

**Sunset City Corporation
City Council Minutes
July 15, 2008
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Minutes of a regular meeting held July 15, 2008 at Sunset City Hall, 200 West 1300 North, Sunset, Utah; Mayor Gotchy presiding.

Mayor and Council Present:

Dan Gotchy	Mayor
James Bridges	Council Member
Cheyrl Budge	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
Mickey Hennessee	Public Works Director
Vicky Gold	Recreation Supervisor
Doug Garcia	Police Corporal

Excused:

Ricky Carlson	Council Member
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Others Present:

Kim Smith	Standard Examiner
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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Gotchy.

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

Approval of Vouchers: Council Member Furniss made a motion to approve the voucher for Citizens Bank of Las Cruces and Utah Local Governments Trust totaling \$46,309.55. Council Member Budge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION

Citizen Comments: There were none.

1. Discuss allowing leashed dogs to walk with owners on the walking track at South Park:

Council Member Chapman referred to the packet he had passed out prior to the Council meeting and explained the committee had come up with the rules listed and each rule was followed with an analysis. Regardless if dogs are allowed in South Park or not, they believe the ordinance needs to be changed to allow service dogs in the parks throughout Sunset. He went on to read the rules they came up with: Rule 1) all dogs in the park must be properly licensed and display a current tag. A current rabies vaccination tag must also be displayed; Rule 2) leash length limited to six feet; Rule 3) one person cannot walk more than two dogs at one time; Rule 4) leash is to be effectively controlled at all times by a person physically

able to control the dog at all times; Rule 5) person walking the dog is to remain on the walking track at all times (except getting to and from the track); Rule 6) Dogs will only be allowed in the park from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Here Mayor Gotchy stopped him and said they will need to deal with issues such as school kids at recess, etc. Council Member Chapman mentioned Rule 10 which states “Dogs are not allowed in the park during any organized event, such as organized soccer games, organized baseball games. Example of an unorganized event is people having a family reunion and eighteen people decide to have a baseball game. This rule does not apply to an event that involves dogs, such as a dog show, dog obedience class, etc.” He said they could add “during school recess, lunch, etc.” to this rule. Council Member Budge said they could also word it so people couldn’t walk their dogs when the children are outside. Mayor Gotchy asked if they really want all these rules because the more you have in place the less likely people will read them. Council Member Chapman said they discussed it a lot and decided they did. They wanted to close any loop holes. Council Member Bridges believed if people read Rule 6, they would not see the exceptions in Rule 10. Council Member Chapman said they could add something to Rule 6 referring to Rule 10. This is just the first draft, so it can be worked with and changed. Council Member Furniss believed the rules were too restrictive because there are a lot of organized events held at South Park. He agrees with a lot of the rules. Rule 7, no vicious dogs allowed at any time, seems a little vague because what one person may see as vicious is not vicious to another person. Council Member Chapman said some cities’ rules even went so far as to tell a person how to approach dogs. The committee reviewed a lot of rules from across the country and a lot of what they have drafted is pretty common. He still has not been able to talk to anyone at the School District to see if they have any rules the committee does not know about. Police Chief Eborn said he received a phone call from the Principal of Doxey Elementary, who said he had just heard the City was addressing this. His position is that he does not want dogs on school property and he believes the School District will back that position and that they may even post “no dogs allowed” on their property. Public Works Director Hennessee said the school’s property goes to about the center of the upper ball diamond. When asked by Mayor Gotchy what organized events are held in that park, Recreation Supervisor Gold replied AYSO soccer uses it about every night. It was brought up that they may have to change parks. Mayor Gotchy suggested using North Park because it is used to walk dogs every day anyway. It was said that park may be better because the school playground is behind the school and away from the walking track. Council Member Chapman said he would find out what the School District wants for South Park. Mayor Gotchy asked for a motion to table this item. Council Member Chapman said this was just a discussion; it was not to make any decisions on. Mayor Gotchy asked if there were any other questions. Council Member Chapman asked if they wanted him to read the rest of the rules, but Mayor Gotchy went on to the next agenda item.

- 2. Bus Shelter Contract:** Mayor Gotchy stated he had been asked to table this item until Director Hennessee and Recorder Hale could gather some information they were waiting for.

Council Member Budge made a motion to table this item. Council Member Bridges seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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3. **Council Member reports and general information:** Council Member Bridges reported there will be a display of Emergency Preparedness foods at the LDS Church at 388 W. 1800 N. on Thursday, July 17th at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Gotchy said they also talked about having 20 minute breakout sessions to teach people how to fix the certain foods. Council Member Bridges stated he attended the musical “Honk” and really enjoyed it. He thanked all those who made the play possible. He thanked the staff for drafting the Sunset City Budget saying they had done a good job.

Mayor Gotchy mentioned “Honk” will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday through Saturday.

Council Member Budge said she her friends attended “Honk” and the kids had a really good time. The program and whole thing was done very well. She asked Supervisor Gold to pass on her appreciation for the production.

Council Member Furniss mentioned that Officer Kirby is looking at changing his employment to Clinton. There is also another Officer talking about leaving Sunset. That concerns him. He believes the Officers are leaving not because of how much they make now, but how much they will be able to make as higher level officers in the future. When getting up to Sergeant, Lieutenant or Chief, Sunset does not compare with other cities. He would like to seriously look at this issue because fines and forfeitures are up and it is because these officers are out getting these fines and forfeitures. As a citizen, he wants to feel safe by having trained and seasoned officers in Sunset. Not only that, but every time a new officer is trained it costs the City more. He urged the other Council Members to start thinking about this. Money can help the officers stay here. When Council Member Budge asked about a recently conducted wage survey, Police Chief Eborn said they have kept some information over the years and there is a website called utahsrighttoknow.com or utahsrgh.com where a lot of cities voluntarily post their employees’ wages. Mayor Gotchy said he agreed with Council Member Furniss and asked Chief Eborn how many officers they’ve lost to Clinton in the last ten years. Chief Eborn replied Clinton City has around 15 or 16 officers and possibly six or seven of them are Sunset’s ex-officers. Mayor Gotchy said Clinton’s Chief brags about how wonderful it is to have Sunset train his officers. Sunset does not have the ability to compete with other cities when it comes to promotions, so the officers who stay do so because they like it here. Council Member Furniss said the Council, under Mayor Isom, awarded to fine Officers Corporal status, but no financial compensation. He is thinking about preparing a presentation for the Council so they can discuss the issue. He hopes they can do this not only for the police, but look at recreation, etc. as they can.

Council Member Chapman agreed with everything that has been said about the musical “Honk”. He went Saturday and thought it was excellent.

Fire Chief Coker advised they have started the “Fill the Boot” fund raiser for the MDA and their goal is to raise \$5,000.

Recreation Supervisor Gold reported there were 95 attendees on the opening night of “Honk”. On Friday, there were 121, Saturday 154 and 326 on Monday for family night.

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Regarding the play's program, there was a gentleman that worked hard at getting business advertisements sold, which brought in a lot of money and one of the cast members works at a design place so there were a lot of connections to get the programs done well. She has heard they are expecting to get between 150 and 200 cars in the car show during Fun Days. If there is that many, they will probably cancel the police/fire softball games and put the cars on the upper field. The senior luncheon will be on August 11th at noon at the Central Park bowery. Mayor Gotchy said they need to figure out a way to budget for purchasing a sound system because they had to rent it this year. They were lucky to find a system to rent for \$2,400 and the next closest amount was \$3,400 and went up from there. They could also rent out the equipment if they wanted to, to recoup some of the money.

Police Chief Eborn said he appreciates the comments Council Member Furniss made, but the one thing he does not want the Mayor and Council to think the employees have not been grateful for what they have. They are grateful for the fully paid benefit package and the 4% COLA they received this year. The Police Department does a wage survey for itself now and then, but to be fair, he would like the City to do a real wage survey for all the employees of the City. Don't just look at the Police Department, but all departments.

Mayor Gotchy showed everyone the pole banners that will be placed along Main Street, 1800 North and 1300 North. They were purchased from a new company in Clearfield and Sunset got a great deal on them. He stated his appreciation for the efforts of the City employees in their assignments and for the cast of the play for their good work.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

These minutes have been read and approved at the regular City Council meeting held **August 5, 2008.**

Dan Gotchy, Mayor

Susan R. Hale, Recorder