. Mr. Davis said he would email potential dates to the Council members.

Chris Davis thanked the Council for its support of Roy Days. The City founders were excited to have been involved. It ran smoothly and turned out well.

6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORT

Councilman Stokes stated that he would like to have a discussion about an owner's authorization for tenants to make changes on water bills. He felt it might be time to make some changes regarding written authorizations.

Councilman Cragun stated that he had received many compliments regarding Roy Days. He suggested that the Council approve a resolution thanking the Elks Lodge and the parade committee. The Council felt credit should also be given to Councilman Tafoya. Councilman Tafoya felt Chris Davis was responsible for Roy Days' success. He and the City staff made it happen. Councilman Cragun also commended the Street and Police Departments.

Councilman Cragun asked someone contact UDOT about the pothole in the northbound yield lane at 5300 South 1900 West. Chris Davis said he was trying to get Chris Peterson to give the Council an update about the State projects planned in and around Roy City. He will ask him about the pothole.

7. ADJOURN

Councilman Cordova moved to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.

Attest:

Joe H. Ritchie
Mayor

Amy Mortenson
Recorder

dc:caug712