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**City of Taylorsville  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**  
**Council Chambers, Room No. 140**  
**2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.**  
**Taylorsville, Utah 84129**

**Attendance:**

Mayor Kristie Overson

**Council Members:**

Council Chair Curt Cochran  
Council Vice Chair Meredith Harker  
Council Member Anna Barbieri  
Council Member Ernest Burgess  
Council Member Robert Knudsen

**City Staff:**

John Taylor, City Administrator  
Scott Harrington, CFO/Asst. City Administrator  
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder  
Brady Cottam, Police Chief  
Kris Heineman, Council Coordinator  
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director  
Richard Rich, Unified Fire Captain  
Stephanie Shelman, Deputy City Attorney  
Ben White, City Engineer

**Excused:** Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney

**Others Present:** Kenneth Green, Alexis Wilden and Gordon Willardson

**6:00 BRIEFING SESSION**

Chair Curt Cochran conducted the briefing session, which convened at 6:02 p.m. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

**1. Review Agenda**

Chair Cochran reviewed the agenda and mentioned that Taylorsville High principal Mark Ellermeier was very proud of the THS cross country teams who would be recognized during the regular meeting.

The Chair also explained that students at Eisenhower Jr. High School would be attempting to beat the world record for the longest human conveyor belt the following Friday. Elected officials had been invited to witness the fun event at 12:30 that day.

A ribbon-cutting had been held for Ulta Beauty which had opened a new location at 5400 South Redwood Road. Mayor Overson appreciated ChamberWest for their support of Taylorsville businesses and also wished to thank Brittany Kempff for coordinating the event.

Granite School District had recently met to discuss a long-range plan to remodel Taylorsville High School. She appreciated the district reaching out to the city and seeking their input.

The Mayor had recently attended the last Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) meeting to be held before the legislative session began in January. City leaders would soon be meeting with local legislators to discuss priorities for the upcoming session. She stressed how critical it was to foster good working relationships with these individuals and others.

Mayor Overson explained that elected officials, members of the Community Advisory Board and some staff members had recently participated in virtual weapons training thanks to TVPD and the Attorney General's office. She described it as a "very eye-opening experience" which had reaffirmed how important our police officers were to the community.

At a Unified Fire Awards ceremony, she enjoyed seeing Tom Smolka be recognized for his 50-year career with Unified Fire. Additionally, Station No. 118 was awarded a unit citation for its response to a tragic event that had taken place in Taylorsville the previous November.

An Evening of Art event had recently been held featuring local artists Tom Howard and Miles Howell. It was a well-attended event, and she appreciated the artists' time as they described their artistic process and even provided work to be raffled off. Associated funds went towards the *Plaza+Art* program.

The ZAP initiative passed after yesterday's election which provided funds for area zoo, arts and parks. Taylorsville was awarded \$22,900 to go towards various artistic events and programs in the city. Taylorsville had also applied for \$2 million in Tourism, Recreation, Culture & Convention (TRCC) grant funds and was awarded \$1.5 million. The application team had worked diligently on these grant proposals which would help fund Taylorsville Park improvements, Centennial Plaza events and many other city projects.

Speaking of Taylorsville Park, Mayor Overson explained that those improvements would not be complete until the following year since the playground ground material could not be poured until the spring. However, the skate park and basketball courts were finished but also could not be used until spring since the landscaping would not be in place until then. It was possible that the area might be fenced which would allow it to be used in the meantime.

The green lights in place at city hall were in support of Operation Green Light which commemorated the service of veterans and their families. The Wreaths Across America program would be collecting donations again this year in order to see that a fresh wreath could be placed at the grave of every veteran interred at the Taylorsville Cemetery.

Jody James asked that the city and Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling consider distributing paper leaf bags instead of the plastic ones currently being offered, explaining that they would be better ecologically.

There was no one else who expressed a desire to speak, so Chair Cochran closed the citizen comment period.

## 2. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments on the agenda.

## 3. REPORTS

### 3.1 Unified Fire Authority Report – Captain Richard Rich

 UFA Captain Richard Rich presented his report for Q3 which was typically the busiest quarter of the year. They had a very busy fire season during the summer, with three structure fires in Taylorsville alone. Some Taylorsville statistics of note were:

- 1,297 total incidents, 470 of which (36%) were emergent.
- 1,008 total ambulance responses, 43.5% of which came from Station No. 117 while 35.5% of them came from Station No. 118. 17.2% of the ambulances responded from Kearns Station No. 109 while the remaining 3.9% were from Millcreek, Riverton and Magna stations combined.

Captain Rich displayed a heat map showing various emergency service responses throughout the quarter. He explained that the Wildland team wrapped up their year recently after assisting with fires in California, Oregon and Nevada. UFA was in the process of getting that team qualified as a hot shot crew which was the highest level of training possible.

UFA's recruiting efforts continued. They had a recruit camp currently in session that involved fifteen candidates in their 4<sup>th</sup> week of training. He anticipated an additional camp being held the following winter and they had been able to fast-track five individuals who had been part-time UFA employees previously.

Captain Matt Hambleton's name was one of 306 from the U.S. and Canada added to the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado in September. Captain Hambleton had been stationed at Station No. 117 and passed away in 2023.

UFA's Annual Pancake Breakfast was a huge success. Although attendance was down slightly from previous years, there were still over 400 attendees.

Hurricane season made use of Utah Task Force One. What began as a Type 3 deployment (approximately 45 people) was soon upgraded to a full Type 1 team which involved 70 individuals. Rather than pulling each of those people from UFA rosters which became very challenging

Karina McLellan of Ability Inclusion Services explained that the growing demand for housing accessibility was driven by an aging population and a heightened awareness of the needs of people with disabilities. This had produced a significant shortage of ADA-compliant housing in Utah. To help address that gap, her agency had just purchased property near their community day center in West Valley, where they planned to build a 12-unit ADA-compliant residential complex. This would allow them to create more opportunities for disabled people to live independently in a supportive environment. Ms. McLellan hoped that her agency would be prioritized as she indicated that it served the Taylorsville community.

Rosie Ortega of the YMCA LIT (Leaders in Training) program addressed the City Council, explaining that their focus was on youth development, including after school programs which provided a safe and structured space for children to spend their time after school. They focused on positive reinforcement, and the program fostered a welcoming and secure environment supporting both academic and personal growth. The LIT program was designed to cultivate leadership skills in students through group activities, team projects and opportunities to mentor younger children. Program participants gained confidence, developed interpersonal skills and learned the value of responsibility and community involvement.

There was no one else who expressed a desire to speak, so Chair Cochran closed the public hearing.

## 7. OTHER MATTERS

There were no "other" matters on the agenda

## 8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

- 8.1 **Council Member Burgess** – nothing for subsequent consideration
- 8.2 **Council Member Knudsen** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.3 **Council Member Barbieri** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.4 **Council Member Harker** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.5 **Council Chair Cochran** – He reiterated that Eisenhower Jr. High would be attempting to beat the current record for the longest human conveyor belt.

## 9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

- 9.1 **Planning Commission Work Session** – **Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.2 **Planning Commission Meeting** – **Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was adjourned after the closed session at 7:32 p.m.

Jamie Brooks

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder



Approved 11/20/2024