

1 Minutes of the Centerville City Council **work session** held Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 5:30  
2 p.m. in the Centerville City Council Chambers, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

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4 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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6 Mayor Paul A. Cutler

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8 Council Members Ken Averett  
9 Tamilyn Fillmore  
10 John T. Higginson (arrived at 5:55 p.m.)  
11 Stephanie Ivie  
12 Lawrence Wright (arrived at 5:38 p.m.)

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14 **STAFF PRESENT** Steve Thacker, City Manager  
15 Lisa Romney, City Attorney  
16 Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

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18 **STAFF ABSENT** Blaine Lutz, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager

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20 **VISITORS** Representative Tim Hawkes  
21 Senator Stuart Adams (arrived at 5:55 p.m.)  
22 Senator Todd Weiler (arrived at 5:49 p.m.)

23  
24 **WORK SESSION WITH STATE LEGISLATORS REPRESENTING CENTERVILLE**

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26 Representative Tim Hawkes talked about some of the issues he is working on for the  
27 upcoming Legislative Session. He mentioned some of the topics that will be discussed during  
28 the Session, including Medicaid, transportation funding, and appointment of School Board  
29 members.

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31 Campaign Finance Reporting – Lisa Romney, City Attorney, mentioned difficulties  
32 experienced by Centerville related to municipal campaign finance reporting. She stated she has  
33 made recommendations regarding related legislation to the Lieutenant Governor's office.  
34 Senator Weiler arrived at 5:49 p.m.

35  
36 Utah Retirement System – Mayor Cutler referred to changes made to the Utah  
37 Retirement System and the feedback he has received from the Police Department. The number  
38 and quality of candidates for police departments has decreased, possibly as an unintended  
39 consequence of the changes made and the positions being less attractive. Senator Weiler  
40 responded that he would like to see the impact quantified. He did not express support for  
41 making "double-dipping" an option again. Senator Adams arrived at 5:55 p.m.

42  
43 Transportation – Steve Thacker, City Manager, stressed the serious need for more  
44 funding for street maintenance. Street maintenance costs have increased, but Class C road  
45 revenues have not increased. Mayor Cutler added that sales tax income dropped significantly  
46 as a result of the recession and has not increased sufficiently to help with funding road  
47 maintenance. Senator Adams agreed that rebuilding roads is a lot more expensive than  
48 maintaining them. Mayor Cutler asked the Legislators for help in increasing funds available for  
49 street maintenance. The Mayor stressed that the City feels an increase in the gas tax or other  
50 user fees would be a better solution than an increase in property tax. Senator Adams  
51 emphasized that the gas tax is a per gallon tax, not a percentage, and an inflationary  
52 adjustment would be politically difficult for the Legislature to pass. Councilwoman Fillmore  
53 agreed that it is a complicated issue, and asked if the Legislature would be willing to tackle it  
54 from many different directions. She said she thinks the sales tax is reasonable because the  
55 entire economy of the State will be affected by the quality of the transportation system, but a

1 user fee is also important. Senator Adams responded that the Legislature has looked at many  
2 options over the years. He said he is an advocate of user fees as well as toll roads, but does  
3 not think there is sufficient political will for it to happen. Senator Adams said he also sees very  
4 little support for fees linked to vehicle registration or with a device attached to vehicles, and  
5 explained difficulties associated with indexing the gas tax. Mayor Cutler asked what the Council  
6 can do to support the issue and make the City's voice heard. The Legislators encouraged the  
7 Council to continue working with the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT).  
8

9       Regarding the local option sales tax issue, Senator Weiler pointed out that Davis County  
10 could already enact an additional quarter cent (1/4 cent) increase to the sales tax. Mayor Cutler  
11 responded that the City would not have a voice in how the County-level increase would be  
12 allocated. Senator Adams expressed the opinion that approval of a quarter cent increase would  
13 require cooperation between ULCT, the Association of Counties, and UTA. Mr. Thacker stated  
14 that a 0.15 percent increase to the City would go a long way towards helping the need for street  
15 maintenance funding. Mayor Cutler mentioned that not all cities are in agreement regarding  
16 what additional transportation revenue should fund, adding that some members of the City  
17 Council feel that UTA should not receive more funding.  
18

19       Councilman Wright stated he feels it is important to calculate what the tax would need to  
20 be to accomplish what needs to be done before deciding on the mechanism for implementation.  
21 Senator Weiler responded that all the cities have different requirements. Senator Adams stated  
22 that UDOT has a sophisticated model that keeps a record of what is needed on State roads.  
23 Senator Adams continued that it is easier to obtain funding for large, obvious projects than for  
24 pot holes and slurry seal. Councilman Wright suggested the State could supply cities with a  
25 toolkit to determine needs and report the needs in a standardized way.  
26

27       The Council expressed gratitude for the pedestrian bridge that will be constructed over  
28 the freeway at Parrish Lane later in 2015. Mayor Cutler stated that an important project for the  
29 long-term economic development in Centerville will be to connect 1250 West in Centerville with  
30 650 West in Farmington. Senator Adams mentioned that it would be good to have an  
31 interchange at Glover Lane. The Council and Mayor agreed. Mayor Cutler stated that  
32 Centerville wants to be part of the long-term solution.  
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34       Emergency Dispatch – Mayor Cutler explained that Davis County has four emergency  
35 dispatches, and asked that the Legislators be aware that the dispatch issue would have a big  
36 impact on Centerville. Senator Weiler asked why the State should get involved. Mayor Cutler  
37 responded that Davis County, Layton City, and Bountiful City are all unwilling to give up their  
38 dispatch service, and incentives to unite would be helpful. Councilman Wright added that a  
39 unified dispatch system would save time in emergency situations. The Mayor stated that the  
40 City is not advocating for any specific dispatch arrangement, but would like to be part of a  
41 solution.  
42

43       UTOPIA – Mayor Cutler reported that UTOPIA is making good progress, increasing  
44 subscribers every month. He asked that the Legislators not support any action that would make  
45 the UTOPIA situation more difficult for the cities. The Legislators responded they have not  
46 heard mention of anything related to UTOPIA for the upcoming Session.  
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48       Sales Tax Distribution – Senator Adams stated he does not think any change will be  
49 made in the sales tax distribution, but he has heard some talk about trying to push economic  
50 development over retail.

