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Minutes of the
BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL

October 12, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Present:	Mayor	Randy Lewis
	Councilmembers	Kate Bradshaw, Kendalyn Harris
	City Manager	Gary Hill
	Asst. City Manager	Galen Rasmussen
	City Attorney	Clinton Drake
	City Engineer	Lloyd Cheney
	Planning Director	Francisco Astorga
	Power Director	Allen Johnson
	Electrical Engineer	Luke Viegel
	Recording Secretary	Maranda Hilton
Excused:	Councilwoman	Millie Segura Bahr
	Councilman	Richard Higginson
	Councilman	Chris R. Simonsen

Official notice of the City Council Meeting was given by posting an Agenda at City Hall and on the Bountiful City Website and the Utah Public Notice Website and by providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: Davis County Journal and Standard Examiner.

Work Session – 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. He excused Councilmembers Bahr, Higginson and Simonsen, and explained that due to the lack of a quorum, tonight’s City Council meeting had been cancelled. He gave the public a chance to make comments at this meeting instead.

Ms. Heidi Perry (812 South 300 West) asked the Council to consider the installation of a game called “Nine Square in the Air” at the new Washington Park. She gathered four pages of signatures from residents in the neighborhood near the park who are in favor of the game being installed. She explained that it was a very inclusive and fun game that anyone could play, and she thinks it would be a great addition to the park.

SOLAR NET METERING DISCUSSION

Mr. Allen Johnson began with an overview of the Power Department, including their goal to provide safe, reliable power regardless of time or weather conditions, and listed their current resources. He explained that they must balance their power load every hour of the day and talked about the sources they have for purchasing power. He explained that due to the drought, the Colorado River Storage Project (CRSP) is in a two-year crisis mode, which will have a big impact on the City’s power system this winter and in the coming year. Prices might increase as much as 45% for their hydro power if it is available at all. He talked about potential power sources that they are keeping an eye on as they plan for the future. There are two utility-grade solar power projects they are working

1 on - the Red Mesa Solar project and the Steel Solar project, which will provide the City with solar
2 power for a little under four cents per kWh after all expenses are factored in.

3 Mr. Johnson then explained that the Power Commission has been working on a
4 recommendation concerning Bountiful's residential solar power customers. Currently there are 200
5 net metering customers (194 residential and six commercial) and 32 feed-in tariff customers.
6 Bountiful Power (BCL&P) switched over from net metering to feed-in tariff in 2017 but allowed the
7 net metering customers to stay grandfathered in. He explained that with the feed-in tariff system
8 BCL&P is basically purchasing all power produced from the customers (the rate depends on how
9 much and what time of day it is produced) and they purchase back what they need at the normal rate.
10 BCL&P made the switch in 2017 because the City's billing and metering systems could not handle
11 the complexities of a net metering system, but the downside is that people cannot use their own
12 power.

13 Mr. Johnson explained that the Power Commission is now recommending a modified net
14 metering system, which will allow solar customers to use their own power, and BCL&P will buy any
15 excess power for five cents per kWh. They will allow the feed-in tariff customers to convert over for
16 no charge, and they hope to have everyone on the same system by July 2030.

17 Councilwoman Bradshaw asked about whether the Power Commission looked into setting
18 prices based on hourly power production instead of using a flat rate. Mr. Johnson said they did
19 discuss it and due to the complex metering requirements and the added costs to run a system like that,
20 they decided on a flat rate. He added that they could do something like that in the future as a next step
21 once technology has helped close the gap, but for now it just is not worth it.

22 Councilwoman Bradshaw then asked how the rates would be adjusted in the future and how
23 the public will be notified of a rate change. Mr. Johnson said that all rate changes typically go
24 through the joint Power Commission/City Power Committee that meets during budget planning time,
25 which is then sent to the City Council for approval during the public hearings for the City budget. A
26 rate change could happen at other times during the year, but generally it happens at budget time.
27 Councilwoman Bradshaw asked how other power entities determine their rates and how often. Mr.
28 Johnson showed that most others have rate changes similar to BCL&P's, which do not necessarily
29 happen every year, but periodically.

30 Mr. Johnson said that he believes, as time goes on, residential customers are going to start
31 taking advantage of power production based on the time of day and demand. It will not happen right
32 away, but the new metering system will make it much easier for people to do.

33 Mr. Hill asked Councilmembers if they felt comfortable with this coming back to the Council
34 meeting in two weeks as an ordinance. He said he knows Councilmen Higginson and Simonsen feel
35 comfortable with it. Councilwoman Bradshaw and Harris both said they were alright with it as well.

36 On a final note, Mr. Johnson said that this is a nice change so that people can use their own
37 power, and it also makes it easier for customers to install battery systems and keep their power
38 behind the meter, to have more control over it.

39 Councilwoman Bradshaw asked Mr. Johnson to explain the idea of transformers getting more
40 wear from power flowing back and forth from solar customers. Mr. Johnson expounded that yes, the
41 transformers are worn the same amount whether power is flowing to or from the system, however, if
42 the amount of solar power being pushed back into the system is not limited, there is the potential to
43 blow a transformer if there is too much volume at one time.

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45 Councilwoman Harris moved to adjourn the Work Session and Councilwoman Bradshaw
46 seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 6:56 p.m.

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Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

This meeting was canceled, due to the lack of a quorum.



Mayor



City Recorder