

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Riverdale City Council held Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at the Civic Center, 4600 S Weber River Dr., Riverdale City, Weber County, Utah.

Present:

City Council:	Braden Mitchell, Mayor Alan Arnold, Councilmember Bart Stevens, Councilmember Anne Hansen, Councilmember Michael Richter, Councilmember
City Employees:	Steve Brooks, City Administrator/Attorney Mike Eggett, Community Development Director Shawn Douglas, Public Works Director Casey Warren, Police Chief Jared Sholly, Fire Chief Michelle Marigoni, City Recorder Rich Taylor, Community Services Director
Visitors:	Karina Merrill Kent Anderson Stacey Haws Blair Jones James Packard Matthew Evans Laura Hilton Whitney Hilton Tracie Hilton Katie Hilton Bryson Olsen Jeff Muntinga Rudy Jones Lori Fleming Wanda Ney

Welcome & Roll Call

The City Council meeting began at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance, including all Council Members, City Staff, and members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance – Braden Mitchell, Mayor

Invocation – Mike Richter

Public Comment

Mayor Mitchell invited members of the public to speak.

Laura Hilton expressed support for Karina Merrill as a council member, citing Steve Hilton's opinion.

Rudy Jones, a Riverdale resident, discussed concerns about the mid-term election process, emphasizing that the candidate with the most votes should have the position. Mr. Jones said he felt that the government-mandated process should not override the will of the citizens, and he endorsed Karina Merrill based on her significant voter support.

Presentations and Reports

Mayor's Report

Mayor Mitchell thanked council members who attended the recent breakfast and noted he had reached out to UDOT regarding the snowplows on Riverdale Road during the storm that morning. He informed council members that rooms had been booked for the upcoming ULCT Midyear Conference in St. George in April.

City Administration Report

- a. Department Reports December
- b. January Anniversaries Employee Recognition
- c. Staffing Authorization Plans
- d. Community Development Report

Consent Items

1. Consideration to approve meeting minutes from:

January 2, 2024 Council Work Session
January 2, 2024 Council Meeting

Mayor Mitchell asked if there were any changes to the minutes from January 2. There were no changes. Councilmember Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Hansen seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

2. Consideration to set a public hearing for amendments to the FY2024 budget.

Councilmember Arnold moved to set a public hearing, date to be determined. Councilmember Richter seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Action Items

1. Discussion and consideration of Resolution #2024-01 updating Council Rules and Procedures.

Mr. Brooks emphasized the necessity of a review within six months of a new council member joining. The attached section required updating to proceed with the next item on the agenda, while a comprehensive review would be conducted at a later date. Several modifications were made, including a specific provision for a coin toss. Notably, the mayor has the authority to cast a vote in the event of a final tie, and there were adjustments related to voting by resigned members. The mayor also has the option to use a coin toss if abstaining from voting. Mr. Stevens expressed the hope that Mayor Mitchell would exercise his voting privilege to break any ties.

Mr. Arnold sought clarification on the term for the new member's service, questioning whether it would be two or four years. Mr. Brooks reported that Mrs. Marigoni had contacted the Lieutenant Governor's office and Weber County Elections to confirm that the term would be two years, with a subsequent two-year term to be voted on in the next election. Mr. Arnold proposed including language in the Council Rules and Procedures to explicitly address this. Ms. Hansen recommended appending "as defined by Utah code annotated 20A-1-510" to the end of the language in the update to address Mr. Arnold's concern.

Motion: Councilmember Hansen moved to approve Resolution 2024-01 updating Council Rules and Procedures, with the addition to 9.3 section A, adding "as defined by Utah code annotated 20A-1-510".

Second: Councilmember Arnold

Councilor Richter:	Yes
Councilor Stevens:	Yes
Councilor Hansen:	Yes
Councilor Arnold:	Yes

Motion passes unanimously.

2. Interviewing and voting for City Council Candidate to fill mid-term vacancy in accordance with Utah Code Section 20A-1-510.

Candidates were allocated time to introduce themselves to the council. Following the introductions, each council member posed two questions to the candidates. The interview order was determined randomly by the city recorder using the random.org website.

After the second council question, candidate Blair Jones requested to withdraw his application. He excused himself, and the remaining candidates completed the interviews.

Each council member received a ballot with instructions to select their preferred candidate. The completed ballots were then passed to the city recorder, who read the results aloud.

Results of the first vote ballot were as follows:

Councilor Arnold:	James Packard
Councilor Stevens:	Stacey Haws
Councilor Hansen:	Kent Anderson
Councilor Richter:	Karina Merrill

As the vote resulted in a four-way tie, a coin toss tiebreaker was conducted in accordance with UCA 20A-1-510 and the Riverdale City Council Rules and Procedures to narrow down the four candidates to two. After the tiebreaker, the final two candidates were Kent Anderson and Stacey Haws.

Each council member received a new ballot with instructions to write the name of their chosen candidate. These ballots were again passed to the city recorder, who read the results aloud.

Results of the second vote ballot were as follows:

Councilor Arnold: Kent Anderson
Councilor Stevens: Stacey Haws
Councilor Hansen: Kent Anderson
Councilor Richter: Stacey Haws

Since this also resulted in a tie vote (two to two), Mayor Mitchell chose to break the tie.

Mayor Mitchell expressed difficulty in deciding between the two candidates. Despite the option to flip a coin, he felt a sense of responsibility to make the decision. He acknowledged the competence of both candidates and emphasized the importance of selecting the best fit for the council. He chose Stacey Haws due to his prior experience and knowledge.

Mayor Mitchell thanked the city council for their thoughtful questions during the interview process. He commended the six individuals who filled out the questionnaire and attended the interview, acknowledging the difficulty of the questions. The Mayor praised the participants for their great answers, highlighting their passion and dedication to serving the community. He reassured the candidates that, despite only one person being chosen, it doesn't diminish the value of the others, encouraging them to consider future involvement in the council or other ways to contribute. Overall, the mayor characterized the process as positive and respectful.

3. Swearing in of new City Council Member

Stacey Haws was given the Oath of Office and sworn in by Michelle Marigoni, City Recorder.

4. Selection of Mayor Pro-tempore

Mayor Mitchell opened nominations for the position of Mayor Pro-tempore, and Councilor Arnold was nominated by Councilor Stevens based on seniority. Councilor Richter seconded the nomination, and a verbal vote took place, unanimously resulting in Councilor Arnold being chosen as the mayor pro-tem.

5. Discussion and possible action concerning Riverdale Substance Abuse Court

Mr. Brooks presented information about the court's recertification, the retirement of the court coordinator, and the expiration of the court's certification. After considering the program's costs and the low number of participants, Mr. Brooks recommended that the council cut the program, and the council members gave their unanimous approval to bring the program to a close.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Public Infrastructure Districts (PID) and West Bench Update

Public Infrastructure Districts were not discussed.

Mr. Brooks provided updates on meetings with various groups, discussions about West Bench developments, and the potential financial impact on Riverdale. The council was urged to decide how much involvement the city would have in the America First project, considering the benefits and potential costs. The discussion touched on annexation, senior center funding, and interactions with UDOT. No specific action was taken during this discussion.

Comments

Councilor Haws expressed gratitude for the council's decision regarding his appointment. There were no further comments from Mayor Mitchell or city staff.

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, Councilmember Arnold moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Haws seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.