

NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 11, 2013

The North Ogden City Council convened in an open meeting on July 11, 2013 at 5:32 p.m. in the North Ogden City Council Chambers at 505 East 2600 North. Notice of time, place and agenda of the meeting was delivered to each member of the City Council, posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on July 10, 2013. Notice of the annual meeting schedule was published in the Standard-Examiner on January 30, 2013.

PRESENT:	Richard G. Harris	Mayor
	Kent Bailey	Council Member
	Justin Fawson	Council Member
	Brent Taylor	Council Member
EXCUSED:	Wade Bigler	Council Member
	Cheryl Stoker	Council Member
STAFF PRESENT:	Ronald F. Chandler	City Manager
	Nicole Smedley	Deputy City Recorder
VISITORS:	Brian Russell	

Mayor Harris welcomed those in attendance.

Council Member Taylor offered the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

1. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING POLL WORKERS AND THEIR COMPENSATION

A memo from City Recorder Spendlove explained Utah Municipal Election Code 20A-5-602 requires the governing body to appoint poll workers and alternate poll workers and Utah Municipal Election Code 20A-5-602(4)(a) requires the municipality to compensate the poll workers for their services. The City has asked Weber County to select poll workers they are familiar with because those poll workers have the background and training to do the job well.

Mr. Chandler stated that he spoke to Jennifer Morrell from the Weber County Clerk's office regarding this process; she informed him of how poll workers are selected and the only requirement is that they are a registered voter in the county in which they will be working. He stated the County tries to select people that have three to four years of experience of working elections. He stated they begin with the appointment of the poll manager and the poll manager then makes recommendations for the other workers, who are people that they have usually worked with in the past and they have experience. He noted this process is carried out in consultation with the election officer from each respective city and in North Ogden's case that is the City Recorder. He stated he also asked Ms. Morrell about the fact that there is only one alternate poll worker and Ms. Morrell stated that she felt that would be sufficient

because the City is actually overstaffed; there is a requirement to have four workers per location and there are actually six assigned to each location. He added, finally, that there are two version of a proposed resolution before the Council for consideration; one includes the changes that were made to the list of poll workers. He explained the duplicate names were removed from the list and the person that was listed as an alternate is no longer listed as a regular worker as well. He stated there is also a worker whose name was misspelled and that has been corrected as well. He explained the reason he asked Mayor Harris to call tonight's meeting is that it is necessary to select poll workers 15 days prior to the commencement of voting; the last day to make the appointments would be next Monday night.

Council Member Fawson asked if some of the poll workers will be moved to alternate positions since the County feels the polls will be overstaffed. He stated if the City really only needs six poll workers, but is electing to pay eight. Mr. Chandler stated the impression he got from Ms. Morrell on election day the poll manager will determine if all workers assigned to a location are needed and, if not, they will be sent home. Council Member Fawson asked if their election pay will be prorated for the hours they actually work. Mr. Chandler stated he is not sure how that is handled. He added that poll workers that are overseeing early voting are compensated at a rate of \$10.00 per hour and poll managers are compensated at a rate of \$12.00 per hour. He stated that those working just on election day are paid a rate for the entire day. Council Member Fawson suggested that issue be reviewed and maybe it would be better to only call upon the workers as needed rather than paying them the entire daily amount for only working a few hours.

Council Member Bailey asked if only experienced poll workers with three or four years of experience are ever used, how does anyone new become a poll worker. Mr. Chandler stated he did not ask that question so he does not know the answer. Mayor Harris stated that he does not know everyone on the list, but he knows that all of them have been poll workers in every election. He stated the City has an election every couple of years and sometimes every year. Council Member Bailey asked how someone interested in helping would be selected by the County. He stated he would be interested to know the answer to that question.

Council Member Fawson stated the Council received a comment that expressed concern about endorsements by poll workers and he wanted to address that quickly. He stated that if someone wants to serve in a civic way – the compensation is minimal so he considers it service and he appreciates those people willing to be poll workers – he would not want to hold them back based on their political endorsements. He stated that everyone knows it is illegal to discuss the election within 200 feet of a polling location and he has never heard of that occurring. He stated he would be absolutely shocked to hear of a poll worker influencing any voter in any way as they came to vote. He stated he personally does not have a concern about anyone on the list swaying voters one way or the other and those that are civically involved would probably be more inclined to endorse a candidate and he would hate to restrict them based on that. Mayor Harris added that having watched elections from his office he would guess that 99.9 percent of the people that come to vote do not know who the poll workers are; they do not recognize anyone. Council Member Fawson stated that one of the poll workers mentioned in the comment actually stood up in the last election when he was on the ballot and stood by him in line to ensure that there was no electioneering taking place; he knows they enforce the rules very strictly. He stated it did not bother him and he appreciates their caution.

Council Member Taylor stated that Council Member Fawson has raised a good point, but he would be interested to know how many poll workers are hired to oversee early voting. He asked if it is based on turnout on a daily basis. Mr. Chandler stated there are three poll workers on duty at all times during early voting – one poll manager and two poll workers. Council Member Taylor stated he would support Council Member Fawson's suggestion about calling for extra help if necessary as a cost saving effort. He then added that he also does not have a concern about the people that have been hired as poll workers for

the election. He stated that he does not know most of the people named on the list and he is sure there are more than those that have been mentioned that are openly supporting a candidate or candidates. He stated he also does not believe any poll workers would be doing any politicking at a polling location.

Council Member Bailey moved to approve Resolution 6-2013. Council Member Fawson seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Bailey aye
Council Member Fawson aye
Council Member Taylor aye

The motion passed unanimously

2. ACTION TO APPOINT A MAYOR PRO TEM TO ATTEND THE NORTH VIEW FIRE AGENCY MEETING ON JULY 16, 2013

Mayor Harris stated that when the Fire Department was under three cities it was called the North View Fire Agency and the three mayors of those cities comprised the board of directors for that organization. He stated that when the citizens voted to create a separate district it became the North View Fire District and their board of directors, after a lot of discussion, was composed of citizens elected to the position. He stated there are a couple of citizens from each community that have been elected to those positions and they also have a couple of professionals in appointed positions to offer direction. He stated the mayors of each city were specifically excluded from being part of the board and he does not know exactly why, but maybe it is because the citizens felt the mayor's would dominate the board and meetings. He added all assets of the Agency were required to be transferred to the District and he thought that had been taken care of, but a final vote is needed to complete that process. He stated his recollection is that everything had been transferred except for a little strip of land that was part of the property on which the fire station is located; it had to be resurveyed and re-described and to his knowledge that was the only business left to be taken care of and once the transfer was complete the fire agency was to be dissolved. He stated this is the final bit of business that will take place next Tuesday; a meeting of the board of the old Agency has been called and he is hopeful the vote to transfer the final assets to the District will take place. He asked if a member of the Council is available next Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. to be appointed to represent the City at that meeting. He stated he will be out of town.

Council Member Bailey stated he is available.

Council Member Fawson moved to appoint Council Member Bailey as the Mayor Pro Tem to attend the North View Fire Agency meeting on July 16, 2013. Council Member Taylor seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Bailey aye
Council Member Fawson aye
Council Member Taylor aye

The motion passed unanimously.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Fawson moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Bailey seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Bailey	aye
Council Member Fawson	aye
Council Member Taylor	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Richard G. Harris, Mayor

S. Annette Spendlove, MMC
City Recorder

Date Approved