

Minutes of the meeting of the Logan Municipal Council convened in regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 5:30 pm in the Logan City Municipal Council Chamber, 290 North 100 West, Logan, Utah. Chair Jeannie F. Simmonds conducting.

Councilmember's present at the beginning of the meeting: Chair Jeannie F. Simmonds, Vice Chair Amy Z. Anderson, Councilmember Mark A. Anderson, Councilmember Tom Jensen and Councilmember Jess W. Bradfield. Administration present: Mayor Holly H. Daines, Finance Director Richard Anderson, City Attorney Kymber Housley and City Recorder Teresa Harris.

Chair Simmonds welcomed those present. There were approximately 46 in attendance at the beginning of the meeting.

OPENING CEREMONY:

Justice Court Judge Lee Edwards administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Elect Jeannie F. Simmonds, Councilmember Elect Tom Jensen and Councilmember Elect Mark A. Anderson.

Meeting Minutes. Minutes of the Council meeting held on December 3, 2019 were reviewed and approved with no changes.

ACTION. Motion by Councilmember Jensen seconded by Councilmember M. Anderson to approve the December 3, 2019 minutes as presented and approve tonight's agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Agenda. Chair Simmonds announced there are two public hearings scheduled for tonight's Council meeting.

Meeting Schedule. Chair Simmonds announced that regular Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 pm. The next regular Council meeting is Tuesday, January 21, 2020.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

Logan resident Gail Yost addressed the Council and provided information about reusable plastic bags. She also showed the Council an example of a reusable bag that she uses for produce.

Logan resident Paul Mueller and business owner of the Pet Hotel addressed the Council and asked if there were any updates on the ordinance regarding noise (barking dogs) at his Pet Hotel location on 600 West.

Vice Chair A. Anderson stated that she met with City Attorney Kymber Housley regarding the ordinance and said she has concerns about making any changes in terms of

48 how it would affect the City at-large. She suggested looking at other considerations in
49 regard to changing the ordinance.

50
51 Councilmember Bradfield asked if Mr. Mueller was still having issues since he first
52 brought this concern to the Council.

53
54 Mr. Mueller responded no, not that he is aware of at this time.

55
56 Chair Simmonds suggested that Councilmember M. Anderson and Councilmember
57 Jensen meet with Mr. Housley regarding this issue and then the Council will further
58 discuss any changes to the ordinance.

59
60 There were no further questions for the Mayor or Council.

61
62 **MAYOR/STAFF REPORTS:**

63
64 ***2020 State of the City – Mayor Daines***

65
66 *Another year is in the history books. It has been an excellent year with much*
67 *accomplished as we continue our theme of partnerships and cooperation. I personally*
68 *appreciate the dedication and diligence of city council members, and our ability to work*
69 *together on a variety of projects.*

70
71 *My number one goal and priority is fiscal responsibility, and we continue on that path*
72 *with reserves in all significant areas, conservative budgeting and realistic spending.*
73 *Departmental budgets have generally stayed flat, and we carefully watch expenses,*
74 *streamline operations, and operate efficiently in all departments. Our outstanding*
75 *Executive Team makes that happen, and I would like to thank and recognize them for*
76 *their excellent work.*

77
78 *Goal number two is to invest in infrastructure, and that budget number increased by 11%*
79 *this year. Our exciting Center Street project was part of that goal by replacing all aging*
80 *infrastructure under the street and was also the first step towards goal number three,*
81 *which is downtown revitalization. We are grateful for the financial partnership of the*
82 *Center Street owners as we created a beautiful, functional, pedestrian-friendly block for*
83 *the next fifty years, which will draw people to our downtown. We also thank the partners*
84 *who donated funds to make the beautiful archway possible. It is the “icing on the cake.”*

85
86 *Our grand opening, lighting celebration, and Christmas parade created a wonderful*
87 *community gathering with a festive spirit and demonstrated people want a gathering*
88 *place and a genuine experience downtown! It also showed if people want to come*
89 *Downtown, parking is not a problem. We had over two thousand people lining one block*
90 *of Center Street to see Santa and the beautiful Clydesdales!*

91
92 *In the spring, we will finish the Center Street planters with decorative stone, and plant*
93 *flowers. Center Street will be a “legacy project” to benefit our citizens for years to come!*
94

95 I continue to pursue the goals listed in The 20 Ingredients of an Outstanding Downtown.
96 The Center Street project met a number of those goals including • Start with just one
97 bock • Curb appeal • Sidewalk café dining • An intimate setting • Create a downtown
98 gateway, and more.

99
100 The next step as we focus on Downtown is dealing with vacant, crumbling buildings,
101 many of which are over 100 years old. In addition to the physical problems of the
102 structures, part of the challenge is to bring new uses which draw people downtown.

103
104 That is why I will continue to advocate for the goals of • Living and staying downtown,
105 and • A gathering place with constant activity As you know, we presented a plan for a
106 potential \$28 Million dollar public-private development with a plaza, ice rink, housing
107 and some restaurant/retail to revitalize Center Block, which would have met those goals.
108 The plan included demolition of the Emporium and several adjacent structures. That
109 request was denied by the Historic Preservation Committee, primarily because of
110 concern that the project might not go forward, but also concern that two of the facades
111 had some historic value. If there is beautiful history worth saving, I am the first to
112 advocate for that. There are always tradeoffs: for a price, anything can be fixed. But if
113 you spend a lot of money to save marginal buildings that will continue to be “old” and
114 not function well, nor attract new uses even after the investment, that doesn’t make sense
115 to me.

116
117 We are working with our development partner to bring a more detailed plan, including
118 finances, to council. One reason we did not have specific financials is that we have
119 modified the plans four or five different times since September to better meet the needs of
120 property owners around the block. There have also been some alternate proposals from
121 downtown business owners, and Council and the public will have the opportunity to
122 consider all proposals at the council meeting on February 18th. We need to get this right!

123
124 By way of background on the project, we have been building significant reserves in our
125 RDA, or Redevelopment Agency fund, which is specifically for economic development.
126 We are still refining the specifics, but if we move forward, estimates project a city
127 investment in the range of \$7-8 million, with private investment of about \$20 million to
128 create a significant new development for downtown.

129
130 For those that might not know, an RDA is a financing tool the state provides cities to
131 assist with economic development. RDA's must set aside a certain percentage of
132 increment generated for housing. The city has accrued \$2 Million of housing funds,
133 which if we don’t use, revert to the state’s Olene Walker Housing Fund. This proposed
134 project would be an excellent use of those restricted funds and is one component of our
135 proposed financing.

136
137 To be clear, these are NOT general fund dollars that pay for roads, parks, public safety
138 and more ... so this does not mean we are spending less money on those important
139 services, nor does it mean we are raising taxes for this project. With this proposal, the
140 city would retain ownership and operations of a public plaza, but the remainder of the

significant development would be on the tax rolls, providing revenue to the school district, county and city.

Turning to another topic, I am pleased to announce some exciting news which will enhance open space and trails. For some time, we have been talking with Parks and Public Works about the value of the "Kunzler property" for open space preservation, trail connection, river restoration and flood plain and storm water management. The property is agricultural land west of 1000 West, on the opposite side of the river from the Trapper Park Trail and Trapper Park. We had it on our wish list for acquisition – but did not have the funding. This summer a grant opportunity became available when the state legislature once again funded the LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund.

The application process was challenging, but staff all helped pull the rigorous application together on a very short timeline, including participation from the landowners. We applied for funding to place a conservation easement on 73 acres of property along the river, which will still allow the Kunzler family to develop some portion of the upland property.

We were recently notified by the state we received the full amount requested, \$875,000! This grant does require an equal match which we will continue to work towards through RAPZ and other grant requests. Per our Trails Master Plan, it will allow us to further continue our trail system north along the river from Trapper Park, and will get us part way to the planned 600 South Park (at 1900 West), property which the city owns, providing a great park and significant connections when funding allows completion. We expect to finalize details by late February to complete the transaction.

I mentioned teamwork: each department in the city works diligently and supports what we do as a city in various ways. I'd like to share a brief highlight from each, which helps summarize the state of the city:

Our Economic Development Department has worked diligently on the projects already mentioned, as well as creation of a new redevelopment area and beautification effort in south Logan, with two significant new projects underway on South Main which will greatly enhance the entrance to Logan, as well as contribute to Logan's economic viability and our long-term tax base. We also negotiated with the developers to provide public trails along the river in both developments, which will be great public amenities.

The Finance department has worked long hours on converting to a new software system which will better serve residents as well as staff. The financials and utility billing component are completed, which was the most complex change, with other departments converting over the next year. We know that changing utility billing software creates short term frustration for our customers, and for that we apologize, but the new software will improve security and efficiency in the long term. As always, finance keeps us on track and on budget at all times with financial recordkeeping and monitoring.

The Legal department reviews hundreds of documents and contracts annually and oversees our risk management and safety training. Through their careful efforts – and the

188 *efforts of employees -- the city's Workers Compensation Modifier score is one of the*
189 *lowest for a municipality in the state, resulting in a premium decrease of nearly \$50,000*
190 *this year.*

191
192 *Our City Recorder ran a successful election this past year, which requires extensive time,*
193 *effort and attention to detail. With our vote by mail elections, the turnout is about 24%,*
194 *an increase from in-person voting.*

195
196 *Our Municipal Court runs well, and we appreciate our new Judge and his good work.*

197
198 *Our Library is also a community center, hosting a number of programs and events as*
199 *well as providing meeting space for 238 different community groups. Patrons checked*
200 *out nearly 750,000 physical items, including such diverse offerings as a telescope, blood*
201 *pressure kits or an e-reader. There were 97,000 digital items checked out as well. We*
202 *continue to work on a potential site for a new building. In the meantime, our staff does an*
203 *excellent job in an aging facility with many problems.*

204
205 *The Environmental Department added a new cell to the North Valley Landfill to handle*
206 *county-wide waste, and improved the entrance to the current landfill and transfer station.*
207 *Construction continues on schedule and budget for the new \$135 million wastewater*
208 *treatment plant. Our forestry division takes care of thousands of city trees, and puts up*
209 *holiday lights and decorations, which looked so festive this year.*

210
211 *The recycling market has changed dramatically, but at least for now we continue to offer*
212 *that service. With a USDA grant, we had two "tire amnesty days" -- free tire drop off at*
213 *the landfill -- and sent more than 100 tons of used tires to a waste-to-energy plant. We*
214 *distributed close to 3,000 reusable bags as we educated the public to have a bag plan.*

215
216 *Our Renewable Energy Board is working to refine the city's energy roadmap, we are*
217 *working to understand the city's carbon footprint, and we receivedUCAIR grants to*
218 *replace diesel vehicles with electric at the golf course and cemetery. Our garbage truck*
219 *fleet is upgraded with clean diesel. Public works also received an Airshed Grant for*
220 *older vehicle replacement.*

221
222 *This year, the city joined the Red Mesa solar and Carbon Free Power project to add to*
223 *our renewable energy portfolio.*

224
225 *In other Light & Power accomplishments, they are very proactive in maintaining and*
226 *upgrading lines, substations and distribution systems to provide reliable service to*
227 *residents and businesses, and recently received an award from the American Public*
228 *Power Association for System Reliability. This is a big asset to our businesses and for*
229 *economic development. This year they rebuilt two significant sections of transmission*
230 *lines, improved distribution underground along 1400 North, installed new decorative*
231 *lighting on South Main and new underground on the Center Street project.*

232
233 *Our Parks Department received National re-accreditation, a rigorous process, and is*
234 *still the only department in Utah to receive that recognition. They opened Bridger Bike*

235 *Park, are part way through a “Dogs in some parks” pilot program, and continue to*
236 *expand and improve our trail system, including the Canyon Connector Trail to connect*
237 *the Hillcrest neighborhood and USU to First Dam. In your packet tonight, they submitted*
238 *draft plans for a future “Blue Trail,” which is a river trail for kayaks and canoes, with*
239 *potential access points at Stewart, Rendezvous, Trapper and other city-owned parks. All*
240 *of that while keeping our parks in wonderful condition. After significant scrutiny and*
241 *effort, the Golf Course, which remained under current city management, has increased*
242 *revenue by \$50,000.*

243
244 *Our public safety staff are on duty day in and day out to ensure our citizens’ safety. Our*
245 *police officers deal regularly with the best and the worst of situations, one example being*
246 *the Lizzy Shelley homicide case, a tragic event which they were able to bring to*
247 *resolution with intense effort on their end and great partnerships with other agencies.*
248 *They have also enhanced inhouse and cross training with these agencies.*

249
250 *Our Fire and EMS officers are continually busy as well. They have implemented*
251 *significant new training programs for all employees including officer development, and*
252 *have rigorously reviewed policies, procedures and data. The data showed our current*
253 *Cache County Emergency Medical System (CCEMS) was significantly out of balance, to*
254 *Logan’s detriment. The original contract was executed fifteen years ago and did not*
255 *reflect the significant cost of service increase due to growth of population and number of*
256 *calls outside of Logan. We have terminated that contract, which calls for a year-long*
257 *winding down period where service remains the same. The county has issued an RFP to*
258 *evaluate county wide Fire and EMS services, and we are keeping an open mind about*
259 *whether Logan would participate in a newly-structured contract going forward, or*
260 *whether we simply serve Logan citizens, and other cities with which we have a specific*
261 *contract, beginning in 2021.*

262
263 *Our Community Development Department completed a Moderate-Income Housing Plan,*
264 *initiated a Public Art Master Plan, helped coordinate Center Street, increased code*
265 *enforcement efforts to improve neighborhoods, administered our CDBG program, and*
266 *has initiated a 10-year review of the Logan General Plan. Construction plan review has*
267 *increased by roughly 25% this past year, as Logan continues to grow.*

268
269 *That plan review also affects Public Works, our largest department, as engineering also*
270 *reviews all plans submitted for new development. It has been one of their busiest years*
271 *ever. They also keep our roads patched, clear the snow at all hours of the day or night,*
272 *fix water leaks, deal with storm water and work on many of our infrastructure*
273 *improvements.*

274
275 *Bigger projects this past year include resurfacing Airport Road and rebuilding 1200*
276 *North on the east side. They have initiated proactive efforts to improve infrastructure*
277 *with both lining and grouting of sewer lines to reduce infiltration. They have initiated*
278 *projects to improve fire flow, as well as implemented a schedule to rebuild our most*
279 *troublesome sections of water and sewer lines.*

280

281 *They also helped with Center Street, South Main improvements, River Restoration*
282 *between Main and 100 East, and several railroad crossing improvements citywide.*
283
284 *Our Human Resources department keeps track of over 400 employees who serve our*
285 *citizens, and has partnered with our insurance carrier to implement a wellness program*
286 *to keep employees healthy and keep health care costs – one of our significant challenges*
287 *– in check.*
288
289 *I would like to recognize those employees who diligently work and serve every single day,*
290 *sometimes in the middle of the night, sometimes in bad weather, so we have water to*
291 *drink, power that turns on, trash that gets picked up, parks and trails to enjoy, orderly*
292 *development, books to read – and much more, including fire and police when we need*
293 *them.*
294
295 *In summary, our city is progressive, proactive, well managed and we are planning for the*
296 *future. I am pleased to be a part of that team effort.*
297

298 **Board Appointments – Mayor Daines**

299
300 Mayor Daines asked the Council for ratification to appoint David S. Geary and Abraham
301 E. Verdoes to serve on the Cache Valley Transit Board and Ken Heare to serve on the
302 Parks and Recreation Board.
303

304 **ACTION. Motion by Councilmember Jensen seconded by Councilmember**
305 **Bradfield to approve ratification of David S. Geary, Abraham E. Verdoes and Ken**
306 **Heare as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
307

308 **Awards for Light & Power Department – Mayor Daines**

309
310 Mayor Daines addressed the Council and stated that last year, Logan City Light & Power
311 was able to upgrade two of the transformers at Substation 7 with newer, larger capacity
312 (100 MVA), and more efficient transformers. The larger capacity will help with
313 continued growth of the industrial section of Logan City. This improvement also allows
314 Logan Light & Power to feed the City in the event that a failure occurs at the connection
315 point to Rocky Mountain Power’s transmission system located at Substation 1. In
316 recognition for this system improvement, the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems
317 (UAMPS) presented the City of Logan with the System Improvement Award 2019 at the
318 Annual Member meeting this week. Mayor Daines asked Logan Light & Power Director
319 Mark Montgomery to come forward and accept the award.
320

321 Mayor Daines also presented Logan Light & Power Distribution Manager Steve Crosby
322 with the Employee of the Year Award which, he received at the Utah Associated
323 Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) Annual meeting in December for his exceptional
324 contribution towards enhancing the prestige of and service to Logan’s utilities.
325

326 **City of Logan Flood Insurance Rating – Paul Lindhardt, Public Works Director**

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Mayor Daines announced that the Flood Insurance Rating will be presented at the January 21, 2020 Council meeting.

No further items were presented.

Councilmember Jensen commented that it was amazing to see from the Mayor's State of the City how many positive things have occurred over the past year and he is very proud to be part of Logan City. He asked about the recent billing and software changes and said he has received concerns from utility customers on these changes.

Finance Director Rich Anderson responded there have been problems with those customers who pay their utility bill online which, is approximately 6,000 customers. He said the problem is when the software was changed the links, passwords and tokens associated with the previous software to be changed as well. Unfortunately, there was no convenient or efficient way to complete the software change without it somehow affecting the utility customers. He feels that for the most part we are over the peak of problems occurring. He apologized for any inconvenience the software change caused the customers and asked for continued patience as the software change is completed.

Mayor Daines added other factors added to the timing of the software change were the holidays, two employees in the finance department were out with pneumonia and it was the end of the month.

Mr. Anderson added there has never been a problem with the new software. The only problems have been paying online and creating a new account online. He also explained with the old software program we were billing Logan City customers and individual cities who then would bill their own residents. In addition to that, we also billed 3,000 unincorporated Cache County customers. We could not continue to bill the Cache County customers efficiently so those customers are now being billed directly from Cache County which, they should be. We are now only billing Logan City customers, we are billing Cache County for the unincorporated area, we are billing the incorporated cities for all of the services that Logan City provides to them and they in turn are billing their residents. These billed services include garbage collection, recycling and 911. He said at some point in the future the City will incentivize those customers who pay their bill online or direct payments through a bank/credit union.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Council Chair and Vice Chair 2020 – Chair Simmonds

Chair Simmonds stated that at the beginning of each new year a new Council Chair and Vice Chair are selected.

ACTION. Motion by Councilmember Jensen seconded by Councilmember M. Anderson to nominate Amy Z. Anderson to serve as the Council Chair for 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION. Motion by Chair Simmonds seconded by Vice Chair A. Anderson to
nominate Tom Jensen to serve as the Council Vice Chair for 2020 as presented.
Motion carried 4-1 (Bradfield abstained).**

Planning Commission Update – Chair Simmonds

Chair Simmonds reported that the Planning Commission met in December and discussed a proposed cell tower. It was an interesting discussion because the City cannot deny a cell tower, but the discussion was, what is the tower going to look like and the location of the tower.

City Attorney Kymber Housley clarified that the City can deny a cell tower if it doesn't meet the specifications/requirements. The Planning Commission tasked the Planning staff to review the Design Review Standards in regard to cell towers and staff will report back in a few months.

Board/Committee Reports – Chair Simmonds, Vice Chair Anderson and Councilmember Jensen

Chair Simmonds reported that due to the holidays she has nothing to report in regard to Board/Committee assignments.

Vice Chair A. Anderson reported that RECAB met and the Economic Development Committee did not meet. The Library Board is currently looking for a board member replacement and the CCEMS Board met and discussed the terms of the CCEMS agreement. Vice Chair A. Anderson also reported that she attends the Cache Community Connections meeting and announced they are hosting the Annual Martin Luther King event in the Tabernacle on Friday, January 10. The public is invited to attend, and the event is free.

Councilmember Jensen reported that the next Water/Wastewater meeting will be held on January 16 and they will be updating the Cache Water District Master Plan. He said a bid was sent out from the Cache Valley Center for the Arts for a façade upgrade. He also announced and encouraged people to attend several traveling Broadway shows that will be coming to Logan. He reported that the Golf Course will do a drone flyover of the course which will help golfers as they look to play at the course and also to promote the course. He said it was his understanding that financially, the golf course is doing much better. Lastly, Councilmember Jensen reported on the Crockett Stormwater Plan. The plan went to the State who was supportive and then to the Federal government where it is currently. There is still work to be done in getting approval which, is an \$80 million dollar grant over a five-year time period. Someone marked ineligible on the grant application so there is still work to be done on obtaining the grant.

No further items were presented.

ACTION ITEMS:

PUBLIC HEARING - Budget Adjustment FY 2019-2020 appropriating: \$9,200 fund balance toward election costs – Resolution 19-64

At the December 3, 2019 Council meeting, Finance Director Richard Anderson addressed the Council regarding the proposed budget adjustment for additional costs for the 2019 election most of which were costs related to returned postage. Additional funds for future elections will be budgeted to cover costs.

Chair Simmonds opened the meeting to a public hearing.

There were no comments and Chair Simmonds closed the public hearing.

ACTION. Motion by Councilmember Bradfield seconded by Vice Chair A. Anderson to approve Resolution 19-64 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING - Consideration of a proposed resolution adopting Amendment 1 to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year 2017 (PY2017) and Amendment 2 to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year 2018 (PY2018) to the Annual Action Plans (AAP) for the City of Logan – Resolution 19-62

At the December 3, 2019 Council meeting, Community Development Director Mike DeSimone addressed the Council and explained the following:

The Logan City CDBG adopted Annual Action Plan (AAP) for PY2017 and Annual Action Plan (AAP) PY2018 requires amendment.

PY2017 Projects that have been completed with remaining funds:

PY17 - 100 W. Golf Course Road – remaining funds \$23,475.78

PY17 – 1400 N 200 E Sidewalk – remaining funds \$39,370.27

PY2018 Projects that have been completed with remaining funds:

PY18 - 300 W 600 S Sidewalk – remaining funds \$2,619.19

PY18 – 200 W 1300 N Sidewalk – remaining funds \$7,380.46

TOTAL FUNDS TO BE REALLOCATED \$72,845.70

Through consultation with Department/Division Managers from the Streets, Public Works & Recreation Departments, it has been determined to reallocate funds to:
\$36,422.85 to PY18 600 E. Pedestrian Improvement project
\$36,422.85 to PY17 Park Access & Mobility – West Willow Park Improvements

Chair Simmonds opened the meeting to a public hearing.

There were no comments and Chair Simmonds closed the public hearing.

ACTION. Motion by Councilmember Bradfield seconded by Councilmember Jensen to approve Resolution 19-62 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

Budget Adjustment FY 2019-2020 appropriating: \$6,316 a grant the Police Department was awarded from the State of Utah. The Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds will be used to purchase and install a vehicle gate for the police parking lot; \$2,496 a grant the Police Department was awarded from the State of Utah. The State Asset Forfeiture Grant (SAFG) funds will be used to purchase police equipment; \$400,000 funds for trail improvements from grant funding and reserves – Resolution 20-02 – Richard Anderson, Finance Director

Finance Director Richard Anderson addressed the Council regarding the proposed budget adjustments. The \$400,000 is related to the Kunzler property acquisition which, will give the City the remaining funds necessary to complete the transaction. There is a request for \$300,000 that the City anticipates through discussion with Cache County, that will be awarded in May 2020 as a RAPZ grant but we need the funds now to move forward. There is a risk that the County could change their mind regarding RAPZ allocation although he feels it's a very minimal risk. There is also a request to appropriate \$100,000 of reserves toward the same project. There is a possibility this amount will come out of reserves and it's also very likely we will find a grant that will take the place of the reserves that we'll be able to use. The County has talked about the possibility of being a participant.

Mayor Daines said this also includes property from the landowner in the amount of \$375,000.

The proposed resolution will be an action item and public hearing at the January 21, 2020 Council meeting.

Consideration of a proposed resolution adopting the Logan River Blue Trail Master Plan – Resolution 20-01 – Frank Howe, Logan River Restoration Task Force and Russ Akina, Parks & Recreation Director

Logan Parks & Recreation Director Russ Akina addressed the Council regarding the proposed resolution adopting the Logan River Blue Trail Master Plan. He announced there will be a public open house to show plans for the Blue Trail on Thursday, January 9 in the City Hall Conference Room. A subsequent public meeting will be held on January 23 at the Logan River Golf Course. The purpose of the open house is to gather public input as they update the Plan.

Frank Howe, Chairman of the Logan River Task Force addressed the Council. He explained that the definition of a Blue Trail is a river adopted by communities that are

dedicated to improving family friendly recreation such as fishing, boating, hiking, and wildlife watching, and conserving rivers and lands. The proposed plan envisions the Logan River as a world-class recreational asset adding to our existing community amenities and tourist attractions.

The Plan has three main goals – to improve carry-in watercraft access to the Logan River, create safe river passage, and foster community involvement, volunteerism, and stewardship of the Logan River.

This Plan describes existing conditions of the Logan River relative to creating a Blue Trail. The Plan identifies a network of access points to provide a variety of river experiences, ranging from leisurely family floats to day-long river excursions. Many of these access points utilize City-owned property and are within Logan River Restoration project areas.

This Plan lays out a phased development strategy starting with the core area from Rendezvous Park to Trapper Park (Phase 1), expanding upstream to Stewart Park and downstream to the 600 South Bridge near 2000 West (Phase 2), and culminating with future additional linkages. However, development of the Logan River Blue Trail should be driven by opportunities as it develops, regardless of its phase.

Goals of this Plan are the following:

- Improve and develop river access points and improve recreational access to the Logan River
- Create and maintain safe passage on the river
- Promote the Logan River Blue Trail as a community-wide amenity
- Foster volunteerism and stewardship of the river as a recreational asset to the community

Mr. Howe said the Plan identifies 13 unique access sites to the Logan River Blue Trail. These sites range from private property to public parks, undeveloped city property to developed PacifiCorp boat launches.

The analysis of access sites makes a clear case to create the first Blue Trail between Rendezvous Park and Trapper Park. Both parks are publicly owned, have established parking and restroom facilities, and are connected by an existing multiuse pathway. These two parks provide a clear starting point for Logan City to build a great Blue Trail. West to 600 South Bridge, or East to Stewart Nature Park on 100 South would allow a successful Blue Trail to expand and effectively connect across the City of Logan. In time, Blue Trail networks could expand to reach existing PacifiCorp water recreation facilities and link the back to the mouth of Logan Canyon.

A kayak park is proposed for the Logan River Blue Trail within the residential section as it runs parallel to Riverside Drive, between Center Street and 100 North. The project would involve the design and placement of various permanent structures in the river to

establish a play park for canoeing, kayaking, tubing, and other water related recreational activities.

There are several funding sources being reviewed for the Blue Trail project. The next steps include the following:

- Fundraising for design phase
- Grant writing
- Professional design and cost estimation of river access improvements in Logan City Parks
- Fundraising and community engagement regarding Blue Trail maintenance and promotions
- Construction of access sites

Councilmember Jensen stated the area between the USU Water Lab, and the Crockett diversion is a great location for floating in the river. With the Crockett Diversion Plan there is discussions about diverting water in a controlled manner which would reduce the water level and he asked it that had been taken into consideration.

Mr. Howe responded he has talked with the Cache Water District regarding this issue and there are other ways the water can be diverted and those are being considered.

Councilmember Jensen said there are different “seasons” where sometimes the water is rough, and the water level is high and other times the water is low and calm. He commented that he is very excited about this Plan.

Mr. Howe said there will be times when users will be discouraged from entering the river. During the irrigation season the water is low and as he mentioned, there have been discussions about working with the Cache Water District to leave some of the water in the river so it can be used.

Councilmember Bradfield commented that he wished all plans that came before the Council were this well thought out and detailed.

Chair Simmonds said the plan goes well beyond Logan City and she asked Mr. Akina how he would propose the Council proceed with this Plan.

Mr. Akina responded that he is requesting that the Council consider adoption of the Blue Trail Master Plan at the January 21, 2020 Council meeting. After adoption, staff will then work with Cache County, PacifiCorp and other entities to introduce the Master Plan.

Chair Simmonds stated that natural resources typically own from shore to shore and they map the rivers.

Mr. Howe responded that the Logan River is very complex in its ownership and the State of Utah owns the property underneath the river and in some places Logan City owns the property, some areas Cache County, and some is owned by private landowners.

609 Chair Simmonds also asked if current and future plans from PacifiCorp will be taken into
610 consideration.

611
612 Mr. Howe responded, yes and PacifiCorp will be involved in these discussions.

613
614 Mr. Akina stated the Blue Trail Master Plan will also go before the Cache County
615 Council.

616
617 The proposed resolution will be an action item and public hearing at the January 21, 2020
618 Council meeting.

619
620 No further workshop items were presented.

621
622 **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

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624 There were no further items discussed by the City Council.

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626 **ADJOURNED.** There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting
627 adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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632 Teresa Harris, City Recorder