

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

The City Council met in Work Session on Tuesday January 21, 2020, in Room 326, Committee Room, City County Building, 451 South State Street.

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

Staff in Attendance: Cindy Gust-Jenson, Council Executive Director; Erin Mendenhall, Mayor; Rachel Otto, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Jennifer Bruno, Council Executive Deputy Director; Katherine Lewis, City Attorney; Lynn Pace, Director of Governmental Relations; Lehua Weaver, Council Associate Deputy Director; Kory Solorio, Assistant City Recorder; and DeeDee Robinson, Deputy City Recorder.

Guests in Attendance: Applicants for vacant Council District Five seat: Anastasia Kaessner, Steve Quinn, Bill Davis, Jessica Gezon, Blake Quinton, Enrique Arce-Larreta, Michael Aguilar, Nancy Philipp, Zachary Bartholomew, Darin Mano, Karel Joy McDonough, Misty Snow, Alexander Zaharoff, George Chapman, Earl Robert Norman-Comstock, Jenny Hobbs, Crystal Young-Otterstrom, Murry Mullenax, Grant Miller, Amy J. Hawkins, Sarah Reale, Jason Stevenson, Rick Graham, and Carol Rogozinski.

Councilmember Wharton presided at and conducted the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

#1. [2:10:28 PM](#) BRIEFING BY THE ADMINISTRATION REGARDING ISSUES AFFECTING THE CITY THAT MAY ARISE DURING THE 2020 UTAH STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION. [View Attachments](#)

Lynn Pace briefed the Council with attachments. Discussion was held regarding tax reform proposal/referendum, Inland Port legislation, homelessness (Homeless & Shelter Services Sharing), affordable housing (SB 39-Affordable Housing Amendments), sales tax base/distribution, water (any legislation affecting water), transportation/transit funding, tax levy by local redevelopment agency board, proposal to increase public safety retirement benefits, land use (subdivision ordinances/gravel pits), billboard legislation, and airport legislation.

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#2. TENTATIVE BREAK

Note: A recess was taken at 2:26 p.m. (moved to Council Chambers, Room 315 to hold Council District Five vacancy interviews). The Work Session meeting reconvened at 2:35 p.m.

#3. [2:35:55 PM](#) INTERVIEW APPLICANTS FOR THE VACANT COUNCIL DISTRICT FIVE SEAT. EACH APPLICANT WILL HAVE UP TO FIVE MINUTES TO SPEAK TO THE COUNCIL ON TOPICS OF THEIR CHOICE. [View Attachments](#)

Councilmember Wharton said this was a process the Council was required to perform according to State statute. He said for himself, this was a difficult process, as the remaining Council Members who did not live in District Five were made to choose a representative for that district.

Councilmember Wharton said the applicants would speak in random order as their names were drawn.

The following applicants for the vacant Council District Five seat were given five minutes to provide a verbal presentation on topics of their choice to the Council:

[2:40:41 PM](#) **Annastasia Kaessner** said she had a strong background in local business, non-profits, treatment centers, and private commercial real estate/development sectors. She spoke about serving on the Salt Lake County Arts & Culture Advisory Board and Crew Utah Board of Directors, being collaborative, understanding growth, supporting alternative transportation methods/mass transit, and bringing a blend of private/public experience.

[2:46:12 PM](#) **Steve Quinn** spoke about present/previous public service, working with the homeless, his creation of a non-profit, local union affiliation, being collaborative, local trails/hiking, accessory dwelling units/single-room occupancy, land development, and diversity being important.

[2:50:59 PM](#) **Bill Davis** spoke about volunteering, public engagement, public service, civic duty, knowledge of City business, being collaborative/cooperative, mentoring community councils, being a decision maker, bringing a neighborhood perspective, being a resident and small business owner, sharing the values of the Council (walkability, green-space, air-quality, housing affordability, mitigating crime/homelessness, equality, diversity), and being a problem solver. [Letter of Recommendation](#)

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[2:58:05 PM](#) **Jessica Gezon** spoke about being new to local government, being a proud Utah resident, concerns regarding air-quality, public transit becoming more accessible, education for residents regarding idling cars, use of more electric vehicles, high-density housing negatively effecting infrastructure, encouraging drought-resistant landscaping requirements, homelessness, and the addition of transitional/low-income housing in new developments.

[3:02:14 PM](#) **Blake Quinton** spoke about being a local business owner, understanding budgets, love of Salt Lake City, bringing experience from traveling/living in other cities, addressing the housing crisis, providing builders with more options (paying toward fund for City built buildings or building affordable housing units directly into structures), having knowledge of construction, ability to oversee policies/procedures, and air-quality issues/solutions.

[3:07:57 PM](#) **Enrique Arce-Larreta** spoke about growing up in Salt Lake City, educational background, family background/involvement in public service, diversity of Salt Lake City, being a bike commuter, and being a teacher at West High School.

[3:14:02 PM](#) **Michael Aguilar** spoke about growing up in Utah, compassion of the local community, automotive industry knowledge, and contributions to his community: saving the Utah Pride Center, facilitating scholarship funds for Latino youth, placing service animals with veterans, assisting with fund raising for Planned Parenthood, and volunteering at a local school.

[3:19:12 PM](#) **Nancy Philipp** spoke about her family/growing up in Utah, educational background, working in different municipalities (California), importance of zoning/policies and affordable/independent housing, economic health of the City, surviving cancer, and providing service information to the homeless.

Note: A recess was taken at 3:24. The Work Session meeting reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

[3:30:25 PM](#) **Zachary David Bartholomew** spoke about serving the homeless, being an educator, volunteering/donating for the women's shelter, fund raising for security cameras for residents experiencing property crime, advocating for humane treatment of all people, setting up/running community events, neighbor's

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comments made on his behalf, vision for District Five (new community center, increasing bike/walkability of neighborhoods, rezoning along State Street corridor), and the City needing more trees and better air.

[3:35:39 PM](#) **Clint Campbell** was not present when his name was called.

[3:36:18 PM](#) **Darin Mano** spoke about his family's history in California/Utah, serving his community (various City boards/commissions), affordable housing, educational experience (University of Utah & Harvard University), understanding of City planning/urban design, Citywide transit (bus/bike/streetcar/Trax), and high-potential areas of the City (Station Center, State Street corridor, 9-Line, etc.). [Letters of Recommendation](#)

[3:41:06 PM](#) **Karel Joy McDonough** spoke about representing the residents/businesses of District Five, living in the district for 53 years, involvement in community activities, preference for existing housing being maintained, community gardening, wide variety of experience/knowledge, previous campaigning experience, service/experience on various boards, and learning patience/tolerance through teaching.

[3:46:12 PM](#) **Misty Snow** spoke about previously running for the Utah State Senate, growing up in Salt Lake City, pedestrian/public transit/homeless issues in Salt Lake City, and representing LGBTQ population in the City.

[3:51:28 PM](#) **Alexander Zaharoff** spoke about being a proud resident of Salt Lake City, growing up in California, passion for the environment/community, educational background (population health), use of data helping the City make informed policy decisions, need for safe/sustainable balancing of multiple housing types, and quality & fairness being his most driving principles.

[3:56:35 PM](#) **George Chapman** spoke about local City issues (crime-magnet hotels, State Street expansion, North Temple development, etc.), needing additional personnel to speed up the building permit process, re-routing the Green line onto 400 West, the demolition ordinance needing to be changed, vacant/boarded buildings, the need for an east-side Police precinct, protection of small businesses, more maintenance for the City's west-side streets, mass-transit use, and respect for fellow District Five candidate,

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Rick Graham.

[4:02:03 PM](#) **Earl Robert Norman-Comstock** spoke about moving to/living in Salt Lake City, qualifications for the Council seat (worked for/operated a homeless shelter, youth/adult correctional chaplain, starting a non-profit organization, involved with the Hispanic Democratic Caucus for 20 years, public school teacher for 14 years), and empathy towards the needs of lower middle-class/homeless/minority communities/at-risk youth.

[4:07:26 PM](#) **Tammy McKelvie** was not present when her name was called.

[4:07:48 PM](#) **Jenny Hobbs** spoke about being a local entrepreneur, donating time/money to under-served groups in the community, supporting organizations that assist the homeless/further social justice through education, better mobility on City sidewalks, being an immigrant/advocating for other immigrants, and working to create a sustainable City (air/water-quality improvement, improved transportation, and infrastructure maintenance).

[4:11:57 PM](#) **Crystal Young-Otterstrom** spoke about working with local community groups, ability to impact statutes as an advocate, identifying creative solutions to complex problems, knowledge/experience in all levels of government, looking forward to working on: clean air, East/West equity, densification, preservation, public transit, affordable housing, and bringing more public art to Salt Lake City. [Letter of Recommendation](#)

[4:17:28 PM](#) **Murry Mullenax** spoke about his experience being a surety bond underwriter, working knowledge of what made a successful construction project, knowing how to ask the right questions/make thoughtful decisions, and concern/passion for: air-quality, affordable housing, diversity, infrastructure, and public transportation.

[4:20:46 PM](#) **Grant Amjad Miller** spoke about his heritage, growing up in Salt Lake City, being a public defender (lawyer), facilitating community out-reach efforts, involvement in various community boards, being open-minded/amicable, and familiarity with City/State government.

[4:25:09 PM](#) **Amy J. Hawkins** spoke about affordability/stability of housing, safety of District Five neighborhoods, access to healthy food, quality employment/fair pay, helping revive a neighborhood

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watch group, member of the Ballpark Community Council (Vice-Chair & Chair), advocating for a crime-free community, accessible pedestrian infrastructure, helping create science-based opioid education for local schools, unique combination of community leadership, teaching, and scientific education/communication experience. [Letter of Recommendation](#)

[4:29:39 PM](#) **Sarah Reale** spoke about being an educator and public lands advocate, wanting to contribute to the Council's priorities/work, being a Digital Marketing Director/adjunct Political Science Professor, advocating/promoting civic engagement, being a champion of the democratic process, experience working with legislators, college presidents, board members, and college students. [Letters of Recommendation](#)

[4:34:14 PM](#) **Jason Stevenson** spoke about designing curriculum and teaching citizenship classes for refugees, volunteering/working for the Utah Health Policy Project (HPP) and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), serving on the East Liberty Park Community Council as a board member and Co-Chair, advocating for Medicaid Expansion/lobbying the legislature, and sensitivity to District Five's complex/contentious issues (the Inn Between, public safety concerns, new roundabout on 900 S.). [Letter of Recommendation](#)

[4:39:54 PM](#) **Rick Graham** spoke about previously working for the Administration/being a presenter to the Council, broad/detailed experience/understanding of City operations, working with the City's diverse population/stakeholders, and knowledge of the City's biggest issues (Inland Port, Operation Rio Grande, homeless resource centers, low income housing, and air quality).

[4:45:25 PM](#) **Carol Rogozinski** spoke about the 14th amendment of the United States Constitution, growing up in Salt Lake City, service on various City boards, being homeless before utilizing the First Time Home Buyer program, embracing diversity, serving as Chair for the Salt Lake Central Community Council, and supporting local issues.

Councilmember Wharton thanked the District Five candidates for their presentations/being respectful of the time limits and reviewed the next steps of the selection process.

Note: A recess was taken at 4:52 p.m. to break for dinner and allow Council Members time for a final review of applicants. The Work Session meeting reconvened at 6:05 p.m.

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[6:06:00 PM](#) Councilmember Wharton outlined the voting process. He said each Council Member would vote for four applicants for Round One, and upon completion of the ballots, Council Staff would tabulate the votes. He said the results of Round One would determine the next steps in voting and listed the possible outcomes of Rounds One, Two, and Three. The ballots were then passed out to Council Members for voting and gathered by Staff.

[6:13:48 PM](#) Kory Solorio, Assistant City Recorder, read the [Round One Voting Ballots](#) into the record. Votes were tabulated by Council Staff and the following top four candidates were announced with the number of votes received as follows:

- Crystal Young-Otterstrom - 5
- Darin Masao Mano - 5
- Sarah Reale - 5
- Rick Graham - 4

Councilmember Wharton said for those candidates who did not advance today, there were opportunities to serve on a number of boards/commissions, various community councils, and local non-profits.

Councilmember Fowler thanked candidates for their applications/presentations and said that any candidate before them today could use her as a reference. She said there was a vast amount of experience/knowledge, passion/compassion, amongst the candidates.

[6:23:41 PM](#) Councilmember Wharton said Round Two voting would entail voting for two applicants, and the candidates receiving the majority of votes would move to Round Three, the Council would determine whether to hold additional rounds of voting tonight, or postpone the final vote to the February 4th Council meeting.

[6:25:19 PM](#) Kory Solorio, Assistant City Recorder, read the [Round Two Voting Ballots](#) into the record. Votes were tabulated by Council Staff and the following top three candidates were announced with the number of votes received as follows:

- Crystal Young-Otterstrom - 3
- Darin Mano - 5
- Sarah Reale - 3

Straw Poll: Support for the top three candidates to move to Round Three voting, and Council Members would vote for one

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candidate. All Council Members were in favor.

Council Members requested to hear from the top three candidates prior to Round Three voting:

[6:32:57 PM](#) **Darin Mano** thanked the Council and spoke about his experience and how it translated to serving on the City Council; professional career as an architect, a small business owner, and working as an educator. He said his primary motivation was serving people and he was excited to continue that service as a District Five representative on the Salt Lake City Council.

[6:35:06 PM](#) **Crystal Young-Otterstrom** said she was grateful for the Council's support and spoke about advocating for a dedicated turn light signal (blinking yellow turn arrow) for the intersection of 1300 South and 700 East, and how persistent, friendly/effective advocacies serving the neighborhood could produce solutions.

[6:37:12 PM](#) **Sarah Reale** thanked the Council and spoke about how she informed her students to be successful in her class; show up (attend class), try (effort for papers/projects), and care (pay attention to politics/listen/follow the news), and how that translated when the class came to an end. She read from a student's final exam, and explained how that student embodied her teaching/intentions/beliefs.

[6:39:38 PM](#) Discussion was held regarding how the next round of voting/candidate selection would occur.

[6:41:44 PM](#) Kory Solorio, Assistant City Recorder read the [Round Three Voting Ballots](#) into the record. Votes were tabulated by Council Staff and the following top three candidates were announced with the number of votes received as follows:

- Crystal Young-Otterstrom - 2
- Sarah Reale - 2
- Darin Mano - 2

[6:42:58 PM](#) Katherine Lewis, City Attorney stated that as per Utah State Law, if there were two candidates remaining, and no majority votes, the candidate could be appointed by lot (drawing straws/flipping a coin).

[6:44:03 PM](#) Discussion was held regarding how the next round of voting/candidate selection would occur.

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[6:53:24 PM](#) **Straw Poll:** Support for Round Four voting to include: two minute responses to “what differentiates you from the other candidates”, one vote each per Council Member, and if after there was a three way tie, then rank choice voting for Round Five. All Council Members were in favor.

[6:55:36 PM](#) **Crystal Young-Otterstrom** thanked the Council and spoke about experience as an effective advocate, understanding of municipal statute/City structure and legislative process, starting her political service on the Human Rights Commission (HRC) Board and service on various other boards, understanding of elections and issues facing the Council, bringing amplification to the voices of her district, understanding of zoning/policy, and strong/extensive budgeting experience.

[6:58:06 PM](#) **Sarah Reale** thanked the Council and spoke about having the skills/ability to learn policy, drawing comparisons of City operations vs. working at the Salt Lake Community College, being a part of cultural/policy changes, ability to bring people together for a common cause, build bridges, and make connections/be a great teammate.

[6:59:24 PM](#) **Darin Mano** spoke about having experience with planning/land use issues and how that related to the Council/Redevelopment Agency (RDA), understanding of re-zoning/zoning text amendments, experience as an architect/urban designer/educator, serving on the Planning Commission and Redevelopment Advisory Committee (RAC), believing in honesty/integrity, and building trust by listening to concerned citizens.

[7:04:51 PM](#) Kory Solorio, Assistant City Recorder read the [Round Four Voting Ballots](#) into the record. Votes were tabulated by Council Staff and the following top three candidates were announced with the number of votes received as follows:

- Darin Mano - 4
- Sarah Reale - 1
- Crystal Young-Otterstrom - 1

[7:06:15 PM](#) **Straw Poll:** Support for appointing Darin Mano as District Five Councilmember. All Council Members were in favor.

Councilmember Wharton stated the appointment of Darin Mano to fill the vacant District Five Councilmember seat would be made

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during the Formal Meeting.

STANDING ITEMS

#4. [7:30:07 PM](#) 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 scheduling items:*

- *Availability for Annual Council Group Photo;*
- *4th Avenue Well Project Funding; and*
- *Scheduling Items*

See File M 20-5 for [announcements](#).

#5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

No discussion was held.

#6. 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 7:10 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAIR

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 21, 2020.

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