



**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WEST JORDAN
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Thursday, May 28, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

Approved July 8, 2020

This meeting was held electronically via Zoom and streamed on West Jordan's YouTube channel
base location at City Hall 8000 S Redwood Road • West Jordan, UT 84088

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Chris McConnehey, Chair; Kelvin Green, Vice-Chair; Zach Jacob, Chad Lamb, David Pack, Kayleen Whitelock, and Melissa Worthen.

STAFF: Alan R. Anderson, Deputy Council Office Director; Korban Lee, CAO; Danyce Steck, Finance Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McConnehey called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Chair McConnehey invited Committee Members to share comments regarding the FY 2021 Budget. The following budget items were identified as priorities for discussion during the FY 2021 Budget process:

Committee Member	Item	Category	# Agree	Priority	Discuss
Whitelock	Dumpster program	Revenue	4	2	5
Green	Fees for service (inflationary increases)	Revenue	3	1	5
Pack	No decrease to public safety	Policy	3	1	5
Pack	Arts Center and \$6m reserves in building capital	Policy	5	1	5
Green	Outside committees	Expense	2	1	4
Lamb	Utility Transfer	Revenue	3	1	4
Whitelock	Overtime	Expense	2	1	3
Jacob	Property Tax	Revenue	1	1	2
Green	No more than \$2.65 million reserves	Reserves	1	1	1
Pack	Don't spend over \$3m in reserves	Reserves	2		3
McConnehey	Council contingency	Expense	2		5
Green	Cost reduction - Operations	Expense	1		4
Green	Study of Highlands SAA	Policy	2		4
McConnehey	City website	Expense	1		3
Jacob	Reserves could be used up to 5% minimum	Reserves	1		2
Whitelock	Vehicle Allowance policy	Other	1		2
Jacob	Less pessimistic sales tax outlook, 10-12% instead of 15%	Revenue	1		2

Rob Wall reviewed elements of the Open Meetings Act with the Committee.

Danyce Steck presented a financial analysis showing the impact of the proposed utility transfer compared to a property tax increase for an average residential user/property owner as requested by Committee Member Whitelock. Ms. Steck showed that an 8.31% increase in property tax would

only generate \$1,309,344 in revenue. A utility transfer with the same financial impact to a resident would generate \$2,479,375. A 15.75% increase in property tax would be required to generate the same revenue as the utility transfer.

A list of budget topics not deemed priorities for discussion during the FY 2021 process was compiled for future discussion.

- **Dumpster Program**

Chair McConnehey said he knew from experience that the dumpster program helped keep neighborhoods clean. He acknowledged that change was necessary to reduce City expense, ideally keeping the first dumpster free for neighborhoods. Committee Member Green said that, given the tight budget, he would prefer some amount of fee, even for a first dumpster.

Ms. Steck explained the City could fund a maximum of 1,500 free dumpsters within the FY 2021 Budget. Committee Member Worthen said she liked the fee structure proposed by Ms. Steck, with a first dumpster free for neighborhoods.

Staff explained that Ace Disposal was not interested in participating in a front-load dumpster program because of liability. The group discussed dumpster programs in other cities. Committee Member Whitelock said she would like to provide some method of disposing of refuse free-of-charge, but said she would not want the City to raise the solid waste free to support the few who use multiple dumpsters each year. She said she would agree with charging a nominal fee for a first dumpster.

Chair McConnehey said he would support limiting the number of free dumpsters to 1,500 per year on a first-come-first-serve basis, and charging for a second dumpster with clear understanding that even with the charge for a second dumpster, the dumpster would be open and available for anyone in the community to use. Committee Member Green suggested finding a way to limit the number of free dumpsters available within a neighborhood or area. Responding to a question from Committee Member Worthen, Chair McConnehey said he was not in favor of the “neighborhood cleanup” idea.

Ms. Steck clarified that after the first 1,500 free dumpsters were used, the cost for any dumpster, first or subsequent, would be \$200, not \$50. A majority of Committee Members indicated support for charging \$50 for every first dumpster rental, and \$200 for every subsequent dumpster rental, with a City-managed neighborhood cleanup plan. Chair McConnehey stated he did not agree with the majority.

- **Fees for Service**

Committee Member Green commented that City fees had not been adjusted for inflation for a long time. He suggested an across-the-board inflationary increase, and an ongoing plan for inflationary fee increases. Chair McConnehey said he would want each fee to be reviewed. He requested Ms. Steck bring back an adjusted Fee Schedule for the Committee to consider.

Committee Member Whitelock suggested a nominal filing fee to run for public office to cover Staff time. Four Committee Members indicated a desire to include a filing fee on the revised Fee Schedule. Committee Member Jacob requested a comparison of filing fees in other cities.

- **No Decrease to Public Safety**

Committee Member Whitelock expressed concern with public safety personnel cuts made by the City, specifically mentioning the position of Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. She said fully-funded public safety was a priority for her. Committee Member Green said he believed the departments had done a good job of refining processes and reducing expenses without reducing first responder personnel. Committee Member Whitelock expressed concern with funding cuts for public safety training. Committee Member Pack said he believed public safety to be the backbone of a community, and said he would be reticent to cut back on training. Committee Member Pack said he would not want to cut back on needed funds for overtime. Committee Member Green said he believed the proposed budget for overtime was too high compared to the amount used in the last year. Committee Member Pack emphasized that he would not want to reduce level of service. Mr. Lee commented that the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator position would be filled with an experienced volunteer. Chair McConnehey suggested continuing the discussion later in the budget process, with the Police Chief and Fire Chief.

ADJOURN

At 8:37 p.m., Committee Member Whitelock moved to adjourn the meeting. Committee Member Worthen seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (7-0).

I, Cindy Quick, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes represent an overview of what occurred at the meeting held on June 10, 2020. This document constitutes the official minutes for the West Jordan City Council Meeting.

Cindy M. Quick, MMC
City Recorder

Approved this 8th day of July 2020