

Elwood Town Council Meeting May 14, 2024

The Elwood Town Council met at the Elwood Town Hall, 5235 West 8800 North, Elwood, Utah, at 7:00, May 14, 2024. The following members were present consisting of a quorum.

Keenan Nelson	Mayor	Scott Goodliffe	Councilmember
Mark Lay	Councilmember	Lynn Hardy	Councilmember
Mike Pace	Councilmember		

Staff present at this meeting

Gina Marble	Town Clerk
Steve Woerner	Public Works

Others present at this meeting

Devere Hansen	Clayton Sherman	Tyler Allen	Greg Iverson	Lorie Woerner
Cindy Hughes	Wesley Pound	Colton Ingram	Jerry & Estelle Stam	
Shawn Price	Shannon Scheer	Britton & Amber Hayden	Eli Pali	
Sherri Pali	Quinn Hamson	Denver Sherman	Kevin Pearson	

WELCOME

ADMINISTRATION

Councilmember Lay gave the prayer
Pledge of allegiances

Mayor Nelson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Hearing to consider water and wastewater rates-Mayor Nelson welcomed everyone and asked Steve Woerner to report on the rates. Steve stated we had a rate study done, we have known for awhile we needed to raise rates. We had our audit done and he noticed the same thing, this year he told us we had to do something. Rural water done the rate study for both water and sewer. We have not done any major water projects for awhile, we need to build a new 500,000 gallon tank. Parts and repairs and everything has gone up. We are replacing all the water meters, they was put in 15 years ago. The rates is for everything to do with the system.

Sherri Pali asked if everyone pays for the sewer, Steve Woerner stated no. Devere Hansen asked if fire protection is going up, Steve Woerner stated yes it is. Quinn Hamson stated he and Judd got a copy of the spreadsheet from Steve and 1,2 and 3 the tiers are base rate is modest but the tiers is a lot. We are big water users, we just want you to consider more moderate on tiers. We also think the new development should pay for the secondary water system not using water funds. Cindy Hughes stated that our current rates are around what the surrounding cities are charging. Steve Woerner

stated Tremonton is lower because they have more people on the system there for it's a lower rate for everyone. Tremonton has 9000 people and Elwood has 1100. Shannon Scheer stated with the new properties that have been purchased what is happening to the water shares and what are you doing with them. Steve Woerner stated we do take shares with new developments, we have about 120 shares and they get leased back out, we don't make any more money. When the secondary water system is online they will be put into the system.

Steve Woerner reported that we done a rate study for the sewer as well, the rates right now are \$47.00 a month. In the last 10 years we haven't had a lot of maintenance but now things are wearing out. Last year the sewer revenue was \$108,000 we have 190 connections the expense to operate the system is \$152,365 and the loan payment of \$50,000 the total expense is \$202,365 we are going in the hole of \$94,117 a year. The study suggested to just break-even the rate needs to be \$88.83 a month.

Tom Newman stated its hard to make ends meet now. Shawn Price asked if there was grant opportunity to expand the sewer system. Steve Woerner stated Elwood has a hard time getting grants we just don't qualify. Mayor Nelson thanked everyone for all the comments and Steve Woerner for the information.

Councilmember Lay made a motion to close the public hearing. Councilmember Hardy seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Councilmember Pace made a motion to open the town council meeting. Councilmember Hardy seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion

Minutes for the May 14, 2024 town council meetings were presented for approval.

Councilmember Hardy made a motion to approve the minutes for May 14, 2024. Councilmember Goodliffe seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Item#1 Resolution 2024-003 Water and Wastewater rates-Steve Woerner worked with a spreadsheet that you can adjust the rates to see the revenue you would get with the different rate scenarios. Councilmember Hardy asked if everyone pays for the sewer, the money goes into the utility fund. If you go under the freeway you could hook 100 new homes on the system. If we have more homes then we could have lower rates. Councilmember Lay asked if a commercial pays different than residential. Steve said they pay the same. Councilmember Lay stated the commercial should pay more Steve will look into that. Councilmember Hardy stated if we raise the overage up to much people will stop watering. Councilmember Goodliffe stated he has a problem with raising the sewer to \$88 dollars Councilmember Pace agreed. Councilmember Lay stated we have a lot of people on fixed income but things are going up.

Councilmember Goodliffe made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-003 water rates for the base is \$55.00 for 10,000 gallons 10001-15000 is \$1.50 per 1000 gallons 15001-

30000 is 2.50 per 1000 gallons and anything over 30,000 gallons is 3.50 per 1000 gallons. Sewer rates accept the recommendation of \$88.83. Councilmember Hardy seconded the motion. Councilmember Lay is in favor of the motion and Councilmember Pace voted Nay for the motion.

Item#2 Resolution 2024-004 Fee Schedule-Mayor Nelson stated we just adopted the new water and sewer rates. The fire needs to go up to \$10.00 to cover the cost of fire protection.

Councilmember Lay made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-004 fee schedule. Councilmember Goodliffe seconded the motion. Councilmember Lay was in favor of the motion and Councilmember Pace voted Nay for the motion.

Item#3 4th of July-Councilmember Hardy stated the park will probably not be flooded there should be the opportunity to use it for the 4th of July. Steve reported that we are not renting it out. Councilmember Hardy stated there is a group of people that want to hold the 4th of July and we should let them use it. Councilmember Pace asked how are we going to keep people off the grass. Steve asked where are they going to park. Councilmember Hardy stated it's the people's park and we should let them use it. Councilmember Lay stated now we have people that want with the 4th of July and are willing to help. Mayor Nelson stated he was concerned with the wear and tear on the park we have put a lot of money trying to rebuild it from the flood, I think the grass is still to new.

Councilmember Hardy made a motion to rescind our decision before and let them hold the 4th of July at the park. Councilmember Lay seconded the motion. Councilmember Goodliffe was in favor of the motion and Councilmember Pace voted Nay for the motion.

Councilmember Hardy suggested we give them a budget of \$4000.00 for the 4th of July.

Councilmember Hardy made a motion to give \$4,000.00 for the 4th of July. Councilmember Lay seconded the motion. Councilmember Goodliffe was in favor of the motion and Councilmember Pace voted Nay for the motion.

Item#4 Town Clean Up- Councilmember Pace stated he had some residents ask about the clean up, we had dumpsters in the past. Mayor Nelson stated he liked the idea but people leave the garbage everywhere when the dumpsters are full. The employees have to pick it up and call for another dumpster to put the trash it cause they over fill it. They also put stuff in there that they shouldn't be. Steve suggested maybe if we just put it in one place and not 3 it might be better, and only have it for 2 days. The council is fine with one location and 2 dumpsters maybe on a Thurs, Friday and Saturday.

Councilmember Pace made a motion to support the dumpsters. Councilmember Hardy seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- Item#5 Potholes-Councilmember Pace stated we have potholes by the Chevron station they are getting bad. Steve reported it's been filled. Councilmember Pace stated it's a band aid. Steve reported it's a state problem.
- Item#6 Planning Commission- Quinn Hamson reported the planning commission has been working on finishing up the schedule of uses its almost done. We are working on the on street parking ordinance, the off street ordinance is next on our list to work on. We had 2 open house regarding the general plan we had about 60 people come, we will have the public hearing on May 28. Councilmember Goodliffe thanked the committee and commission for all the work they put in and they do a great job.
- Item#7 Sheriff's Department Report- Officer was not present.
- Item#8 Old cars & old junk equipment in residents yard-Councilmember Pace-We didn't discuss it.
- Item#9 Parking Ordinance-Councilmemebr Pace-We didn't discuss it.
- Item#10 Garbage at Chevron in the semi-truck parking lot-Councilmember Pace-Mayor Nelson stated that's an ongoing thing, I will talk to them and get it picked up.

WATER

Steve Woerner had nothing to report.

SEWER

Steve Woerner nothing to report.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Nothing to report.

ROADS

Steve Woerner reported the road in front of Maverik is going to be fixed as soon as it warms up.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Councilmember Hardy nothing to report.

OTHER

Councilmember Pace made a motion to adjourn, Councilmember Hardy seconded the motion, and the remaining council agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23p.m.

The undersigned duly acting and appointed clerk for Elwood Town Corporation hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Town Council meeting minutes held on the 14th day of May 2024. Dated this the 11th day of June 2024.

Gina R Marble, Elwood Town Clerk