MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020

The City Council met in Work Session on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, in Room 326, Committee Room, City County Building, 451 South State Street.

In Attendance: Council Members Chris Wharton, James Rogers, Andrew Johnston, Amy Fowler, Analia Valdemoros, and Daniel Dugan.

Staff in Attendance: Cindy Gust-Jenson, Council Executive Director; Jennifer Bruno, Council Executive Deputy Director; Erin Mendenhall, Mayor; Rachel Otto, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Katherine Lewis, Senior City Attorney; Boyd Ferguson, Senior City Attorney; Cindi Mansell, City Recorder; Nicole Smedley, Assistant City Recorder; Pam Lofgreen, Emergency Management Preparedness Program Director; Audrey Pierce, Emergency Management Critical Infrastructure Liaison; John Flynt, Community Preparedness Coordinator; Kenya Rene, Multi-Language Media Outreach Coordinator; Allison Rowland, Council Public Policy Analyst; Lewis Kogan, Trails and Natural Lands Division Director; Nick Norris, Planning Director; Laura Briefer, Public Utilities Director; Jesse Stewart, Public Utilities Deputy Director; Marian Rice, Public Utilities Water Quality Treatment Administrator; Jason Brown, Public Utilities Chief Engineer; and Scott Crandall, Deputy City Recorder.

Guests in Attendance: Keith Larsen, Bowen-Collins Consultant and John Thomas, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) Project Manager.

Councilmember Rogers presided at and conducted the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

#1. 2:45:21 PM **TAKE A STRAW POLL TO NOMINATE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020.** **View Ballots**

Following the nomination process, Councilmember Chris Wharton was elected Council Chair and Councilmember Andrew Johnston was elected Council Vice Chair for calendar year 2020.

#2. 2:05:32 PM **RECEIVE A BRIEFING FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE ABOUT THE UTAH OPEN MEETINGS LAW, AND FROM THE RECORDER'S OFFICE ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT RECORDS ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT ACT (GRAMA).** *This briefing will serve as the annual trainings for both*

the City Council and the Board of Directors of the Redevelopment Agency. **View Attachments**

Cindi Mansell, **Nicole Smedley**, and **Boyd Ferguson** briefed the Council with attachments. Comments included GRAMA procedures/requirements, government records access/release, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), transparency, defining record types/classifications, public record portal, archived records (encourage public to look for records before submitting requests), easy public navigation process, response times/appeals, annual increase in number of requests, costs/fee schedule associated with filling requests (Salt Lake having lowest fees in State), fee waiver procedure, record retention schedule (delete records once disposition requirements were met), and litigation/discovery costs.

Several Council Members expressed interest in reviewing the City's current fee schedule (keep fees reasonable, allow everyone access).

2:19:57 PM **Katherine Lewis** and **Boyd Ferguson** briefed the Council with attachments. Ms. Lewis said training for Utah's Open and Public Meetings Act (OPMA) was required/conducted annually. She said since Council Members served as both Council and RDA, only one briefing was scheduled. Comments included umbrella of transparency, meetings of public bodies being open/accessible to the general public (some exceptions allowed), definition of "meetings", avoiding situations which could circumvent intent of the Act, providing public notice (agendas, annual meeting schedule, etc.), emergency and closed meetings criteria/notice, electronic meeting participation, meeting minutes/recording, public comment/participation, handling meeting disruptions, and consequences of Act violations.

Discussion was held on the Council's ability to hold closed sessions. Council Members expressed interest in making the public aware that the Council did not hold these meetings to make decisions in secret. Closed meetings gave the City the ability to protect information about land purchases (saving taxpayers money) and avoid compromising the City's position in litigation/legislative matters.

Councilmember Wharton felt it was important to inform the public (through Council/Community Council meetings and one-on-one interactions) that the Council held closed meetings to either

protect public money, resident's security, employees privacy, or litigation/legislative strategies (legal implications).

#3. 2:56:10 PM **RECEIVE A BRIEFING ABOUT AN ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARIZING THE CITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND CURRENT EFFORTS.** **View Attachments**

Pam Lofgreen, **Audrey Pierce**, **John Flynt**, and **Kenya Rene** briefed the Council with attachments. Ms. Lofgreen provided an overview of the proposal. Comments included augmenting budget with grant funds which were expiring (needing to become sustainable through General Fund), improving planning efforts/management, mission statement, program responsibilities (guiding documents, joint information system, preparedness programs, emergency operations center, and training/exercises), incident command, Fix-the-Bricks program (upgrading masonry structures), seismic building standards (administrative policy), push-back from builders/developers regarding increased costs, incentivizing upgrades versus threatening penalties, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), declining enrollment/fee reduction, SAFE Neighborhood programs/2020 Great Shake Out, public education, and incentivizing participation.

Further comments included Ham Radio usage/equipment upgrades, updating City's Hazard Mitigation Plan, RAVE Alert System enrollment, 2020 goals/priorities (operations plan, review emergency ordinances/policies, shelter inspection teams, debris management plan, national level planning, and focusing efforts on vulnerable/underserved populations), evaluating Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), annual report/program dashboard (transparency), utilizing outcomes/indicators to develop data-driven policies and program development, planning efforts for 2021 National Level Exercise (Salt Lake selected by Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), planning scenario/projections for 7.0 earthquake, fire mitigation/planning, strategy updates, planning timelines, and defining Council's role in emergency situations (legislative authority/public policies).

Discussion was held on the 2021 Exercise. Ms. Lofgreen said this was a very large/complex event which would involve/require commitments from the Administration and Council (provide personnel, equipment, etc.).

Councilmember Rogers talked about the amount of debris that would be generated from a catastrophic event and planning efforts

that would be needed to address impact/clean-up. He said he understood there would be some type of master plan for debris collection and wanted to ensure someone was representing the Landfill in ongoing discussions. Councilmember Dugan talked about potential fire hazards and wanted to ensure that component was also included in discussions (invite appropriate personnel).

Ms. Lofgreen discussed the Council's role in emergencies and felt it was important for her/Staff to be better partners with the Council in getting preparedness messages/education out to the public and proactively scheduling outreach events in individual Council districts in a way that worked for the Council. She said she also wanted to encourage Council Members to participate in emergency training (online, etc.) and would forward training information to Ms. Gust-Jenson.

Ms. Gust-Jenson asked for clarification about Ms. Lofgreen's earlier comment regarding the Department's need to shift reliance from grants to the General Fund. She asked if they had been working with Finance on pursuing new grants. Ms. Lofgreen said there was some uncertainty regarding current grants based on the City's eligibility (year-by-year evaluation). She said some grants currently shared by municipalities might be shifted to the County. She said her Department would continue to pursue new grants but wanted to ensure adequate funding was in place in the event grant funding was lowered/lost (basic needs for operational costs such as cell phones, etc.).

#4. 3:47:40 PM **RECEIVE A BRIEFING ABOUT THE DRAFT FOOTHILLS TRAIL SYSTEM MASTER PLAN.** *The plan aims to improve and create trails that are environmentally sustainable, enjoyable, accessible, safe, and low-maintenance. This is the first master plan for the Foothills Natural Area, which would cover from the North Salt Lake boundary, south to Emigration Canyon. A future plan update will address the area between Emigration and Parleys Canyons.* **View Attachments**

Allison Rowland, Lewis Kogan, and **Nick Norris** briefed the Council with attachments. Ms. Rowland provided background information including capital/maintenance/management costs, potential for a full-time Foothill Ranger position, and policy considerations. She said tonight's goal was to address the Administration's request to adopt/not adopt the Master Plan.

Mr. Kogan presented details about the trail system/master

plan. Comments included extensive public outreach, property ownership, trail system goals, parking issues, environmental studies, trailhead/access points, design guidelines (included trail alignment, construction, loop routes, decommissioning, and signage/wayfinding), 10-year plan (3 phases), habitat data collection before trail construction, funds available for Phase I, vegetation impact analysis, Request-for-Proposal (RFP) submitted for Phase I, private fund-raising efforts, laying ground work for Phase II, and working on General Fund budget request to increase seasonal trail maintenance staff.

Discussion was held on trail maintenance, vegetation/weed control, trailheads/parking, signage, and project costs/budget.

Council Members requested the following items from Staff:

- explore potential to utilize goats for vegetation control;
- add signage warning people about fire danger from parking cars in tall weeds/grass (exhaust system starting fires);
- work collaboratively with Utah Transit Authority (UTA), University of Utah, Davis County, etc. to provide public transportation (bus, rail, etc.) to access points along the trail (notify public about transportation options as trails come online);
- explore ways to manage/restrict/enforce e-bike access to protected watershed areas;
- provide spreadsheet showing projected costs, funding sources (City, County-ZAP, State, grants, donations, sponsorships, etc. for each phase of trail construction;
- ensure information was uploaded to website and easily accessible to the public (confirm links work);
- utilize Transit/East Bench Master Plans and other plans (i.e. 9-Line, etc.) to provide seamless integration between transportation and trail access points;
- obtain information about the Draper Canyon Trail system for comparison (length, amenities, Park Ranger position, etc.); and
- obtain information about how other counties/cities planned to connect/augment their trails to the City's system (explore transportation related funding opportunities).

Ms. Bruno said since a public hearing was not required, the Council could just adopt the Plan making it the official guiding document going forward.

#5. 4:49:10 PM **RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ABOUT MAJOR PROJECTS, PERMITTING, AND PLANNING EFFORTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ISSUES SUCH AS STREET LIGHTING, WATERSHED MANAGEMENT, AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE.** **View Attachments**

Laura Briefer, Jesse Stewart, Marian Rice, Jason Brown, and **Keith Larsen** briefed the Council with attachments with Ms. Briefer providing a high-level overview of the following major plan initiatives: Street Lighting Master Plan, Water Supply/Demand Plan, Watershed Management Plan, Water Reclamation Facility status, and Stormwater Master Plan. Comments included initiatives being in response to major changes in regulatory requirements, land use changes, population, environmental conditions, climate, public values, impact on quality of life, and plans reflecting scientific and industry standard methodologies derived from research/evaluation.

4:52:11 PM Mr. Stewart provided information on the Street Lighting Master Plan. Comments included currently working from 2006 plan, Public Utilities taking over street lighting responsibility in 2013, converting old technology to LEDs (energy savings), changing standards/technology, continued efforts to identify more energy savings, equity issues, priorities/options for future expansion, consistent application, street/pedestrian safety, environmental sensitivity, public engagement, performing nighttime surveys/analysis, visioning statements, online survey, stakeholder groups, ecological lighting consultant, light pollution, finding balance between urban and ecological, evolving technology, street classifications/strategies, light dimming/shielding capabilities, and pedestrian lighting being major priority.

Council Members requested the following items from Staff:

- having light shields readily available to residents who expressed concerns about lights shining in windows, etc.; and
- pedestrian lighting being major priority (feedback on lighting types Citywide - location, spacing, intensity, etc.);

Councilmember Rogers requested a one-on-one meeting with Mr. Stewart to discuss lighting issues.

5:09:10 PM Ms. Briefer provided an overview of the Water Supply and Demand Master Plan/projection charts. Comments included updating existing plans, regulatory/legal requirements, land use changes/growth (Northwest Quadrant-Prison), climate change impacts, water demand planning scenarios, risk and redundancy factors, major conveyance study in process, demonstrate (to State) City's ability to maintain its water rights for 40-years (avoid forfeiture), infrastructure upgrades, population projections through 2060, service area encompassing 141 square miles, transportation zones, conservative planning scenarios being performed (based on dry years), water sources including surface water, wells, springs, storage, etc., conservation goals, peak demand days, emergency response/recovery planning, setting new conservation targets, implementing additional conservation measures, 2020 Conservation Plan being sent to Council for adoption in December 2020, timeline for developing water supplies, new well development between 2026 and 2036, protecting water sources, ongoing monitoring/studies needed for future climate change, and diversifying resources.

5:30:14 PM Ms. Rice provided an overview of the Watershed Management Plan (WMP). Comments included updating elements of 1999 Plan (process would help develop policies, programs, and culinary watershed protection/practices, etc.), regulatory compliance, wildfire risk assessment, water quality analysis, climate changes, managing invasive species, recreation/development impacts, robust public/stakeholder engagement, multi-agency cooperation, funding challenges/partnerships, 190 square miles of watershed area, protecting forest/watershed health, and campaign to update signage (inform public about importance of protecting watershed).

Ms. Briefer said the Plan would come to the Council for adoption after its completion in approximately 12 months.

5:38:16 PM Mr. Brown provided an overview of the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). Comments included existing facility being 55-years old, inability to retrofit existing facility due to new regulatory requirements, new plant needing to be in place by 2025 to meet regulatory requirements (construction beginning in spring of 2020), $700 million estimated cost, ground remediation, public engagement activities, educational opportunities, impact on community, wetlands, trails, elimination of open drying beds (eliminating odor), and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-Envision standards.

Ms. Briefer said the Stormwater Master Plan segment would be addressed at a future meeting.

#6. Tentative break

#7. 5:47:56 PM **RECEIVE A BRIEFING ABOUT A DRAFT NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR THE PUBLIC LANDS DIVISION.** *This assessment is the first step toward creating a new Comprehensive Public Lands Master Plan for the Parks, Trails and Natural Lands and Urban Forestry Divisions.* **View Attachments**

Item pulled.

#8. 5:48:43 PM **RECEIVE A BRIEFING ABOUT THE LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT STUDY (EIS) AND SELECTION OF A TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE FOR LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON THAT IMPROVES RELIABILITY, MOBILITY AND SAFETY.** *The study area involves State Road 210 from Wasatch Boulevard through Little Cottonwood Canyon to the town of Alta. A draft impact statement will be published in autumn 2020, and a final impact statement will be published in spring 2021.* **View Attachments**

Laura Briefer and **John Thomas** briefed the Council with attachments. Comments included 16 transportation studies performed between 1989-2015, Utah Transportation Commission (UTC) allocating $66 million in 2017 to Little Cottonwood Canyon, State Route 210 being a study area, key challenges/elements being mobility, safety, reliability, avalanche mitigation, and trailhead parking, impact of Wasatch Boulevard on neighborhoods, difficulty in finding appropriate solutions, changing travel behaviors, Little Cottonwood Canyon having more traffic/avalanche risk than Big Cottonwood Canyon, mobility hub (parking, carpool area, transit access, etc.), and reducing number of vehicles traveling up/down canyons.

Mr. Thomas said UDOT planned to develop multiple alternatives over the next few months to address mobility and traffic demands (transit elements, private partnerships, tolling, etc.), He said information would be presented to the public for review and comment in summer of 2020. He said then, after further review/refinement, a final EIS draft would be ready in the fall/winter of 2020.

Council Members requested the following items from Staff:

- analyze efforts/actions/regulatory requirements to protect watershed in both Canyons (develop alternatives, provide

mitigation, make top priority for all agencies involved);
- UDOT needing to ensure public website access (have website/landing page working properly)
- UDOT needing to study/provide/ensure equitable access to improvements for all City residents.

#9. RECEIVE AN UPDATE ABOUT PROJECTED SALES TAX REVENUES FOR YEAR 1 (FISCAL YEAR 2018-19) OF THE "FUNDING OUR FUTURE" INITIATIVE, RELATED ACTIVITIES AND NEXT STEPS. *Annual fiscal year revenue numbers are finalized once the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is completed. Funding Our Future is an initiative to address four critical needs: public safety, affordable housing, improved streets, and better transit options. The Council approved a 0.5% sales tax increase in May 2018, and during the City's annual budget process, allocated funding from anticipated sales tax revenue to each of those needs.* **View Attachments**

Item pulled.

#10. RECEIVE AN UPDATE, AS PART OF THE FUNDING OUR FUTURE INITIATIVE, ABOUT ACTIVITIES AND NEXT STEPS RELATED TO THE VOTER-APPROVED $87 MILLION STREETS RECONSTRUCTION GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECTS. *Funding Our Future is an initiative to address four critical needs: public safety, affordable housing, improved streets, and better transit options. The Council approved a 0.5% sales tax increase in May 2018, and during the City's annual budget process, allocated funding from anticipated sales tax revenue to each of those needs.* **View Attachments**

Item pulled.

#11. RECEIVE A QUARTERLY UPDATE ABOUT TRANSIT-RELATED PROJECTS AND PROGRESS AS PART OF THE FUNDING OUR FUTURE INITIATIVE, SUCH AS THE FREQUENT TRANSIT NETWORK, TRANSIT ROUTE IMPROVEMENTS, AND BRANDING AND OUTREACH EFFORTS. *Funding Our Future is an initiative to address four critical needs: public safety, affordable housing, improved streets, and better transit options. The Council approved a 0.5% sales tax increase in May 2018, and during the City's annual budget process, allocated funding from anticipated sales tax revenue to each of those needs.* **View Attachments**

Item pulled.

#12. RECEIVE AN UPDATE ABOUT IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF CITY STREETS AS PART OF THE FUNDING OUR FUTURE INITIATIVE. *Funding Our Future is an initiative to address four critical needs: public safety, affordable housing, improved streets, and better transit options. The Council approved a 0.5% sales tax increase in May 2018, and during the City's annual budget process, allocated funding from anticipated sales tax revenue to each of those needs.* **View Attachments**

Item pulled.

#13. 6:23:40 PM **INTERVIEW KATHERINE LEWIS PRIOR TO CONSIDERING HER APPOINTMENT AS THE SALT LAKE CITY ATTORNEY.** **View Attachments**

Councilmember Rogers said Ms. Lewis's name was on the Formal Agenda for consideration/approval.

6:27:53 PM

#14. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF COUNCIL INFORMATION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. *The Council may give feedback or staff direction on any item related to City Council business, including but not limited to Public Utilities Newsletter Schedule and Scheduling Items.*

No discussion was held.

#15. REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

No discussion was held.

#16. (TENTATIVE) CONSIDER A MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION, IN KEEPING WITH UTAH CODE §52-4-205 FOR ANY ALLOWED PURPOSE.

Item not held.

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

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COUNCIL CHAIR

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CITY RECORDER

This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as other items may have been discussed; please refer to the audio or video for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203(2)(b).

This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held January 7, 2020.

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