

Daniel Town Council Meeting

Monday, February 5, 2024, at 6:00 PM
Wasatch County Services Building, Conference B
55 South 500 East, Heber City, UT

Meeting Minutes

Quorum Present: Mayor Scott Kohler, Council members Jon Blotter, Robyn Pearson, and Gary Walton. Also present were, Planner Eric Bunker, and Clerk/Recorder Kim Crittenden to take minutes.

Members of the Public: Eric Bennett, Heber Taylor, Jodi Taylor, Gary Weight, Joe Witt, and Dale Harris

Mayor Kohler called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

1) Public Comment: (please limit to 2 minutes per person)

There was no public comment.

2) Letters of Intent Discussion for New Council Member Position

Mayor Kohler read the letters of intent into the record. See Attached.

3) Applicant Interviews

Mayor Kohler invited the applicants to discuss their applications and desires to serve on the Town Council. Heber Taylor, Eric Bennett, and Joe Witt all addressed the Town Council. They were all asked several questions including what they hoped for the commercial zones, what they thought about small businesses in the Town, and how they felt about keeping the Town RA-5, or if it was too restrictive. Water rates were also brought up and discussed, in particular, whether they would support a water rate increase in Storm Haven and should the Daniel Water System absorb some of the costs for upgrades as well. Additionally, Council Member Blotter asked each applicant about their political affiliation.

All applicants agreed that they supported limited commercial development and small home businesses that did not bother neighbors. All agreed that the RA-5 zoning would be crucial to keeping the small-town feel of Daniel.

Applicant Heber Taylor stated that he had been a long-time resident of Daniel and wished to serve in any capacity he could. It was noted that he had volunteered to be on the Board of Appeals and was currently serving as the Chair of the Committee.

Planning Commissioner Bennet noted that he had been serving on the Planning Commission for the last 4 years and had been the vice/co-chair for the last two years. He continued by stating

that he would like to do more for the Town, but unfortunately, some of those options were out of his control. He noted issues with the airport expansion as well as the UDOT expansion of transportation through the Town were unlikely to be part of an impact he could make.

Mr. Witt stated that he had met with the local Wasatch County representative. He then continued with the goals that he would have for the Town. He stated that he would like to help with the transfer station traffic, access to increased trails in the Town, and address traffic issues on Big Hollow Road. He stated that he is a business owner and that it is a difficult question about how to best deal with zoning for home businesses. He stated he disagreed with the standard of as long as you are a good neighbor to be the deciding factor for home businesses. He stated that he had a great relationship with his neighbors, but he had had neighbors previously that he could not form the same cooperative relationship. He is very supportive of the Town insuring our water rights.

4) DR 2024-02-05 Appointment of New Council Member

It was decided to have a secret ballot election. Mayor Kohler read the resolution to the Town Council. All four council Members voted for Eric Bennet. It was noted that Council Member Bennett would serve from February 2024 to December 2025, until the next election. There were discussions about how and why the Town canceled the Election for the Town Council Position. It was noted that the Town had followed all of the procedures that were required to cancel the election.

Council Member Blotter made a motion to approve the appointment of Eric Bennett to the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Pearson. The roll call vote was Blotter yes, Kohler yes, Pearson yes, and, Walton yes. The resolution was passed.

5) Possible Swearing-In of New Council Member

Eric Bennett was sworn in as a Town Council Member.

6) Business License Approval(s)

a. New

i. Nico Secure Storage- Nephi Trunnell

b. Renew

i. Tender Touch Massage- Kendra Giles

Mayor Kohler read the applications into the record. He noted that they were recommended for approval by the Planning Commission

Council Member Blotter made a motion to approve the new and renewed business licenses. Council Member Walton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was Blotter yes, Kohler yes, Pearson yes, Walton yes and Bennett yes. The motion passed

7) Appointment of Wasatch Back Rural By-pass Steering Committee Member

Mayor Kohler stated that he had decided to appoint Council Member Pearson to the position. Council Member Blotter asked if the Mayor was open to nominations. Council Member Blotter suggested Mr. Witt for the position. Planner Bunker stated that it should be a Council Member rather than a citizen volunteer. Planner Bunker made a lengthy discussion about the purpose of the position as a liaison from the Town to the UDOT steering commission and the reasoning behind asking for a Council Member to serve on the Committee. Planning Commission Chair, Gary Weight stated that he thought it was a very important position and he agreed that it would be best served by an elected official. After much discussion among the Town Council Members, Mayor Kohler appointed Council Member Pearson.

8) Council Reports/Updates

Council Member Pearson thanked Mr. Witt and Mr. Taylor for all their efforts to make in support of the Town. He also mentioned the position that would be open on the Planning Commission now that Commissioner Bennett had joined the Town Council.

There were no other reports.

9) Engineer Reports/Updates

No report.

10) Planner Report/Updates

Planner Bunker presented his report. There was an extended discussion about what qualifies as an agriculture building. He then went through and explained the difference in use. The Planning Commission Chair, Gary Weight joined into the discussion about both the Town and State Code, noting that if the application requires an affidavit for use because it would not be inspected for human or animal occupancy.

11) Daniel Municipal Water and Storm Haven Water Systems Report/Updates

Planner Bunker stated that the Storm Haven water system had been inspected and had received some expected deficiencies. He noted that the leak in the Storm Haven Line had been fixed. It was reported that nearly all of the meters were reading again in both systems

12) Recorder's Office: Warrants approval, Announcements, etc.

Mayor Kohler stated that the Town audit would be on the next Town Council Agenda. There was a brief discussion about snow removal.

Council Member Blotter made a motion to approve the warrants. Council Member Walton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was Blotter yes, Kohler yes, Pearson yes, Walton yes and Bennett yes. The motion passed

13) Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2024

Council Member Pearson pointed out that he was "person" instead of Pearson on the second page of the minutes. It was noted it would be corrected.

Council Member Blotter made a motion to approve the warrants. Council Member Walton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was Blotter yes, Kohler yes, Pearson yes, Walton yes and Bennett yes. The motion passed

Council Member Pearson asked if there had been any quotes submitted for a replacement/new generator for the pumphouse heating system. Planner Bunker stated there had not been

14) Possible closed session as permitted by UCA 52-4-205

No closed session

15) Adjourn

Council Member Pearson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Walton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was Blotter yes, Kohler yes, Pearson yes, Walton yes and Bennett yes. The motion passed

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM

Kim Crittenden

Kim Crittenden Clerk/Recorder