

Please Note – These minutes have been prepared with a timestamp linking the agenda items to the video discussion. Electronic version of minutes will allow citizens to view discussion held during council meeting.



PROVO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Agenda

5:30 PM, Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Council Chambers (Room 100)

Hybrid meeting: 445 W. Center Street, Provo, UT 84601 or

<https://www.youtube.com/provocitycouncil>

Roll Call

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION WERE PRESENT:

Councilor Becky Bogdin

Councilor Gary Garrett

Councilor Travis Hoban

Councilor Rachel Whipple

Chief Administrative Officer Scott Henderson

Council Executive Director Justin Harrison

Councilor Craig Christensen

Councilor George Handley

Councilor Katrice MacKay

Mayor Michelle Kaufusi

City Attorney Brian Jones

City Recorder Heidi Allman

Conducting: Chair Katrice MacKay

Prayer – Dave Bair

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Christensen

Presentation of colors provided by the Police Department.

Presentations, Proclamations, and Awards

1. Police Badge Pinning Ceremony [0:10:54](#)

Chief Beebe discussed the importance of the Police Badge. He read a short biography while the badge was pinned on each officer's uniform. The officers recognized during the ceremony were Nicolas Byrd, Carter Burgoyne, Stephen Douglas, Mitchell Harding, and Caleb Travis.

2. Employee of the Month Award [0:21:17](#)

Mayor Kaufusi presented. She welcomed Daniel Softley, Division Director of Human Resources, to present the employee of the month.

Mr. Softley presented Trista Bird, Payroll Administrator, with the award.

Public Comment [0:27:35](#)

Chair MacKay read the public comment preamble and opened public comment.

Gary Lindley, of Provo, discussed a tragic accident that his wife was involved in at an intersection near the temple. He provided a low-cost solution of high visibility safety vests to be placed at busy intersections to prevent auto pedestrian accidents from occurring. He also suggested a streetlight

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modification and said had it been done at the intersection where the accident occurred, it could have been avoided.

Merideth Reid, of Provo, encouraged the city council to pursue sensible and creative solutions for Provo's dog issues, and expressed support for reasonable civil infraction penalties. She cautioned against harsh fines and class B misdemeanor charges, suggesting that other cities have successfully addressed similar problems with off-leash areas, designated hours, and public education campaigns. Emphasizing the benefits of providing accessible spaces for dog owners, she urged the city to invest in off-leash areas and dog parks as a valuable addition to existing recreational opportunities.

Gabby Sabalones, of Provo, addressed the council about off-leash dog concerns, acknowledging the city's worries about dog waste and safety. She recounted a court case involving her friend Karina, a single mom studying at UVU, facing a Class B misdemeanor charge and a \$150 fine for playing fetch with her dog in an empty park. Despite seeking leniency, the prosecutor revealed pressure from the administration to prosecute such cases, resulting in a \$120 fine and a one-year probationary period for Karina. Gabby emphasized the need for better solutions, urging the council to explore creative options and consider a civil fine structure to avoid harsh penalties.

Crystal Bolan, of Provo, expressed concerns about the strict leash rule in Provo. She discussed the challenges of walking with a leash, even using a 50-foot leash to allow her dog some freedom. She emphasized the need for options to provide a better place for dogs to play, considering the well-being of both dogs and citizens. Crystal mentioned issues with the existing dog park, citing its unpleasant conditions and the impact it has on her asthma. She urged the council to explore alternatives to seek a compromise for the benefit of everyone in the city.

With no other public comments, Chair MacKay closed public comment.

Action Agenda

3. A resolution formalizing the creation of the Council Audit Committee (24-010) [0:38:36](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Resolution 2024-4, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Justin Harrison, Executive Director of Council, presented. He discussed the recommendations of the State Auditor's Office and Government Financial Officer Association which include formalizing the audit committee, transferring the duties of the internal audit function, and adopting governing documents.

Chair MacKay opened the item for public comment. With none, she closed public comment and asked for council discussion.

Councilor Christensen asked when this would take effect.

Mr. Harrison said this would take effect upon passage of the resolution.

Chair MacKay called for a vote on the implied motion.

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Vote: The motion was approved 7:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Christensen, Garrett, Handley, Hoban, MacKay, and Whipple in favor.

4. An ordinance amending duties regarding internal auditing. (24-010) [0:43:14](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Ordinance 2024-4, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Mr. Harrison presented. He said this ordinance changes the responsibilities of internal auditing from the Finance Division of Administrative Services to Council. He added that it was recommended by both the State Auditor's Office and GFOA that the function be independent of management, which moves it to the legislative branch of government.

Chair MacKay opened the item for public comment. With none, she closed public comment and asked for council discussion. With no discussion, she called for a vote on the implied motion.

Vote: The motion was approved 7:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Christensen, Garrett, Handley, Hoban, MacKay, and Whipple in favor.

5. An ordinance amending Provo City Code regarding the Neighborhood District Program (24-013) [0:44:41](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Ordinance 2024-5, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Rachel Breen, Community Relations Analyst, presented. She said the proposed changes were suggested by the current participants of the neighborhood program after conducting surveys and having discussions. She shared the first change, which eliminates the maximum number of board members per district. She added that there is still the requirement to have at least one, but no more than two residents from each neighborhood to serve on the Executive Board. She stated the second change was to allow Executive Board Members to serve consecutive terms. She said the third change would eliminate the language around motions and votes and instead would use opinion polls. She also said they wanted to change the word communication to endorsement in section (7)(b) as communication was too broad of a term. She highlighted her favorite change, which was to increase the matching grant funds from \$5,000 to \$7,500. She said the last changes were to move the Pleasant View neighborhood to be in District 1 to align with the council districts, and the University neighborhood to be in District 5 due to the high student population and similar culture that is shared with the downtown area.

Chair MacKay opened the item for public comment. With none, she closed public comment and asked for council discussion.

Councilor Bogdin shared her excitement for the increase in the grant funding. She shared how difficult it was to find upgrades for the neighborhoods with only \$5,000.

Councilor Garrett said the work that Ms. Breen does with the neighborhood program is highly valued by the citizens. He thanked her for her service and work.

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Chair MacKay said she is thrilled these changes came from the citizens. She emphasized the desire for the program to be as citizen driven as possible and extended gratitude to Ms. Breen for her dedication to it.

With no other council discussion, Chair MacKay called for a vote.

Vote: The motion was approved 6:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Christensen, Garrett, Handley, MacKay, and Whipple in favor. Councilor Hoban excused.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 6:15 PM.