

City of La Verkin

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La Verkin City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 6:00 pm.

Council Chambers, 111 S. Main, La Verkin, Utah

Present: Mayor Kelly Wilson; Council Members: Patricia Wise, Blair Gubler, Micah Gubler, Darren Prince, and Richard Hirschi; Staff: Derek Imlay, Fay Reber, Chief Nick Nuccitelli, and Nancy Cline; Public; Cyndi Gilbert, and Matt Loo.

- A. **Called to Order** –Richard Hirschi gave the invocation/thought and Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 pm.
- B. **Presentation:** Cyndi Gilbert From Intermountain Health provided an annual update, discussing the organization's history, recent developments, and initiatives, including suicide awareness and the opening of a youth care center. She discussed the necessity of the Hurricane ER and highlighted the increased number of visitors and the benefits to the locals. They received a leadership award and have locations in seven states. She mentioned the hospital's financial contributions to the community.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** (Items on the consent agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Mayor or City Council.)
 - 1. Declarations of conflict of interest
 - 2. Agenda
 - 3. Meeting Minutes September 10 and October 2, 2024, regular meeting
 - 4. Checks & Invoices: \$383,904.14

The motion was made by Councilwomen Patricia Wise to approve the consent agenda as written, including the minutes of the September 10 and October 2, 2024, regular meeting and Checks and Invoices in the amount of \$383,904.14, second by Councilman Richard Hirschi. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes, Prince-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Public Hearing:

- 1. Ordinance No. 2024-21 of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, vacating a parcel of property as a public roadway and declaring said parcel to be surplus property and providing for disposition by private sale.

Fay explained why the property is for sale, and legally why they need to vacate property in order to sell it.

Public Hearing opened at 6:20

No comments were made.

Public Hearing closed at 6:21 pm.

E. Business:

- 1. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance 2024-21, An Ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, to vacate a parcel of property as a public roadway, declare said parcel to be surplus property, and prove for a disposition by private sale.

No further comments were made.

The motion was made by Councilman Richard Hirschi to approve Ordinance 2024-21, An Ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, to vacate a parcel of property as a public roadway, declare said parcel to be surplus property, and prove for a disposition by private sale, second by Councilwoman Patricia Wise. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes, Prince-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2024-17. An Ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending title 10, zoning regulations, of the La Verkin City Code by adopting commercial design guidelines applicable to the general Commercial (C) zone, retail commercial (COMM-R) zone, and tourist/resort commercial (COMM-T) zone.

No further comments were made.

The motion was made by Councilman Darren Prince to approve Ordinance No. 2024-17. An Ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending title 10, zoning regulations, of the La Verkin City Code by adopting commercial design guidelines applicable to the general Commercial (C) zone, retail commercial (COMM-R) zone, and tourist/resort commercial (COMM-T) zone, second by Councilman Blair Gubler. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance 2024-18 amended Subdivision Ordinance. An ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending Title 11 "subdivision rules and regulations" of the La Verkin City Code.

Fay explained that this ordinance is required due to the passing of the Utah State Legislature. The amendments to the Municipal Land Use Code. It created a body called the ALUA, which stands for Administrative Land Use Authority, to review and approve certain kinds of subdivisions. Those subdivisions are single-family dwellings, two-family dwellings, and subdivisions with four-family dwellings or less. The ALUA will approve those kinds of developments. The City Council has no say in it. It's purely an administrative thing. As soon as they meet or comply with the subdivision ordinances and the various other ordinances, the ALUA will approve that subdivision. They'll have to file a plat like any other subdivision, but it's meant to be a streamlined process for some of the simpler subdivisions. Now, for some of the other kinds of subdivisions that are a little bit more complicated, like multiple families over four, multi-use kinds of subdivisions, commercial, industrial, and planned unit developments, we're likely to see up on the top side, the City Council and Planning Commission will retain authority to review and approve those subdivisions, as they always have. The ordinance distinguishes between the two subdivisions that the ALUA can review and approve and those that the City Council and Planning Commission can review and approve. It also provides information on who can be appointed to the ALUA. According to the ordinance, five people will be sitting on the ALUA, including the Director of Operations, a member of the Planning Commission, and the City Administrator. The City Administrator will appoint two others. That could be another Planning Commission member. The ordinance also provides that the subdivisions reviewed by the ALUA will be reviewed in four cycles. The City Council's not subject to that. Finally, it amends certain provisions of our existing ordinance relating to improving completion bonds. We must have a bond for the completion of the improvements and a bond for the warranty period. It amends that kind of provision to coincide with the new provisions of state law. It's not something we have the option to approve, and it's something by state law that must be approved by December of this year.

Councilwoman Wise added we're pretty much being forced into this. There's not much the city can change in it, if any. She felt there was a lack of transparency in how business is done. She wasn't concerned about La Verkin today but certainly about the future. Is there any option for La Verkin to put in the ordinance that we have quarterly reports on those developments that are approved, something so that the council is aware of the building that is happening in La Verkin because we're directly responsible to our constituents, and if we know nothing about that fourplex that's going in and then another fourplex across the street, we can't tell them "it's not my job call the city staff."

Fay clarified that there could be a report from the ALUA in every city council meeting.

Mayor Wilson agreed that if something was going through the ALUA, they could report it during the city council meetings.

Councilwoman Wise wanted it written into the ordinance that the ALUA must report to the city council.

Mayor Wilson agreed that the ALUA should be required to report to the city council and that this should be written into the ordinance.

Fay agreed that he would add that language to the ordinance.

The motion was made by Councilwoman Patricia Wise to approve Ordinance 2024-18 amended Subdivision Ordinance. An ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending Title 11 "subdivision rules and regulations" with the amended 11-2-2 that we add in a phrase saying that there will be a report on every city council meeting as needed when there's something to report, seconded by Councilman Darren Prince. Roll Call

Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes, Darren Prince-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action to approve Southern Utah Trail Standards Ordinance No. 2024-19, an ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, adopting the 2024 Southern Utah regional trail standards as part of the La Verkin Master Transportation Plan, which is an element of the La Verkin City General Plan.

The motion was made by Councilwoman Patricia Wise to , approve Southern Utah Trail Standards Ordinance No. 2024-19. An ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, adopting the 2024 Southern Utah regional trail standards as part of the La Verkin Master Transportation Plan, which is an element of the La Verkin City General Plan. second by Councilman Richard Hirschi. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2024-20, an ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending §10-6G2-2-5 of the La Verkin City Code to allow for extended occupancy in RV resort areas.

Mayor Wilson felt the ordinance had enough safeguards to protect the city from any problems the citizens have emailed us about their concerns.

Fay pointed out to the council that the updated version has changed in 2-D-1. It is in response to concerns raised by people about enforceability and other similar issues. That's the one that we'll be approving tonight.

Mayor Wilson read the changes that say, before September 1 of each year, the RV resort owner shall submit an application to the city requesting that the specified RV resort pads be designated for extended occupancy. If approved, the period of extended occupancy shall be limited to a maximum of six months, and it designates the months of October 1st through March 31st. The other safeguard is paragraph 7: at the end of the extended use period on March 31st, all RV resort rental pads used for the extended stay shall revert to a period of occupancy not to exceed 29 consecutive days. Paragraph 5 says within five days at the end of each month of the extended occupancy; the RV resort owner shall provide a written report to the city stating the items: who is staying when they checked in, and the license plate number of the RV and all that information. And that's something the owners have all agreed to, correct? They feel like that is protection for the city and them so that they don't get in trouble with people wanting to stay there forever.

Councilman Blair Gubler wanted to add that the staff or whoever is getting the reports from the RV resort will report back to the city council, so they know how this worked out the previous year and if any changes need to be made.

Fay advised it could be the staff or the City Council. This is an easy problem to fix. Of course, when they make an application in September of each year, we review it to see how it went the prior year. If we had problems, that would be part of the reasoning behind either approving or not approving it for the next year.

Councilwoman Wise added this has been such a hot topic on social media, and rightly so for residents who've lived here for a long time and worked hard to improve the quality of La Verkin. She thought for public record because not everybody will be able to pull out a city council agenda and find this specifically, in addition to what you've already called out, number three of the amended ordinance says the number of RV resort pads approved for extended occupancy shall be limited to 25% of a development's RV rental pads or 20 RV resort rental pads, whichever is less. Number four is the use of small transient living quarters, cabins, or yurts for extended stay is strictly prohibited. Also, the total number of RV resort pads used for extended occupancy will be included in the written report; the name, RV's resort pad number, the date of check-in, and check-out for each extended occupancy guest are reported. The make, model, and license plate number of each guest's RV or trailer used for extended occupancy will be reported. She wanted to call that out for those who might listen to the City Council meeting tonight. They know that as a City Council, we have listened to and considered their concerns and did everything they could to protect the city, not necessarily for today, but for the future. And that's her concern about this ordinance. She was not concerned about the current owner, the current quality, the six months she was concerned about the future when maybe the economy's not good. Whatever the situation, this will give future staff and future city councils some teeth to go back and say no, and this is precisely what it says; there's no ambiguity about it.

Mayor Wilson agreed, and he thought all of us on the council and as citizens were actually concerned with extended stays because we went through a long period where those extended stays turned into permanent residence for people who were living in some of the RV places that we had in town, and now that we don't have them anymore, and we do have a new one, we don't want to see it revert to that, and nobody wants that. Neither does the owner of the RV resort. Having this written this way will protect the city now and, in the future, future city councils can make changes, but the way this is written, he thought the city would be protected for future times as well.

Councilman Micah Gubler added that future city councils making changes wouldn't affect this RV resort it would be grandfathered in if we pass this.

Mayor Wilson answered, no, because it's annual. In September, it's approved each year.

Councilman Micah Gubler continued but was more hesitant than the rest of the council because he was on the council when they eliminated long-term RV stays. We adamantly oppose long-term RV renting, and that's why the ordinance was written this way.

Mayor Wilson responded he was on the council more than 20 years ago, which was a concern back then because we had areas in town where those RVs turned into permanent ones.

Councilman Micah Gubler added that the current ordinance was written in the way it was, just for a specific reason: We were trying to move in a different direction.

Councilwoman Wise agreed that Blair has a good point about having a report back to the city council because where we're more direct, the first calls that people make when they have a simple complaint are called by city staff. Still, if it's more involved, they call the council. And so, if we know what's going on, we will also ensure that the staff is doing their job. She hadn't gone through it before, but she had heard enough stories and felt like they put all of the safeguards in place. She felt the pandemic changed the public's lifestyle. She thought many more people had the means to travel and work remotely. She thought those were snowbirds, and people just wanted to be out more. They realized Utah stayed open, but the rest of the country didn't. She felt that drove people to realize how much they did not want to be cooped up. She thought the dynamic of recreation and travel has changed, so we have one RV resort in town. That's the only one we'll ever have, and it's a saturated market. She wanted our RV resort to be successful and competitive.

Mayor Wilson agreed that everyone wants them to be successful. We do, because they have put a lot of money and work into a nice resort, and we hope they'll make money doing that.

Fay added to take care of Blair's concerns; he had penciled in some possible changes to the language, and he read it to the council to see if they thought this took care of it. From the first September 1 of each year, the RV resort owner shall submit an application to the city council, not the city, but the city council, requesting that specified RV resort pads be designated for extended occupancy. Number two, if the application is approved after review by the city council, the extended occupancy period shall be limited to include October 1st to March 31st. But in each case, it says the application is submitted to the city council, the city council is doing the review, and as part of that review, you always have the authority to get staff input on whether there were problems in the past year.

Councilwoman Wise wondered who would decide. Can the permit be denied simply because future councils don't like the long-term? Holding off until September 1st could be detrimental to the RV resort's business. People in RVs and staying somewhere long term are making their reservations six months in advance or longer.

Mayor Wilson advised that we make it at the end of the season, March 31st. Then, during the City council meeting at the end of April, if there have been any issues, we'd be aware of them, and that would give them plenty of time to deal with them.

Councilman Micah Gubler commented he was not trying to single out this request from the others. His concerns are a little deeper. He felt like they recently changed the zoning on a parcel because the owners came and said they couldn't sell their property for the amount they wanted, so they wanted to change the zoning. He felt the city council was just writing

or changing ordinances to help one person. He was concerned that they were setting a precedent of just trying to benefit single entities or individuals instead of the community.

Mayor Wilson answered that's what we do as a city council. We look at each of those items, and when people come to us and want to make a change or a complaint, we help with that problem.

Councilman Micah Gubler continued that he had been through the other end when they wrote this ordinance. He probably heard from five or six citizens outside of what was shared tonight. I haven't had anyone who wants this change other than the owners.

Mayor Wilson commented that many citizens don't take the time to read the ordinance. They would understand that we looked at it closely, and we probably have the same concerns.

Councilman Micah Gubler added that he is not saying everything we have is perfectly set. We need to be able to look at things and adjust as we go. But it seems like we've slung to trying to look individually, case by case, instead of having a master plan, having an idea of what we want to do, and then adding the entities and individuals.

Councilwoman Wise added on that same note that when making things individual for something specific, we made the RV resort ordinance so tight on location that this will be the only one we ever have. Geographically, nothing else can be approved. We decided to do this because we don't want more than this one. She had just moved here when the RV resort zone was approved on that land. There was another instance of singling out a piece of property for something very specific that we didn't want anywhere else. She understood what he was saying. She felt that way about the one he brought up where they changed the zone because somebody couldn't sell the property. She didn't think that's the case here.

Councilman Micah Gubler replied that he understood everyone's perspective but wanted to explain his vote.

The motion was made by Councilman Blair Gubler to approve Ordinance No. 2024-20, an ordinance of the City Council of La Verkin, Utah, amending §10-6G2-2-5 of the La Verkin City Code to allow for extended occupancy in RV resort areas adding in a yearly report to city council, second by Councilwoman Patricia Wise. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-no, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes. The motion passed.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the Zion Trail Corridor Acquisition Agreement.

Councilwoman Wise asked if they agreed to acquire their property and allow impact fees to go towards purchasing it. Is that correct? The previous land acquisition had already set aside this agreement for the trail. Kyle explained that the last time.

Derek explained we already had agreed upon the one that would take minimal property. We technically want to be ADA-compliant, but we wanted to reduce the speed of people coming off that slope onto Main Street. So, that agreement is still in place, but we were supposed to do most of the work to get it ready to go. And then whatever was left over, this city would make up the difference in the cost of the property. Then, getting 10,000, 11,000 square feet of Kyson's property, and then he thought 900 square feet of Beau's to make that trail. We first payout Beau because he is so minimal. The rest will apply to Kyson, and the city can pay off any time they want to; there's no interest, and they can do it over five years. **The motion was made by Councilman Micah Gubler to approve the Zion Trail Corridor Acquisition, second by Councilman Richard Hirschi. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

7. Discussion and possible action for the mayor to sign a Letter of Intent/Support for Zions Gateway Resort Development.

Councilwoman Wise commented there are two things; the first is the project, which is about a third sentence down. This ambitious project includes developing up to 1,600 equivalent residential ERUs for resort commercial spaces, retail areas, and a trail system. When she first read that, she thought it could be argued that it would allow 1,600 residential ERUs, and then we would allow resort commercial spaces and retail ERUs. She thought that sentence could be reworded so that the total ERUs are 1,600, and she recognized this is just a letter of support, it's like a memo of understanding, but she felt it should be a little more clear

Mayor Wilson explained that this is the 490+ acres on the topside, which they called Zion Gateway Resort Development.

Matt Loo explained that his client doesn't want to confuse anyone with the name. So, right now, it will have Zion in the name, but they want to ensure there's no confusion with the other businesses in the area. He explained that if you're doing an ERU on the commercial side, it reduces the overall 1600 total units. So, whatever can be crafted to blend with the proposed development agreement would be great.

Councilwoman Wise asked Matt Loo to consider a new name with La Verkin included.

Matt Loo agreed that it was a good idea. After this meeting, he will meet with the client to discuss it in depth. They want to include La Verkin in the name.

Councilman Prince commented that SITLA just announced the RFP for that land adjacent to you. Does that affect your plans at all?

Matt Loo answered No. We will try to acquire that, too, and make it all one big project.

Fay commented that he could change the 1600 ERUs to clarify, but he should wait until he is informed of the project's name.

Matt Loo responded that was the project's name now, but he liked the Councilwoman's recommendation of including La Verkin in the name.

Fay commented that the development agreement refers to it as the La Verkin-Mesa development agreement. How about we just do that? It would be more consistent with the development agreement. We could call it the La Verkin Mesa Resort Project.

Matt Loo agreed that was an appropriate name and agreed to the change.

Councilman Richard Hirschi asked what water they were going to be using.

Matt Loo answered that it would be part of the water tank on the BLM side of the property. If they successfully purchase the property, they will be part of that solution and the cost of burying that system there.

Mayor Wilson added that the city will get the water from the cotton well area. They're running water from the treatment plant to the cotton well; more water will be available this year.

Matt Loo continued, saying they are also looking to secure some water rights to help offset that. They have had a few under contract from New Harmony that fit within this water region. They will tie into the Ash Creek system with what they propose to run the line to Virgin. They will tie into that system, and that will serve the project.

The motion was made by Councilman Richard Hirschi to approve the Mayor signing a letter of intent/support for Zions Gateway Resort development, with the change of name to La Verkin Mesa Resort Project and the total ERU's will be 1600, second by Councilman Darren Prince. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Richard Hirschi-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion regarding the enforcement of La Verkin City Short-term Rental Ordinance.

Fay explained that my recommendation was to wait for Kyle Gubler to return. He would follow up with one of these other entities to help the enforcement process. I think his report will help clarify things a bit about how this will work.

Mayor Wilson added that this is another topic that we brought up to the Lieutenant Governor: that the cities don't have the authority to go after these people without hiring an outside source. She was taking that back to the Governor and the legislature. Every city has the same complaint about that.

Fay explained that we have people out there using their homes as a short-term vacation rental without obtaining a business license or conforming to the existing rules and regulations once they have a license. They don't conform to rules or regulations, so we have a problem with enforcement. Part of the reason it's a problem is because the only way we can enforce it, as our ordinance is drafted now, is by initiating criminal action. The problem with criminal action is that it comes across very heavy-handed. Maybe sometimes we'll want to do that. The other problem is that a criminal case, to be successful, requires proof beyond a reasonable doubt, which, if you put it on a scale of 1 to 100, you'd be about 95%. If we were enforcing something civilly or administratively, the proof required to obtain a favorable decision would be maybe 60% or 65%. That's the difference in the standard of proof required for the successful prosecution of a criminal case instead of the prosecution of a case administratively. This ordinance gives us an option. We can proceed criminally if that's what we want to do, and there may be cases where we elect to do that. Or, in other cases, we may decide we want to proceed administratively. There's a citation that's issued. The citation will specify the violation's date, time, and place, the nature, a complete description, and so forth. It will notify the property owner that he's got X number of days to remedy the situation. If he doesn't remedy the situation and does not ask for a hearing, then a judgment would be entered against him administratively for each day that the violation is allowed to continue, which could subject him to a penalty of up to \$750 for each day. If he chooses to respond to that citation, he can come in and meet with city staff and agree to fix it. The city staff would have the authority to extend that period set by the citation. If he failed to do anything to correct it within that extended time, then the case could proceed. The way it would proceed is the city would appoint a hearing officer to serve as the administrative judge, essentially, and then the individual would be required to come in and present testimony and evidence as to why he's not in violation. The city would be able to present their testimony and evidence as to why he is in violation, and then the administrative judge would have the authority to decide. This just gives the city one more option for enforcement. We can proceed criminally if that's what we want to do and go down that path, or we can enforce it administratively if we choose to go down that path.

Mayor Wilson added that this is something we can take with us. We've got an opportunity to read through it, and we'll bring it up in a future city council soon. The city council needs to get ready to the point where we can start enforcing that. It's unfair to those with legitimate licensed vacation rentals who are here to have somebody do one that's not legally approved.

F. Mayor & Council Reports:

Mayor Wilson- I believe Kyle presented at the council a while back about UDOT putting a fence on both sides of the bridge, they're pushing to do that, but each of the cities, La Verkin, Hurricane, and Washington County all agreed to put some money up towards that. I think the county was \$25,000, Hurricane was \$25,000, and we were \$5,000 towards that. The installation of that fencing is for safety reasons for the police department. When they're out trying to help people who are in distress and maybe want to commit suicide, unfortunately, it's become a popular place to do so. The suicide prevention package that IHC gave us today is something that might be helpful for people who are considering that. And then put our officers in danger where they're trying to keep somebody from jumping, and it would be horrible to have somebody jump and pull an officer over the railing with them. The state has agreed to put this on a priority list for them, and they just want a letter from us saying that this is what we would be willing to give. If there's no disagreement, he will sign this letter, and we will agree to support it with \$5,000.

Councilwoman Wise thought it wouldn't be effective, but she won't vote against it. She agreed it would help keep our officers safe.

Chief Nuccitelli added that they wanted to put the fence on the inside on both sides of the bridge. Because there's a fence on the outside on both sides, they will put up more chain-link fences. It'll deter people from going down and walking under the bridge. So, they'll be fencing on the exterior, on both the east and west sides of the fence. And then also in the median itself of the bridge

Blair Gubler reported he met with the Solid Waste District two weeks ago. They hadn't heard anything from Enterprise, which will now go to Central for its dump. The meeting was basic and did not significantly affect the city.

Fay added that they did approve a rate increase. They did it for their employees. This annual rate increase will affect all cities on January 1. They'll send a letter to every city to ensure that it is implemented by that date.

That rate increase is built into the contract with the waste hauler. Each year, they receive an automatic 2.5% increase, which triggers a 2.5% increase for the residents.

Mayor Wilson asked if that information would be sent to the residents.

Fay answered that it would not. It will be sent to all the cities and towns to ensure the billing is implemented by January 1st.

Blair continued, saying they talked about their employees' wages leveling off because the scale house was leveling off some wage increases for them, and they talked about their employees' receiving a COLA increase.

Patricia Wise- reported she attended the DTEC meeting this week. The line from St. George to Springdale is officially starting November 1st. If you want to ride it the whole way, you can get on the bus at Dixie Center Drive at 540 a.m. Come all the way through. It'll stop here in La Verkin, and one stop, continue to Lions Boulevard in Springdale. It will stop in La Verkin at Wanless Park next to the recycling cans. Once it's underway, each direction for the entire route will be \$5, so \$10 round trip. Employees who want to use it can get the entire month for \$100, which would be good savings. If somebody's just making individual stops, say La Verkin to a stop in Virgin, they can. Everything will be online; you sign up beforehand, pay your pass for that day, and do whatever. You can do it online on your phone or an app; no money is exchanged on the buses.

There's also Sheep's Bridge Road project. Interstate Rock was awarded the contract for the first half mile to the bridge, and that work will start soon. Federal funding will be applied for, and it's available October 24th for application, so they'll be applying for some of those funds section by section. They also hope to get enough money to build underpasses in two key areas to help mountain bikers get under the road without risking being hit by a vehicle.

There is so much money that other cities get loans or grants from the MPO. And they don't all have regional significance. Some are more within the city, but St. George and Ivins get the lion's share. She thought the city wouldn't want to take out a loan. You have to have the matching funds, but we need to be aware that 50% of a project we need to do here in La Verkin could be paid for.

The Zion Corridor Management Plans review for the next probably 10 years until it's done again is underway. The contractor has been selected. The first kickoff meeting will be November 12th, and there's a consultant from Corridor. Solutions has been very successful with the National Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans, and she'll be here to head that up. Then, locally, Avenue Consultants did the Safe Streets for All. They are the local consultants on the project. Each city in the corridor has the opportunity to invite one or two business owners to participate in this initial meeting.

Richard Hirschi- reported he and the mayor toured the new plant being built.

Mayor Wilson said the project is moving along fine. It will be a year from December/January of next year for completion. He asked if the fire district increase was approved.

Hirschi responded yes it was approved.

Micah Gubler-Reported cops and cars had a great turnout. The Chief had a video of the event to share.

Chief Nuccitelli reported in August of last year that he and his wife, Katie, took a leap of faith and ended up renting a building in La Verkin. They are always involved in cars and racing and things. And so, they started this Race Ready Foundation. He provided a little background on it. In a nutshell, they take a young kid between nine and 11 years old and build those soapbox derby cars in a shop here in La Verkin. (He started the video.) "I'm really excited that we get to do this again, our annual Cops and Cars event. We've got 28 coolest kids, the coolest drivers, ready to challenge the streets here in La Verkin. I'm super grateful that we have a lot of great partners. But the RAD kids that come out here from southern Utah get an opportunity to race down Center Street here in La Verkin, which is awesome. We love to be part of the Race Rating Foundation. With that, we've been able to partner with La Verkin. The real point and the goal is to grow the gravity cars, the downhill cars, through the people in the car show getting involved with the downhill cars. For the last several months, we've had kids from the community come to the shop, and we've taught them to build cars. They built these cars themselves. And I think that's good for the community. It brings the community together. We're a diverse community from all over the place. There are a lot of people here that come from other states. So it's awesome to see that it's still a small-town feel. This was year five of cops and cars." (Video ended)

Micah continued his report by saying that over a thousand people attended. It just gets better every year. There was the 9-11 day of service that combined with it. That was a community-based service activity. Some of the local denominations joined in on it. I don't know if you noticed, but there was just a short clip of an individual. He had tubes of oxygen in his mouth. Wendell Coombs was his name. He was recognized there. He was on-site in New York at the Twin Towers at 9-11. The effects of that slowly taking his life. He lived here locally and sent an excellent letter. I can text the council about it if you want to see it. He was recognized at Cops and Cars as part of the 9-11 day of service. In that service project, they washed the cars of any of the first responders in the area who wanted to, and they just kind of thanked the families. It reflected so well on La Verkin City and our police department. He thanked the chief for the great work he does with the youth.

The new royalty will be coming in November to introduce themselves. The Youth Council is moving ahead; they were granted a YOY grant for the Youth Council, so they'll be able to do some things.

Winterfest is coming up, and things are moving ahead; all food vendors' spots have been filled. Meredith and her crew are doing a really good job of getting ready for the Talent Fest, Susie Snowflake, and the other events. The city hired Joey

Church, a resident here, as a part-time; we talked and authorized some funds for a part-time employee to help with the events and recreation department. And so, he's been helping out with that. He's a contractor with a lot of knowledge and experience, so it's been very helpful having him. Meridee and her department are very grateful to have him, especially coming into Winterfest.

Darren Prince Reported that the historical preservation committee would like plaques around La Verkin's historical buildings. They were very expensive. He thought the cost they told them about last time was \$700 to \$1100 each for some of these plaques. So, we need to brainstorm how we can help them with those plaques.

Councilwoman Wise asked if these are National Historic Plaques. Darren Prince answered that it depends on which historical site it is. They're talking about some very inexpensive ones for houses.

Councilwoman Wise added that the city may do a few in the short term and then ask individuals to contribute. We could at least do something locally to get the recognition while trying to get the others.

Darren suggested that they create a non-profit group to raise money. He thought a lot of people would donate to that, and they would love to donate.

Councilwoman Wise commented that the Rim to River trail ribbon cutting will be next week.

G. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:

No comments were made.

H. Adjourn:

Mayor Wilson closed the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Nov. 6, 2024

Date Approved

ATTEST:

Nancy Cline
Nancy Cline
City Recorder

Kelly B. Wilson
Mayor Kelly B. Wilson

