

**ST. GEORGE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
WORK MEETING  
DECEMBER 10, 2015, 4:00 P.M.  
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor Jon Pike  
Councilmember Gil Almquist  
Councilmember Jimmie Hughes  
Councilmember Michele Randall  
Councilmember Joe Bowcutt  
Councilmember Bette Arial  
City Manager Gary Esplin  
City Attorney Shawn Guzman  
City Recorder Christina Fernandez**

**OPENING:**

Mayor Pike called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Councilmember Hughes and the invocation was offered by Reverend Alex Wilkie.

Mayor Pike stated that next Thursday will be the last meeting for the year. He reminded those in attendance about the reception for Councilmember Almquist on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. and the swearing in for Councilmember Hughes, Councilmember Arial, and Ed Baca on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. He mentioned the Electric Theater's show starting tonight called Christmas on Broadway.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING A PROPOSED CELL TOWER ON THE BLOOMINGTON PARK BASEBALL FIELD:**

City Manager Gary Esplin explained that staff has been approached by Verizon regarding a cell tower at the Bloomington Park baseball field. Cell service in Bloomington is not very well. He outlined the proposed location as shown in a photo provided by Verizon. Staff does not feel it is intrusive to the aesthetics of the park.

Leisure Services Director Kent Perkins stated that staff worked with Verizon to determine the best location. Staff's concern is that there are two elements – the pole and the fenced yard around the pole.

Mayor Pike commented that he would prefer have the pole installed near the arena.

Reverend Alex Wilkie asked if the pole will be tall enough for those who use the tower. If not, the proposed location is the wrong location.

Mayor Pike noted that Verizon would not install the pole unless it will help.

Ray Draper, with the Bloomington Community Council stated that their preference is to have the pole near the arena. He commented they are trying to keep Bloomington beautiful. The proposed location would make the pole visible from Man of War. They have a concern with the base of the pole; he suggested they install a block wall around the pole.

City Manager Gary Esplin advised this is City property therefore, the Council can tell them where to install it.

Mr. Draper asked if any funds received for this can be set aside for improvements at the park.

A discussion took place on possible locations. The consensus of the Council is to have them install the signal on one of the existing light poles to the north, near the arena if the neighbors are okay with it, or in the outfield on the northwest field. Verizon should contact the neighbors. The Council added that they should install a block wall.

**DISCUSISON REGARDING THE PHILOSOPHY FOR NAMING STREETS:**

City Manager Gary Esplin explained that the current philosophy is to use numbers as much as possible, unless a road is curved. He asked the Council if they wanted to continue naming streets as they are currently. Staff has received requests to change to names rather than numbers.

The Council commented that if they change to street names rather than numbers, they still would like to have to have the numbers, having both alternatives.

Public Works Director Cameron Cutler gave an example of a request for a street name change in the Little Valley area. He explained that emergency services would rather have the coordinate number; the post office would rather have names. This particular request was to change the name of a street in the middle of a subdivision. He noted that most of the streets in that area have more coordinates than names. Staff has talked about changing the policy so that if the street is short, they can use a name rather than the coordinate. Staff is not proposing to change current street names.

Deputy Chief of Police Rich Farnsworth stated that this is a non-issue for their patrol cars.

The consensus of the Council is to continue with the current philosophy. If there is a request and the street is short rather than a major street, they will consider it. Staff can request a name change for historical purposes.

**PRESENTATION FROM THE GIS DEPARTMENT:**

GIS Administrator Dave Evans showed the Council the system they use in the GIS Department. It shows a base map, City limits and streets. He presented several maps such as maps showing empty lots, building permits, floodways, roads, etc.

City Manager Gary Esplin commented that in the Little Valley area, staff will have to address roads once the MPO study is done. Additionally, staff will return in the future to discuss the SITLA projects in the Bloomington area.

Mr. Evans showed the maps application on the City's website as well as internal applications.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING ROAD IMPROVEMENTS ON 3000 EAST, BETWEEN 1450 SOUTH AND MALL DRIVE:**

City Manager Gary Esplin stated this area is where the new Lin's Market is being built. Although City policy states street improvements are paid for by the property owner, if the City doesn't do anything, those wanting to turn into Lin's from the north on 3000 East will be impeding traffic. He explained that funds are put into the budget each year for developer matching projects. He recommends putting in fifteen feet of asphalt in front of the property on the west side to create a turn lane now. Projects such as this is why these funds are in the budget. The impact fees paid by the developer can be used as well. Staff suggests entering into a contract with the current contractor to put the road in while they are already out there.

Public Works Director Cameron Cutler stated that they are paving the section in front of Lins on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The consensus of the Council is to move forward with the City Manager's recommendation.

**REPORTS FROM MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS AND CITY MANAGER:**

Councilmember Almquist mentioned the Historic Preservation Commission meeting he recently attended. They asked about the Potter House on Main Street as they have cut down the tree. Although it was not approved, the owner repaired the roof. The owner stated that he will take the home off the historic home register.

City Attorney Shawn Guzman advised that property is still zone residential.

City Manager Gary Esplin explained that they cannot use the home for anything other than residential unless it has the historic designation.

Councilmember Almquist noted that the Commission made that very clear to him. They would like to have a map showing the homes with the historic designation.

City Attorney Shawn Guzman commented that this is an issue with the Legislators this year because of Salt Lake City. There will be legislation this session that will restrict the ability of a city to create historic districts and restrict property on what they can do on these homes.

Councilmember Almquist explained that a grant was given to City to find the historic homes and make a book. Many of the home owners are grateful for being recognized in the book. He then mentioned the Flood Control Board meeting and explained that the Hillside Review Board discussed the hill on River Road, across from Mr. D's. The Council will have to decide if the hill is significant or if it can be removed. The Board feels the ordinance should be updated and clarified. A motion

was made to approve to tear it down if the Council feels it is okay and it failed. The owners would like the hill gone.

City Manager Gary Esplin stated that there are additional problems with that project. He asked how they propose to remove the hill and where will the dirt go.

Councilmember Almquist commented that there are three developers who would like the dirt.

City Manager Gary Esplin noted that this item was on the Planning Commission meeting agenda earlier in the week.

Councilmember Bowcutt had no reports.

Councilmember Hughes mentioned that a new board member is needed for the St. George Housing Authority. They are currently working on salary comparisons for Director Mike Barben.

Councilmember Arial commented that this year's museum tour was very successful. She mentioned the Administrative Services party she attended last night.

Some of the Councilmembers mentioned the Fire Department's Christmas party.

Mayor Pike reported that he officiated Aaron Metler's wedding.

Councilmember Randall asked Deputy Police Chief Rich Farnsworth to thank Officer Matt Schuman for his heroic efforts in saving the lives of two children yesterday.

Councilmember Arial reported that the Children's Museum representatives are very supportive of renting the building; however, they are concerned with security as the back door is sometimes left open when the top floor is rented out.

City Manager Gary Esplin explained this issue was addressed in the fee structure. The fees are such that a staff member can be present if needed.

Councilmember Almquist mentioned that Rusty with the Dinosaur Museum Board is retiring; they have interviewed a possible replacement.

City Manager Gary Esplin stated there are issues at SwitchPoint regarding the shower with the plumbing and leaks. Staff will have to make an emergency expenditure to correct that. He mentioned that citizens can only pay for a business license by check. City Treasurer Aaron Olsen has put together a program allowing credit cards to be used to pay the business license fees. The City will lose approximately \$15,000 per year by allowing the use of credit cards; however, the fees can be amended to cover the cost if necessary.

The Council feels that change needs to be made.

Councilmember Almquist suggested staff look at not requiring renewing business license annually.

City Manager Gary Esplin explained that the fees can differ as it is based upon the number of employees. He then provided an update on the Wastewater Treatment Plan roof. Removing the roof will be completed within two weeks.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:50 p.m.

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Christina Fernandez, City Recorder