

1 **PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

2 Wednesday April 17th, 2024, 6:00 PM

3 This meeting was held at the Hyatt Place Hotel Board Room in St. George Utah located at 1819 S 120 E.

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5 To view the video recording of the meeting please visit our YouTube page found [HERE](#).

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7 **HR. MIN. & SEC** in green above items are timestamps of the YouTube recording.

8
9 **Opening Ceremony:**

10 Call to Order: Mayor Alder

11 Roll Call of City Council Members: Mayor Alder, Council Members Kirk, Kunz, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) &
12 Speth (Via Zoom).

13 Staff in Attendance: City Manager Ryan Snow, Community Development Director Skarlet Bankhead (Via Zoom),
14 Public Works Director Rob Stapley (Via Zoom) & City Recorder Ty Cameron.

15 Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Alder.

16 Opening Remarks/Prayer: Council Member Kirk

17
18 **3 MIN. 25 SEC.**

19 **Council Reports:** Items presented by the City Council members will be presented as informational only; no
20 formal action will be taken.

- 21
- 22 • The Council provided updates on their respective areas of focus.
 - 23 • Council Member Sealy discussed library board meetings where they're exploring the potential for a
24 county wide library system. She also noted the Utah well-being survey that is still going on.
 - 25 • Council Member Kirk commented on youth council applications and an upcoming youth dance event.
 - 26 • Council Member Speth reported on the community emergency response program and emphasized the
27 importance of personal and city emergency preparedness plans; were highlighted the upcoming
28 earthquake simulation drill that would be taking place throughout the state.
 - 29 • Council Member Kunz reported on the mosquito abatement plans and initiatives.
 - 30 • Council and Staff talked about the boundary line adjustments process and possible boundary line
31 adjustment with Millville City.

32
33 **19 MIN. 55 SEC.**

34 ➤ **Item No. 1 Approval of the Minutes:** The Providence City Council will consider for approval the
35 minutes of March 20th, 2024 . [\(MINUTES\)](#)

- 36
37 • Mayor Alder called for the approval of the minutes of March 20th, 2024.

38
39 **Motion to approve the minutes of March 20th, 2024 – Council Member Kirk. 2nd – Council Member
40 Kunz.**

41 **Vote:**

42 **Yea- Council Members Kirk, Kunz, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) & Speth (Via Zoom).**

43 **Ney-**

44 **Abstained-**

45 **Absent-**

46

47 **Motion passes, minutes approved.**
 48

49 **Public Comments:** Citizens may express their views to the City Council on issues within the City’s jurisdiction.
 50 The City Council accepts comments: by email providencecityutah@gmail.com, and by text 435-752-9441.
 51

- 52 • Mayor Alder opened the floor for public comment.
- 53 • No comments were made.
- 54 • Staff and Council indicated that a comment had been emailed to the City Council but would be
 55 read when the item was called.
- 56 • Mayor Alder closed the public comment portion of the meeting.
 57

58 **Appointments:**
 59

60 **21 MIN. 35 SEC.**

61 ➤ **Item No. 2 Reappointment of Joe Chambers to the Planning Commission:** The City Council will
 62 review, discuss, and may take action on the reappointment of Joe Chambers to the Planning Commission.
 63

- 64 • Mayor Alder called item 2, gave a brief introduction of Mr. Chamber’s involvement as a Planning
 65 Commission member, and recommended that he be reappointed.
- 66 • Joe Chambers' reappointment to the Planning Commission was discussed. It was communicated
 67 by the Council and staff that Mr. Chambers had contributed positively to Commission meetings
 68 offering valuable perspectives as his job as an attorney gave him additional expertise during
 69 meetings.
 70

71 **Motion to reappoint Joe Chambers to the Providence City Planning Commission. – Council**
 72 **Member Speth. 2nd- Council Member Nebeker.**

73 **Vote:**

74 **Yea- Council Members Kirk, Kunz, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) & Speth (Via Zoom).**

75 **Ney-**

76 **Abstained-**

77 **Absent-**
 78

79 **Motion passes, Joe Chambers is reappointed to the Planning Commission.**
 80

81 **Presentations/Public Hearings:**
 82

83 **22 MIN. 55 SEC.**

84 ➤ **Item No. 3 2024 Compensation Study:** The Providence City Council will hear a report and
 85 presentation from Mike Swallow regarding the city’s recent compensation study. **(POWER PT.)**
 86

- 87 • Mayor Alder called item 3, gave a brief introduction and asked Ryan Snow to give an overview of
 88 the study.

- Ryan Snow reported to the Council the reason and purpose for the study and introduced Mike Swallow who conducted that study. Noted that Mr. Swallow was present tonight via zoom and would be giving a presentation on his findings.
- Mike Swallow presented an in-depth compensation study which included discussions on worth of work, employee engagement, the market analysis and the development of a pay plan. The analysis highlighted the city's position in the market in terms of starting pay rates being approximately 25 percent behind the group of public entities considered in the survey. Additionally, the presentation incorporated various strategic considerations for compensation planning and navigating through pay plan management.
- The Council reviewed the compensation study report from Mike Swallow. The presentation detailed the new pay plan and the process for adjusting employee compensation. No formal action was required or taken; the information was received and reviewed for further consideration and the city moves forward with budgeting.

Resolutions/Ordinances: None

Agreements, Contracts, Bid Awards:

1 HR. 25 MIN 25 SEC.

➤ **Item No. 4 Skate Park Shade Structure Proposal:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss, and may take action on approving the construction of a shade structure for the new skate park. **(PROPOSAL)**

- Mayor Alder called item 4 and gave a brief introduction.
- A proposal for investing an additional amount to install a shade structure over the skate park was brought before the Council. This item was met with both interest and concern from the Council Members regarding the project's cost relative to the estimated enhanced utility it would provide and safety with the structures poles.
- Topics covered and discussed included safety, design, and cost-efficiency of incorporating the shade structure. The Council viewed this as a considerable investment toward extending the park's usage during extreme weather conditions and discussed potential community and corporate sponsorships to fund it if approved.

Motion to approve the Skate Park shade structure with a budget of up to \$75,000. – Council Member Kirk. 2nd – Council Member Sealy.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kirk, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) & Speth (Via Zoom).

Ney- Council Member Kunz

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passes, shade structure for Skate Park to be built with a budget not to exceed \$75,000.

Plans and Other Business:

1 HR. 47 MIN. 40 SEC.

➤ **Item No. 5 Providence City Justice Court Future Plans:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss, and may take action on how to best move forward with the Providence City Justice Court. Judge Funk resigned as a judge in January, Judge Lorz has been acting as interim judge since the resignation.

- Mayor Alder called item 5, gave a brief introduction and asked staff to give an overview of possible plans for the Justice Court.
- Staff reviewed with the Council what their options were with the justice since Judge Funk resigned which included doing a interlocal agreement with another city, disbanding the justice court or setting out to hire a new judge.
- The Council deliberated on the future plans for the Providence City Justice Court. Specifically, discussions revolved around the success of the interim judge conducting proceedings virtually and the implications of potentially ending the city-operated justice court and those associated costs. This entailed considering experiences from other cities that moved away from city-operated justice courts and the not foreseen cost efficiencies of disbanding the court.
- The Council decided to continue with the current virtual arrangement and to begin the process of formalizing this arrangement as permanent. Staff noted that they would have to go through the hiring process of hiring a new judge but that Judge Lorz, who is the current interim judge would continue to be the judge until the process was complete.

Motion that Providence City continue with the Justice Court virtually and that the city take the necessary steps to hire a permanent Judge. – Council Member Speth. 2nd – Council Member Kirk.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kirk, Kunz, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) & Speth (Via Zoom).

Ney-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passes, City will start the process of finding and hiring a permanent Judge.

Study Items:

2 HR. 00 MIN. 10 SEC.

➤ **Item No. 6 Short Term Rentals Code Amendment Review:** The Providence City Council will review, study, and discuss code amendments regulating short term rentals. **(CODE REVIEW)**

- Mayor Alder called item 6 and gave a brief introduction.
- The Council undertook a review of proposed amendments to the city's codes regarding short-term rentals. The discussion tackled the clarification of rules, enforcement mechanisms, the potential consequences of investor-driven property acquisitions, and public concern over the impact of short-term rentals on local housing markets.

- One particular point of contention was a provision that required short-term rentals to be the owner's primary residence, with some Council Members suggesting an amendment or exploration of alternative regulation approaches to address this provision.
- The goal of the review was to ensure orderly management of short-term rentals under city jurisdiction, responding mainly to state legislation.
- No formal action was taken as the Council sought more information and continued to review.

Staff Reports: Items presented by Providence City Staff (including but not limited to: City Recorder, Public Works Director, Community Services Director, and City Manager) will be presented as information only

- Due to the equipment constraints and ensuing time constraints, staff reports were postponed, reports prepared would be carried into the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn. – Council Member Kirk. 2nd- Council Member Kunz.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kirk, Kunz, Sealy, Nebeker (Via Zoom) & Speth (Via Zoom).

Ney-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passes, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be held on May 15th, 2024.

Minutes approved by vote of Council on 15th day May 2024.

I swear that these minutes are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Ty Cameron (City Recorder)