

PUBLIC HEARING  
AUGUST 14, 1989

PRESENT

Ruth Hansen	Mayor
Wesley J. Bloomfield	Council Member
Don Dafoe	Council Member
Rex T. Harris	Council Member

ABSENT

David Church	Council Member
Gayle Bunker	Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Dorothy Jeffery	City Recorder
Richard Waddingham	City Attorney
Deb Greathouse	Librarian
Bryce Ashby	Fire Chief
Doyle Bender	City Treasurer
Bill Abbott	City Resident
Allen Wardle	City Resident
Lily Dawson	City Resident
Edith Anderson	City Resident
Mr. & Mrs. Lon Wood	City Residents
Frank Seegmiller	Creamer & Noble Engineers
Ken Rand	Chronicle/Progress
Clinton Tolbert	City Resident

Mayor Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Dorothy Jeffery, City Recorder, acted as secretary. Mayor Hansen stated that notice of the meeting time, place and agenda was posted at the principal office of the governing body located at 76 North 200 West and was provided to the Millard County Chronicle/Progress, the local radio station, KNAK, and to each member of the City Council by personal delivery two days prior to the meeting.

Mayor Hansen made the following statement before opening the meeting for public comment:

"The Utah State Legislature evidently recognizes the importance of libraries in a community. Years ago legislation was passed allowing cities to assess a special levy for the support of libraries over and above any limitations placed on its regular taxing power.

Delta City has never assessed this levy although it has supported a library throughout my 65 year memory of the City.

Yes, this levy is an increase in taxes. No, the levy does not mean the library will get the increase plus what the City has spent in the past each year.

All of the increase will go to the library, but the library will no longer receive money from the regular City tax. This makes the library a more autonomous unit and frees up income the City can use to meet its growing expenses. It makes the library more its own agent not subject to whims of Councils and Mayors who in the future may not be as supportive of libraries as this one is.

It will allow the City to continue another year with no reduction in services. Additional money has become necessary primarily because of the rising cost of doing business. Our City employees have not had a salary increase in more than four years.

The past several years have seen increases in the cost of insurance, particularly health insurance, but also true of other insurance costs the City must bear. Rising oil and gasoline prices affect the City even as they do you. Inflation plays a roll in the City costs just as it does in your home.

Our projected tax rate for this year with the increase is slightly below the rate levied in 1980. In 1980 cities were receiving revenue sharing funds from both the State and Federal Government. These no longer exist. To the contrary, mandates from the State and Federal Government have increased City costs both in added time needed to meet the demands of added time and material costs. However, I feel that the City is doing a better job for you than was done in 1980.

Let me begin with the library. In 1980 the library was probably at its lowest ebb in its lifetime. Yes, there was a so called library. The books were shelved around the room in which most of the cities business was conducted. Patrons made little use of the facility.

Last week I went into the new library facility that is beginning its sixth year in Delta City. It was Wednesday morning and story hour time. There were some 30 or 40 well behaved pre-schoolers sitting around the story pit waiting for the activity to begin. What a good preparation they were getting to learn to love books, a step toward reading readiness, and respond to a social situation.

The next day soon after the library opened I went in to find three or four youngsters enjoying the books for their age group around the low tables in the children section. A mother was sitting on the couch, a baby on her lap looking at a magazine. An older gentleman was reading a newspaper or magazine. The librarian was helping another man with the copy machine while a half a dozen young and old were selecting materials from the library shelves. What a change over 1980.

Is twenty-four hour police protection of value to you? A year or so ago a sister-in-law commented about how she appreciated the fact that the police were seen often patrolling in the area where her teen-age daughter had a night time job. An older woman commented to me how much safer it made her feel to know that several times a night, the police car would drive through the alley next to her home.

Then there is the City Building--a real asset to the community which the taxpayers enjoy at a cost to them of but 25 cents on the dollar because of funding by IPP and a grant from CIB.

Maintenance and upkeep of the building are more than was paid for the City Building in 1980, but isn't it worth it? It is to me for the pride it generates in Delta City and the additional services it provides to the citizens.

Once a month those with questions about Social Security can come here to have their questions answered. On this day there was usually 15 or 20 people who find a comfortable waiting area.

Job Service is still available to the citizens of the area without having to travel to Fillmore. When the office was about to be closed, Delta City made space available so that Job Service activities can be carried on two days a week.

I think our City Park makes Delta more attractive and it provides facilities for some recreational activities. To keep it up takes money.

Delta's streets are probably in the best shape they have ever been. We also know there are streets that need work done on them, including streets that are still only gravel. Each year more is being done. If only we could do it faster. Money dictates how fast and how much.

I like the things Delta is doing. I want them to continue.

I like the street light on my corner, the improved street surfaces for me to drive on, a City Building I can be proud to enter where there is a concerned and helpful staff to serve me.

I like a library that attracts both young and old and is introducing programs to improve the literacy of the community.

I enjoy the Fourth of July parade and programs, Santa Claus at Christmas time and the Christmas lights along Main Street.

I appreciate the Airport which makes possible fast United Parcel and bank service. I like to know that when it snows during the night, the City crew will be out early to plow the streets around the schools and the main thoroughfares in town as early as possible. I know they will get my street in its turn. I appreciate this.

I like the things Delta City is providing to make my life better and it costs me less than \$10 a month in City taxes. That's not bad."

Mayor Hansen opened the public hearing for public comment.

Clinton Tolbert, City Resident, said that taxes should be lowered with Intermountain Power Project, Continental Lime, & Brush Wellman in our area.

Council Member Don Dafoe informed Mr. Tolbert that Delta City does not receive direct taxation from the above plants, Delta City does benefit through sales tax and property tax received from the employees who shop and live within the City limits. He also said that in 1981-1982 when the City was receiving Impact Alleviation Funding from IPP, the Council did reduce the Mill Levy.

Ken Rand asked for an explanation for the tax increase. Mayor Hansen explained that taxes are being increased due to rising insurance costs, salary increases, increased operating expenses, etc. Without the increase in taxes there would be a reduction of services within the City.

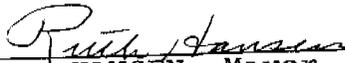
Mayor Hansen further explained that the City suffered a great loss over the past few years by not receiving approximately \$100,000 in sales tax from Deon Dove.

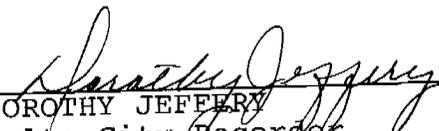
Mayor Hansen said that the entire tax increase will be used to fund the library and the amount that the City has been paying to support the library in the past will remain in the General Fund.

Edith Anderson, City Resident, suggested that the patrons pay for library service.

Lili Dawson, City Resident, asked if an increase in the Mill Levy requires a vote. Attorney Richard Waddingham said that the Council has the statutory authority to raise taxes specifically for a library fund.

Mayor Hansen declared the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

  
RUTH HANSEN, Mayor

  
DOROTHY JEFFERY  
Delta City Recorder

MINUTES APPROVED: RCCM 9-11-89