

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Riverdale City Council held Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Civic Center, 4600 S Weber River Dr., Riverdale City, Weber County, Utah.

Present:

City Council:	Norm Searle, Mayor Braden Mitchell, Councilmember Brent Ellis, Councilmember Alan Arnold, Councilmember Bart Stevens, Councilmember Steve Hilton, Councilmember															
City Employees:	Rodger Worthen, City Administrator Steve Brooks, City Attorney/Acting City Administrator Shawn Douglas, Public Works Mike Eggett, Community Development Scott Brenkman, Police Chief Jared Sholly, Fire Chief Rich Taylor, Community Services Cody Cardon, Business Administration Shalee Evans, City Recorder															
Visitors:	<table border="0"><tr><td>Laureen Faust</td><td>G. L. Faust</td><td>Bryan Bearor</td></tr><tr><td>Melissa Carey</td><td>Janet Deschamp</td><td>Scott Williams</td></tr><tr><td>Curt Bloxom</td><td>Chelsie Curtis</td><td>Josephine Torres</td></tr><tr><td>Brian McDonald</td><td>Kent Jorgenson</td><td>Thomas Roylance</td></tr><tr><td>Dee Hansen</td><td>Hugh Parke</td><td></td></tr></table>	Laureen Faust	G. L. Faust	Bryan Bearor	Melissa Carey	Janet Deschamp	Scott Williams	Curt Bloxom	Chelsie Curtis	Josephine Torres	Brian McDonald	Kent Jorgenson	Thomas Roylance	Dee Hansen	Hugh Parke	
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A. Welcome & Roll Call

The City Council meeting began at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Searle called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance, including all Council Members and all members of the public.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Searle invited Councilmember Hilton to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Moment of Silence

Mayor Searle called for a moment of silence and asked everyone to remember our police officers, fire fighters, U.S. Military service members, and members of the City Council as they make decisions this evening.

D. Public Comment

Mayor Searle invited any member of the public with questions or concerns to address the Council and asked that they keep their comments to approximately three minutes. No action will be taken during public comment.

Brian Bearor stated that his wife and him moved to Riverdale four years ago, and they have concerns about opening up Ritter Drive to a two way, because people speed and it is already very difficult to get in and out of their driveway. He wanted to ask, What benefit would this bring to the tax payers of Riverdale, What measures were taken to get data on this decision, Does this change help more the shoppers of Riverdale, that come from Roy and those coming off of the interstate. Where do the voters live in Riverdale? He recommends the decision being postponed because this affect the city.

Brian McDonald stated that he has lived in Riverdale for 22 years, he has lived there when Ritter Drive was open both ways. He noted that traffic would back up and people would cut through his backyard. He stated that not every winter but most winters, cars would constantly go down the bank. He fears that there will end being a car in someone's yard. He asked that we get data to make the right decision.

Laureen Faust stated that she has lived here for 37 years. She stated that she has seen people get so impatient, they just pass people when they are not supposed to. She stated that she worries about the kids and the dogs. She stated that it is already hard for people that live on Ritter to get out of their driveway. She asks that the road stay the way it is now for safety.

Scott Williams stated that speed and safety are an issue, and that the city is just going to create a long bob sled run. Opening Ritter will just create a huge safety hazard.

Curt Bloxom stated he has lived here for 37 years, and that he thinks the council should go out and ask people on Ritter what they think should be done. He noted that he constantly gets honked at already for just trying to get out of his driveway. He also noted that there are kids always out there and that there will be problems. He stated that there is a family now that has a little boy that has disabilities and want that to be taken into consideration.

Mayor Searle noted that there was a study don before the Ritter Drive closure happened in 2009.

Josephine Torres stated she has lived on Ritter for ten years and stated that the speed of the oncoming traffic would almost run you over for just walking down the road. She stated she lived on this road only closed, and she could not imagine it being even busier. She noted that it is very difficult to get in and out of the driveway and she has a 16-year-old boy that is learning to drive, and she fears for him. She stated that people always honk because coming up that hill, the sunrise is in your eyes and there is no sight and you must drive it by memory.

Shalee Evans, City Recorder, read letters she received from residents:

Jason Smith stated that he has been a resident since May 2016. Him and his wife are concerned about opening the road at the west end as a 2 way and it is presenting safety issues. With this traffic increase, especially during early mornings and evenings, this would make it more dangerous for children and the time it takes to pick them up or drop them off. The fact that there is a stop sign at both ends of the road with the conjoining roads having right of way prevents the flow of traffic to b consistent.

Angela Jacob stated that she has a friend that her back-yard touches Ritter Drive in the past I have seen proof of cars crashing into backyards. I would vote to keep the traffic down and leave it as a one way and keep families safe that have children that play in these backyards.

Chantel Grasteit stated that she would like Ritter Drive to stay one way; she recently built her home along that road and did so because of the quit neighborhood. By making it a two-way road it is going to increase the traffic tremendously; I would love to continue enjoying my backyard without thousands of cars driving by.

Quinn Karlinsey stated that he heard that a decision is being made as to whether Ritter Drive will be two way at the frontage road or remain one way. He noted that she is concerned that there will be a significant increase in traffic if there a two-way street from the frontage road. An increase in traffic combined with young children at play is a recipe for disaster. He also noted that his wife and him would like to keep Ritter Drive closed to a one way.

John Anderson stated that he has lived here for 34 years and has seen the traffic on Ritter Drive both ways. He stated reasons as to why he would like to keep it closed to one-way traffic. He has asthma, vehicle emissions make him cough. Since we get less traffic on Ritter his coughing is under control. The noise caused by the extra traffic takes away his peace. Members of the council who vote to open Ritter and do not live here do not have any idea how annoying all the traffic is when Ritter is opened both ways. He feels we want it open to accommodate South Weber and Roy traffic. He stated that he knows people complain about the time to go around down to Larry Millers to access Ritter but it being timed literally takes seconds. He also stated that just because you can do something does not mean you should.

Steve Flinders stated that he thinks reopening Ritter Drive would be a mistake. If Eastbound traffic is reopened and allowed to turn on Ritter Drive it could result in great hazard. He hopes that the council will carefully consider not reopening Ritter Drive hill to more traffic.

Shauna Flinders stated that she thinks it will be a huge mistake to open the residential road of Ritter Drive to heavy traffic that would be flowing through this neighborhood. With the new improvements to Ritter drive traffic is already faster and more dangerous to residents. She stated that she has children whose bedrooms are on the side of the house in danger of being hit again, not to mention a gas meter in danger of being struck by an out of control car.

Janet Deschamp stated that she has lived on Ritter for 30 years. She noted that her grandchildren live on Ritter and the others frequently visit and their safety is her main concern. She stated that since the studies were done 10 years ago, there is now additional traffic from schools, car and motorcycle dealerships, and a whole new subdivision. She noted that if it does open to please keep the speed limit at 25mph and apply whatever traffic calming measure they can to keep our children and citizens safe.

Melissa Carey stated that she is concerned over safety on Ritter Drive. She noted that she knows Ritter Drive has changed dramatically over the lase several years. Her concern always has been and always will be for the safety of the residents of this community. She noted that she knows the plan has been to reopen the west end of Ritter Drive with the completion of the road and traffic calming measures. She stated that she strongly urges council to rethink this decision.

Jessica Black stated the opposition she has about opening Ritter Drive going both ways off Freeway Park. She lives on Ritter and she has 3 small children. She noted that opening the road up both ways is going to add a lot of unnecessary traffic in the area.

Leah Hansen stated that her and her sister live on the corner of Ritter Drive. Her daughter is buying the house right on the corner of Ritter and 1500, and two of her grandchildren will live there with her. She stated there is so much traffic that is eastbound and flies around the corner and down 1500. She asked to please consider the wishes of the residents who live on the road and to please protect their families.

Candace Gordon asked if there are previous drive studies on the roadway when it was open. The road is very busy, winding, and has blind spots. The neighborhood has acquired at least 20 young children under the age of 10. She asked to please reconsider not opening this street back up at this time.

Rich Taylor, Community Services, read texts with opposition about opening Ritter Drive to a two-way street.

E. Presentations and Reports

1. City Administration Report

Steve Brooks, Acting City Administrator, summarized the administration report which outlines staff anniversaries, full time employee (fte) allocation, community development (i.e. new businesses coming into the community or existing business remodels), individual staff monthly progress reports, and the condition of the treasury.

2. UDOT presentation for 5600 South interchange and I-15 upgrades.

Kent Jorgenson, Tom Roylance and Scott Lucas presented their presentation on 5600 South interchange and I-15 upgrades.

F. Consent Items

1. Consideration to approve the City Council meeting minutes from: Work Session and May 5, 2020 Regular Session, and May 5, 2020 Strategic Planning meeting.

Mayor Searle invited any corrections or comments regarding the above referenced meeting minutes.

MOTION: Councilmember Mitchell moved to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Councilmember Ellis seconded the motion. There was not any discussion regarding this motion. The motion passed unanimously in favor.

2. Consideration to set a public hearing on June 16, 2020, to receive and consider comments regarding the following:

- a. **Amending the Riverdale City Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (as needed)**
- b. **Adopting the Riverdale City Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**
- c. **Proposed amendments to the Riverdale City Code: Human Resources Manual, 1-7-2 Salaries of City Council and Mayor, and 1-7F-6 Salary of the Justice Court Judge.**
- d. **Culinary water utilized by the City's general operations and the corresponding nonreciprocal interfund transfer to the City's water enterprise fund.**

MOTION: Councilmember Mitchell moved to approve the consent item; Councilmember Ellis seconded the motion. All in favor.

G. Action Items

1. Consideration of Resolution 2020-09, to approve a Development Agreement with The DRH Company for the Development of Land in the 550 West and Riverdale Road Redevelopment Areas.

Mike Eggett stated that this document has been worked on for quite some time by Mr. Worthen and himself. He noted that Mr. Hansen's attorney advised that this agreement be made into two different documents, this way it can be handled by the correct entity. Dee Hansen thanked Mr. Eggett, Mr. Brooks and Mr. Worthen for all their help and work on this. Councilmember Mitchell noted that this item has very heavy legal jargon and he is relying on Steve Brooks to make sure it is a good decision.

MOTION: Councilmember Arnold moved to approve Resolution 2020-09; Councilmember Mitchell seconded the motion.

Mayor Searle invited discussion regarding the motion. There was not a discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmembers all voted in favor. With exception of Councilmember Ellis, dropped off the meeting.

2. Consideration of Ordinance 918, to approve subdivision request for Old Mill Subdivision located at approximately 4225 South 700 West, Riverdale, Utah, as requested by Old Mill Partners, LLC.

Mike Eggett, Community Development, went over the executive summary which explained, Old Mill Partners, LLC, as represented by Hugh Parke and Lorri Thurgood, have applied for a traditional Subdivision Site Plan and Plat review and approval for the Old Mill proposed development located at approximately 4225 South 700 West in a Single-Family Residential R-1-8 zone. On April 14, 2020, the Planning Commission approved a motion to recommend to the City Council a favorable approval of Site Plan and Plat for the Old Mill Subdivision, with the understanding that outstanding staff concerns, and engineering concerns be resolved. Outstanding staff and engineering concerns have since been resolved to the city staff and city engineering satisfaction, as indicated by the reports found herein. The proposed subdivision site plan is before the Planning Commission for final review and approval of the plan and plat. A public hearing is not required for review of this proposed subdivision. Following the presentation and discussion of the final subdivision plat and plan proposal, the City Council may make a motion to approve the plat and plan, approve with additional requirements and criteria, table the matter, or not approve the proposed subdivision plat and plan for the proposed Old Mill subdivision site plan and plat with the appropriate findings of fact. Should this proposal receive final approval, the updated plat could be prepared for signatures and recording with Weber County to formalize this approval and preconstruction activities occur thereafter.

MOTION: Councilmember Mitchell moved to approve Ordinance 918, with the caveat that Mr. Douglas's concerns are addressed. Councilmember Arnold seconded the motion.

Mayor Searle invited discussion regarding the motion. There was not a discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmembers all voted in favor. Except for Councilmember Ellis, dropped off the meeting.

3. Consideration and action to cancel/modify Old Glory Days events and celebration.

Steve Brooks, Acting City Administrator, stated that a decision needs to make because there is a lot of planning that is required with these events and needs direction from the council. Rich Taylor stated that even though things are starting to look better regarding COVID-19, the health department is still not issuing mass gathering permits.

MOTION: Councilmember Arnold moved to cancel Old Glory Day festivities. Councilmember Mitchell seconded the motion.

Mayor Searle invited discussion regarding the motion. There was not a discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-1 vote. Motion passes.

4. Consideration to Open Ritter Drive to two-way traffic, at the west end, following completion of the Phase 2 upgrade project.

Steve Brooks, Acting City Attorney, stated that Ritter Drive was closed with a 4-1, and it was not closed with a resolution. He noted that the staff, and Shawn Douglas need direction from the council on how to proceed on Ritter Drive.

Councilmember Stevens asked Shawn Douglas what the plans are right now for the contractor. Shawn Douglas stated that for the last two years, the plans have always shown Ritter Drive open. He stated that if the council wants to change that, he will need to go and do a change order and try to get that to stay a one-way street. He noted that all the issues that residents had, they have been improved. He also stated that they could put more signs up to help control speed to keep it safer. The design the council has always seen for the past two years has been open.

Councilmember Ellis stated that when he talks to residents over on Ritter Drive that their main concern is speeding and public safety more than just opening Ritter Drive.

Councilmember Arnold stated that he has heard comments that the closure of Ritter Drive was never supposed to be a permanent fix. But in 2009, the council closed Ritter Drive because of a traffic study. He noted that there has been a lot of money spent on this project, but it can also make it to where it is safer as a one way. He stated that all the issues and safety concerns are real. The speeding and light in drivers' eyes are a real concern. He noted that Ritter Drive gets closed at night during the winter season because it can be so dangerous for drivers. He stated that there are residents that live on Ritter have had their home hit, and their fence taken out twice by drivers. The line of sight issue cannot be fixed with

these improvements. He went and spoke to at least fifty people and the people that didn't use Ritter Drive did not care, but the people that live near or on Ritter Drive do not want it open and he believes it is 25-1 on those who want to keep it closed. He noted that Riverdale Road was made for traffic and Ritter Drive was not. He stated that we do have the numbers from the study done, but the numbers are from 10-12 years ago. He noted that with the dealerships, they love using Ritter Drive to test drive motorcycles and cars, which just causes more congestion on that road. There is no need to open Ritter Drive, the city has spent money which is nice for the improvements. He asked that we table this item and do some due diligence instead of just opening this road. It would be very difficult to change this road back if we open it and must close it again.

Councilmember Mitchell stated that he was the one who made the comment about the vote being 10-1 to open Ritter Drive. He noted that he has been spending a lot of time trying to compare a road to Ritter and he cannot find a road that is like Ritter Drive. He stated that he is torn because it is hard to keep a road closed due to one section of the residents. He stated that there has been some data and a survey done, and he would be really interested in looking at that. He would like to give other residents the chance to come forth and express their concerns and wishes.

Councilmember Hilton stated that when he was out asking for votes, he asked what he can do to help. His experience was like Councilmember Mitchell's. The residents that he spoke with were wanting Ritter Drive and that 10-1 was not far off. He does know that the sunlight problem and most of the problems will not go away, and he does have empathy for the residents that spoke today. But the issues that they all had are law issues, and he does not think that that is a good reason to keep it closed due to lack of law enforcement in that area. He noted that we could approach the motorcycle dealership and ask them to not refer their customers to test drive on Ritter Drive. He believes the more that the road loads up, the more self-speed control will follow, and to see about bike lanes to help as well.

Mayor Searle stated that he knows that there are traffic studies that show that on roads with bike lanes, it causes the drivers to slow down and that is a safety measure. He asked that the council try and decide on this action item today. Shawn Douglas is needing a decision to move forward with this project.

Councilmember Arnold noted that the direction is in the plans, and the contractors can continue with what they are doing. He stated that we can get the traffic calming measures done and get data that is current before we just reopen it and have all the issues. Shawn Douglas should keep doing what is in the plans, and just keep it closed. He challenged Councilmember Hilton to go approach residents to get their opinions and see what the ratio is. He stated out of all the people he talked to there were only two people that were for opening Ritter. He stated that population has increased, and people are buying houses by how Ritter Drive is now. He stated that the 10-1 ratio does not exist.

Councilmember Stevens stated that the plans from the last two years have always been to open it, and he doesn't understand where the opposition is coming from because there has been votes to approve the plans that show the road open. He stated that all the numbers that have been spoken about are untenable, they are not facts, they are guesses and they are not viable. He stated that he thinks Shawn Douglas should move forward with the plans that have been approved. He stated that with the plans, it will not be open until August, so there is time to do surveys and get data that is accurate.

MOTION: Councilmember Arnold moved to keep Ritter Drive in the same configuration it is in, and allow Mr. Douglas to continue the project, and to give us time to get data to neither confirm nor support the numbers either way. To keep Ritter Drive closed until we have the numbers. No second. Motion dies.

MOTION: Councilmember Mitchell moved to table this item, and to allow Shawn Douglas to continue with plans, and readdress this item when we have more data. Councilmember Arnold seconded the motion.

Mayor Searle invited discussion regarding the motion. There was not a discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-1 vote. Motion passes.

Additional Public Comment:

Darci Powell stated that she has been a Riverdale resident for 11 years. She is concerned to put up their fencing because of traffic. She also noted that she has an autistic son that sometimes runs away, and she fears for his safety.

Stacey Davis stated that she has lived in Riverdale her entire life. She noted that the average speed on Ritter is 34 mph and the speed limit is 25 mph. Opening Ritter Drive will just make speeding and safety concerns worse. She asks that the council remembers residents who have lived in Riverdale their entire lives.

Rich Taylor had one text that stated, 'We vote no'.

H. Discretionary Items

Councilmember Stevens noted that we took a vote on Ritter Drive, but asked what the next step is. Are we going to be having this exact same conversation in August? He asked if we could get door to door data. Councilmember Mitchell and Councilmember Hilton stated that there should be a survey with the city of Riverdale, not just the South side of Riverdale. Councilmember Stevens stated that residents that have lived there this way for ten years have just become accustom to the road and the longer it is that way, the more they will want to keep it that way.

Chief Brenkman stated that we cannot get an accurate survey and data without opening Ritter Drive and that we would need something to compare it to. Councilmember Stevens and Mayor Searle noted that they believe that there really needs to be current data, not data from ten years ago. There are now improvements and safety measures in place that may have changed the data.

Steve Brooks notified the council and Mayor that the civic center will be opened back up tomorrow from 10a.m.- 3p.m., and that Shawn Douglas will be opening trail bathrooms. Councilmember Ellis stated that the Lions Club wanted to recognize the first responders for their hard work during this time and that they are donating \$500 to the Police and Fire departments and also Public Works to use as they see fit.

I. Adjournment.

MOTION: Having no further business to discuss, Councilmember Arnold made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitchell; all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Norm Searle, Mayor

Shalee Evans, City Recorder

Date Approved: