

**City of Salem**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**July 26, 2005**

**Present:** Patricia Price, Councilwoman  
Grady Lamb, Councilman  
Daniel Daquilante, Councilman  
Fredette Leda, Councilwoman  
James Plaugher, Councilman  
Derika Sutton, Councilwoman  
Eric Wolford, Mayor  
Jackie Ritter, City Recorder

**Absent:** None

The Salem City Council met on Tuesday July 26, 2005 for its regularly scheduled meeting. Mayor Wolford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer:**

Mayor Wolford opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Fredette Leda offered prayer.

**2. Review and Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes for the June 28, 2005 were reviewed. Grammatical or typographical errors were noted to items 3 and 6 on page 2. Corrections were noted on page 3 in reference to the break times. Councilman Lamb made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted corrections. Councilman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 6/0/1 with Councilman Daquilante abstaining. The minutes for the July 22, 2005 special council meeting were reviewed. Correction was noted to the spelling of Councilwoman Sutton s first name. Councilman Lamb made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted corrections. Councilman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**3. Petition of Joyce Bates:**

Ms. Bates had a concern regarding speeding vehicles at the upper end of Valley Street and suggested the City place a Slow children at Play sign there. She requested clarification of how her water bill changes when she feels her water usage stays the same. The Public Works Director reports that this area is outside the city limits and offered to provide the number of the Dept. of Highways official to request the State place this sign. He will check the water meter at her residence and the customer will check her home for leaks.

**4. Petition of Bill Ayers:**

Mr. Ayers provided a map of the area and reviewed his request to place a garage on his property within five feet of his back property line. The Mayor proposed a change to the Zoning Ordinance, Section 2, Item A, No. 5, Page 16; Rear yard to include exception: If no access or alley is directly behind lot, 5 feet can be utilized. Councilman Plaugher made a motion to approve this proposed change in zoning ordinance. Councilman Lamb seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**5. Hiring of New Water Plant Operator:**

The Public Works Director reported the current water plant operator is working seven days per week and suggested an ad be place in the paper for another water plant operator. Councilman Daquilante made a motion to approve the placement of the ad in the newspaper. Councilman Plaugher seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**6. Water Meters:**

The Public Works Director reports fifteen have been ordered but are not in yet. He has ten dead meters and need the new meters as soon as possible.

**7. Garbage Truck Parts:**

The parts were received and the truck was repaired including the two new tires. He noted the front brakes will need replaced within the next month.

**8. Changes in Obnoxious Weeds Letter:**

The changes were made to the courtesy letter.

\*\*A citizen from the audience requested clarification of what the Other is for that is indicated on the water bill. It was noted this is the police fee and computer programming prevented changing the title of this item. All monies from the police fee are accounted separately as required. The Mayor will check to see if this can be changed to police fee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**9. Drainage Systems Monroe Street :"**

The Public Works Director provided drawings and cost estimates on six drainage problems around the city. Work on Monroe Street has already begun and should

be completed by Friday July 29<sup>th</sup> and work to start on the Oak Street drain next week. There was discussion as to how to prioritize the jobs as well as the costs involved. An additional drainage problem was noted on Liberty Street as well. The Public Works Director will assess this problem and provide an estimate as well. He states Rails to Trails created the problem and he will contact them to see if they can assist in the correction. Project No. 4 has a cost exceeding \$500; therefore the remainder can be handled directly with the Acting City Manager. Funds for these projects would have to come from the street repair line item of the general fund. An adjoining property owner has offered to pay half of the cost for Project No. 3 on Lynch Street.

\*\*There was discussion of the request for an audit and the Mayor reports he is working on getting an accounting firm.

**10. Hiring of a New Water Plant Operator:**

This was discussed under item 5.

**11. Approval of Bid on City Property:**

There was review of the status of this project. Councilman Daquilante made a motion to accept the \$65,000 bid from Thomas Fluharty. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**12. Harrison County Development Authority Data Report (Fredette Leda):**

Councilman Leda reported on recent meeting with the Harrison County Development Authority and provided statistics on population, income, age, etc. from the most recent census. It was reported there is a need for residential housing in the \$90,000 price range in Harrison County. Councilwoman Leda suggested a plan of action to address the decline in population and income and to generate more revenue. She also suggests the ordinances to keep the city clean need to be more consistently enforced and that the historical aspects of the city need to be played up. She stated there is land available for residential housing especially townhouses. Councilman Daquilante suggested the city work with the Chamber of Commerce to make long term city goals for economic development. There was discussion of homes in need of demolition or clean up as well as issues with the sidewalks as well as the possibility of the use of the two elementary schools when they close.

**13. Nomination for Board Member for Harrison County Development Authority:**

It is time again to appoint a member to the Harrison County Development Authority. Mr. Jim Helmick is interested in serving again if there are no other volunteers. Councilman Daquilante made a motion to appoint Mr. Helmick as the City of Salem member on the Harrison County Development Authority. Councilwoman Leda seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

**14. Fire Fee Check:**

The Acting City Manager reported on difficulty calculating the amount of the fire fee check to go to the Fire Dept. She reports sending a check for \$2,500 based on previous checks, however, this will need checked by the new city manager and adjustments made if needed.

\*\*Public Works Director discussed the drain problem from Traugh and Trainer Avenues and indicated an estimate of \$700 for work to the road instead of putting a drain on private property. There was discussion of how to prioritize all the drain repair work if limited funds are available. Councilman Lamb made a motion to move Item 19 from Tabled Business for discussion. Councilman Daquilante seconded the motion. Carried 7/0. Councilman Lamb made a motion to approve the \$700 expenditure for this drain repair if money is available in the budget. Councilman Daquilante seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*It was noted Item 18 can be taken off tabled business.

\*\*Councilman Daquilante discussed the issue of annexation of the city owned properties around the water plant. The title work and research was already completed on this area. Councilman Daquilante made a motion to move forward on the annexation of the property around the water plant. Councilwoman Leda seconded the motion. Carried 7/0. Councilman Daquilante also supported the continuation of the work on the annexation of the Lower Dog Run however more legal title work is still needed for this section of the project. Issues of Homeland Security need to be considered and the need for the City be able to protect and secure the city's water supply. It was decided the attorney will be asked to provide an estimate of the cost involved to pursue this section of the project.

\*\*Councilwoman Leda reported on a Native American Pow Wow to be held at SIU Intramural field on July 30-31<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 to 6:00 p.m. and the Public is Welcome.

\*\*Councilwoman Leda suggested a letter of appreciation be sent to the owner of the old print shop building on Main Street for finally tearing down his building. Councilman

**Page 5**  
**July 12, 2005**

Lamb made a motion for the letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Davisson. Councilman Plaughter seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*At 8:35 p.m. Councilman Daquilante made a motion to move to executive session. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 15. Customer Complaints:**
- 16. Handicap Parking Space:**
- 17. Employee Complaint:**
- 18. City Manager:**
- 19. Attorney Report:**

\*\*At 9:44 p.m. Councilman Lamb made a motion to return to regular session. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 7/0.

\*\*Councilman Daquilante noted that in reference to the garage for Bill Ayers, the Zoning Board of Appeals requested notarized letters of agreement from the adjoining property owners before the project can proceed. Councilman Daquilante gave his notice of resignation from city council and left the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

\*\*There was discussion of compensation for the Acting City Manager for overtime during this time prior to the hiring of a new city manager. Councilman Lamb made a motion to compensate Acting City Manager, Sherry Lovett, for 10 hours overtime incurred thus far. Councilwoman Sutton seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

\*\*At 9:59 Councilman Plaughter made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Lamb seconded the motion. Carried 6/0.

### **TABLED BUSINESS**

1. Policy outlining guidelines for WTP backwash, filter treatment, and WTP Discharges to WWTP.
2. Policy restricting the addition of water customers above a certain elevation and distance from the WTP.
3. Parking Lot Lease Agreement
4. Allegheny Power Street Lighting Agreement
5. Actions on Sponsor Grant Agreements

**Page 6**  
**July 26, 2005**

6. Internet Service
7. Award FEMA RPA George Street Repairs Water Line Stabilization
8. Consideration of Purchasing a Gate and Fencing for Water Dept.
9. Lakeview Terrace Pump Tank Installations
10. 2004-2005 Budget Digest Request Basketball Court
11. Annexation of City Owned Properties
12. Consideration of Purchase of Power Washer
13. Completion of E-911 Mapping County Project
14. Workshop Committee Meeting Safety Committee and Safety Director (Workplace Violence Policy, Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 Emergency Preparedness)
15. Workshop Committee Meeting Personnel Committee (Personnel Handbook and Grievance Procedures)
16. Workshop Committee Meeting Police Committee (Police Dept. Rules and Regulations Operational Manual)
17. Attorney Annual Report
18. Review of Storm Water and Street Repair Complaint Trainer and Traugh Streets

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Mayor

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Recorder