

**MINUTES  
CITY OF FALLON  
55 West Williams Avenue  
Fallon, Nevada  
February 1, 2021**

The Honorable City Council met in a regularly scheduled Council meeting on the above date in the Council Chambers, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada.

**Present:**

Mayor Ken Tedford  
City Councilman James D. Richardson  
City Councilwoman Kelly Frost  
City Councilwoman Karla Kent  
Police Chief Kevin Gehman  
Chief of Staff Robert Erquiaga  
City Clerk-Treasurer Sean C. Richardson

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tedford at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Tedford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the agenda had been posted in compliance with NRS requirements.

Chief of Staff Erquiaga advised that the agenda was posted in compliance with Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directives, the agenda and the supporting materials were posted at City Hall, on the City's website, and the State of Nevada's public notice website on or before 9:00 a.m. on January 27, 2021.

**Public Comments**

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments. He noted that comments are to be general in nature, not relative to any agenda items. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.

Mr. Geoff Knell of 261 Serpa Place read 1 John 4 and encouraged the Council to rely on the Word of God in their decision making. God is no longer a priority in the government. People are angry and bitter because God is not a priority. People have been given the freedom to destroy their lives by the judicial system, local government, and State government by forcing us to be immoral. He spoke at the school board meeting last month and he let them have it because they do not care about the children and only care about the money. They are going to cut jobs because of COVID-19 and students leaving to attend other schools. They are losing children because God is not in government. God has not been guiding government decisions from the Federal government on down. It should be in this order: God, man, society, then government.

The Federal government should not be telling us what to do. We are the ones that govern ourselves. We do not need to be pushed by the Federal government to allow immorality and to control water and food and all that kind of stuff. It is our responsibility for ourselves; we tell them what to do. They are supposed to give protection – that is a little civic lesson. Look where we are today. God should be first in the government. Thank you.

Mayor Tedford thanked Mr. Knell and inquired if there were any other public comments. No comments were noted.

### **Approval of Council meeting minutes for December 22, 2020 and January 4, 2021**

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes for December 22, 2020 and January 4, 2021.

No additions or corrections were noted.

Councilwoman Frost motioned to approve the Council meeting minutes for December 22, 2020 and January 4, 2021 as submitted, seconded by Councilwoman Kent and approved with a 3-0 vote by the Council.

### **Approval of Warrants**

- A) Accounts Payable
- B) Payroll
- C) Customer Deposit

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any comments regarding the accounts payable, payroll and customer deposit warrants.

No comments were noted.

Councilwoman Kent motioned to approve the accounts payable, payroll and customer deposit warrants and authorize the Mayor to sign the same; seconded by Councilman Richardson and approved with a 3-0 vote by the Council.

### **Public hearing for Bill No. 786: An ordinance providing for the annexation of 6.05 acres, more or less, located at 879, 899 and 901 South Maine Street, owned by Churchill County, Nevada, and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Fallon, Nevada, and for other matters properly related thereto**

Chief of Staff Erquiaga explained that this is the first of two companion agenda items, wherein the public may make comment on Bill No. 786. The bill was introduced at the January 19, 2021 Council meeting. The proper publication was made in the Lahontan Valley News and we are back now for the public hearing and then the next agenda item would be for possible action. CC Communications (CC Comm) is seeking annexation of property on South Maine Street. It is one parcel that has three addresses for some reason. This parcel represents part of CC Comm's yard and part of their existing structure that they operate out of. They are currently constructing a new facility and remodeling a piece of the existing facility so they can combine a training center and their entire operations on South Maine Street. The request is to bring the entire parcel into the City; that way we can serve the entirety of the parcel with City utilities. He reiterated that this agenda item was just for public comment.

Mayor Tedford noted that this was the time for public comment on this annexation or Council questions of Chief of Staff Erquiaga.

Mr. Geoff Knell of 261 Serpa Place stated that he went by the building that was being remodeled and noted there was also road construction there. He asked what the benefit of this process was. It is County property, and they want to use the City sewer and water and stuff like that. He asked if that was the only principle behind this. He asked what control the City would have over the property. If he preaches on the sidewalk and they call the cops on him, he wanted to know what his status was and what his freedom was. He inquired as to the benefit of this annexation.

Mayor Tedford advised that Chief of Staff Erquiaga would answer that inquiry.

Chief of Staff Erquiaga explained that this was two-fold. One, the City does not serve utilities outside of City limits. It is important to CC Comm to be on all the City's utilities. They would be paying for those so they would be a customer moving forward.

At this time, Mr. Knell told Mayor Tedford that he could not hear him.

Mayor Tedford advised Mr. Knell that Chief of Staff Erquiaga was speaking, not him.

Chief of Staff Erquiaga continued, CC Comm would be a City utility customer and that is necessary for their new center. They are adding square footage and consolidating all their operations. It also brings in – and is well-timed with the City's Maine Street project and Front Street project – so those improvements made in that area of the City will be very nice, especially with the senior center nearby. It is CC Comm's request. There is not really a negative. Mr. Knell's status as it related to his activities on the sidewalk would not be impacted by the annexation. Those rights and his ability to do that exist whether the property is in the City or not; so, there was no effect on that.

Mr. Knell stated that was just odd. He thanked the Council.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any other public comments.

No comments were noted.

**Consideration and possible adoption of Bill No. 786 as Ordinance No. 767: An ordinance providing for the annexation of 6.05 acres, more or less, located at 879, 899 and 901 South Maine Street, owned by Churchill County, Nevada, and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Fallon, Nevada, and for other matters properly related thereto**

Mayor Tedford inquired if the Council had any comments or questions. Since we just had the public hearing, Chief of Staff Erquiaga did not need to explain it again as it would be the same explanation for the record.

No comments were noted.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments or questions.

Mr. Geoff Knell of 261 Serpa Place referred to the beautification of the South Maine Street area and asked what the benefit of having yet another government building was, when we are supposed to be a capitalist society. He asked why other businesses were not coming into that area. The Council needs to think about things other than government. He referred to a building the City bought awhile back that used to be a lube business and the City paid \$1.3 million for it and now you are finally getting around to making it something. You are taking property in and it is not being used by the public. He stated that he lost his land line because they overtaxed him to

death. He asked if CC Comm would benefit from this by raising taxes and charging more fees. It seemed counterproductive.

Mayor Tedford stated that the question today was whether the City would annex the property or not. We were not here to discuss the policy of CC Comm. That is not our issue; our issue is whether we will annex the property or not.

Mr. Knell stated that the City would then have jurisdiction over the property.

Mayor Tedford clarified that would only be whether they are going to be in the City or not. Our discussion here is not whether CC Comm wants to build a building or not.

Mr. Knell stated that it would reflect on what the future holds. What would be available to benefit the people or turn into more government control. He thanked the Council.

Mayor Tedford thanked Mr. Knell.

No further comments were noted.

Councilwoman Frost motioned to adopt Bill No. 786 as Ordinance No. 767: An ordinance providing for the annexation of 6.05 acres, more or less, located at 879, 899 and 901 South Maine Street, owned by Churchill County, Nevada, and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Fallon, Nevada, and for other matters properly related thereto; seconded by Councilman Richardson and approved with a 3-0 vote by the Council.

**Consideration and possible approval of a professional services contract with Atkins North America, Inc. for engineering design and bidding services for the Relocation of Taxiway G project at the Fallon Municipal Airport in an amount not-to-exceed Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00), of which the FAA share would be 93.75% or Fifty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$56,250.00) and the City's share would be 6.25% or Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,750.00)**

Chief of Staff Erquiaga explained that the City has identified the relocation of Taxiway G as an upcoming airport capital improvement project. We have done it at the request – and with a bit of pressure from – the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to do so. There has been a change in criteria, our existing Taxiway G allows access directly from the main apron to the runway and that is no longer allowed. In communicating with the FAA, through this cycle initially, it sounded as if their funding would not be available to do this project until next year, but we recently received communication from the FAA, and they thought it wise that if we could begin the design, they might be able to actually fund this project this year. That is why this is before the Council a little bit later and out of step with our other airport project which the Council previously approved a design for, the replacement of runway lighting with Atkins. Again, this project came at the request of the FAA and we are hopeful that it will be funded this cycle. There is also some hope still that it might be funded entirely. Our pavement rehab project was funded at 100% and depending on what happens in Congress, that possibility still exists. What is listed is the worst-case scenario, where the City would be on the hook for 6.25% of the design of the project. The cycle would be the same; if approved, Atkins would design the project and we would make application to the FAA and if we are approved, we would be looking at Summer 2021 construction.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the Council had any comments or questions.

No comments were noted.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments or questions.

Mr. Geoff Knell of 261 Serpa Place stated that he loved airplanes. The FAA really controls things. He stated that he visualized what was offered and it was old. He did not know how the FAA came to this conclusion, but apparently, they must prepare for larger aircraft or something like that or earthquake-proof the taxiway. He asked if the runway would be extended for 757 aircraft coming in or bigger general aviation aircraft. He stated that he did not understand if the City was being forced to do this or if this was an initiative to have something funded to make a correction.

Mayor Tedford stated that the answer to that is somewhere between both of those.

Mr. Knell said thank you.

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any further public comments.

No comments were noted.

Councilwoman Kent motioned to approve a professional services contract with Atkins North America, Inc. for engineering design and bidding services for the Relocation of Taxiway G project at the Fallon Municipal Airport in an amount not-to-exceed Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000.00), of which the FAA share would be 93.75% or Fifty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$56,250.00) and the City's share would be 6.25% or Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,750.00); seconded by Councilman Richardson and approved with a 3-0 vote by the Council.

### **Public Comments**

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any public comments.

Mr. Geoff Knell of 261 Serpa Place stated that he would provide a civic lesson. The Tenth Amendment preserves power reserved for the States. The Federal government is way out of line. It has too much control, but they have us by the financials – we are getting a lot of money for projects – but we are supposed to be a sovereign State. We should be able to take care of our own, but we let the Federal government dictate almost every aspect of our lives. It is demoralizing this nation and they say if you are receiving this money then you must do it this way. You cannot think for yourself. It is getting ridiculous; this is what our nation has become. A nation of immorality and fiscal irresponsibility. The First Amendment falls upon deaf ears. People need to stand up against the evil in this world; what the Federal government pushes down our throats through the judicial system and legislation. If the President signs a Bill, then it becomes okay to kill human life. It is okay to spend money and send money overseas like \$65 million for gender orientation. It starts here and he was thinking about running for Mayor again. We need to get children and the younger generation in here on the Constitutional principles. It is out of control. People are dying, angry and bitter, wearing these stupid masks for political reasons. Look at Chicago and New York City opening up because now they have the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch. We need to stop it because the Tenth Amendment says we control ourselves. Keep out of our lives. We should be able to fix the airport with the funding that we have but we rely on fiscal irresponsibility. The current order is anti-Christ, government, society, then God. In the Book of Romans it says we are ordained by God, but it is the opposite, the anti-Christ. Thank you.

Mayor Tedford thanked Mr. Knell.

**Council and Staff Reports**

Mayor Tedford inquired if there were any Council or staff reports.  
No Council or staff reports were noted.

**Executive Session**

Mayor Tedford tabled the executive session, as it was not needed at this time.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Tedford adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

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Mayor Ken Tedford

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sean C. Richardson, City Clerk-Treasurer