

CLEARFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M. WORK SESSION
January 6, 2016

PRESIDING:	Mark Shepherd	Mayor
PRESENT:	Keri Benson	Councilmember
	Kent Bush	Councilmember
	Nike Peterson	Councilmember
	Vern Phipps	Councilmember
EXCUSED:	Bruce Young	Councilmember
STAFF PRESENT:	Adam Lenhard	City Manager
	JJ Allen	Assistant City Manager
	Stuart Williams	City Attorney
	Nancy Dean	City Recorder

VISITORS: Burk Benton, Kalli Benton, Tracy Forsling

Mayor Shepherd called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tracy Forsling, Clearfield, stated she was representing all the residents who had been affected by the City's recent broken waterline in her neighborhood. She expressed a desire for the Council to know the extent of the damage to homes affected by the problem. She informed the Council that the basements in several homes were completely destroyed and ripped up due to the damage caused by raw sewage and water. She explained she understood the City had a Goodwill Program to help residents that had been affected by problems similar to the current situation. She acknowledged that governmental immunity existed for instances similar to the one her neighborhood was currently experiencing but the residents felt strongly that the damage was the City's responsibility and the City had liability insurance for a reason. She expressed the hope of all the residents affected by the incident that the City would take every step available to it to remedy the situation. She acknowledged the best case scenario for residents would be no out of pocket expenses resulting from the incident. She reiterated that the damage was extensive and residents were missing work and had interrupted lives because of it. She continued the residents were not looking to make money but rather looking for relief from the costs associated with scope of the incident. She stated residents did not want to make a claim on their personal home owner's insurance for the incident because it would affect their rates and status for years to come. She explained the residents needed a lot of help and hoped the City would work with its insurance company to take care of its residents affected by the incident. She expressed appreciation for Mayor Shepherd, Adam Lenhard and other staff who attended the neighborhood meeting on the issue.

Burk Benton, Clearfield, wanted to make the Council aware that the broken waterline had been repaired within in the last few years. He asked the City to consider there might be fault associated with the last repair. He also expressed his hope that the City would do everything possible to make residents whole from the incident.

Adam Lenhard, City Manager, stated staff had been working very hard to understand what might have caused the failure of the waterline. He stated the City had been in contact with its insurance company on possible solutions. He added the City would be offering to clean every sewer lateral along that waterline to ensure there was no sediment left in the line. He explained residents were concerned about preventing a similar incident in the future. He stated to address those concerns the City would immediately begin the replacement of the waterline in the cul-de-sac through its emergency procurement procedures. He explained staff was updating residents as new information became available and another update would be sent at the end of the evening with additional details.

Councilmember Benson commented she had experienced a sewer backup in her home a few years earlier. She explained her insurance company had informed her that there were ways to prevent future backups in her home. She indicated a sewer backflow could be installed to prevent future incidents. Ms. Forsling asked if the City's mainline had a backflow installed. Mr. Lenhard explained that backflow prevention was not normally part of a main sewer line. He continued the backflows were usually installed at individual laterals or drains.

Ms. Forsling asked if the City had reviewed what took place when the waterline was repaired a few years ago. Mr. Lenhard explained the line had previously been repaired and the extent of that repair was still being reviewed. He continued the City wanted to make sure its review was complete. He stated he would keep residents up to date as additional information became available.

Ms. Forsling expressed her appreciation for the Council taking the time to discuss the issue.

There being no further business to come before the Council, **Councilmember Bush moved to adjourn to a Closed Session for the purpose of a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation at 6:30 p.m. in accordance with Utah Code § 52-4-205, seconded by Councilmember Benson. The motion carried upon the following vote: Voting AYE – Councilmembers Benson, Bush, Peterson and Phipps. Voting NO – None.** Councilmember Young was not present for the vote.

The minutes for the Closed Session are kept in a separate location.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED
This 26th day of January, 2016**

/s/Mark R. Shepherd, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Clearfield City Council meeting held Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

/s/Nancy R. Dean, City Recorder