

NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 28, 2024

The North Ogden City Council convened on May 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the North Ogden City Public Safety Building at 515 East 2600 North.

Notice of time, place, and agenda of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on May 23, 2024.

Notice of the annual meeting schedule was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on December 13, 2023.

Note: The time stamps indicated in blue correspond with the recording of this meeting, which can be located on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCriqbePBxTucXEzRr6fc1hQ/videos> or by requesting a copy of the audio file from the North Ogden City Recorder.

PRESENT:

S. Neal Berube	Mayor
Ryan Barker	Council Member
Blake Cevering	Council Member
Jay D Dalpias	Council Member
Chris Pulver	Council Member
Christina Watson	Council Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Jon Call	City Manager/Attorney
Rian Santoro	City Recorder
Dave Espinoza	Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager
Dirk Quinney	Police Chief
Jami Jones	Finance Director
Dylan Hill	Public Works Inspector

*Several officers and staff from the North Ogden City Police Department attended to show their support for the Swearing-in Ceremony of the new Chief of Police.

VISITORS:

Sandy Cochran	Spencer Stephens
Phillip Swanson	Ryan Long
Kevin Burns	Chase Tischer
David Shupe	Alicia Tischer
Megan Stephens	Kaylee Goddard

Kaden Goddard
Jessica Eckensly
Diana Lopez
Charles Chandler
Travis Taylor
Reed Miller

Julie Anderson (Zoom)
Susan Kilborn (Zoom)
Brenda Ashdown (Zoom)
Stefanie Casey (Zoom)

0:1:00 Mayor Berube called the meeting to order and Council Member Watson invited North Ogden City resident, Sandy Cochran to share the evening's thought and lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

0:2:47 The North Ogden City Recorder conducted the swearing-in ceremony for the newly appointed North Ogden City Police Chief, Brian Eynon.

PRESENTATIONS

1. PRESENTATION ON THE 2024 CHERRY DAYS CELEBRATION

0:5:14 Spencer Stephens presented a slideshow outlining the budget and changes for this year's Cherry Days events. He expressed gratitude for sponsors, noting successful sponsorships despite economic challenges. Spencer highlighted a new partnership with Red White and Blue to manage fireworks displays, ensuring two celebrations: one on the Fourth of July and another the following Saturday, July 6.

Key budget points included:

- \$30,000 from the City
- \$44,500 in sponsorships (expected to increase)
- \$20,432 rollover from last year
- Total starting budget: \$95,932

Planned changes and events:

- Movie in the Park moved to the amphitheater
- Kids Marketplace added to the car show
- Guns and Hoses baseball game on July 4th
- Dance party added on July 5th
- Removal of the chalk art contest

- Pickleball tournament to be held at a different location
- Various new vendors and activities

The total anticipated costs for the year are around \$120,000, with an expected return of \$30,000 to the City. The parade will be on the Fourth, with ongoing adjustments to the event schedule. Spencer concluded by thanking volunteers and expressing confidence in the success of the events.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. CALL FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

0:16:54 No conflict of interest was disclosed.

3. ACTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 7, 2024, CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES:

0:17:30 Council Member Watson motioned to approve the May 7, 2024, City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes. Council Member Pulver seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Dalpias	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE SPRING MEADOWS SUBDIVISION

0:18:24 Public Works Inspector Dylan Hill presented an update on the Spring Meadows subdivision located on the City's southwest side. He mentioned that the project commenced in 2019 and provided a brief overview of its progress.

Dylan stated that all improvements and drawings for the subdivision had been completed, and the warranty period had expired. He concluded by noting that the City Engineer, Eric Casperson, recommended granting final approval for the subdivision.

Council Member Cevering motioned to approve the Final Acceptance of the Spring Meadows Subdivision. Council Member Watson seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Dalpias	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

ACTIVE AGENDA

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

0:20:28 Charles Chandler, a North Ogden City resident, expressed concern about the speed limit in front of their residence at the Three Fountains Condominiums on 2550 North. He highlighted that despite previous reductions in the speed limit from 50 to 40 miles per hour, speeding remains an issue, particularly due to the layout of the road and nearby facilities such as senior citizen housing, a fire station, and schools. Charles requested a further reduction in the speed limit to 30 miles per hour or the implementation of speed reduction measures such as flashing lights or signs. Mayor Berube acknowledged the concern and directed the City Manager/Attorney to coordinate with the Chief of Police to address the issue, promising follow-up after proper research.

0:23:53 David Shupe, a North Ogden City business owner, expressed appreciation for the Council's action in adjusting traffic flow near Coldwater Animal Hospital but voiced concern over changes to parking ordinances. He questioned the fairness of allowing certain entities, like Big O Tires, to park alongside roads without investing in parking infrastructure, while others, like himself, had to adhere to regulations and invest resources in building parking lots.

Although unable to stay for the entire meeting, he expressed a desire for clarification on the matter and invited Council Members to reach out to him directly for further discussion.

6. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL POLICY FOR CITY-SPONSORED, PARTNERED, AND SUPPORTED EVENTS WITH A SPONSORSHIP/PARTNERSHIP LIST

0:26:50 Council Member Pulver presented a draft policy regarding City sponsorship, partnership, and support for various organizations and events. The policy aims to establish guidelines for allocating City resources and minimizing liability. Mayor Berube inquired about the budget allocation for contributions and donations, highlighting the need for clarity on the financial aspect. Council Members discussed the distinction between City-sponsored events and partnerships, emphasizing the importance of aligning expenditures with community safety and welfare and clarified that partners do not receive funds but may benefit from City support such as free facility use or employee time. They also addressed concerns about volunteer participation and the potential divisiveness of funding decisions. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call provided insights into contractual arrangements with certain organizations and clarified the distinction between sponsorships and partnerships. Council Members expressed willingness to refine the policy further to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with City objectives. Council Member Pulver agreed to finalize the list and requested input from other Council Members to ensure its accuracy. Mayor Berube expressed appreciation for the Council's efforts in managing taxpayer funds responsibly.

7. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE A STUDY ON COLLECTING A TRANSPORTATION UTILITY FEE

0:56:51 Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager Dave Espinoza explained that during the budget session, they had proposed \$110,000 for a study to evaluate the feasibility of implementing this Transportation Utility Fee. The study would include a road analysis and a 20-year plan for funding growth projects. He emphasized the importance of committing to the study to determine the potential fee, which was estimated to be around \$15 per month. Dave highlighted the significant increase in construction costs and the growing gap between available funds and road maintenance needs. Mayor Berube and other Council Members expressed concerns about the financial burden on citizens but acknowledged the necessity of addressing the road maintenance issue.

Council Member Cevering motioned to approve the study, with a commitment to determine an appropriate fee based on the study's findings. Council Member Watson seconded the motion

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Dalpias	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

8. DISCUSSION ON REQUIRING UNINCORPORATED ISLANDS TO BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE ANNEXATION PETITIONS

1:20:13 City Recorder Rian Santoro addressed annexing unincorporated parcels into North Ogden City and the requirement to annex adjacent unincorporated parcels when processing annexation petitions, prompted by House Bill 330. The bill requires automatic annexation of unincorporated islands within counties, with Salt Lake County currently being affected. The Council deliberated on whether to require the inclusion of surrounding parcels in future annexations. Concerns about the potential financial burden on property owners for surveys and compliance were raised.

There were also considerations about the impact on commercial properties and the necessity of such annexations. The Mayor suggested consulting with County Commissioners to gauge their intentions regarding annexation policies. Further discussions were proposed to clarify the financial responsibilities and implications for property owners and developers.

9. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION FLASHVOTE SURVEY

1:37:12 City Manager/Attorney Jon Call presented a summary of a recent survey conducted among North Ogden City residents, which received 307 responses. The survey revealed significant usage of trails (13,000-16,000 residents), playgrounds (12,000-14,700), the Aquatic Center (8,200-10,900), and the skate park (1,000-3,600). Residents also frequent lakes, reservoirs, trails, indoor recreation centers, specific playgrounds, and sports fields outside the city.

The survey indicated a preference for more trails and improvements to existing parks rather than creating new ones. The survey results are published immediately upon closure for transparency. Demographic trends showed younger residents (30 and under) primarily use the Aquatic Center, while older residents (61+) use playgrounds and sports fields less frequently. Council Member Pulver highlighted the importance of understanding facility usage and addressing underused areas. Jon Call emphasized the lower maintenance costs of trails and the focus on upgrading existing parks. Mayor Berube discussed balancing development with creating parks and amenities, especially in new developments on the north side of the City. Council Member Dalpias noted the high use of trails, suggesting a need for increased budget allocation for their maintenance and development.

10. COUNCIL DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

a. Mayor Berube – Finance Department

1:51:15 Mayor Berube provided a brief report on the Finance Department, highlighting a concerning trend in sales tax revenues. He noted that sales tax revenue had declined for three consecutive months, which could impact the tentative budget that had initially anticipated a \$200,000 surplus. The main revenue shortfall was in building permits, initially at 73.8% of the budget, but Finance Director Jami Jones updated that it had improved to 90%.

Mayor Berube and Jami Jones discussed expenses, which are generally in line with expectations, and the need to consider using RDA funds as a financial cushion for the Aquatic Center. The Aquatic Center's finances showed a fund balance of \$50,000 at the end of April. The historical use of RDA and general funds to subsidize the Aquatic Center was explained and it was noted that recent years have relied on RDA funds for operations. The discussion included projections for future revenues from the Aquatic Center, with the season just starting and significant income expected from summer activities. Council Member Dalpias inquired about revenue estimates for the remaining six weeks of the fiscal year. Jami Jones indicated she would provide an estimate but noted that weather and other factors could influence the final numbers. Mayor Berube emphasized the importance of considering depreciation in financial planning, noting that without RDA funds, significant expenses would fall to the general fund.

b. Council Member Watson – Administration and Recreation Departments

2:01:44 Council Member Watson reported that she, Council Member Cevering, and Bryce Nelson have been working to increase the usage of the Amphitheater. A City employee with a drone has agreed to make a marketing video during the first event of the season on June 7 to promote the Amphitheater. There may also be a proposal for discounted rates to boost usage this summer and next.

Council Member Watson provided the following updates on upcoming recreation events:

- Northshore fitness programs start May 28.
- Swim lessons training is this week.
- Tackle football signups begin June 1.
- Swim lessons begin June 3.
- "Food Truck Thursdays" from 5-8 pm at North Ogden Park.
- Children's entrepreneur market on June 6.
- Movies in the Park, at Barker Park, on June 7, coordinated with neighboring cities.

c. Council Member Pulver – Public Works Department

2:04:02 Council Member Pulver praised the recent community cleanup, emphasizing its success and encouraging residents to use the website to report potholes instead of calling in, to better allocate City staff resources.

He appreciated the HR Director's efforts in organizing a well-attended appreciation lunch. Council Member Pulver noted the start of runoff and the filling of detention ponds, urging caution in these areas. He mentioned ongoing efforts to manage runoff from the new water tower and emphasized the importance of residents adhering to street regulations to maintain safety and cleanliness.

d. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call – Capital Projects

2:05:59 City Manager/Attorney Jon Call provided updates on several projects: The Lomond View Park playground ribbon cutting is set for June 26 at 3 pm. The North Ogden Plaza RDA discussion is currently on hold as no landowners have submitted for the grant program yet. Progress on the Public Safety Building is nearly complete, with only minor punch list items remaining. Work continues on the water reservoir near 2100 North.

Installation of Waterworks Park near the old Public Works building is anticipated to commence in early July, with parts expected to arrive from Germany.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2:09:30 Travis Taylor, a Morgan County resident, expressed concerns regarding the annexation petition process. He inquired about potential consequences if additional properties are forced into the annexation, potentially affecting valuation and area requirements. Additionally, he raised concerns about the withdrawal of signatures during the annexation process and its impact on compliance with the City Code. Mayor Berube suggested providing contact information for further discussion with the City Attorney to address these concerns.

2:12:45 Phillip Swanson, a North Ogden City resident, emphasized the need for fiscal responsibility regarding City sponsorships, suggesting a budgeted amount with a grant application process. Swanson highlighted concerns about equity in policy-making, particularly regarding winter parking. He discussed proposed increases in property taxes and utility fees, cautioning against burdening residents, especially those on fixed or limited incomes. Swanson also raised considerations about annexation, highlighting emergency response implications and urging careful deliberation on the matter. He concluded by acknowledging the complexity of the Council's decisions and expressing appreciation for their work.

2:17:30 Kevin Burns, a North Ogden City resident, expressed concerns about potholes on North Ogden roads and inquired about available transportation funds to address the issue highlighted in a recent study. He raised questions about allocating funds to the Youth Crisis Center (YCC), emphasizing its role in public safety and suggesting the need for usage statistics. Kevin also discussed the need for accountability in fund allocation, referencing reporting processes similar to other programs. He inquired about funding for additional resources for events like the Fourth of July parade and proposed alternative solutions for blighted areas like the old City shops. Additionally, he voiced concerns about damage to City property by mountain bikers and reported fence damage near the Detention Basin. Burns concluded by suggesting better marketing for events like the Food Truck Thursdays and expressing appreciation for the opportunity to address the Council.

2:22:13 Julie Anderson, a North Ogden resident, expressed appreciation for the City Council's work and raised several concerns.

She suggested including an initiation system at the swimming pool to better track its performance. Julie also voiced concerns about transportation expenses affecting those on fixed incomes and urged a thorough examination of road spending. Regarding annexation, she cited legal restrictions and emphasized the need to respect landowners' rights. Anderson highlighted potential challenges and urged a comprehensive approach to decision-making.

2:24:29 Susan Kilborn, a North Ogden City resident, expressed gratitude for the City Council's attentiveness to citizen input and raised concerns about seniors and families with limited incomes. Susan voiced support for the points made earlier by David Shupe. She urged precise definitions of sponsorship and partnership to avoid potential liabilities. Susan questioned why the Amphitheater was not mentioned under recreation and inquired about a designated liaison between the Lakeview Heights Homeowners Association and North Ogden City. She also sought clarification on sidewalk maintenance responsibilities and emphasized the importance of improving communication between citizens and the Council.

12. MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

2:30:52 Council Member Pulver provided an update on the sidewalk issue concerning elderly individuals, mentioning that he connected with one of the siblings involved. He stated that the matter is expected to be addressed by the end of June, emphasizing the urgency of resolving the issue due to its severe condition.

2:31:29 Council Member Watson proposed the idea of the City Council and City Youth Council sharing a float for the Cherry Days parade. There was also a discussion about using RAMP funds to help fix up an old float for the parade. Mayor Berube sought feedback from the Council Members and it was decided to continue the discussion during the Work Session scheduled for June 4.

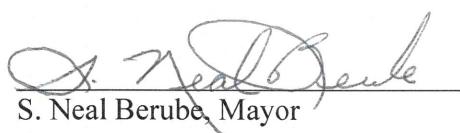
2:33:22 City Recorder Rian Santoro announced that the City Council meeting scheduled for June 25 will be canceled due to the Primary Elections. A special meeting will be held on June 18 to discuss various items, including Impact Fees and the final opportunity for tax rate approval.

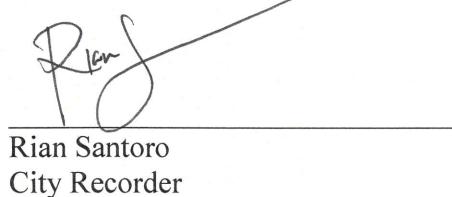
2:33:55 City Manager/Attorney Jon Call reminded the Council of the employee summer party on June 26 and announced that 900 people visited the Aquatic Center the day prior which was Memorial Day.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Watson motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.


S. Neal Berube, Mayor


Rian Santoro
City Recorder




Date Approved