

City of Taylorsville
CITY OF COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
Council Chambers
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd., Room No. 140
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

BRIEFING SESSION

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

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

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin./C.F.O.
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director
Tracy Wyant, Unified Police Precinct Chief

Others: Lt. Brady Cottam and Ken Donarski

Chair Harker conducted the briefing session which convened at 6:01 p.m. A roll call was conducted wherein all councilmembers were present. Although Councilmember Burgess' name was not called during the roll call, he was present electronically.

1. Review Agenda

Chair Harker reviewed the meeting agenda for the City Council meeting.

Regarding a citizen's report at the previous city council meeting that there were not enough speed limit signs in Taylorsville, the Chair had since paid particular attention as she travelled the City and concluded that there was a plethora of such signs. She was of the opinion that any speeding problems were not a result of insufficient signage.

2. Adjourn

Chair Harker declared the briefing session adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance-

Mayor:

Kristie Overson

Councilmembers:

Council Chair Meredith Harker

Councilmember Dan Armstrong

Councilmember Anna Barbieri

Councilmember Ernest Burgess (Electronic)

Councilmember Curt Cochran

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator

Scott Harrington, Asst. City Administrator

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney

Wayne Harper, Econ/Comm Development Dir.

Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator

Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director

Capt. Richard Rich, Unified Fire Authority

Tracy Wyant, Unified Police Precinct Chief

Others: Lisa Butterfield, Lt. Brady Cottam, Officer Dennis Decker, Ken Donarski, Kory Holdaway, Pam Roberts, Officer Dani Roskelley, Audry Wood, David Wright and David Young

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 members of Council were in attendance.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge and Reverence – *Mayor Overson* (Opening Ceremonies for December 2, 2020 to be arranged by *Council Chair Harker*)



Mayor Overson conducted the Pledge of Allegiance before offering a reverence

1.2 Mayor's Report

Mayor Overson described the steady stream of vehicles she had witnessed in city hall's parking lot during the week of early voting as well as on election day itself. She expressed appreciation to the Taylorsville Exchange Club who had donated American flags to voters, and to the city recorder and facilities manager and crew who worked in conjunction with Salt Lake County to ensure that voting in city hall went smoothly. She thanked the police department for being prepared to deal

1 with any traffic related issues that might have resulted from the high number of people coming to
2 city hall and to the entire city staff who continued to do their jobs despite the building being
3 remodeled and the large numbers of visitors. Mayor Overson explained how she had noticed many
4 voters stopping to look at the Veterans Memorial on the south side of city hall and she expressed
5 her thanks to former city officials, including Mayor Russ Wall who had the vision to fund the
6 project.

7
8 As was the case each year, leaf bags were being distributed to residents and in fact were almost
9 gone. Once full, the bags could be dropped off at Vista and Valley Regional Parks. While
10 residents worked on clearing their yards of debris, she asked that they also look at nearby storm
11 drains and clear debris from those as well if it appeared necessary. It would be greatly appreciated
12 by the City.

13
14 Mayor Overson explained that on the previous Saturday there had been a very small
15 groundbreaking for the new Taylorsville temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.
16 The remarks made at the event were reflective of generations of family, community and
17 Taylorsville heritage.

18
19 The Mayor had recently had the opportunity to attend the dedication of the Whiskey Berry dog
20 park at a private housing development behind the old RC Willey building. She had enjoyed
21 listening to those involved with the project extend high praise of Mark McGrath, the Planning
22 Commission and city staff.

23
24 The "Shop Local" program began that day and involved postcards sent to all City residences
25 providing two \$15 coupons good at Taylorsville businesses. The program not only helped local
26 businesses hit hard by the pandemic and subsequent quarantine, but it also provided residents with
27 an extra \$30.00 to spend in the City on whatever they most needed.

28
29 The Administrative Office of the Court (AOC) had recently begun the process of seeking a new
30 judge for the justice court. Applications were being accepted until November 9 and the entire
31 appointment process would take several months. Working in conjunction with the AOC, the
32 Mayor anticipated appointing a judge in the Spring.

33
34 With unanimous support of the City Council, Tracy Wyant had been selected as the police chief
35 for the new Taylorsville Police Department and would be formally appointed at a future meeting.
36 Mayor Overson was excited that the TVPD would be starting off with Chief Wyant at the helm.

37
38 The Mayor expressed appreciation to city employees who continued to excel at many unofficial
39 but crucial "other duties as assigned." She also wished to thank the residents for their feedback
40 which helped the City know where it excelled and where it needed improvement. Finally, she
41 thanked the City Council and Chair Harker for their dedication and support as public officials.

42
43 1.3 Citizen Comments

 Chair Harker reviewed the citizen comment procedures and explained that citizens could either submit their comments via email no later than 30 minutes before the meeting or make them in person during this portion of the meeting.

Although there was no one attending the meeting in person who wished to speak, there were two comments that had been submitted electronically. One would be read into the record later in the meeting during the presentation regarding fiber.

Cory Tenney wrote, “*Could we get some freeway cleanup before the season starts? Particularly between 4100 S and 4700 S on I-215 is really bad.*” Chair Harker pointed out that the property in question was owned by UDOT so the information request would be passed on to that entity.

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

2. APPOINTMENTS

2.1 **Resolution No. 20-42** – A resolution of the City of Taylorsville appointing David Wright to the Planning Commission representing District No. 3 – ***Mayor Overson***

 Mayor Overson explained that the appointment of two planning commissioners was needed. She recommended that David Wright fill the vacancy left in District No. 3 when Anna Barbieri was appointed to the City Council. That appointment would leave a vacancy in the “at large” position on the Commission and she recommended that the current alternate, Don Russell, be appointed to fill that spot.

MOTION: Councilmember Cochran moved to approve Resolution No. 20-42, appointing David Wright to the Planning Commission representing District No. 3. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Armstrong.

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

The motion passed 5-0

2.2 **Resolution No. 20-43** – A resolution of the City of Taylorsville appointing Don Russell to the Planning Commission At-Large position- ***Mayor Overson***

With the transfer of David Wright from the At-Large position on the Planning Commission to the District No. 3 position, Mayor Overson explained that there was now a vacancy in the At-Large position. The Mayor was pleased to recommend Don Russell to serve in that capacity.

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to approve Resolution No. 20-43 appointing Don Russell to the Planning Commission in the At-Large position. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cochran

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

The motion passed 5-0

3. REPORTS

3.1 UPD Report and Officer Awards –Precinct Chief Tracy Wyant

 Chief Wyant invited Lt. Brady Cottam to join him at the podium to announce the most recent Taylorsville precinct awards.

Officer Dennis Decker was the recipient of the Officer of the Month for August 2020 upon the recommendation of victim advocate Lisa Kocherhans. Ms. Kocherhans had nominated Officer Decker due to the diligence he had shown on two specific cases involving domestic violence and stalking, respectively. His attention to these victims as well as to the entire community was evident in his work.

Chief Wyant then presented the September 2020 Officer of the Month award to Officer Dani Roskelley for her work involving an overdose case that lead to the resolution of multiple cases including residential burglaries, vehicle burglaries, auto theft, probation violations, and drug violations. Officer Roskelley's hard work and dedication undoubtedly saved the citizens of Taylorsville and the greater Salt Lake area from being further victimized.

The 4th Quarter 2020 statistical report (April through June) was then presented by Chief Wyant. He reported on:

- Overall crime trends for 2016 through 2020 thus far
- General offenses that had occurred in each council district during the preceding quarter
- Response times to various types of calls for service
- Statistical data regarding citations issued
- Activities of various units (property crimes, street crimes, CAR unit, and SWAT)

Councilmember Barbieri expressed interest in learning if the increased criminal activity in her district was centralized in any particular neighborhood(s). Chief Wyant responded that he would look at the data and get back to her on that.

Councilmember Cochran asked if motorists continued to struggle with the continuous flow intersections. Chief Wyant indicated the data did not suggest that, although such accidents could be quite serious.

Call volume continued to be significant. Where it typically would decrease somewhat as kids returned to school in the fall, Chief Wyant stated that did not appear to be taking place that year.

3.2 **Senior Center Report** – Lisa Butterfield

 Lisa Butterfield, Manager of the Senior Center in Taylorsville reminded the City Council that their physical facility was still closed due to the pandemic. However, Salt Lake County had created what was considered a “virtual” senior center in August. More information about it was available in the newsletter Senior Scoop, a copy of which she provided to each councilmember and for the recorder to retain with the permanent record. Three to four new classes were added to the program each month.

In addition to distributing lunches for seniors in need, the center was now also distributing craft projects for those who expressed an interest in them. How-to videos had been created and posted on You Tube which had received over 4700 views thus far. The center hoped to keep the program going, even once the physical senior center re-opened.

Since the pandemic began, the Taylorsville Senior Center had 37 new members who had begun participating in their program. The center also held a “drive-by” recognition for their volunteers since they were unable to hold their traditional recognition event.

Councilmember Armstrong expressed his appreciation to Ms. Butterfield for her service.

Councilmember Barbieri was impressed with the *Senior Scoop* which detailed a variety of activities that had been developed by the senior center.

3.3 **Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling Report** – Pam Roberts

 Pam Roberts, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer for WFWRD, explained that the Board had tentatively adopted the tentative 2021 budget which included the modified container delivery program that had taken place that year. Fees had been increased for the bulk trailer rental as well as curbside green waste collection. These fees would help to offset program costs.

- According to a recent survey which 395 Taylorsville residents responded to, 83.8% of them were satisfied with the modified container delivery program
- Over 9500 solid waste containers were delivered in 2020 which was down from 11,470 in 2019.
- Total weight of the solid waste containers in 2020 was 8500 tons as compared to over 11,000 tons the previous year. Ms. Roberts attributed that to less illegal dumping

- Survey respondents had reported less scavenging with the modified program since the containers were placed on private property instead of on the street
- Staffing was a serious issue for the WFWRD. It took 21 drivers to run the traditional container delivery program and during the previous year, the district was only able to maintain an average of 11 drivers.
- The modified container program saved \$350,000 which would help ensure that rates would not need to be increased in 2021
- There had been 1400 more green waste subscribers than in the previous year

Ms. Roberts finished her comments by pointing out that there would be a public hearing regarding the District's 2021 budget on November 16, 2020.

Chair Harker stated that as a resident, she had a very positive experience with the modified program. She understood that some residents were not in favor of the change, but she appreciated that it kept everyone healthy, and that it helped to avoid the pile up of garbage.

3.4 Ranked Choice Voting Presentation – Kory Holdaway

 Kory Holdaway expressed his appreciation to the mayor and council as a Taylorsville resident. He described the history of Ranked Choice Voting and stated it was already being used in various parts of the country, had been used at some of Utah's political conventions and had been used by both Payson and Vineyard during the most recent municipal election. He anticipated additional cities using it the following year and hoped that Taylorsville's City Council would send letters of interest to both the Salt Lake County Clerk and the Lieutenant Governor's office.

Mr. Holdaway explained how RCV worked, saying it identified the candidate with the majority of votes once voters ranked their choices on any given race. If a candidate received 50% or more of all votes cast, the election would be over, and the winner declared. However, if no candidate received 50% or more of the votes cast, the candidate with the least number of votes was dropped from the race. At that point, the second choice of those who had voted for the dropped candidate would come into play. The votes would again be counted, and a winner declared once a candidate received 50% or more of the votes. Mr. Holdaway felt RCV was a better way to run elections and asserted that it:

- saved the City money by reducing the number of necessary elections (no primary was needed—only a general election would be held). Therefore, he indicated the cost would be cut by 50%.
- reduced the amount of money spent by candidates because again, there would only be one election to participate in
- would compress the campaign season into a shorter window of time
- was ready for cities to implement for the next election
- better expressed voters' will
- ensured election winners received a majority of the votes cast

- 1 • ensured no votes would be “wasted”
- 2 • increased civility among candidates as they would wish to ensure that even if they weren’t
- 3 a voter’s first choice, perhaps they could be their second choice if they remained civil and
- 4 professional in their campaign

5

6 Mr. Holdaway stated that Salt Lake County was in the process of upgrading their equipment to

7 accommodate RCV. County Clerk Sherrie Swensen was unsure if she could run an RCV election

8 on the new equipment and was not yet willing to commit to doing so. Still, the Salt Lake County

9 Council was interested in having her explore the possibility of using RCV.

10

11 Chair Harker confirmed with Mr. Holdaway that if Taylorsville opted to use RCV, voters would

12 use RCV for municipal elections but the traditional method for state and federal elections (unless

13 proposed legislation was approved during the next legislative session.) Therefore, voters would

14 have to get used to voting two different ways, depending on what type of election was taking place.

15

16 Voters in both Payson and Vineyard were surveyed after using RCV for the 2019 municipal

17 election. Eighty-six percent of the respondents and 82% wanted to use it again. As far as the

18 candidates’ response to the survey, 87% of them—both those that were victorious and those who

19 were not—were happy with RCV.

20

21 The State legislature had passed a resolution commending Payson and Vineyard for using RCV

22 and encouraged other municipalities to participate in the method. Mr. Holdaway indicated that if

23 Taylorsville wished to participate in RCV, we would have the option of contracting with someone

24 other than Salt Lake County for election services.

25

26 Apparently, the Utah County Clerk loved RCV and Mr. Holdaway believed more of Utah County

27 cities were going to participate in it going forward. He feared that the Salt Lake County Clerk

28 would not adapt to the change. However, he stated that Utah County Clerk’s office would contract

29 with any city who was interested in participating in RCV—even if that city were outside Utah

30 County. He explained that if interested in using RCV for the next election, Taylorsville needed to

31 notify the Lieutenant Governor’s office by April 15, 2021. He finished his remarks by stating that

32 as a non-profit entity with a 501c3 status, Ranked Choice Voting could offer additional support

33 for cities that opted into the program.

34

35 Chair Harker made it clear that Taylorsville was not interested in running its own election. Still,

36 she saw many positive things about Ranked Choice Voting.

37

38 Councilmember Barbieri inquired about Mr. Holdaway’s background. He responded that he

39 became interested in RCV when he was serving in the legislature. Councilmember Barbieri felt it

40 was a good conversation to continue to have.

41

42 **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

43 4.1 Minutes for September 30, 2020 – October 7, 2020 – October 21, 2020

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to approve the minutes from the Special City Council Meeting on September 30, 2020 and the regular City Council Meetings held on October 7, 2020 and October 21, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barbieri.

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

The motion passed 5-0

5. PLANNING MATTERS

5.1 Public Comment – Community Development Block Grant Needs Hearing – Ken Donarski

 Mr. Donarski explained that this public comment period was the beginning of the 2021 CDBG grant application process. The purpose of the hearing was to get an idea of some of the needs in Taylorsville. There were many service providers that operated in Taylorsville and several were likely to request funding. There would be a virtual training session the following week regarding Zoom grants. The training would help entities learn and understand the grant submission process.

Chair Harker then opened the public hearing. Although there was no one physically present who wished to speak, an online comment had been submitted prior to the meeting and the Chair read it into the record:

My apologies for not attending in person, but I am high-risk. I look forward to a time when COVID-19 is in the rearview mirror and we can be together safely. Thank you for allowing me to share some thoughts.

First, on behalf of The Road Home and the thousands of people experiencing homelessness whom we serve each year, I would like to express our appreciation for Taylorsville's committed efforts to address homelessness.

As you prepare the One Year Action Plan for Taylorsville City, I urge you to consider the community's needs for shelter and affordable housing. The pandemic has had a significant impact on people experiencing homelessness and has underscored the correlation between housing and a person's health. As this pandemic continues, if job recovery languishes, and eviction moratoriums expire, it's impact will leave many of our neighbors vulnerable to housing instability. Deeply affordable housing has been the forefront of many conversations these last few years to ensure that people's basic needs are met.

The 2020 Point in Time Count, an annual one-night count done each year in January, shows that 62.5%) of people experiencing homelessness in our state were in Salt Lake County. (1,958 SLCo vs 3,131 State of UT)

- *The National Low-Income Housing Coalition's Out of Reach 2020 report notes:
 - A person in the state of Utah making minimum wage would have to work 90 hours (up from 82 hours last year) a week to afford a modest one-bedroom unit at Fair Market Rent.*

- *In SLCO, a person would need a housing wage of \$22.62/HR to afford a f 2-Bedroom unit*

Affordable housing was already a challenge before COVID. I urge you to continue to support homeless service providers and the creation of more low-income housing.

Thank you!

*Kat Kahn, MACL, CFRE
Director of Development
The Road Home*

Chair Harker closed the public hearing.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

There were no financial matters to discuss

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Taylorsville City Internet and Fiber Discussion – Tracy Cowdell

 City Attorney Tracy Cowdell presented information regarding broadband, fiber and the status of technology in Taylorsville. He began by explaining that City administration had met with existing partners, consultants of potential new partners, researched the approaches that other municipalities had taken, reviewed and evaluated various options and examined the demands of the Taylorsville community. He gave a brief overview of internet access, how it worked and the evolution of technology and the law over time. He described the general growing concerns within municipal government before delving into three primary options for addressing the emerging challenges, including the pros and cons of each.

- The traditional or market model
- The municipal service model
- The hybrid model

Regarding the status of broadband in Taylorsville, Mr. Cowdell explained that 98% of the community had sufficient internet access and bandwidth speeds. While he felt those who needed synchronous connectivity had valid concerns, they were still a very small group of citizens compared to the City as a whole.

John Taylor pointed out that some people seemed to believe that Taylorsville was keeping fiber out of the community when in fact, the City would love to have it. Unfortunately, Utopia would only come if the City covered their financial risk. Mr. Cowdell said he had serious concerns about a model that leveraged the taxpayers. It was a very serious commitment.

Councilmember Cochran asked if the trend was to go wireless, why would the City want to make such a big investment in fiber? Mr. Cowdell responded that most people would say that a fiber connection was the absolute best. Regardless, the City was actively working on things and was not in a reactive posture. The administration was happy to continue to update the council as necessary.

Councilmember Cochran had one final comment. If it would cost roughly \$40 million for fiber infrastructure and there were about 14,000 households in Taylorsville, that came out to \$3,000 per household just to get fiber here. That did not include any monthly subscription costs.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

- 8.1 Councilmember Burgess- Presented no items for subsequent consideration
- 8.2 Councilmember Armstrong- Presented no items for subsequent consideration
- 8.3 Councilmember Cochran- Presented no items for subsequent consideration
- 8.4 Chair Harker- Presented no items for subsequent consideration
- 8.5 Councilmember Barbieri- Presented no items for subsequent consideration

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

- 9.1 Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, November 10, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
- 9.2 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, November 10, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
- 9.3 City Council Briefing & Meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 2020
(CANCELLED)
- 9.4 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, December 2, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
- 9.5 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, December 2, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
- 9.6 City Council Briefing/Meeting – December 16, 2020 (CANCELLED)

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

11. CLOSED SESSION (Conference Room No. 202) – *For the purpose(s) described in*

UCA §52-4-205

There was no need for a closed session.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to adjourn, and Chair Harker declared the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

Minutes approved: _____