## Salt Lake County Council

Committee of the Whole

~Minutes~

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

2:51:53 PM

Committee Members

Present: Randy Horiuchi

 Richard Snelgrove

 Jim Bradley

 Arlyn Bradshaw

 Aimee Newton

 Steven DeBry

 Michael Jensen, Chair

Excused: Sam Granato

 Max Burdick

Citizen Public Input (2:52:08 PM)

 No one appeared for Citizen Public Input.

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Treasurer’s Report Regarding 2013 Annual Final Settlement of Taxes Collected and Distributed 2:52:08 PM

 **Mr. K. Wayne Cushing**, County Treasurer, reviewed the 2013 property tax statistics:

* The 2013 collection rate increased from 94 percent to 98 percent. This increase is due in part to the research done in his office to find correct addresses of those tax notices that were returned and then resenting those tax notices. Also, the tax notice was sent out three weeks earlier this year than it was in the past. Part of the increase could also be due to a better economy.
* The amount of delinquent taxes was reduced from $60 million to $43 million. This decrease is a result of sending out two delinquent reminder notices, as well as, an unpaid fee certification reminder mailing. The decrease can also be attributed to the end of a five-year cycle on property owned by developers.
* The amount of tax relief granted increased from $6.69 million to $8.10 million. This growth is due to an increase of veteran’s exemptions. His office made a big push to let senior citizens know of the tax relief programs that are available. However, the push did not result in an increase of tax relief granted to senior citizens. This effort will continue.
* Full-time employees within his office decreased from 29 FTEs to 25 FTEs. This decrease is a result of cross-training employees as well as streamlining the tax payment process for citizens during the busy tax season. His office is using more temporary employees to help during busy times of the year.

During the recent legislative session, S.B. 244was passed, which authorizes the Treasurer’s Office to send out the tax notice via email to citizens who opt in for this program. If this idea works, it will reduce the cost of sending out the tax notice. A pilot program is being put together. He invited anyone who would like to participate to contact his office.

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May Tax Sale Ordinance (3:04:21 PM)

*During the March 24, 2014, Committee of the Whole meeting, the Council reviewed a request by Greg Hawkins, County Auditor, to change the way the County conducts the tax sale bidding process. Currently, the County follows a “bid down” process, in which the price of the property stays the same (the taxes owed), but bidders decrease the amount of property they are willing to take for that price. A “bid up” process involves bidders making bids that increase the price they are willing to pay for an item. Salt Lake County is the only county in Utah that uses the bid down process. This change will affect 25 percent of the properties the County deals with each year, 4.2 percent of which have structures on them. The Council moved to allow the Auditor’s Office to change to a bid up process exclusively.*

 **Mr. Kelly Wright**, Deputy District Attorney, stated the proposed ordinance reflects this new “bid up” process.

 **Council Member DeBry** asked if this ordinance should be put on hold until a new auditor is elected in the fall.

 **Mr. Wright** stated with the upcoming May Tax Sale, it would be better for the public that the change be made now. This issue can be revisited once a new auditor is elected.

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Horiuchi, moved to approve the ordinance and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting to be introduced. Council Member DeBry amended the motion to add legislative intent to ask the new auditor once he is elected if he is comfortable with the changes. Council Member Bradshaw accepted the amendment. The motion passed 6 to 1 with Council Member Snelgrove voting in opposition.**

[Council Member Snelgrove voted in opposition to this motion so he would be consistent with his vote against the change.]

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Real Estate Matter (3:08:00 PM)

 The Council reviewed the following resolution, Interlocal Agreement, and Quit Claim Deeds. The resolution authorizing execution of the Interlocal Agreement and Quit Claim Deeds has been placed on the Council agenda for final approval and execution:

*Resolution, Interlocal Agreement and Quit Claim Deeds*

 Declaring property located at located at 1262 W. Jordan Narrows Road (pt. of Parcel No. 33-26-100-011) as surplus and selling it to **Bluffdale City** for the amount of $15,447.00.

 **Council Member DeBry, seconded by Council Member Newton, moved to approve the resolution and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Sponsorship for the Frisk Family Fundraiser to be held at the Viridian Library (3:09:34 PM)

 **Council Member Jensen** stated he and Council Member DeBry are requesting that Salt Lake County sponsor a fundraiser for the Frisk Family who live in South Jordan. The sponsorship would be limited to allowing use of the Viridian Library Center for the event. The purpose of the fundraiser is to raise money to pay for special food for the Frisk children who have been diagnosed with a rare white blood cell disease called Eosinophils and to assist the Frisk family with extensive medical bills.

 **Council Member DeBry** stated Dellane and Diane Jessop are the event organizers. The event will be held the evening of September 19, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., including setup, program, and take down to host a community event to help the Frisk Family with catastrophic medical expenses and desperate illnesses. The County would act as sponsor for this event so the organizers would avoid the additional cost of renting a County facility, since they are not part of a 501(c)3.

 **Council Member Horiuchi, seconded by Council Member Bradley, moved to approve the request and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Review of Proposed Hires (2:43:19 PM)

 Mr. Brad Kendrick, Assistant Fiscal Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the following requests for hires:

*Human Services Department*

 Requests to fill a Spanish Speaking Health Educator 22 position.

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*Library Services Division*

 Requests to fill an Invoicing Clerk 15 position and a Materials Delivery Driver 14 position.

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*Parks & Recreation Division*

 Requests to fill a Division Director 42 position.

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*Public Works Department*

 Requests to fill a Construction Specialist 18 position, a Heavy Equipment Operator 20 position, a District Worker-Landscape 15 position, a Striper Operator 18 position, and two Striping and Sign Specialist 18 positions.

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*Treasurer’s Office*

 Requests to fill a Taxpayer Care Specialist 17 position.

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member DeBry, moved to approve the requests. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Interim Budget Adjustments (3:14:24 PM)

 **Mr. Brad Kendrick**, Assistant Fiscal Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the following interim budget adjustment requests, which have been placed on the Council agenda for formal consideration:

*Engineering & Flood Control Division*

 Requests an interim budget adjustment of $120,000 for installation of a curb and gutter along 1100 East sidewalk. The funds will be transferred from the Orchard Drive curb and gutter project, which will not take place in the foreseeable future.

 Requests in interim budget adjustment of $220,000 to cover increased costs on the Amaryllis Storm Drain project. Funds will be transferred from the 3300 South project because funds are not needed to construct a sidewalk at that site.

 Requests an interim budget adjustment of $35,000 to cover increases in the Cyprus Storm Drain project due to project change orders. The funds will be transferred from the Garnet & Galena Sidewalk and Storm Drain project.

 Requests an interim budget adjustment of $5,000 for the Willow Creek Channel Improvement Project to cover costs for increased scope of work. Funds will be transferred from the existing Small Projects Budget.

 Requests an interim budget adjustment of $70,000 for the 8400 West sidewalk project. Expenses that were anticipated to be incurred in 2013 were not incurred until 2014 due to inclement weather delays. Funds are being transferred from the 4700 South road project because that project is only at the environmental phase, and funds can be allocated in 2015 to cover the difference.

 Requests an interim budget adjustment of $75,000 for a bond call for the Millcreek Fire Flow Special Improvement District. Revenue collections were high enough to justify a bond call in order to save on interest costs.

 **Council Member Horiuchi, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, moved to approve the requests and forward them to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Real Estate Matter (3:22:36 PM)

 **Council Member DeBry, seconded by Council Member Horiuchi, moved to close the Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss a real estate matter. The motion passed unanimously.**

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 The Council reopened the meeting by motion during the closed session.

 **Council Member Bradley, seconded by Council Member Horiuchi, moved to approve the real estate matter as discussed during the closed session and to forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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***CONSENT AGENDA*:** (3:20:00 PM)

Board Appointments

 The Board appointments to the Cultural Facilities Support Board were pulled from the agenda for further discussion and additional appointments.

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Mayor’s Community Contribution

 The Council reviewed the recommendation of the Contribution Review Committee for the following community contributions to be appropriated from the Mayor’s 2014 budget:

Revolution United $500

 Williams Syndrome Foundation

 (2-$100 Golf Gift Cards) $200 value

 Salt Lake Acting Company

 (1-$100 Golf Gift Card and 1-$100 ArtTix Gift Card) $200 value

 **Council Member Horiuchi, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, moved to approve the recommendations, forward them to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration, and found the County received fair and adequate consideration for the contributions. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Other Business

*Approval of Minutes*

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member DeBry, moved to approve the March 25, 2014, Committee of the Whole minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

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The meeting was adjourned at 3:33:50 PM.

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Chair, Committee of the Whole

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Deputy Clerk

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