

**Riverton City, Utah  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes  
March 19, 2024**

**Riverton City Hall  
12830 South 1700 West  
Riverton, Utah 84065**

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**Attendance:**

Mayor Trent Staggs

**Councilmembers:**

Councilmember Tish Buroker  
Councilmember Spencer Haymond  
Councilmember Tawnee McCay  
Councilmember Troy McDougal  
Councilmember Andy Pierucci

**City Staff:**

Craig Giles, City Manager  
Ryan Carter, City Attorney  
Cary Necaise, Public Works Director  
Kevin Hicks, Administrative Services Director  
Jamie Larsen, City Recorder  
Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director  
Chief Shane Taylor, Riverton Police Department  
Chief Wade Watkins, Unified Fire Authority  
Josh Lee, Communications Director

**Tour of Stoneridge Veterinary Clinic – 4:30 PM**

**WORK SESSION – 6:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Staggs called the Work Session to order at 6:01 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Buroker, Haymond, McCay, and McDougal were present. Councilmember Pierucci was excused.

**Discussion Items**

**Animal Control and Code Enforcement Discussion**

Chief Taylor discussed the promotion of Lieutenant John Arnoldsen who is currently assigned to oversee animal control and code enforcement. Chief Taylor said they would like to add an additional employee who could help with animal control and code enforcement duties. Goals include improving standards and service to the community. While the partnership with Stoneridge is valued, euthanization might be considered for animals incarcerated for too long.

Councilmember Buroker advocated for hiring the additional animal/code enforcement officer before the new budget year. Councilmembers were all in agreeance.

Councilmember McDougal recognized the increasing number of animals in the community, which may lead to a busier workload for code enforcement. He suggested establishing clear expectations for property maintenance in Riverton in order to prevent further dilapidation and

associated costs in the future. Additionally, he addressed the need to consider euthanasia as an option for animals that have been abandoned or left behind, due to the growing animal population. While preserving animals is important, he acknowledged that euthanasia could be a humane option in certain circumstances.

Councilmember Buroker wanted the minutes to reflect that Stoneridge is an advocate for the animal and they do everything to preserve and care for the animals.

Mayor Staggs said the arrangement with Stoneridge was established after moving away from Salt Lake County's services due to poor coverage. He highlighted the clinic's capacity to care for 20 to 30 cats and dogs monthly and praised their efforts in facilitating adoptions. He noted that while there have been occasional spikes in animal intake, overall numbers have remained steady. He commended the clinic's 24/7 availability and comprehensive services, emphasizing the cost savings and minimal euthanizations under the arrangement.

### **Review Volunteer Committees**

Mayor Staggs said the Council had expressed a desire to review the descriptions of various volunteer committees, as well as assess the status of committee members and any vacancies or open positions. The committees can be accessed on the City's website under the government tab. These committees were established to encourage citizen involvement, aligning with the City's priorities outlined in the 2018 strategic planning. Committee members were noted to be fully staffed, with the exception of the Historic Preservation Committee, which currently has three vacancies.

The discussion shifted to the Emergency Preparedness Committee, which works to enhance community emergency preparedness plans based on threats identified in the hazard mitigation plan. The committee promotes safe neighborhoods, family preparedness, provides training, and solicits resident feedback. It was noted that the committee is fully appointed with seven members, and Jason Jones, serves as the staff liaison.

The Events and Inclusion Committee focused on providing recommendations to City staff regarding events, including new events, advertising strategies, event locations, and fostering inclusivity within the community.

Sheril Garn, Events and Operations Director, said the Events and Inclusion Committee has undergone a transition and is now known as the Riverton Community Arts Committee, focusing on arts-related initiatives. Scott Reed, who previously chaired the Events and Inclusion Committee, now serves as the president of Riverton Community Arts. Under his leadership, efforts have been made to bring together various art organizations and collaborate with entities like the Riverton Arts Council and the jazz band to develop new events and initiatives.

Mayor Staggs explained that the Historic Preservation Committee aims to identify, preserve, protect, and enhance historic buildings, sites, and monuments within Riverton. Currently composed of seven members, the committee has three openings. Councilmembers are encouraged to recommend interested individuals to fill the vacancies.

Mayor Staggs said the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Committee focuses on matters related to parks, recreational facilities, and trail development within Riverton. Currently, the committee is fully staffed and has been involved in reviewing conceptual designs for new parks, including a 10-acre park and a larger regional park under the power corridor.

Mayor Staggs said the Planning Commission is responsible for overseeing planning and zoning matters in Riverton. By ordinance, it requires representation from each of the five districts and two at-large positions. Currently, there is a vacant at-large position due to an impending relocation of the incumbent. The Mayor invited Councilmembers to suggest potential candidates for this position.

Mayor Staggs said the Youth Council, is actively involved in community events and recently participated in activities at Utah State University.

### **Council/City Manager Reports**

Craig Giles, City Manager, explained that utility shut-offs, which had been paused since July, will resume this month, starting on the March 27.

Mayor Staggs raised the topic of installing gates at the entrance to the parking lot of the Main City Park off of 12800 South. The estimated cost for this project is around \$18,000. The proposal stemmed from concerns expressed by residents living on that street, as it has been a source of significant police department involvement.

Chief Taylor shared an update on recent incidents involving the residents of the area in question. Last night, around 10:00 PM, Chief Taylor received a call from a resident reporting about 22 trucks parked in the parking area, prompting the dispatch of officers to address the issue. He believes that installing gates could alleviate the impact experienced by the residents, and suggested that the police department could lock the gates at night, with the parks and recreation department responsible for opening them the following day.

Councilmember McDougal was supportive of installing the gate. Councilmember Buroker asked if they could wait 30 days and try other avenues to take care of this problem. Councilmember Haymond and Councilmember McCay did not like the idea of limiting resident's access to the park by installing the gates.

### **Adjournment of Work Session**

Councilmember McCay **MOVED to adjourn the Work Session**. Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Staggs called for a vote; the vote was as follows: Buroker-Yes, Haymond-Yes, McCay-Yes, McDougal-Yes, and Pierucci-Yes. The motion passed unanimously. The Work Session adjourned at 6:54 PM.

### **COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 PM**

#### **Call to Order**

Mayor Staggs called the Riverton City Council Meeting to order at 7:02 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Buroker, Haymond, McCay, and McDougal were present. Councilmember Pierucci participated in the meeting via Zoom; however, due to connectivity issues, his presence was limited.

#### **Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilmember McCay offered the invocation and Chief Watkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Mayor/Council Reports**

Councilmember Buroker made three requests during the meeting: a legislative update, a report on the VECC organization, and a resolution thanking the state legislature for allocating funds for a trail. She also provided updates on various topics discussed at recent meetings and events. She emphasized the need for Unified Fire to focus on addressing incidents beyond fires, highlighted NASA's tracking of mosquito data, praised the Public Works department for their efforts along the Jordan River Trail, commended the Youth Council for their leadership and involvement, and expressed appreciation for an article on Waste Management.

Councilmember McCay shared her participation in Hope Week and the Hope Walk, expressing appreciation for the partnership with the high school. She provided a report from the Utah League, mentioning Mayor Loren Palmer's appointment to the Wasatch Front Regional Council. She also noted the high membership and revenue collection rates of the Utah League, as well as the effectiveness of cities' responses during the legislative session, particularly regarding housing data. She emphasized the importance of local control and encouraged continued cooperation with the Utah League's requests.

Councilmember McDougal expressed appreciation for collaborative efforts with the Mayor to address confusion among residents regarding Waste Management policies. He highlighted the need for clarification due to differences between Waste Management and Trans Jordan, emphasizing the importance of reevaluating the City's recycling program in light of upcoming changes.

Councilmember Haymond echoed the positive sentiments shared about the Youth Council event, emphasizing the benefits of youth involvement in such programs. He also provided an update on the development at the former site of the Point of the Mountain prison, highlighting the upcoming groundbreaking and the long-term plans for the area.

Mayor Staggs expressed appreciation for the Councilmembers' service, highlighting their efforts not only within the Council but also in various board assignments representing the community. Reflecting on the recent legislative session, he noted that there was relatively little harm done to the City, crediting proactive measures taken by the Council and the league. He mentioned receiving funding for projects such as the trail along the Welby Jacob Canal and the construction of a bridge using components from a dismantled pedestrian bridge. He also discussed upcoming events, including the reopening of the community center and the engagement with a \$3 million grant for a water treatment plant, which will help maintain stable water rates.

## **Presentations/Recognitions**

### **Oath of Office for Lieutenant John Arnoldsen and Sergeant Jason Ruch**

Jamie Larsen, City Recorder, administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant John Arnoldsen and Sergeant Jason Ruch.

### **Riverton City Choice Awards for Excellence in Education Mountain Ridge High School**

Mayor Staggs presented the Choice Awards to students Carson Brown and Sarah Varga and teacher Ashley Taylor.

### **Riverton City Choice Awards for Excellence in Education Riverton High School**

Mayor Staggs presented the Choice Awards to students Kyle Stutz and Kathryn Loving and teacher Kelli Christy-Frank.

### **Riverton Baseball Presentation**

Randy Thomas, President of Riverton Baseball, expressed gratitude to the Mayor, Council, and City staff for their support and collaboration. He highlighted the improvements made to CR Hamilton Park, including the installation of new scoreboards and batting cage nets, as well as general field enhancements. He emphasized the league's commitment to operating as a net zero organization and expressed excitement for the upcoming opening day ceremony on April 6, inviting City officials and staff to attend.

### **South Valley Chamber Presentation**

Jay Francis, President and CEO of the South Valley Chamber, presenting an overview of the accomplishments and activities of the South Valley Chamber of Commerce in 2023. This presentation is included in the packet.

Mayor Staggs departed the City Council meeting to attend a family function at 7:50 PM, prompting Mayor Pro Tem McCay to assume the role of presiding officer for the remainder of the meeting.

### **Citizen Comment**

Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for public comments;

Mike Nielson, Mike Forbush, Brad Rosewood, Arthur Golobski, Scott Carter, Shannon Sanderson, Blake Christiansen, Marne Camlin, Alison Forbush, Steve Austin, David Russell and Brian Clark all provided public comment in opposition to the bridge being built over the canal on 13800 South. They presented argument that the bridge would increase traffic posing many problems for their neighborhood.

Councilmember McCay also received email comments from other residents affected by the bridge and these comments are included in the packet.

Linda Abel expressed support for the eminent domain resolution on tonight's agenda that would allow sidewalk to be completed along 1300 West.

Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for any additional public comments; there being none, she closed the Public Comment period.

Cary Necaise, Public Works Director, noted the importance of ensuring that secondary water remains accessible when needed and expressed intent to follow up on the matter. Additionally, he provided updates on a traffic study conducted in November, highlighting that current intersections are satisfactory and improvements are planned for future traffic management. Measures include implementing raised sidewalks with flashing beacon signs in the canal area to enhance pedestrian safety, especially with the upcoming park developments. He emphasized

the importance of conducting further traffic analysis once the road opens to accurately assess its impact on traffic flow and make necessary adjustments accordingly.

Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director, provided an update on the cost-sharing arrangement for the culvert and bridge crossing project, stating that no payments have been made yet. The project is being undertaken by Edge Homes, and the cost-sharing agreement would involve proportional contributions from all parties involved. While negotiations are ongoing, the specifics of the cost-sharing arrangement are still being determined.

Mr. Lethbridge explained that Ivory Homes had previously obtained approval for a project on the east side of Sentinel Ridge, which included a mix of single-family and multifamily units. However, Ivory Homes decided not to pursue this project, and it remained inactive. He mentioned that the park, which will run alongside the canal, was part of negotiations and the master development agreement for the Suburban Land Reserve project area, covering 500 acres, mostly situated on the north side of 13400 South. However, the park dedication outlined in the agreement has not yet been implemented. Edge Homes, the current developer, is progressing from west to east, and the park will be part of the development project in that area.

Mayor Pro Tem McCay mentioned several points:

She observed tracks of people crossing the bridge under construction and contacted the Public Works to address safety concerns. Barriers will be installed on the Deer Mountain side during construction and will be removed once completed, along with the installation of signage and traffic mitigation measures.

She emphasized the importance of deterring traffic, especially if 13400 South is closed, by directing it down Old Liberty Way to avoid neighborhoods and South Hills Middle School.

She addressed concerns about commercial large trucks parking behind Walmart on the underpass. An ordinance was prepared and passed at the last council meeting, and code enforcement and police have been contacting these trucks to ensure they do not park on public streets for extended periods.

She requested an increase in police presence in the area, especially until barriers are installed on the bridge under construction to prevent traffic from crossing until completion. The City anticipates completion of the bridge by the end of August or the beginning of September before the opening of school.

## Consent Items

Mayor Pro Tem McCay presented the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Minute Approval: February 20, 2024;
- b. **Resolution No. 24-30** – Approving an Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement Between Riverton City and Salt Lake County for the Operation of the Riverton Senior Center;
- c. **Resolution No. 24-31** – Declaring city owned property, known as the Mascaro Property, as surplus, authorizing the City Manager to dispose of the property as he deems appropriate;
- d. **Resolution No. 24-32** – Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with the Welby Jacob Water Users Company granting part of their property for a Public

- Recreation Trail; and
- e. **Resolution No. 24-33** – Authorizing the Execution of a Reimbursement Agreement with South Valley Sewer District;
  - f. **Resolution No. 24-34** – Performance Bond Release for Gospel Hope Church (13607);
  - g. **Resolution No. 24-35** – Warranty Bond release for River Ridge Lane (8105).

Councilmember Buroker **MOVED that the City Council approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Item c.** Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes, and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution No. 24-31 – Declaring city owned property, known as the Mascaro Property, as surplus, authorizing the City Manager to dispose of the property as he deems appropriate**

Mr. Lethbridge said the current zoning for the Mascaro property is planned commercial center, which aligns with the designation of commercial regional in the general plan.

Craig Calvert noted that an appraisal of the property was conducted in March of 2023. Before any decision to sell or liquidate the property is made, there will be a review of this previous appraisal. The surplus property process can be executed in two ways. If there are interested buyers, a reverse bid or reverse proposal process will be initiated, with the property being sold to the highest bidder. If there are no interested buyers initially, the property will be listed with a commercial realtor for sale.

Councilmembers and staff discussed the process for surplus property and asked for additional information about the process in a future council meeting.

Councilmember Buroker **MOVED that the City Council approve Resolution No. 24-31 – Declaring city owned property, known as the Mascaro Property, as surplus, authorizing the City Manager to dispose of the property as he deems appropriate with the request that staff extend efforts to promote the property to potential buyers.** Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes, and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Public Hearings**

**Amendments to Riverton Code Section 5.35.020, updating definitions related to sale of tobacco products consistent with previously approved amendment.**

This item will be re-noticed for a future meeting and was not discussed.

**Resolution No. 24-29 – Amending the Municipal Fee Schedule for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year**

Kevin Hicks, Administrative Services Director, discussed the fee schedule in anticipation of the opening of the Sandra N. Lloyd Community Center in the upcoming months. He mentioned that the fees had not been reviewed for some time, and the Council requested an analysis to determine the actual costs. The proposed fees were presented based on a calculation of a

specific dollar amount per square foot per hour, with the understanding that the facility may not be rented constantly. Additionally, adjustments were made to the fee schedule to reflect the new contract with Waste Management for dumpster rentals, with the cost being passed along to residents. A recommendation was made to include a deposit requirement for large special events, which had historically been collected but not formally included in the fee schedule. The Council was asked to consider including this deposit requirement in their motion.

Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for public comments; there being none, she closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Buroker **MOVED** that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 24-29 – Amending the Municipal Fee Schedule for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year with a refundable special events and commercial cleaning deposit of \$1000. Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, and McDougal-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

### Discussion Items

#### **Resolution No. 24-36 – Authorizing the Filing of a Complaint to Take Property through Eminent Domain**

Ryan Carter, City Attorney, explained the property is located on 1300 West, south of a construction firm. The resolution aimed to authorize eminent domain action to acquire a portion of the property for constructing a sidewalk along 1300 West due to safety concerns. He explained that despite attempts at negotiation, an agreement with the property owner had not been reached. The purpose of the eminent domain action was solely to obtain the necessary right-of-way for the sidewalk construction. The City had complied with Utah law by providing the property owner with information about their rights, including the right to receive an appraisal. He said the option of reaching a settlement with the property owner was still preferred, but the resolution was deemed necessary to avoid prolonged delays.

Councilmember McDougal **MOVED** that the City Council approve Resolution No. 24-36 – Authorizing the Filing of a Complaint to Take Property through Eminent Domain. Councilmember Buroker **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, and McDougal-yes,. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Ordinance No. 24-02 – Amending Title 10, Section 10.10 Parking of the Riverton City Code Regarding Parking Regulations**

Mr. Carter said that during the previous council meeting, there was a discussion about updating the City's parking regulations to restrict commercial vehicles from public streets. The Council expressed a favorable inclination towards approving the ordinance, but there was a mistake in the initial version, which included recreational vehicles among the prohibited vehicles. The error was acknowledged, and the ordinance has since been revised to exclude recreational vehicles. The updated version of the ordinance was presented to the Council for consideration without the inclusion of recreational vehicles.

Councilmember McDougal **MOVED** that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 24-02 – Amending Title 10, Section 10.10 Parking of the Riverton City Code Regarding Parking



**Regulations.** Councilmember Buroker **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tem McCay called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, and McDougal-yes,. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- a. April 2, 2024 – Work Session & City Council Meeting
- b. April 16, 2024 - Work Session & City Council Meeting
- c. May 7, 2024 - Work Session & City Council Meeting
- d. May 21, 2024 - Work Session & City Council Meeting

### **Adjournment**

Councilmember McDougal **MOVED** to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Councilmember Haymond **SECONDED** the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 PM.

Approved: CCM 4.2.24