

PAYSON CITY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AND WORK SESSION
Payson UT 84651 – Held via remote conferencing through Zoom Video Communications
Wednesday, April 29, 2020

CONDUCTING William R. Wright, Mayor

ELECTED OFFICIALS Linda Carter, Brett Christensen, Taresa Hiatt, Brian Hulet, Doug Welton,
William R. Wright

STAFF PRESENT David Tuckett, City Manager
Mark Sorenson, City Attorney
Kim E. Holindrake, City Recorder
Cathy Jensen, Finance Director
Jill Spencer, City Planner
Travis Jockumsen, City Engineer/Public Works Director
Daniel Jensen, Planner II
Brad Bishop, Police Chief
Scott Spencer, Fire Chief
Nestor Gallo, Development Services Director
Karl Teemant, Recreation Director

William R. Wright, Mayor, called this meeting of the City Council of Payson City, Utah, to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was properly noticed.

A. PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prayer offered by Scott Spencer.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Wright.

B. ACTION ITEMS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Resolution – Amendments to the Payson City Fee Schedule – Golf Course

Staff Presentation:

Dave Tuckett reviewed the proposed amendments to the fee schedule including raising the RV Park fee per night from \$10 to \$32 plus tax and fees and removing the range pass at \$128.00. The plan is to open the RV Park this weekend. The total estimate for the RV Park is about \$40. The punch pass included other golf courses; staff feels the range is busy enough that no discount is needed.

MOTION: Councilmember Welton – To approve (resolution) the fee schedule for the Golf Course as proposed. Motion seconded by Councilmember Carter. A roll call vote was taken as follows and the motion carried.

Yes	-	Linda Carter
Yes	-	Brett Christensen
Yes	-	Taresa Hiatt
Yes	-	Brian Hulet
Yes	-	Doug Welton

2. Discussion regarding Fore-Bay Plan (6:10 p.m.)

Staff Presentation:

Jill Spencer presented an update on the Payson Forebay Area Management Plan, which has been prepared with the National Parks Service through the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. The original Four Bay Management Plan was adopted in 2008.

- The planning process included site visits, steering committee meetings, public input, and presenting to the City Council last December. The steps included build the foundation; define visitor use management direction; identify management strategies; and implement, monitor, evaluate, and adjust.
- The BYU Senior Capstone Team reviewed strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the area; established a vision and goals; discussed monitoring techniques; and established desired conditions.
- Existing conditions includes areas that need to be maintained and areas that need to be changed.
- Problems identified include littering including abandoned vehicles and couches, trail erosion, unofficial access points, break ins and destruction of fencing, vandalism, and open fires.
- Public input questioned how often do you visit the area, how would you currently describe the area, what uses do you want to see in the future, and do you have any name suggestions for the area.
- Summary of feedback included three top activities i.e. biking, hiking, and trails. Other activities included trail running, camping, skiing, snowshoeing, picnic, horseback riding, dog walking, cross country skiing, skills park, and obstacle course. Other items were a pavilion, firepit, updated fences, no development, non-motorized, parking lot, and updated signs.
- Vision Statement, *Payson City will promote the sustainable management of the Forebay Area by improving public access points, appropriately managing recreational uses and amenities, establishing conservation buffer areas, and managing the area through long-term community partnerships.*

Next Steps:

- The city's planning intern will assist Payson City and the National Park Service to complete the management plan. The intern was one of the students from the BYU Team and is very familiar with this project. The grant requirements state the project must be completed in a 12-month period, which is September 2020. The NPS planner has stated it will be done by the end of Summer 2020.
- Plan Development and Adoption: A good portion of the 2008 plan is still relevant. The update will expand conditions and strategies for trails and recreation, access management, conservation (watershed and open space), fire management, and education and stewardship. The draft, which should be completed by the end of May, will then be reviewed. Approval includes public input, planning commission recommendation, and city council decision.
- An implementation committee will be established (possibly non-profit group) to address conservation ordinances, improvements and signage, and seek funding resources.

Direction from City Council:

- Still need a name or at least agree on the spelling (Four Bay, 4-Bay, Forebay, Fore Bay).
- The Forebay Pond Area Plan has been discussed in multiple meetings with no consensus on the uses for the area. This is the large area west of the existing pond that was excavated about 15 years ago to increase the pond size but the soils weren't appropriate and there wasn't enough funding to line it. Currently, motorcycles use it for jumping.
- Determine land uses for what is permitted and not permitted. Non-motorized and motorized has been discussed in the past. The 2008 plan restricted motorized. Most people have preferred it to be non-motorized. Hunting has been discussed with some mixed feedback. Finally, many people did not realize the area was available for equestrian use.

Discussion:

Councilmember Welton stated equestrian yes and cattle no. Cattle also leave a lot of cheatgrass and then the regular foliage doesn't grow back. No motorized vehicles unless they are handicapped vehicles. Motorized vehicles tend to go wherever they want and tears up the watershed area and forest. A new bike trail has been installed. There needs to be a good document created stating the goals for the area. He likes the Fore Bay spelling. Some have suggested Walkara Park, which has a cultural significance. He asked that the area not be over developed and would like to look at conservation easements.

Councilmember Christensen noted cattle would keep the grass down. He understands those not wanting motorized in the area, but suggested the moped style, slow moving vehicles. He is concerned with any type of hunting because of the liability. He likes the Fore Bay spelling and could be expanded to Payson Fore Bay Recreational Park. There needs to be a graded parking lot. He would like to see a motorized loop around the mountain range along US Forest Service land.

Mayor Wright stated allowing any motorized vehicle creates competition, and then there will be an enforcement problem. The city is contemplating an ATV area on West Mountain along with the motor cross area. This would be a great place for motorized trails and suffice for those who like to participate in that activity.

Councilmember Carter doesn't want to see motorized vehicles. She likes the Fore Bay spelling.

Councilmember Hulet stated cattle is a good management tool. He suggested only allowing bow hunting because it is such a small area with multi-uses and equestrian.

Councilmember Hiatt stated trails like the Piute trail are fun for motorized vehicles. A trail up the canyon would be nice but not in Fore Bay.

Karl Teemant stated staff applied for a grant to do a parking lot on the canyon road and a bridge to cross over in the lower section to connect the trail on the Little Shawnee Loop. This would all be on city property and keep people off the main road. Everything is permitted and ready to go. The total cost is \$300,000 with \$150,000 from the grant and \$150,000 from the city.

Discussion regarding annexing or not annexing the property. Annexing gives the city control. The council needs to address the pros and cons of annexing. If annexed, hunting will need to be addressed because hunting is not allowed within city limits. Annexation allows the city to provide enforcement instead of relying on the Sheriff's Department. Previously, if annexed, the city was

liable for the cost of fire prevention, but through agreements the city is covered through insurance like the county.

Jill Spencer stated discussions with the Cattleman's Association were some grazing could keep the grass down and help with fire management. Cattle can also cause some damage to the property. There is a new bike trail and the question is, was it authorized. There needs to be a formal process for approval to expand any facilities in the area, which could be addressed by an implementation committee or trails committee to make a recommendation to the council. The committee could be organized just for this area, or it could also address parks and open space. Through open houses and discussions with property owners, individuals living in surrounding areas prefer motorized but the property owners in the area say no motorized. They deal with a lot of trespassing and damage to their property.

3. Discussion regarding Governor's Order (7:53 p.m.)

Staff Presentation:

Dave Tuckett stated the new Governor's order should come out tomorrow that moves orange status with its own set of challenges. Staff has prepared a working document depicting when facilities can open. Staff is also preparing a recreation phase-in plan that looks at the different facilities and risk levels (high, moderate, low, normal). Staff is looking at opening the pickleball, skate park, and park restrooms. Signage needs to be developed and posted. Staff is looking at allowing small dance groups at Peteetneet. There is still a lot of discussion on opening the pool, which staff is waiting on direction from the Utah County Health Department. City events are still being discussed.

Discussion regarding sports and activities. The consensus of the council is to open the pickleball. The problem has been so many people are wanting to use it. Standing areas need to be identified for taking turns while others congregate on the grass. Signage needs to include sanitizing. These areas are almost impossible to police. There has to be some personal responsibility as well. A signup sheet or paddle board could be used for who is next in line. Contact or team sports such as basketball are not be allowed. Currently, the basketball nets are tied up, but the rims could be removed is needed. Staff will continue to monitor these activity areas. Everyday the situations change; all cities are trying to do the right thing. Pools can operate at 50% with one swimmer per lap lane with the showers and lockers closed. Restrooms can be open but sanitized more often. Touch points are a main concern. Small dance classes can occur. The Peteetneet is rented to dance programs that are not city related. Each class would be responsible to wipe down all touch points, and the city would be responsible for the restrooms.

Discussion regarding city events. Mass gatherings will not open soon. The Memorial Day event is less than a month away and could be a virtual program with music and a drive through. Many who attend are the vulnerable age group. The consensus of the council is to do something for Memorial Day; be creative. The Payson High School is planning a drive-through graduation.

Mayor Wright noted the arborists who took care of 8 or 9 trees at Memorial Park last year would like to come back in September either the second or third weekend. It is beneficial to the park, and the trees are healthier. Karl Teemant will check with staff and advise Mayor Wright on a timeline.

C. WORK SESSION

1. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget (7:20 p.m.)

Staff Presentation:

Dave Tuckett stated the tentative budget will be addressed on May 6. A PowerPoint has been prepared and can be sent out to the council for review. Staff is trying to be cautious and conservative. Cathy Jensen, Finance Director, has put a lot of time into the budget. Department heads have been asked to prepare an additional 10% decrease in their budgets if the economy continues to go down. This gives the city a contingency plan. Staff has done a utility analysis on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) if the council would like to move forward on the CPI.

The consensus of the council is to skip the CPI this year. It will be explained to residents that the plan is to address the CPI every year to keep up with inflation except this year because of the current economic conditions and because Utah County raised taxes so much.

Cathy Jensen stated Mayor Wright introduced a webinar today that emphasized flexibility in the budget by moving forward, being cautious, and opening the budget many times. A concern is the anticipated sharp reduction in B & C revenue and transportation taxes. In that light, the budget was cut back on projected revenue and removed one project in transportation fund. Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) have been added back in the budget because it's an OSHA issue and safety issue for fire fighters and sewer and water personnel who work around chlorine. Staff readdressed the water fund to reserve some of the cash balance and removed one project and reallocate one to the dam project, which is more needful. Staff will reevaluate mid-year for projects and wage increases. There has been some discussion about attrition if someone retires/leaves then hiring back at a lower level.

Council Discussion:

Mayor Wright stated he was impressed with the webinar today, and the city is right in line with their suggestions.

Councilmember Hulet stated with the 10% to 15% budget cuts, he wants to still protect the employees and not cut staff. It's important for staff moral to protect jobs.

Mayor Wright stated that Lehi City mentioned it would be counter-productive to lay off and then rehire three months later.

Councilmember Welton noted the city needs to look out for its employees; but at the same time, the city's primary function is to look out for the taxpayers. When taxpayers are out of jobs, the city can't be finding non-jobs to keep people employed. These are two competing ideas that have to be balanced.

Dave Tuckett clarified that some summertime hires have been held off but some will need to be hired. If increased sanitation is needed, the Parks Department will need these employees. The golf course has hired some already. It's also difficult hiring summertime employees who fall in the vulnerable group. Discussions have included furloughs instead of layoffs. There is plenty of work, but it's difficult if the revenues aren't coming in. Furloughs would be the first step before letting people go. It's about the services the city provides.

Councilmember Christensen would rather accomplish random capital projects rather than lay people off.

Dave Tuckett clarified that with the low gas prices and transportation not being used, the B & C Road Funds will take a hit. The plan is to push off some projects but keep up maintenance until revenues come in. Some equipment can be pushed off, but some equipment requires a long -time lead like a garbage truck has a 10-months lead. It's a calculated risk to order now, but equipment needs to be kept up.

Councilmember Hulet stated the General Fund Balance has been built up and can be dipped into as needed.

Cathy Jensen stated the cash projections currently set in the budget and if things continue will leave about 21% in the General Fund Balance by the end of next year. Staff has discussed cutting a little more from the budget to increase the General Fund Balance for next year. Staff will continue to watch the economy and revenues. Some fund balance is being used in the Enterprise Funds, which is common as in prior years.

Councilmember Welton questioned the branding funds in the current fiscal year budget. It's hard to justify branding at this time.

Dave Tuckett clarified the branding funds haven't been used much, but there is a branding video in the works that will have to be paid and then rolled out in the fall. There is branding funds in the tentative budget, but spending will depend on the economy. As a side note, there have been some problems with the pressurized irrigation (PI) meters. Crews are out working on the problems as fast as they can.

Discussion to prepare a video of how to open the PI valve and put it out on social media. Information can be put in the newsletter directing residents to the city website to see the video and information.

D. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilmember Christensen – To adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hiatt. Those voting yes: Linda Carter, Brett Christensen, Taresa Hiatt, Brian Hulet, Doug Welton. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

 /s/ Kim E. Holindrake
Kim E. Holindrake, City Recorder