

**Sunset City Corporation  
City Council Minutes  
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Minutes of a closed meeting held May 17, 2010 at Sunset City Hall, 200 West 1300 North, Sunset, Utah; Mayor Bangerter presiding.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to enter into a closed session. Council Member Furniss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Council Member Chapman – aye, Council Member Carlson – aye, Council Member Andrews – aye, Council Member Furniss – aye.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**To discuss the sale of real property in accordance with Utah State Code 52-4-205(1)(e):**

**Present:** Mayor Bangerter, Council Member Andrews, Council Member Budge (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Council Member Carlson, Council Member Chapman, Council Member Furniss and Recorder Hale.

The Mayor and Council discussed an offer received for the City owned property located at 1648 N. 75 W. and whether or not to sell it.

Council Member Budge made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Furniss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The closed session adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

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Minutes of a regular meeting held May 17, 2010 at Sunset City Hall, 200 West 1300 North, Sunset, Utah; Mayor Bangerter presiding.

**Mayor and Council Present:**

Chad Bangerter	Mayor
Brent Andrews	Council Member
Cheyrl Budge	Council Member
Ricky Carlson	Council Member
Ray Chapman	Council Member
Ryan Furniss	Council Member

**City Employees Present:**

Susan R. Hale	Recorder
Linda J. Youngdell	Treasurer/Office Manager
Ken Eborn	Police Chief
Neil Coker	Fire Chief
Norm Noyes	Asst. Public Works Director
Bruce Arbogast	Police Sgt.
Brett Jamison	Police Cpl.
Duane Arbogast	Police
Marcus Garcia	Public Works/Recreation

Fire Fighters: Travis Jeffery, Jennifer Moore, Matt Gardner, Anthony Iarussi, Anthony Bott, Kellee Oyler, Justin Arbogast, Jeremy Kaufman, Amy Kippen, Alan Campbell, Dan Nelson, Adam Wolk, Tim Broussard, Ryan Rhoades, Peydun Vanhoff

**Excused**

Mickey Hennessee	Public Works Director
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**Others Present:**

Preston Lee	Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District	
Jeff Ambrose	Crane, Christensen & Ambrose	
Mitch Berkley	Allyson Jackson	Max Hill
Dan Gotchy	Kristen Weston	Dorothy Weston
John Martinez	Jason & Nadean Gabbert	Jessie Martinez
Joyce Hammer	Heidi & John Blaylock	Susie & Dennis Lewis
Sharon & Leslie Moore	Gina Cloonan	Larry Peck
Jake Peterson	Kelly Campbell	Sarah Smith
David Varek	Mariah, Shaylee & Pam Kippen	Kyle Hausley
Clifton Jensen	Allen & Kim Burch	Elaine Martin
Terry Avondet	Bambi Gibson	Traci Garcia
Donita Murray	Neola Jabczynski	Landon Barker
Mindy Garretts	Alana Gubbs(?)	Lucinda Meffert
Tyler Argile	Lynda & Bob Bremer	Jaime Meredith
Brigham Bradley	Jeff & Janiell Somerville	Jon Ellsworth
Sarah Schulz	Beverly MacFarlane	Jay Flitton
Robert Carruth	Paul Griffith	Duane Hereel

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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Bangerter.

Council Member Furniss led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes:** Council Member Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of May 3, 2011 as presented. Council Member Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Citizen Comments:** Terri Avondet said she has lived in Sunset for about 15 years and now stands before them as a citizen who is ashamed of the City. They say the City is in financial trouble, but she does not see the Mayor and Council turning back any of their salaries when they have cut the police department's uniform allowance. The police officers not only have to purchase shirts, pants and shoes; they also have to purchase their own bullet proof vests and other supplies for their belts. The officers put their lives on the line every day and yet they get comments like their uniforms look tacky. She has never seen any of the officers look less than professional, even in the extreme heat of the day. Their training budget has also been cut. She would like to see them trained in every way possible. She is surprised the City has not lost more officers. They are very lucky to have the caliber of police officers and firefighters they have. She is very proud of and has the utmost faith in them. She believes contracting out the fire department would destroy the heart and soul of this town. She also believes the ambulance is the best idea this city has had in a long time. She asked the Council to give them a chance and to think of the citizens' needs and wants.

Matt Garner said he is disappointed and ashamed. This city is rich in tradition and pride. On the table tonight is a proposition to take away a lot of that tradition because of money. The firefighters do a lot for the City and do not ask for anything in return. They spend the whole day away from their families in support of Fun Days doing the fireworks. They do things such as open houses, talk to the schools, help with "Lunch with the Mayor", take Santa Claus around the City and hold Easter egg hunts to name a few. Most of the firefighters live in the City and they all do it without pay because they love this city and its traditions. He asked the Council to think about the traditions they hold dear and vote tonight to keep them alive and to help keep Sunset a safe place to live.

Jake Peterson said the Council knows the economy and is cutting a lot of every budget in the City. He just hopes they all did their homework.

Jaime Meredith said the discussion they will be having tonight regarding contracting fire services with another entity scares her. She hopes it is a well thought out proposal and discussion, rather than a knee jerk reaction to another situation that might not have gone as planned. She would like to know what companies have been contacted and how long these discussions have been going on. Also if Sunset would have any say in their increase in budget if the agreement is based on a percentage of the other entity's budget. She also asked if the level of care would come close to the level it is at now. If the fire service is contracted with another city she believes this city will lose caring volunteers who seek to improve life in the community. They won't be around for safety fairs, fireworks, etc. She urged the Council to do everything they can to keep the fire department running to show them they support them in making this city a safer place to live.

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Anthony Bott stated he has never seen more dedication in any group of guys. Their willingness to do this voluntarily or with very little pay when on calls is incredible. They are professional firefighters and provide quality care. His concern with the independent study done was there were zero references on it, therefore he sees it as inconclusive. He knows a lot of them work hard for the City as Mayor and Council Members and he handed Mayor Bangerter a book on leadership saying he hopes he passes it on to the next Mayor and so on.

Max Hill said he has been a resident of Sunset for fifty plus years and has served two terms on the Council. The fire firefighters put their life on the line every time they're called out on a fire. However, he has to mention they are in tough times. The revenues are going down and taxes are going up. He read the statement that Sunset's projected budget is still \$150,000 in the hole. When he was on the Council there were several proposals made and one was from Clinton City to combine the two cities. Sunset would not even entertain that thought because it had all the commercial property and Clinton had nothing. Now it has reversed. One of the studies he was part of was giving up the court system to Clearfield which could have saved the city about \$30,000. They didn't want to do that. Another idea was to combine the police department with another entity, but they didn't do that either. He knows times are tough and Falcon Hill was supposed to bring in a lot of money, but that hasn't happened. They have to do something to reduce costs. Sunset is an old city and totally built out. Taxes cannot continue to go up and they have to do something. He believes he's shouting into the wind with the people here tonight, but sooner or later they have to bite the bullet and face reality.

Dan Nelson said he has been a resident of Sunset for eight years and joined the fire department a little over a year ago. He has taken time away from his wife and three children to learn this job and serve the residents of the city when it is most needed. He found out last week that Mayor Bangerter was going to look at outsourcing the fire department to save money. He believes it will cost the city 26 dedicated firefighters, response time and money in the long run. He voted for Mayor Bangerter based on his campaign of making Sunset a better, but he does not believe contracting out the fire department is making the city better. When parts start being outsourced the city will lose its identity. He respects the Mayor and appreciates what he has done for the city, but as a firefighter he has taken an oath to serve this city and its residents to the best of his ability and he challenged the Mayor and Council to keep their oath to serve the residents by allowing the fire department to continue to operate.

Kim Burch asked for clarification because if she is confused she believes more people are also. She believes they are to make their comments on the ambulance during the ambulance public meeting item and should make their comments on the contracting out of the fire department at this time. It was answered that the public can make comments about anything at this time, but Mayor Bangerter would prefer they hold their ambulance comments until that item so they can get through the other items in a timely manner.

Dan Gotchy commented he was the Mayor just before Mayor Bangerter. They looked into going with Clearfield or Clinton back then, but they found it would actually increase the cost of service. The other cities that chose to go with Clearfield did not get a say when their budget increased and the fire costs went up. If they keep the fire department a percentage of the

property taxes pay for the services and that will increase as well. He believes it would be foolish to farm out the fire department because it would cost the city more in the long run.

Amy Kippen said she felt very blessed when she made it onto the fire department because she finally had the opportunity to go out and help people and show her compassion in a way that many people don't get to. People see them in uniform and completely trust them to do what needs to be done. This fire department has brought many people into the city because they wanted a job with the department. When she found out they wanted to outsource the department to another city, it broke her heart. She wants to continue to serve and she wants to do it here. She asked the Council to choose wisely when making their decision.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

1. **Appoint Jonathan Ellsworth as an Alternate Planning Commissioner:** Planning Chair Hale introduced Jonathan Ellsworth and said the Commissioners interviewed him a few weeks ago. They found him to be an appropriate candidate to fill an alternate commissioner position.

Council Member Budge made a motion to appoint Jonathan Ellsworth as an Alternate Planning Commissioner. Council Member Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Presentation by Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District:** Preston Lee, the Landfill Manager for Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District, said the District has 15 cities incorporates most of Davis County. They handle approximately 270,000 tons of waste. He showed a presentation outlining how the garbage is processed into ash, steam, electricity and methane gas. It also outlined their recycling system and re-use shed. After the presentation, Mr. Lee said there are about 7 billion people on the planet and each one of those people produce about 4 ½ lbs. of garbage every day. Most of the garbage goes into a landfill. California has a law that only allows them to landfill 50% of their garbage, so they have implemented a lot of recycling systems that comes up to about 35%. The remaining 15% leaves California and enters Nevada's landfill. It is hard to reach that 50% mark, but Wasatch Integrated has been doing it for the last five years with their waste to energy facility. Mr. Preston then heard and answered some questions from the Council and residents.

3. **Proposal for the City to develop a miniature golf course:** Council Member Andrews advised the City owns some land on the north end of the City he would like to build a 9-hole miniature golf course on to raise some revenue. He believes the cost to build it will be very little and believes it can produce about \$54,000 revenue during its four month season. He plans to staff and maintain it with volunteers so that won't cost the city anything. He hopes public works and volunteers will help him build it. Questions were asked by a couple residents and Mayor Bangerter said so far this is just a proposal from Council Member Andrews and they have heard proposals from other people such as a cemetery and a recreation center.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to table this item until they receive more information. Council Member Furniss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Presentation of the independent study of an ambulance service provided by Crane, Christensen & Ambrose:** Mayor Bangerter said it is his job to present measures that he believes is in the best interest of the community which means he has to research all sides of an issue. After meeting with the State Emergency Medical Services Board, the issue was manning the station 24 hours. On the advice of the City Attorney, he had the company of Crane, Christensen & Ambrose conduct an independent study.

Jeff Ambrose stated this procedure is called an agreed upon procedure engagement and as such is driven by the client. They were contacted in March to gather information regarding such things as costs, staffing requirements, revenue generation and vehicle replacement. They were given some general questions to ask. From those he developed a questionnaire because he wanted the questions to be asked uniformly. He told the entities questioned that he would not share their specific responses in hopes it would make them more candid. They felt providing a questionnaire would be more consistent than oral interviews. They sent questionnaires to the North Davis Fire District and the cities of Layton, Clinton, Roy and Syracuse. Four of the five responded.

The findings were as follows:

- A) When asked about the number of employees needed to staff an ambulance service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all the respondents said there should be a minimum of two full-time employees per ambulance, per shift. Some felt there should be three employees per ambulance to cover leave.
- B) When asked what the typical shifts are, the responses ranged from 12 hours per shift all the way to 48 hours per shift.
- C) When asked about the amounts that can be billed to ambulance patients, all the respondents made it clear that all fees are set by the State and are posted on the UBEMS website.
- D) When asked about final collection rates (realization rates) on amounts billed, the responses ranged from 45% to 54%.
- E) When asked how often they replaced ambulance vehicles, the responses ranged from four years to eight years.
- F) When asked if the ambulance required a special facility, the respondents indicated that the ambulance vehicle and all its related supplies should be housed in a climate controlled facility so that the vehicle and supplies were not subjected to extreme fluctuations in temperature and moisture.
- G) When asked what billing service they used, responses included IRIS(2), First Professional and one department had a full-time, in-house billing employee. (Two of our similar clients that were not included in our survey both use First Professional.)
- H) When asked if the ambulance service paid for itself (is it profitable?), all the respondents said "No".
- I) Cost estimates: training - \$2,000-\$3,000 per EMT; billing service – 6%-7% of gross ambulance billings; control physician – varies based on transports (\$0-\$18,000 per year); PMA fees – varies based on calls (\$0 for in-house department to \$8,000 per year); supplies –

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varies between department but \$200 to \$300 per kit; fuel and maintenance – varies based on number of calls.

The second thing Mayor Bangerter asked them to do was take the above information and compare it to the information presented by the fire department. For the most part, their cost estimates seemed reasonable. The most significant difference between the respondents and the Sunset Fire Department proposal is that the respondents felt the ambulance should be staffed by full-time, on-site personnel. It is his understanding the Sunset Fire Department plans to staff the ambulance with volunteer, part-time type staff. That does have an impact on ultimate cost in that it appears Sunset's staffing cost would be less. However, the training costs may be higher because of the increased number of personnel needed to maintain coverage. The other cities thought running an ambulance would not be profitable, probably due to full-time staffing.

Council Member Furniss asked what the study cost the City. Mr. Ambrose replied so far it cost roughly \$900. Council Member Furniss said he was concerned because when a study is conducted all parties agree to the principals of the study so the Council can make a reasonable decision based on the study. Not one Council Member gave any input to the study questions or entities asked. He believes this report is flawed because the Council Members had no input and did not sign the engagement. He would not have agreed upon these procedures. The responses are not provided as part of the report so they have no way to see how they affect Sunset. Individual responses would be valuable to assist the Council to make a decision on ambulance service options. In section two, the report does not provide the data used to come to their conclusion that the ambulance service would not be profitable. Mayor Bangerter told Council Member Furniss he knew the study was being done and at any time he could have had a say. If he felt it was being done improperly, he could have made it known. Second, there is no reason to tie any of the staff into this. Seeking the study was based on counsel from the City Attorney after sitting through a meeting in which some things were represented differently than they had previously by the fire department. The Council has known the study was going on. Council Member Furniss said they knew the study was going on, but knew nothing about cost or parameters. He asked if they were aware that Brigham City has a volunteer ambulance fire department and if they had been asked these questions. Mr. Ambrose said he was not asked to ask them. They did the study based on direction from the Mayor. On the matter of the Council not signing the agreement, each year when they do the audit, it is the Mayor who signs the engagement letter, not the Council Members.

Council Member Furniss made a motion the city does not pay for the study because it has given him no information in which to base his decision tonight. He also believes the Sunset fire department cannot be compared to full-time departments. He believes the study wasn't done properly. He would like to make his decision based on correct and accurate information made available to him by the study. He is also concerned it was entered into only by Mayor Bangerter and Mr. Ambrose without any input from the Council or fire department. The motion died for lack of a second.

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Council Member Chapman clarified that a fee can be charged when an ambulance is called out even if it does not transport anyone. Most entities do not charge, but North Davis Fire District does.

Council Member Furniss made one more point that the study shows the ambulance should be housed in a climate controlled facility, but Gold Cross provides ambulance service to Salt Lake City and their ambulances sit outside with heaters. Mr. Ambrose said he could only provide what the respondents said in their responses.

Mayor Bangerter said it seems the residents are being led to believe the Council had no input at any point whatsoever. As the Mayor he tries to act on what he believes is best for the community and a lot of the focus is on the budget because he is expected to make the budget work every year. Council Member Furniss stated Mayor Bangerter ordered this study on the advice of the City Attorney and he understands the Mayor expects it to come out of the fire departments budget. Mayor Bangerter feels it is an issue that deals with the fire department so it should come out of their budget. This study was done on the advice of the City Attorney and he finds it hard to believe the Council believes it was done under the table.

Council Member Furniss made a motion that based on research from other accounting firms this is a flawed study and they do not pay for it. Council Member Chapman seconded the motion. Council Member Andrews said the Mayor asked for this study, it was done and the firm should be paid. If they say they are going to do something, they should do it. He told Mr. Ambrose they would pay him. Mayor Bangerter said he thought about doing this study because back in June 2010 the fire department said they could run the ambulance with the 26 firefighters they currently have. They were told there would be very little additional cost to the city; \$4,000-\$7,000 was the cost presented. Based on that, they proceeded with the ambulance. As time passed, things have changed. It has gone from a 26 member volunteer fire department running the ambulance as the first responder unit to a department being manned 24 hours with 35 firefighters. Council Member Furniss reminded Mayor Bangerter there had been a motion and a second on the floor to not pay for nor accept the flawed study based on general accounting principles that were not followed. Council Member Carlson said he believes the Mayor represents the City in this agreement and they should honor it whether Council Member Furniss thinks it's flawed or not. Mayor Bangerter called for a vote. Council Member Budge believes the study should be paid for, however she does not believe it should come out of the fire department budget because they did not ask for it. They need to find another place to take the money from. The motion failed 2 to 3. Council Members Carlson, Andrews and Budge voted no.

Mayor Bangerter thanked Mr. Ambrose for his work and clarifying things for him. Things had changed with the fire department's proposal and he was just trying to get an independent study done to help with the Council's decision. He learned a valuable lesson and hopes the Council also learned it is important to talk with him, help him with his decisions and not just ignore issues. They've known his issues with this all along and he has not tried to hide anything.

**5. Public meeting to solicit input from Sunset residents on whether the City should provide ambulance service to the residents or continue to have Clinton City provide it:**

Mayor Bangerter stated during the public comment period, they will not tolerate any derogatory comments or personal attacks towards any individual or departments. The use of profanity would also not be tolerated. Comments would be kept professional and only regarding the provision of an ambulance service. He opened the meeting for public comment and stated if anyone wished to make a comment they were to step up to the podium, state their name and the City they live in and they would have two minutes.

Tyler Argile from Roy said he was a firefighter for another volunteer department comparable to the size of Sunset. That department does not have an ambulance and does a first responder service like Sunset does now. He is very impressed with the professionalism of the Sunset firefighters. He would take a pay cut to come work for the Sunset department. Right now Sunset is running a first responder service and do not charge anything for those first responder services. If Clinton City transports a patient in their ambulance they are able to charge for it. Right now Sunset is losing money on supplies being used on the first responder calls they make. With an ambulance service they would be able to recoup the money.

Dave Vanhoff said he works with the public every day and believes it is ludicrous to take the fire department or ambulance away. When a disaster hits the other ambulances will be responding to their own citizens. He'd be willing to pay \$5 more a month for Sunset to have an ambulance. The first ones to show up after a disaster are the citizens of Sunset. They will be the ones there with the fire truck and ambulance to transport the residents. It could be days before any of the others would respond. It would be crazy to pay for someone else to run the ambulance for the City. There are people here willing to volunteer their time to sit at the station so they are there for calls. Kaysville City has two guys that drive around in an ambulance all the time.

Jaime Meredith stated recently she has heard a lot of people say they would like to see the ambulance make a profit before they would support it, but no city ambulance in the State of Utah can show a profit because those fees are set by the Bureau of EMS and they are listed in the Utah Administrative Code so those asking for proof of profit are asking for something that cannot be provided. The ambulance has the chance to subsidize the budget. It was never proposed as a way to create high profits. Having an ambulance on this side of the train tracks could save precious minutes for ill or injured people. For example, the American Heart Association's scientific position is that brain death and permanent death start to occur 4-6 minutes after someone experiences cardiac arrest. This can be reversible if treated within a few minutes. With an ambulance, the EMTs can start caring for a patient upon arrival and there is no need to transfer the patient to another provider until they arrive at the hospital. Also, interacting with emergency room staff can help increase the knowledge of the EMT making them better providers. She does not want the Council to blame the fire department for budget shortfalls. They need to focus on community values and patient care.

Mike Love stated his appreciation for the fire fighters and police officers. He believes it is just not the right time to start providing an ambulance service. He has had to use the ambulance once for his wife and it was there promptly and provided good service. It is easy

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to throw around money and say they have things worked out, but no one can tell him the costs won't rise year after year. Gas and food keep going up and they just don't have the money to do it right now. Later, they may be able to do it, but not right now. They just can't afford it right now.

Brian Parkins said he is trying to get on the fire department right now. The proposal had the cost of training in it, but most of the firefighters are already trained as first responders so that cost would be down. His dad and step-father were both firefighters, with his step-father retiring from the Sunset department in 1975. When he was in Sunset, they took care of Clinton City, so Clinton City taking care of Sunset City is beyond him. He does not see why they should have to lose the fire department and the ambulance would be cost effective.

Linda Bremer stated she has lived in Sunset for 40 years and believes the city has done just fine without an ambulance all these years. She does not believe they can afford one in the city. As a senior citizen, she cannot afford to pay more and she has heard costs will continue to rise with an ambulance. She feels the city does not have the need for it.

Kim Burch said she appreciated the Mayor and Council Members who responded to an email she sent them. She understands the cost, but she keeps coming back to life compared to cost. From personal experience in having to call an ambulance, seconds mattered to her because if the ambulance could have been there a minute or two sooner it would have been beneficial. Sometimes a life has to be weighed against cost. She feels there are other places that can be cut to get the ambulance and they are not going to know if it works unless they give it a try. If it doesn't work they can sell it, but they need to give it a chance.

Anthony Bott mentioned there have been some concerns about cost, but no matter where the city gets its ambulance service there will be costs and they will go up. This ambulance will be able to bring revenue into the city that the city is not receiving now. Clinton provides a good ambulance service, but they are the ones collected the fees where Sunset could be. He asked they give it a try and he will guarantee everyone wearing the uniform will make it work. They have trained endless hours already to make it work and they will continue to do so if the ambulance goes into service. Their number one priority is patient care.

Beverly MacFarlane stated she loves the city's fire and police departments. They have had a need for help at their home before and the paramedics were there. She would like it clarified as to how it would be different using the ambulance instead of the paramedics because they are good. Mayor Bangerter said nothing will change as far as Davis County providing paramedic service and their service is subsidized through county taxes. They will still respond the same and the ambulance will be there for transport.

Tena Hale said she does not think anyone wants their taxes raised, but they also want a service to help keep them safe and healthy. Services that help take care of them in an emergency. Keeping that in mind, she also believes the real costs and revenues of having an ambulance and fire department should be considered. She asked the Council to consider the following items before making their decision: an independent study that would compare the things that would be comparable to Sunset's situation, how soon they will have to replace the

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used ambulance, the costs of \$6,000-\$7,000 spoken of in June compared to \$10,000-\$35,000 in April because that is a huge concern, if they are really emphasizing service or revenues because they have great service now, donation of the ambulance because in April it was said the city would pay the firefighters back if it was profitable so that needs to be clarified and was all the homework done before the ambulance was purchased or did those things come up afterwards so now are they just trying to put the ambulance into the budget.

Joe Maylin agreed with those opposing the ambulance and said the population of the City is not getting bigger, but actually gotten smaller. He does not see going for 75 years without an ambulance and then getting one when the population is getting smaller. Regarding the 17 full-time employees of Sunset City; this is their livelihood and puts food on their tables. It is hard to see all this money going out to volunteers when his life depends on this job, while he has not received a raise for a few years and maybe won't for a few more. That is very hard for him and he's sure it is for the other employees as well. He hopes that is something they take into consideration when making their decision.

Jake Peterson said this is a service issue and not a money issue. As a past volunteer firefighter he has seen a revolving door and the cost for continually training the new firefighters is like what the study said that no one is going to agree with. Another concern is if they are qualified to run an ambulance. There are three who currently run an ambulance and he wondered how long it will be before they can provide the qualified service that can compete with the Clinton ambulance service. Clinton is professional now and when their ambulance arrived they would take over the scene because the Sunset first responders were not doing it. He called all the Fire Chiefs in this area and Clinton's said they ran 299 medical calls, transported 188 of them and collected on 46% of that, of which 76% was Medicaid or Medicare that pays 20 cents on the dollar.

Dan Nelson stated each member of the Sunset Fire Department has gone through a State certified training equal to that of Clinton. They are all State certified EMTs, so yes they are all trained, ready, practicing and continuing to train because the resident's care, safety and health is there number one concern. As far as revenue, they are not projecting this will make millions of dollars, but they are hoping to subsidize what it is already costing them. When they go out as first responders, there is no billing but they still use supplies and many times the ambulance uses their supplies as well. Those supplies are already in the budget, so they are hoping to recoup some of that money through billing the patients who have the ability to pay for the service through insurance or whatever. He works with these firefighters and they are trained as well as Clinton, they will meet Clinton's standards and will continue to provide the best care possible for the City.

Ryan Rhoades stated he works for the Sunset City Fire Department and for Gold Cross Ambulance. He is licensed and contracted through 911 in Salt Lake City. It is a licensed intermediate ambulance service, which is what Sunset's would be. He also works for the Salt Lake Regional emergency room as an EMT technician. He has worked for 911 in Salt Lake City for 3 years averaging about 20 calls during a 24 hour shift. The State certifies intermediates and if they can pass the test he is willing to ride next to them. The ambulance does not have to be housed inside. The Gold Cross ambulance is not housed in a building.

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He is proud to be a firefighter here. He wonders if the people who don't want the fire department have ever had an emergency because it seems those who want the ambulance have used it before and know what 5 seconds means. On a full arrest, seizure or stroke it is 4 to 6 minutes to brain death. Now the firefighters arrive at the station from home then go on the call. Now they would be going straight from the fire station with an ambulance. The faster the on-scene time, the better the patient's outcome is.

Max Hill stated Sunset is ½ mile wide and 2 miles long. There are three fire departments that provide ambulance service within 1.9 to 2.3 miles to the center of Sunset. Currently Clinton provides Sunset with 24 hour ambulance coverage. If they have three cities that provide ambulance coverage within 2 miles, surely they don't need another ambulance.

Bob Bremer said he was on the Sunset Fire Department for 10 years and they did not have the ability to drive a fire truck to Council meetings as he can see they do now. He wanted to know who wanted to get the ambulance to start with. It seems like this is like when a little kid brings home a puppy and asks to keep it. That is what it seems like this ambulance service is.

Fire Chief Coker read from the statement prepared by Mayor Bangerter and Chief Coker, "Expected revenue from the ambulance is about \$70,000 and estimated expenses are around \$35,000, thus putting the net income at about \$35,000 per year." He said in 2010 the Clinton ambulance responded on 298 medicals in Sunset, of which 190 were transported. \$193,182.11 was billed and of that \$104,318.34 was collected. He projected conservatively that Sunset would be able to bring in at least \$70,000 revenue. The budget will go up some, but any revenue received over the expenses will be a taxpayer savings.

Tim Bersard introduced himself as a resident of Clearfield and a program manager for the F15's power system. He has a \$1.6 billion budget for 10 years and also supports the B1 in their efforts. When it comes to budget, the shortfall is not the responsibility of the fire department. If the ambulance makes any margin of profit it is a success. He suggested looking at the empty commercial properties to see what opportunities there are there before nixing the fire department. This is about servicing citizens that the Mayor and Council have responsibility to service and protect. He asked them to not only vote for the ambulance, but also to embrace and support it.

Kelly Campbell advised her husband is a Sunset firefighter. They are dedicated to what they do and she believes they should give them a chance. There may be three other ambulances around but there are train tracks. She drives to South Jordan to work every day and sees people not pulling over for fire trucks. She would rather have the fire department close by.

John Blaylock said having had personal experience with an ambulance, the saving of minutes is worth any effort. If the ambulance can get there just one or two minutes sooner, it will help improve the overall health of the residents because they will be to the hospital sooner.

Mike King lives in Clinton and said he worked for the Clinton City ambulance for 9 years and left last year. The Sunset firefighters are some of the best. If there is a fire or medical in

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Clinton, they will be served first before Sunset. In three to five years 1800 North will be widened and an interstate exchange will be built and a lot more traffic will be on that road. The Sunset firefighters are trained and do a good job. All the time spent training them and they will go to Roy, Clinton or Clearfield to work because they have an ambulance. Provide the service in Sunset, keep the people in Sunset and the City will profit.

Council Member Furniss read four letters from firefighters. The 1<sup>st</sup> letter stated the author asked Council Member Furniss to read the letter out of fear of retaliation for her husband. Two years ago she was at the Easter Egg Hunt and didn't know what to do, when Captain Anthony Bott took her daughters hand and helped her find eggs. Hate and hostility is ruining this city and selling off one entity at time, eventually there won't be a city and no need for the Mayor or City building. Some of the Council Members want to be re-elected, so keep something to be elected for. The 2<sup>nd</sup> letter said the author is one of the people the Mayor and Council represent and they are an extension of her voice as a taxpayer. The author wants the ambulance and the staffing it needs, so they should support it. He/she wants the Mayor and Council to listen to the people and stop trying to interpret what they think is best. The 3<sup>rd</sup> letter was from a Sunset citizen and firefighter who asked for them to give the fire department a chance at bringing revenue into the city by running an ambulance. It was also asked how it was feasible to have another entity run fire and medical for Sunset without raising taxes when they are charging 10% of their budget per year plus making all the revenue from the transports. He does not see how it makes sense to contract out the fire department for \$100,000 a year, but it does make sense to run the ambulance and bring money back into the city. He asked the Council to vote for the ambulance. The 4<sup>th</sup> letter was from a Sunset firefighter who was afraid of retaliation. There has been a rumor that the fire department wants full-time members, but that is not true. Another rumor is that they are not qualified to run an ambulance. The State of Utah certifies every EMT in the State and the Sunset firefighters have met those standards. On the rumor of firefighter retention, they have more applicants than they ever have before. Retention starts with City leadership and if they do not have the full support of the Mayor and Council then this endeavor will fail. The Mayor and Council have said they support and allowed the firefighters to purchase the ambulance, yet they tell citizens the purchase was on a whim and it won't work because they want full-time firefighters. The Mayor says one thing, but his actions say another by blindsiding them with talk of contracting the fire department with another agency. The Mayor has said they have misled the Council and citizens, but what do they gain by deceiving them? They have cut their own pay, bought the ambulance and told the city what their motivation was and is, which is "pride is their pay, pride in ownership".

Council Member Chapman read a statement from a firefighter that was unable to attend. In the past few months many false statements have been made regarding the ambulance. He feels great pride in those there tonight fighting for something they feel strongly about. However, he is sad that common goal of serving the community could not accomplished without such heartache. The firefighters are trained to solve problems by putting out fires, helping the injured, rescuing cats and checking CO2 monitors. He believes when they saw what kind of financial trouble the city was in they formulated a plan to help by providing an ambulance service. Firefighters do not give up and will come when called to help. He asked

that the firefighters who have spoken out tonight not be judged because they are people who are standing up for a cause they firmly believe in.

Mayor Bangerter said this ends the public section of the meeting. He wanted discussion and input from the residents and employees.

6. **Discussion on contracting the City's fire service with another entity:** Mayor Bangerter is merely on the agenda for discussion and to make public that it is an option. It was asked earlier why the other departments haven't been considered and they have. He is looking at all possibilities to keep taxes from going up and to cut the budget as much as possible. The city has operated on a \$4 million budget for a long time and now they're down to about \$3.5 million. There have been tremendous cuts already and that includes the Mayor and Council budget. This year they are still looking at a \$150,000 shortfall. They are still trying to sell properties and they sold equipment last year. Last year they had to raise property taxes over 50% and they received a lot of calls in opposition to it. He does not have a vote. His job is to gather as much information as he can and give it to the Council so they can make an informed decision. A little over a year ago, he looked at the possibility of contracting a service with another entity among many other ways to cut last year's budget. It was also looked at along with the police department clear back when he was a Council Member. He asked if there was any discussion.

Council Member Andrews said when he saw this agenda item he thought it was a slap in the face. He would rather get rid of Fun Days instead of the fire department.

Council Member Furniss is concerned that the proposal is generic and Sunset would pay 10% of whatever Clinton's budget is. On paper it looks good and works out to be about \$90,000. But if they go with Clinton, they have control over the cost because Sunset does not have anyone on their Council and no influence on their Council to lower the rates. He does not agree with their proposal because they want almost \$100,000 plus all of Sunset's ambulance revenue. If ambulances are not profitable why would they want to provide that service? It does not cover their budget, but it has become a cushion to them. Sunset will pay them \$100,000 and the citizens will pay them another \$100,000 for transport. The current fire department budget is \$185,000. He figures that is a \$20,000 cost savings to the residents. Mayor Bangerter clarified that a lot of those transports are not Sunset residents; they are commuters traveling through Sunset. Council Member Furniss referred to the interlocal agreement and money the ambulance would make transporting for other cities when their own ambulance cannot attend. There are many more reasons for him to vote for keeping the fire department than there are against because he believes the ambulance will bring in revenue. Another item in Clinton's proposal that bothers him is if they get any fire grants it goes to Clinton's budget and not to offset Sunset's cost. He is also concerned Clinton will eventually need another fire station and Sunset will foot the bill.

Council Member Budge said she sat on a board that met with the cities looking into the unified fire department, which is now North Davis Fire District. She was amazed at what it really costs to have a fire department and ambulance, but she listened to them say the fire department would be down west and Sunset would have nothing. Sunset voted not to join

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them and to keep the fire department. The firefighters have worked hard and feel like family. Someone brought this to her attention; if we go with Clinton are our fire trucks going to Clinton and are we going to build a new fire department down west of Sunset? She believes they need to think about what they want. She does not think it will cost more to keep the fire department here. She believes the ambulance will bring revenue into the city, but above that she believes the citizens deserve at least trying to get the ambulance service going.

Council Member Chapman agreed with the gentleman who said if they give up their fire department to Clinton, in an emergency Clinton will take care of their own first. He asked who would do the fireworks for free like the firefighters do now. It bothers him that they are even thinking about this.

Council Member Carlson said his opinion is to give the firefighters a chance to use the ambulance at least for a year. In contracting the fire department with Clinton, one of the items not talked about yet is the trucks and equipment. He has a friend who works for South Ogden and they have a surplus ladder truck for sale. A year ago they were trying to get \$150,000 for it but the Council said that wasn't enough. The next offer was \$80,000 and now they don't think they can even get \$20,000 for it. If they decided to go with Clinton, they would have to sell their fire trucks and the new one cost the city \$225,000. He believes Mayor Bangerter has been unfairly attacked. He knows him really well and he has the City's best interests at heart. He has his own business he could be working at making a lot of money, but he spends hours and hours trying to make the City better. He is just trying to do his job gathering all the information for everyone to see and he believes some of it has been misrepresented.

Mayor Bangerter said once again this item was merely for discussion and to let it be known it was an option. He reiterated he does not have a vote. His job is to gather and share with the Council as many facts and information as possible. They may not agree with the way he does it, but he will certainly take their input. He and Council Member Furniss have butted heads for years and the fact they can sit and discuss items shows there has been a lot of growth on both of their parts. He has invited the other Council Members to discuss items with him and those invitations have gone nowhere. He stated their interests are important to him and he needs to know where they stand. If they hear he is doing a study they do not believe is appropriate, they need to talk to him and tell him so they can do it the best they can. He does make mistakes. He is not trained to do this job and has asked for years to look into obtaining a part-time City Manager to assist with these things. He is doing the best he can as Mayor. He has represented the residents to the best of his ability, both for and against. The \$150,000 shortfall is with the ambulance revenue and expenses included. They may still have to raise property taxes. That is why all of these avenues have to be looked at and at least discussed. He stated to the firefighters, he believes he is the only one who as a Council Member did some training with them to see what they do. He appreciates the fire department and all they do as much as he appreciates the police department, administration and public works. He is hurt to think anyone would think he would go after any individual and try to destroy them for voicing their comments. Even though it seems he is attacking the fire department, there are instances where other departments have felt and will feel the same way. He has issues with all the departments. They have lost a recreation director because they

could no longer afford to have one. They have also cut the police secretary to part-time after 20 years of working for Sunset. They are making drastic cuts and hard decisions and unfortunately they affect all employees and residents. Ultimately the cost burden falls upon the residents through increased taxes. With any change there are risks so they have to be careful they are looking at the risk factors as well as cost.

Council Member Furniss made a motion to table this item. Council Member Andrews seconded the motion. The motion was then withdrawn.

7. **Discussion and possible approval of increasing the number of firefighters to 35, thus allowing the fire department to procure an ambulance license from the State Emergency Services Board:** Mayor Bangerter asked the Council if there was any discussion on this item. The fire department's FY12 budget covers manning the station with 35 firefighters. The firefighters are not full-time and regardless of the number, the payroll budget stays the same because they are paid per shift. Other incidentals such as workers comp and unemployment may increase. The firefighters are currently required to work 36 hours per month and that will be increasing to 42 hours per month. There was a concern if they will be able to staff the station with qualified personnel with the turnover rate the fire department currently has. There will be some firefighters hired from outside the current boundaries because they will be staying at the station during their shifts and will not be required to respond to fire calls when they are not manning the station. It is believed if the Mayor and Council show their full support the turn over rate may be different. It was also mentioned that the full-time employees see the Council cutting personnel and that they may cut benefits, but yet they are increasing the fire department, thus believe the Council supports that one department over the rest. The Mayor and Council need to fully support all the departments.

Council Member Budge made a motion to approve increasing the number of firefighters to 35, thus allowing the fire department to procure an ambulance license from the State Emergency Services Board. Council Member Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Council Member Reports and General Information:** Council Member Furniss thanked all the residents who attended tonight. Serving as a Council Member has been an eye opening experience when trying to balance the budget. His heart and conscience tells him voting for the ambulance is the right thing to do, but time will tell. He thanked Mayor Bangerter for discussing items with him and they will continue to work well together to make the city better. He also appreciates the police officers. When he was sitting behind one of the employees and his family at church he realized the decisions the Council makes affect people's lives. He does not want to raise taxes, but if they do it won't be because of the fire department. He reported the North Davis Sewer District has approved a bid for work almost \$3 million under the approved budget.

Council Member Budge thanked the firefighters, police officers and citizens for being here tonight. She clarified that the Council has cut their budget as well. Three years ago, the Council gave good raises to all the employees and at that time she said if they gave those

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raises she would not vote for a tax increase. Last year she did not vote for the tax increase, however if they truly need it for the city to keep its departments she will have to agree with it. She appreciates all the employees.

Council Member Andrews advised he spoke with Clint Thacker who heads the Davis County Animal Care and Control and he will be coming to the Council meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> to give them some information. He has been working with AARP to have them give a presentation to the senior citizens. He brought up his miniature golf proposal again to try to gain revenue for the city. He talked with Gary Wright, who is a developer, about building some businesses in Sunset. He believes they need to find ways to raise money for the city. He also does not like the idea of cutting two full-time employees to part-time and then taking another part-time employee and making him full-time.

Council Member Carlson believes it is great that so many people turned out tonight. He appreciates all of the city staff for all they do. He reminded everyone that mosquito season is upon us and that the mosquito district has their trucks out spraying.

Council Member Chapman believes Sunset has the best employees around and he has learned a lot from them. He has received more calls this past while than he ever has and he loves it. The Youth City Council has a good number of members, but they have lost their advisor and are looking for another one or more. He stated there was a rumor that the firefighters wanted to be paid back for the ambulance. He made the statement as a Council Member when they first purchased the ambulance that it would be nice to pay them back if the ambulance made enough money.

Treasurer/Office Manager Youngdell stated that one of the jobs of administration is to provide information to people. She clarified to Council Member Furniss that they did provide information to Mr. Ambrose for the ambulance study. They provided a copy of Council minutes and the fire department report that had been furnished to the Council. A question about the census was also asked, but the census had not furnished the data yet.

Fire Chief Coker advised the Davis County Coalition Safe Kids Fair would be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in Barnes Park located in Kaysville. On May 24<sup>th</sup> Sunset's Medical Reserve Corps and CERT members will be participating in a strategic national stockpile exercise. They will be going door to door from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm handing out information and gathering names and phone numbers of those participating to put in a drawing for prizes from the County.

Mayor Bangerter read a letter from Ryder Waldron, DDS, who practices in Sunset. The letter thanked Chief Eborn and the Sunset Officers who helped him when his office was broken into on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Cpl. Jamison was very professional and Dr. Waldron had no doubt the police officers would do all they could to apprehend the suspects. Chief Eborn informed him last week the suspects were booked into the Davis County Jail. He appreciates the police officers for everything they did. Mayor Bangerter said he was the only member of the Council that took an opposition to the ambulance. It is really important they understand how much research and discussion goes into their decisions. This issue was brought up in January

and he knows if they had just implemented it then, only about a quarter of those present would have known about it. He feels he has done his job because he made it apparent there were some potential issues with it. He appreciates the Council for their research and discussing the issues with him. He is not going after one entity. He is ultimately trying to make it so the taxes don't have to be increased. This is by far the hardest job he has ever had and feels he stepped into this position when the economics of this City are at the worst they've ever been. He appreciates all those who attended the meeting.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to go into a work session after a five minute break. Council Member Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **WORK SESSION**

**5. Discuss FY2011 budget amendments and FY2012 budget requests:** Only the FY2012 budget requests were discussed. A candidate filing fee of \$50.00 or a petition with 50 will be implemented. It was decided to cut the extra \$1,815 in administration, both general and utility funds, for the Caselle upgraded support fees for Clarity. Making a part-time public works/recreation employee full-time with benefits was noted as a concern when a police department employee's full-time position with benefits has been cut to part-time without benefits. It was decided to leave the money for a public works/recreation employee to go full-time with benefits in the budget for now. Recorder Hale had prepared a worksheet showing what the present utility revenues and expenses are and what she suggested the fees be changed to in order to cover each service appropriately. The worksheet was discussed and the Council decided on the following fee changes: base water for residential from \$18.65 to \$19.75, base water for commercial from \$23.40 to \$23.60, base sewer from \$11.80 to \$12.30, garbage from \$15.60 to \$15.10 and storm sewer from \$1.15 to \$1.80. Several other revenue sources including a property tax increase were discussed for the general fund. It was decided to move the approximate \$104,000 from the economic development capital project fund balance to the general fund and to redirect the \$14,000 yearly billboard sign lease revenue from the public works capital project fund to the general fund. The rental house lease revenue will continue to go into the economic development capital project fund unless needed in the general fund.

Council Member Furniss made a motion to go out of the work session and back into the regular session. Council Member Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

These minutes have been read and approved at the regular City Council meeting held **June 7, 2011.**