

[Click for audio recording of meeting](#)

**City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Council Chambers

2600 West Taylorsville Blvd., Room No. 140

Taylorsville, UT 84129

BRIEFING SESSION

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Chair Meredith Harker
Councilmember Dan Armstrong
Councilmember Anna Barbieri (Electronic)
Councilmember Ernest Burgess (Electronic)
Councilmember Curt Cochran

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst. City Administrator/CFO
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director

Others: Lt. Brady Cottam and Sgt. Jason Richman

6:00 BRIEFING SESSION

Chair Harker called the briefing session to order at 6:02. A roll call was conducted wherein all Councilmembers were present. Councilmembers Barbieri and Burgess were in attendance electronically.

1. Review Agenda

The agenda for the City Council Meeting was reviewed.

2. Adjourn

Chair Harker declared the briefing session adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Hair Meredith Harker
Councilmember Dan Armstrong
Councilmember Anna Barbieri (Electronic)
Councilmember Ernest Burgess (Electronic)
Council Member Curt Cochran

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Chief Financial Officer
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Wayne Harper, Comm./Economic Dev. Director
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director
Stephanie Shelman, Deputy City Attorney
Ben White, City Engineer

Others: Lt. Brady Cottam, John E. Gidney, Lynn Handy, Jennifer Kwan, Rep. Karen Kwan, Sgt. Jason Richman, Kevyn Smeltzer, Brandon Sorensen, Joan White, and Susan Yadeskie.

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

 Chair Harker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A roll call was conducted, wherein all councilmembers were present.

**1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge/Reverence – *Youth Council*
(Opening Ceremonies for November 4, 2020 to be arranged by *Mayor Overson*)**

Brandon Sorensen lead those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance before Savannah Medico read a quote, “Where you see defeat, others see victory.” She explained the importance of viewing one’s hardships and struggles as opportunities to learn and grow.

1.2 Mayor’s Report

 Mayor Overson reported that the 2020 U.S. Census had been concluded. She explained that federal funding was received based on the final census figures and the data she had showed that Taylorsville had a 76.8% participation rate.

She had recently attended two ribbon cuttings for new businesses. The first was at TVille Nutrition which had opened earlier in the year at the Crossroads of Taylorsville. The business had delicious meal-replacement shakes and protein drinks that tasted even better than they looked. She wished the business every success.

The new Target store had also just held its soft opening. It was beautiful inside and she encouraged everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to shop there.

Mayor Overson provided an update on the progress of the new performing arts center. Some of the interior woodwork and furnishings would be delayed due to the pandemic. She anticipated that the project would be complete in January and a June date had already been reserved for an exciting event that she could not yet announce. The Mayor expressed appreciation to the Tourism, Recreation, Cultural and Convention (TRCC) board for providing funding for the project, despite

having to make so many cuts on a variety of other worthy projects. She was grateful for the City's partnership with Salt Lake County.

Progress was also being made in the area in front of city hall and she expressed her appreciation and for the city employees who were constantly on the lookout for potential grant funding.

Along with Rep. Jim Dunnigan, Mayor Overson had recently visited Chair Harker's third grade class and discussed the functions of government, from the national level down to the local level. The students learned about what they could do to contribute to the community and about the importance of voting.

Speaking of voting, Mayor Overson pointed out that there was a ballot box outside of city hall and that early voting would take place the following week. She also outlined the four options for election day voting in Taylorsville.

Taylorsville's land development code was being re-written by the community development team which would take roughly a year. The Mayor explained that residents could participate in a survey via the City's website and weigh in on what they would like to see the land development code address. The City's general plan was also being updated which was another year-long endeavor. Both projects would affect Taylorsville for many years to come and public input was welcome.

Mayor Overson explained that the justice court had been functioning well under very difficult circumstances. Taylorsville continued to mourn the loss of Judge Kwan, with his quick wit and humor, and his ability to change people's lives.

1.2.1 Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association Presentation – *Rep. Karen Kwan*

 Representative Karen Kwan and Jennifer Kwan explained they were present on behalf of their family as well as the Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association, one of many associations that her brother had founded in Utah. She expressed appreciation to the City for the love and support shown to the Kwan family. The CRWDA wished to donate several hundred masks as a show of appreciation for the honor and respect shown to the family. She especially wished to thank Sgt. Jason Richmond for organizing a flag ceremony and presenting Jennifer with the flag.

1.3 Citizen Comments

 Chair Harker reviewed the citizen comment procedures for the audience. She then called for any citizen comments.

John Eugster explained that he had lived in the Bennion Cove area for more than twenty years and had been a member of neighborhood watch for ten years. He felt there was a serious shortage of speed limit signs in the area which had a direct effect on the safety of neighborhood children. He asked that the City appropriate funds to provide more speed limit signs.

There were no other citizen comments, and Chair Harker closed the citizen comment period.

2. APPOINTMENTS

2.1 Appointment of Youth Council Members

 Kris Heineman explained how excited she was to welcome the members of the Youth Council, some of whom were new members and others who were returning from the previous year. She invited the following members to step forward and be recognized.

- Dillon Nguyen
- Merryim Loose
- Morgan Thompson
- Ryan Buhler
- Tyne Vanderbilt
- Brandon Sorensen (*Chair*)
- Emma Powers (*Recorder*)
- Jade Tran
- Jenna Marchant
- Madeline VanWagenan (*Mayor, Youth Ambassador*)
- Maryn Seaman (*PIO*)
- Savannah Dearden (*Vice-Chair, not in attendance*)
- Savannah Medico (*Youth Ambassador*)

Mayor Overson then administered an oath of office to each of the 2020-2021 Youth Council Members

3. REPORTS

3.1 Youth Council Report – *Brandon Sorensen*

 Brandon Sorensen introduced himself as Chair of the Youth Council. He explained what a unique and fun opportunity it was to serve on the Youth Council. It provided members with the opportunity to perform community service throughout Taylorsville. He presented several slides showing the Youth Council working on projects at the Bennion Heritage Museum and participating in Saturday with Santa the previous year. They had also been able to participate in “A Day at the Legislature” during the previous legislative session. He appreciated the opportunity to learn about the functions of local government while serving on the Youth Council.

3.2 Historic Preservation Committee Report – *Susan Yadeskie*

 Ms. Yadeskie explained that the Bennion Heritage Museum had been closed for some time due to the pandemic, but it was open once again and the committee had been able to host some small weddings. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 guidelines had recently changed so it was unlikely they would hold any more events in the near future. In addition to the Youth Council performing service projects at the museum, local scout troops had undertaken projects there as well. The

committee had been working on several updates to the facility, including the addition of a historical shed which had since been turned into a tack house. They also recently laid a brick patio behind the building and refinished the floor of the dairy store.

The committee was working on preserving a historical building currently housing a local Islamic Center. The Center's David Mardanlou had expressed a desire for the building to become a community gathering place. He wanted the local youth to be able to play basketball there, neighbors to be able to tour the center, etc. It was unfortunate that they would not be able to host their traditional Saturday with Santa that year due to COVID, but they had recently refurbished an antique chair for Santa to use in 2021.

3.2.1 Resolution No. 20-40 -A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville accepting a Zoo, Arts and Parks Grant - *Joan White*

Joan White explained that with the 2021 grant they hoped to host school field trips, Tombstone Tales with the Arts Council as well as Saturday with Santa. Because all three of those events had been cancelled for 2020, the Historic Preservation had leftover grant funds. It was likely they would have to return approximately \$3,500 of the 2020 grant to ZAP.

Ms. White expressed her appreciation for everyone at the City for supporting the Historic Preservation Committee. She was especially grateful for the security cameras and the new sign.

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to approve Resolution 20-40, accepting a Zoo, Arts and Parks grant from Salt Lake County in the amount of \$4,500 to fund the Taylorsville Bennion Heritage Center. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran.

Councilmember Burgess	Yes
Chair Harker	Yes
Councilmember Armstrong	Yes
Councilmember Cochran	Yes
Councilmember Barbieri	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

 Kevyn Smeltzer of Salt Lake County Public Works reviewed the Mutual Aid Interlocal Agreement for Utah Public Works Emergency Management. He explained the agreement was necessary to ensure that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements were available in the event that resources were used during a declared emergency. He pointed out how critical it was that local agencies worked together.

Councilmember Armstrong asked if the agreement created a new entity. Mr. Smeltzer responded that it did not. It was simply an agreement for cities to help one another during emergencies. He referred to a recent windstorm wherein some cities were hit harder than others and ended up being overwhelmed and needing assistance from neighboring municipalities. This agreement allowed those assisting agencies to be reimbursed for their costs by FEMA. Councilmember Armstrong

asked if the City would be directed to purchase resources. Mr. Smeltzer indicated it would not. In the event of an emergency or a request for assistance, any entity could choose whether or not they were in a position to assist. The agreement was currently being administered by Leon Barrett of Salt Lake County Public Works, but it was hoped that it could eventually be handed off to the County's Emergency Operations Center. Over 30 agencies in the Salt Lake Valley had already signed the agreement and utilized it after not just the windstorm but the 4.5 earthquake that took place earlier in the year.

Mr. Taylor pointed out that in essence, Taylorsville already had access to the assistance since Salt Lake County Public Works had authority to work in Taylorsville. The bills for the extra work would simply be passed from the county to Taylorsville.

Chair Harker asked how long the agreement had been in existence. Mr. Smeltzer responded that it had been around for several years.

Scott Harrington indicated that the agreement was helpful in obtaining reimbursement from FEMA. Oftentimes the federal agency would decline to reimburse a city if they did not have such an agreement in place prior to the emergency.

Chair Harker asked if it was the City Council or the administration that would sign such an agreement. Both Chair Harker and Councilmember Burgess were interested in having the administration review the agreement.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no consent items to approve

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters to discuss

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Resolution No. 20-41 - A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville approving a Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act Funding Agreement between the City and Salt Lake County – *Scott Harrington*

 Scott Harrington explained that this was a second round of funding through the CARES Act. The guidelines for spending the first round of funding had been a moving target. If the funds were not spent according to strict government guidelines, they would have to be paid back. The first round of funding had provided the following:

- Approximately \$1,067,000 went toward remote access, safety improvements to city hall, increased physical separations, social distancing improvements and reduction of touch points
- \$150,000 for technology upgrades, increasing public access
- \$50,000 for computers to allow staff to serve the public remotely

- \$150,000 to local businesses adversely affected by COVID
- \$62,000 in other COVID related expenses involving increased work done by Information Technology, the City Attorney's office and public outreach and information
- \$125,000 for increased police, fire and sanitation services
- \$125,000 for a remote office program for city staff
- \$18,000 for improved and upgraded video conferencing capabilities
- \$9,500 for improvements to council chambers and the nearby Joint Information Center (JIC)
- \$11,800 signage upgrades

Councilmember Armstrong asked what the state required regarding these funds. Mr. Harrington replied that expenses needed to be related to the COVID pandemic and a certain amount would need to go directly to the community. Councilmember Armstrong was aware that Salt Lake County was awarding grants with CARES Act money. He asked if Taylorsville was doing so as well. Mr. Harrington responded that as long as a business could demonstrate that it was adversely affected by the pandemic, it was eligible for financial assistance. CDBG funds were also being provided to assist the community. Councilmember Armstrong asked how businesses in need found out about available funds. Information regarding available funds had been provided on the city's website and through social media. Twenty to thirty businesses had applied for the CDBG funds and then \$150,000 had been turned over to Chamber West to distribute to the local business community. Barbara Riddle of Chamber West would provide a report at a future date. Councilmember Armstrong stated he did not recall authorizing the expenses. It was pointed out that the resolution approved earlier in the year had authorized both the receipt and the expenditure of the funds in general.

Mr. Taylor explained that the city had spent and would continue to spend any CARES Act money in accordance with the CARES Act guidelines.

Councilmember Barbieri pointed out that Chamber West had done a remarkable job of getting the word out to the business community about available funds.

Wayne Harper reiterated that there were two different funding programs related to COVID. The CDBG fund program included letters, emails and social media blasts letting the community know that financial assistance was available. Salt Lake County also had some programs which thus far had assisted approximately 27 different Taylorsville businesses. With the funds that Taylorsville forwarded to Chamber West, they were literally going door to door to contact each business in the City with a storefront, letting them know that as long as they could prove a negative impact in the event of an audit, they could apply for that financial assistance. Additionally, Chamber West would be mailing out \$30.00 "Shop Local" coupons for use at any of the businesses that had stated they had been adversely affected.

Mayor Overson was in support of the "Shop Local" initiative because it identified businesses in need and also assisted residents by providing them with a coupon that they could use to purchase whatever essentials they needed. In short, the program helped both businesses and residents of Taylorsville.

Mr. Harrington mentioned that Salt Lake County was providing loans and rental assistance and the City did not wish to duplicate what was already being done. Councilmember Armstrong agreed it was best not to be redundant in the services being offered. He asked that the City talk to both the police and fire departments and see what they needed.

The Mayor reiterated that the rules regarding what CARES Act money could be spent on had been a moving target, but the goal was to spread the funds out as much as possible. Of course the City wanted public safety and the most vulnerable community members to be taken care of.

MOTION: Councilmember Cochran moved to approve Resolution 20-41, approving a Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act Funding Agreement between the City and Salt Lake County. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barbieri.

Councilmember Barbieri	Yes
Councilmember Cochran	Yes
Councilmember Burgess	Yes
Councilmember Armstrong	Yes
Chair Harker	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Taylorsville City Hall Construction Projects Update – *Ben White*

 Ben White showed various slides, explaining the status of the city center project outside city hall. The contractor had until May 1, 2021 to complete the work. He reminded those gathered that the amphitheater and playground depicted in the slides had not yet been funded. He then explained that in the future, there would be touchless doors on both the north and south sides of city hall. The road that was currently closed would open again by the end of the week. The doors would be the last portion of the project and would not be delivered until early December. The furniture on the east side of the building wasn't due until early December.

Regarding the west side of the second floor of city hall, there was a smaller impact. The plans for this area were currently in flux, but he hoped that framing would begin the following Monday and that the sheet rocking would be in within 2-3 weeks.

Councilmember Armstrong asked about the status of the wall on 3200 West. Mr. White responded that the sidewalk was walkable but there was a space between the wall and sidewalk that still needed to be filled in.

Chair Harker asked about the status of the wall that John Eugster had asked about during the previous meeting. Mr. White explained it had been fixed although there was still some landscaping that needed to be finished.

Regarding speed limit signs that Mr. Eugster had mentioned earlier in the meeting, Chair Harker asked for Mr. White's opinion about increasing the number of speed limit signs in Taylorsville. He responded that there were two particular streets within the city for which he wanted to find a solution for the speeding problems. However, he felt that new speed control devices tended to be effective only when new. Once drivers got used to their presence, they tended not to notice them anymore. Chair Harker inquired if there was a standard which determined how many speed limit signs there should be and how far apart they should be spaced.

Mr. Taylor responded that there was a general traffic standard. Chair Harker felt Mr. Eugster had some valid points regarding speed limit signs.

Chair Harker thanked Mr. White for his hard work and took a moment to express her appreciation for all city staff for their constant willingness to step up when needed.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

8.1 Councilmember Burgess – nothing for subsequent consideration.

8.2 Councilmember Armstrong – nothing for subsequent consideration

8.3 Councilmember Cochran – nothing for subsequent consideration.

8.4 Council Chair Harker – nothing for subsequent consideration.

8.5 Councilmember Barbieri – nothing for subsequent consideration.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING)

9.1 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

9.2 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

9.3 Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

9.4 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

11. CLOSED SESSION (*Conference Room 202*)- *For the Purpose(s) Described in Statute U.C.A. 52-4-205*

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to convene a closed session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran and Chair Harker declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. for the purposes listed in the motion. A closed session convened shortly thereafter.

Minutes for the Closed Session were taken and are now on file as a Protected Record.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. and a closed session convened shortly thereafter.

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

Minutes approved: November 4, 2020