

**Riverton City, Utah
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes
September 21, 2021**

**Riverton City Hall
12830 South 1700 West
Riverton, Utah 84065**

Attendance:

Mayor Trent Staggs

Councilmembers:

Councilmember Tish Buroker
Councilmember Tawnee McCay
Councilmember Troy McDougal
Councilmember Sheldon Stewart
Councilmember Claude Wells

City Staff:

David Brickey, City Manager
Kevin Hicks, Administrative Services Director
Jamie Larsen, City Recorder
Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director
Trace Robinson, Public Works Director
Chief Don Hutson, Riverton Police Department
Ryan Carter, City Attorney
Sheril Garn, Director of Events and Operations
Casey Saxton, Communications Director
Chief Wade Watkins, Unified Fire Authority

Mayor and Council Informal Meeting - 5 PM

WORK SESSION – 5:45 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Staggs called the Work Session to order at 5:47 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Buroker, McCay, McDougal, Stewart, and Wells were present.

Presentations – N/A

Discussion Items

Local First Riverton Campaign Presentation – Casey Saxton, Director of Communications

Casey Saxton, Director of Communications, reported on the Local First Riverton Campaign. Mr. Saxton presented a slide show which will be included in the packet.

Discuss COVID-19 Employee Related Programs – Councilmember McCay

Councilmember McCay said that many women have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and especially in their employment. She said that she would like to know what Riverton City is doing to support women in the workplace. She said she had talked to Trish Dixon, Human

Resource Director, and wanted to find ways to allow more flexibility for women and possibly allow paid maternity leave.

Councilmember Stewart said that short term disability covers maternity leave in his workplace. Kevin Hicks, Administrative Services Director, said that the City currently has short term and long term disability. He said that short term disability starts after 1 week of being gone from work and pays at 60% and the other 40% can be supplemented by the employee. He said the disability paychecks are tax free.

Mayor Staggs said that the Councilmembers could propose a change to these policies. Mr. Hicks suggested that the Councilmembers implement maternity or paternity leave. Mr. Hicks said that estimated cost for these benefits is difficult to estimate.

Councilmember Buroker stated that with continued growth and a strong job market, the City should examine the current policies and decide how the City will be able to compete to have the best employees. Councilmember McDougal said the City needs to consider that employees are wearing multiple hats and doing multiple jobs.

Mr. Hicks said that from a financial standpoint it is easy to say that we should offer these benefits. Mayor Staggs said that it is hard to compare the benefits of working in the private sector versus working in the public sector and agreed with Councilmember Buroker's statement.

Mayor Staggs said that he believes the Councilmembers are directing staff to look at benefits and make recommendations on changes that might make the City more attractive and then bring it back to the Council for consideration. Councilmember McCay said that she would like them to present a couple different options. She said that she wanted to add in a job sharing option where two part time employees could be hired to perform one job.

Mr. Hicks asked the Councilmembers when they would like to see the options. Councilmember McCay said she would like it sooner than later. Councilmember McDougal said that he would like to have a bigger, broader discussion in January. Councilmember Stewart said he believes this is a strategic discussion and it should be discussed in January. Mayor Staggs said that the majority would like it brought back in January.

Park and Trails Committee Presentation (16 acre park and Edge Development park) – Jason Judd, Chair

Jason Judd, Chair of the Parks and Trails Committee, said that the committee has been meeting regularly over Zoom and in person. He said that when the committee first met, the Tracy Aviary was a big project but that project has been put on hold. He said the committee has discussed different projects including enhancing the fishing pond, the 10 acre Edge Homes piece of land and the 16 acre future park northeast of the Costco.

Mayor Staggs said that there will be four more pickle ball courts installed at the main City park and the sand volleyball court will be relocated.

Councilmember Buroker asked if there is broad representation from all facets of the community on the Parks and Trails Committee and if the committee feels like they have value. Mr. Judd said there was a very diverse group and he does believe the committee has value.

Councilmember Wells, along with the Mayor and other Councilmembers thanked Mr. Judd for his service.

Signage Discussion (12600 S. Redwood Road) – Councilmember McCay

Councilmember McCay said that she would like to see the Silverwolf sign on Spirit Corner stay. She said that she has enjoyed that Riverton City supports Riverton High School and she believes there will be push back from residents if the sign is removed.

Councilmember Wells said that when he originally heard that the City wanted to move the Silverwolf sign, he was against it but that was from a logistic standpoint. He said that he walked the area with Councilmember Buroker and said that this was not maintained as well as it should've been. He asked why the high school has not been maintaining this corner.

Councilmember McDougal explained the history of Spirit Corner. He said that this corner was owned by UDOT but not maintained. He said that Mayor Applegarth decided that this should be a Spirit Corner and the senior class at Riverton High School donated the sign. He said that there is no parking by Spirit Corner and because it is not located on school grounds, it is hard for the students or parents to maintain it. He said that he is supportive of it being moved to school grounds where it can be utilized more.

Councilmember Stewart said this sign is on private property and he is concerned that this is not part of the school. He said that the City needs to support all of the high schools in the City. He said the Hope Walk should include all high schools and bring the schools together on a common theme.

Mayor Staggs discussed the history of Spirit Corner. He said that he would like this corner to be another way to communicate with the residents through a digital sign. He asked if there would be an opportunity to get a grant to improve the corner. He said he does not believe this corner needs to be part of the first phase of the signage installations.

Councilmember McDougal said he was concerned about spending money on this corner when the City does not own this land. Ryan Carter, City Attorney, said he does not believe UDOT will ever sell this land to the City because they know that someday the road will need to be expanded and this is part of their long term traffic plan.

Mayor Staggs said that he asked Casey Saxton, Communications Director, to remove the placement of a major monument on this corner from the plans for now. Councilmember McCay asked what the cost would be to move the sign to the high school. David Brickey, City Manager, said he did not have a dollar amount for moving the sign. Mayor Staggs said that he has asked Mr. Saxton to come back with another plan for the corner that will be minimal.

Adjournment of Work Session

Councilmember Buroker **MOVED to adjourn the Work Session.** Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Staggs called for a vote; the vote was as follows: Buroker-Yes, McCay-Yes, McDougal-Yes, Stewart-Yes, and Wells-Yes. The motion passed unanimously. The Work Session adjourned at 6:55 PM.

COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Staggs called the Riverton City Council Meeting to order at 7:05 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Buroker, McCay, McDougal, Stewart, and Wells were present.

Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Mike Mullineaux, Harvest Valley Baptist Church offered the invocation and Chief Hutson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Comment

Mayor Staggs called for public comments; there being none, he closed the Public Comment period.

Presentations/Recognitions

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting - Jim Clayton State Representative, Utah Government Finance Officers Association

Jim Clayton, State Representative from the Utah Government Finance Officers Association, presented these certificates to Riverton City. He said that Riverton City has received the comprehensive award for 12 years and the popular award for 10 years.

Riverton Police Department Presentation – Chief Don Hutson

Chief Don Hutson said that Councilmember McCay delivered cards and notes to the police department and he thanked her for coordinating this. He said that the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Jason Jones, has been presenting neighborhood watch and emergency preparedness to various neighborhoods around the City.

Chief Hutson said that the South Jordan, Riverton and Herriman SWAT team competed in a SWAT competition with SWAT teams from all around the western United States and were able to place 3rd out of 16 other teams. He said that Riverton SWAT team has been called out to other jurisdictions and been able to help with various incidents.

Chief Hutson said that he created a heat map which shows the location of all the vehicle burglaries that occurred in Riverton City during the month of August. He said there were a significant number of burglaries and the most that Riverton City has seen in one month. He said they are analyzing evidence in these cases and looking for ways to stop the burglaries from happening.

Chief Hutson said that VECC has redone their phone system and is constantly in a battle to keep good employees. He said that VECC has improved on emergency calls but non-emergency calls have been neglected. Councilmember Stewart agreed with Chief Hutson's analysis of the data from VECC. He said he would like to have a work session focused on VECC. Mayor Staggs said that VECC should be full service and believes the City is paying a lot of money and not receiving quality service.

Councilmember Stewart said there are legislative mandates that need to be changed so that cities can look to other sources for dispatch.

Chief Hutson said that it would be beneficial to invite a representative from VECC that could clarify some of the issues that VECC is having so that the City can make the appropriate decisions.

Chief Hutson said there were two major accidents that resulted in fatalities and reported on the details of these accidents.

Mayor/Council/Manager Reports

Councilmember McDougal said he had a conversation with Trace Robinson about the benefits of the residents volunteering and the cost savings for the City. He said that he wanted to publicize the success of this project because he believes that participating in this service project helped residents take greater ownership and it saved everyone money.

Councilmember McCay said that she loved the National Day of Service. She said that the committee for the National Day of Service wanted to continue this project and has scheduled September 10, 2022 as the next day of service. She asked Mr. Robinson to make a list of potential projects for next year. Councilmember McCay said she took a tour of the Riverton Senior Center and would like their monthly activities included in the newsletter. She said the Senior Center is having their fall harvest party and asked if any of the Councilmembers would be able to serve.

Councilmember McCay said that she went to the TRCC meeting and said she was frustrated by their budget. She said that multiple cities are receiving high dollar amounts for projects. She does not believe that Riverton is receiving their share of the money and would like the City to identify projects that can be presented before the TRCC board to receive funding. She said that all-inclusive parks are a high priority for the board.

Mr. Brickey said that because of the pandemic, the TRCC board had pulled all of the grants from previous years and funded those. He said that Riverton City will be ready next year with some projects.

Councilmember Stewart said that Unified Fire Authority had budgeted each city to share the costs for seismic improvements in the fire stations. Ryan Carter, City Attorney, said there will be an Interlocal Agreement on the next agenda for the City Council to approve.

Councilmember Buroker said that the Parks Department has been burying a lot of people in the Riverton City Cemetery over the last six to nine months. She said she would be interested to know if most of the people that have been buried are from Riverton. She said that it is the ISM grant cycle period and reported that there is a lot of funding available for weed control and phragmites. She said that these grants have been very beneficial for the Jordan River Parkway in the past. She said she had the opportunity to attend a private school and read the Constitution on Constitution Day.

Councilmember Wells said that he was able to serve lunch at the Senior Center and it was a great experience. He said the National Day of Service was a wonderful day to see so many

people doing service. He said that the 1300 west sidewalk project is 99% finished and looks very good.

Mayor Staggs said the National Day of Service was well attended and said thank you to former Mayor Applegarth, who was the project leader, and City staff and residents for making it all happen.

Consent Items

Mayor Staggs presented the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Minute Approval: August 17, 2021;
- b. Minute Approval: September 7, 2021;
- c. **Resolution No. 21-43** - Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Fire Hydrant Testing Agreement with the Tithing Hill Homeowners Association;
- d. **Resolution No. 21-54** - Authorizing the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Salt Lake County for Corridor Preservation Funds in the Amount of \$45,000.00 to Purchase 10 feet of ROW Along the Frontage of the Property Located at 4063 West 12600 South;
- e. **Resolution No. 21-55** - Authorizing Riverton City to Execute a Real Estate Purchase Contract with Blaine and Hilea Walker to Acquire Real Property, Located at the Address of 11845 South Redwood Road, Riverton, Utah; and
- f. Warranty Bond release for Hidden Pines (7212)

Councilmember McCay **MOVED that the City Council approve the Consent Agenda.** Councilmember Stewart **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Staggs called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, McCay-yes, Stewart-yes, McDougal-yes, and Wells-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearings - NONE

Discussion/Action Item - NONE

Upcoming Meetings

- a. October 5, 2021 - 5:00 PM – Work Session & City Council Meeting
- b. October 19, 2021 - 5:00 PM – Work Session & City Council Meeting
- c. November 16, 2021 - 5:00 PM – Work Session & City Council Meeting
- d. December 7, 2021 - 5:00 PM – Work Session & City Council Meeting

Closed Session – NONE

Adjournment

Councilmember Stewart **MOVED to adjourn City Council at 7:53 PM.** Councilmember Wells **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Staggs called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, McCay-yes, Stewart-yes, McDougal-yes, and Wells-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved: CCM 11.16.21