## Salt Lake County Council

Committee of the Whole

~Minutes~

Monday, November 23, 2015

5:03:05 PM

Committee Members

Present: Jennifer Wilson

 Jim Bradley

 Arlyn Bradshaw

 Michael Jensen[[1]](#footnote-1)

 Aimee Winder Newton

 Sam Granato

 Steven DeBry

 Max Burdick

 Richard Snelgrove, Chair

**SPECIAL MEETING ORDER**

**Monday, November 23, 2015**

**2001 South State Street, N2-800, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114**

**385-468-7500**

 The Salt Lake County Council, acting as the Committee of the Whole, shall hold a Special Meeting on Monday, November 23, 2015. The purpose of the Special Meeting is for the Committee of the Whole to consider various items of County Business as reflected on the attached agenda.

 The Council will meet at 5:00 pm at the Salt Lake County Government Center, 2001 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114 in Room N2-800. The Council may take any action set forth on the agenda, which is attached to this Order.

 DATED this 20th day of November, 2015.

 By /s/ RICHARD SNELGROVE

 Chair, Salt Lake County Council

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Citizen Public Input (5:03:05 PM)

 **Mr. Robert Reed** spoke under “Citizen Public Input” and submitted the following comments:

 *I spoke to you about the inequity of the Mayor’s original compensation proposal because of the takeaway of the 401(k) contribution. Since then the Mayor has come back with a new proposal that attempted to address those concerns. While I did not totally agree with that proposal, I did see what looked like a good faith effort to reach a political compromise with County employees. The Mayor still proposed to take away the 401(k), which I and many of my coworkers still find distasteful. The compromise, however, was that the equity adjustments would be limited to Tier 1 employees. The balance here was that while Tier 1 employees would lose the pay in the form of a 401(k) contribution, they would hopefully get much of that back through adjustments to their salaries based on labor market inequities that had accumulated through the longer tenures of the Tier 1 employees.*

 *By defunding most of that part of the Mayor’s proposal, also called the “compression” piece of the proposal, you have removed the part that addresses the inequity of the 401(k) takeaway. If you are not going to leave that in place, then I think you should leave the 3 percent 401(k) contribution as is until you are ready to address and fund all the compensation recommendations as a whole.*

 *Since you are looking for areas to cut, let me suggest an alternative. I suggest you cut the Cultural Core. The first $500,000 that was appropriated were general fund tax dollars that have basically gone unused. The budget committee established by that agreement has only recently gotten around to asking for authorization to spend the funds, and it is on the very first thing the contract specifies they be spent on.*

 *I have read the contract for that agreement, and to me it is clear that there is no accumulating obligation if you choose not to appropriate those funds. In other words, if you do not appropriate those funds in a given year, you do not have to make that up later. The only accumulation I see in the contract is an accumulation that counts against the total contract cap regardless of whether or not you make the yearly appropriations. But you do not have to take my word for it. You can read the contract for yourselves or have Jason Rose interpret it for you. The other thing I would ask you in connection with the Cultural Core is to read the minutes from when the Cultural Core agreement was approved. I was there at that meeting and what I saw looked like anything but well-informed consent. Speaking as a citizen, I think it would be entirely appropriate to revisit the issue of the Cultural Core funding after being better informed.*

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Central Utah Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees (5:07:18 PM)

 **Council Member Jensen** stated Salt Lake County has five of the 16 board seats on the Central Utah Water Conservancy District Board of Directors. Terms for Tom Dolan and Claude Hicken are expiring, and the Council needs to nominate three names for each open position. Also a third seat needs to be filled. The Director who filled this seat has indicated he did not want to be reappointed. The Council will need to submit to the Governor three names for each position. He suggested the following names be submitted:

Seat One Seat Two Seat Three

Tom Dolan Claude Hicken Aimee Winder Newton

Greg Christensen Jennifer Wilson

 Nichole Martin

 **Council Member Newton** stated there are 18 men on this board with no women. She felt that her name and Nichole Martin should be submitted to fill two different seats. This would allow for more diversity on the Board.

 **Council Member Jensen** stated if the names of three women are submitted to fill one seat, then it is a guarantee that a woman will get appointed to the board.

 **Council Member Newton** stated she spoke with the Governor’s Office and he indicated he would like more diversity on this board. There is a good chance that two women will be appointed to the board if the names are submitted under different lists.

 **Council Member Snelgrove** stated he has received word from the Governor’s Office that the names need to be submitted in order of preference. He asked if there was a limit to how long board members could serve.

 **Council Member Jensen** stated the Governor has indicated he was willing to reappoint board members up to three terms. This will be the third appointment for Claude Hicken.

 **Council Member Bradley, seconded by Council Member Jensen, moved to nominate the following, listed in order of preference, and to forward the nominations to the November 24, 2015, Council meeting for formal consideration:**

**Seat One Seat Two Seat Three**

**Tom Dolan Claude Hicken Aimee Newton**

**Nichole Martin Al Mansell Adam Gardner**

**Max Burdick Gregory Christensen Bart Barker**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

 **Council Member Burdick** asked if there was any reason for him and Council Member Newton to recuse themselves from this vote.

 **Mr. Jason Rose**, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated there is no monetary gain involved with this board. The conflict is self-evident.

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Large Counties’ Caucus (5:24:42 PM)

 **Council Member Newton** stated during the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) conference in St. George this past week, she had lunch with county commissioners from some of the larger urban counties in Utah. During lunch, the discussion was centered on the possibility of meeting together to discuss issues relating specifically to larger counties. The Governor’s staff, Representative Hutchins, and UAC have indicated they would like to participate in this meeting as well. The Governor suggested the date of January 20, 2016, from 9 a.m. to noon as a possible time for this meeting. She asked if the Council would be okay if she pursued this. Commissioners from Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, Tooele, and Summit Counties would be invited.

 **Council Member Wilson** stated information sharing with the large counties and a political coalition of sorts is really worth exploring in a more direct way. This is a good idea. However, she did not see it as replacing the need for UAC to come back to the Council to address concerns expressed during the October 27, 2015, presentation.

 **Council Member Bradley** asked if this caucus would be associated with UAC.

 **Council Member Newton** stated yes; UAC has indicated that it would like to be involved and would probably host a lunch after the meeting. UAC could give a presentation on the Justice Reform Initiative. It will be good to see what other large counties are dealing with.

 **Council Member Bradley** asked if this coalition would supersede UAC on certain legislative issues.

 **Council Member Newton** stated she did not see it as superseding UAC. It is more of a way to find a new niche within UAC. Much of the conversations at UAC are issues that are not related to rural counties. This is an opportunity to open up a dialog relating to issues for larger counties.

 **Council Member Burdick** stated this could be a good idea. The key to this meeting is to make sure it is organized correctly with a chair, vice chair, and agenda. The meeting should be formatted in such a way to have some structure associated with it. It is a good idea to have UAC take the lead on this.

 **Council Member Jensen** stated meetings similar to this were held a few years ago for about six to nine months, but then everyone’s schedules got to the point that the meetings just ended. The County is not alone in issues relating to UAC; other counties have expressed similar frustrations that Salt Lake County has.

 **Council Member Newton** stated she is envisioning only one or two meetings per year, not monthly or bi-monthly. She will go ahead and work with UAC to get this meeting planned. The meeting will be tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2016, from 9 a.m. to noon.

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Interviews for Board Appointments to the Mountainous Planning District (5:24:42 PM)

 **Council Member Bradley** stated the Council will be conducting interviews tonight for five of the nine positions on the Mountainous Planning Commission.

 **Council Member Wilson** stated before the interviews begin, she would like to thank all the citizens who submitted applications for this planning commission.

 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the appointment of **Tod Young** as a member of the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning Commission.

 After a brief introduction, the Council forwarded this appointment to the December 8, 2015, Council meeting for final consideration.

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 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the appointment of **Laura Briefer** as a member of the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning Commission.

 **Ms. Laura Briefer** stated she has 20 years’ of experience in natural resource management particularly to water protection issues. She is currently employed by Salt Lake City as the public utility deputy director.

 **Council Member DeBry** asked Ms. Briefer if she was concerned about a conflict of interest.

 **Ms. Briefer** stated the City and the Health Department have extraterritorial jurisdiction on issues relating to water and enforcing the water code. However, the City has no authority on issues relating to zoning, and because of that there is no conflict of interest. As a board member, she would be an individual of integrity and if a conflict were to arise, she would recuse herself.

 **Council Member Bradley** stated the list of candidates for these positions are skilled and well-versed on issues relating to the mountains. Some have backgrounds with water and others work or have worked for the Snowbird Resort. Conflicts of interest are associated with monetary gain and not expertise.

 This appointment was forwarded to the December 8, 2015, Council meeting for final consideration.

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 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the appointment of **Niel Cohen** as a member of the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning Commission.

 After a brief introduction, the Council forwarded this appointment to the December 8, 2015, Council meeting for final consideration.

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 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the appointment of **Bryan O’Meara** as a member of the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning Commission.

 After a brief introduction, the Council forwarded this appointment to the December 8, 2015, Council meeting for final consideration.

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 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the appointment of **Catherine Kanter** as a member of the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning Commission.

 After a brief introduction, the Council forwarded this appointment to the December 8, 2015, Council meeting for final consideration.

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Letter in Support of Federal Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit (6:01:34 PM)

 **Council Member Wilson** submitted the following letter for Council approval:

*We, the members of the Salt Lake County Council, are writing to respectfully ask you to support extending or making permanent the three expiring provisions of the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC).*

*Salt Lake County has long helped working families by offering supportive programs such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program that mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to help thousands of families, with low- and moderate-income, file their taxes at no charge every year.*

*The three expiring provisions make a tremendous difference for tens of thousands of Salt Lake County families. Please consider the following:*

 *1. Additional support for families with more than two children – this provision is important throughout Utah, since we have the largest families in the nation.*

 *2. “Marriage penalty” relief – Utah has one of the highest rates of marriage in the nation.*

1. *The income threshold for accessing the child tax credit – if this is allowed to jump from $3,000 to $14,700, a fulltime minimum wage earner with children could lose the entire CTC of $1,725.*

*We believe that these federal tax credits do help low- and moderate-income working families make ends meet. For decades, there has been strong bipartisan support of these family tax credits because they help accomplish what we all want to see government programs do about poverty; support families toward financial independence.*

 **Council Member Burdick, seconded by Council Member Granato, moved to approve this item and forward it to the November 24, 2015, Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Review of Proposed Hires (6:03:54 PM)

 **Mr. Brad Kendrick**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the following proposed hires:

Agency Position

*Fleet Management Division*  Fleet Technician/Mechanic 20/22

*Parks & Recreation Division* Associate Division Director 36

*Sheriff’s Office* Corrections Specialist 16

 Four Jail Clerk 15

 Jail Recorder Supervisor 25

*Aging & Adult Services Division* Assistant Program Manager 29

*Library Services Division* Assistant Circulation Supervisor 19

*Public Works Operations* District Worker 15/17

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Potential Litigation

 **Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to close the open session of the Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss potential litigation. The motion passed unanimously.**

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The Council reopened the meeting by motion during the closed session.

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***CONSENT AGENDA:*** (6:04:15 PM)

Board Appointments

Mayor Ben McAdams submitted letters requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the reappointments of **Grace Lin**and**Elizabeth Mitchell**as members of the Zoo, Arts & Parks (ZAP) Tier I Advisory Board to serve three-year terms. Their terms will begin January 1, 2016, and will end December 31, 2019.

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 Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council’s advice and consent to the reappointment of **Noemi Hernandez-Belcazar**as a member of the Zoo, Arts, and Parks (ZAP) Tier II Advisory Board to serve a three-year term. Her term will begin January 1, 2016, and end December 31, 2019.

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to approve the reappointments and forward them to the November 24, 2015, Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Resolutions and Interlocal Agreements

 The Council reviewed the following resolutions and interlocal agreements. The resolutions authorizing execution of the agreements have been placed on the November 24, 2015, Council agenda for final approval and execution:

*Resolution and Interlocal Agreement*

1. *Cottonwood Heights* regarding the pavement of the intersection of Creek Road and Highland Drive.
2. *Taylorsville City* regarding the transfer of funds for highway purposes.

*Resolution and Declaration of Gift*

1. *Jordan River Foundation* regarding work done to improve the Little Confluence Trailhead and the Redwood Nature Area along the Jordan River.

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to approve the resolutions and forward them to the November 24, 2015, Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Gift to Salt Lake County

 The Council reviewed the following gift to Salt Lake County. The Declaration of Gift form has been placed on the Council agenda for final approval and execution:

1. *Mark Edward Austin* has offered to donate .14 acres of real property located at approximately 1641 North Canyon Park Boulevard for Open Space.

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to forward the Declaration of Gift forms to the November 24, 2015, Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

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Other Business

*Cancellation of Meetings*

 **Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to cancel the Committee of the Whole and Council meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2015, and Tuesday, December 22, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.**

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*Approval of Minutes*

**Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to approve the November 10, 2015, and November 16, 2015, Committee of the Whole minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

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The meeting was adjourned at 6:04:15 PM.

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 Chair, Committee of the Whole

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 Deputy Clerk

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1. Participated electronically. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)