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City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes

Wednesday, December 15, 2021
Council Chambers (Room No. 140)
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

BRIEFING SESSION

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Chair Curt Cochran
Council Vice Chair Anna Barbieri
Council Member Dan Armstrong
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Meredith Harker

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin/CFO
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Richard Rich, UFA Captain
Ben White, City Engineer
Jay Ziolkowski, Community Outreach

Excused: Kris Heineman, Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director

Others: Mason Harker, Bob Knudsen

6:00 BRIEFING SESSION

Chair Curt Cochran called the briefing session to order at 6:07 p.m. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

1. Review Agenda

The agenda for the regular city council meeting was reviewed. Councilmember Armstrong indicated he would have budget committee comments to make during the “new items for subsequent consideration” portion of the regular meeting.

Chair Cochran expressed concern about the back up of traffic at 5400 South Redwood Road. Additionally, Councilmember Armstrong mentioned a problem at the same intersection involving a pile up of plowed snow. City Administrator John Taylor explained that the snow accumulation should be handled when a plow takes a second pass through the area.

2. Adjourn

Chair Cochran declared the briefing session adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Chair Curt Cochran
Council Vice Chair Anna Barbieri
Council Member Dan Armstrong
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Meredith Harker

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin/CFO
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Wayne Harper, Economic/Community Dev. Dir.
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Brett Miller, Deputy Police Chief
Marten Thomas, Police Officer
Richard Rich, UFA Captain

Excused: Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director

Others: Sally Beesley, John E. Gidney, Lynn Handy, Mason Harker, Bob Knudsen, the Thomas family, and Rob Wood

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Chair Curt Cochran called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge/Reverence – Councilmember Harker (Opening Ceremonies for January 5, 2022 to be arranged by Councilmember Burgess)

Councilmember Harker directed the Pledge of Allegiance before speaking about how important it was to be kind to one another. It was a topic she was stressing in her class of 3rd graders. She had also reached out to Taylorsville resident for stories of kind acts they had experienced in the community, and she had heard of quite a few.

Mason Harker then played *Silent Night* on the piano.

1.2 Mayor's Report

 Mayor Kristie Overson gave a huge shout-out to the city's facilities team, snowplow drivers, the police department for helping residents and the residents themselves for their patience, as it took time to deal with such a large storm.

She recently had a training opportunity thanks to a VirTra simulator and TVPD Officers Kyle Andrew and Dan Christensen. The simulator allowed her to respond to simulated crises involving various tactics, crisis communication, de-escalation techniques, decision-making, all in a safe, simulated environment. The mayor found it to be an eye-opening experience to see some of the many things officers had to think about during critical moments on the job.

As Chair of the Unified Fire Service Area (UFSA) Board, Mayor Overson had recently witnessed the demolition and groundbreaking of Fire Station No. 102 in Magna. (The UFSA was the funding mechanism for the Unified Fire Authority). She appreciated the city's membership in both the UFA and UFSA.

The *Saturday with Santa* event had been very successful the previous weekend. She thanked the many people involved, including the Historic Preservation Committee, the Parks and Recreation Committee, the Cultural Diversity Committee, the Youth Council, scout troops and councilmembers for their assistance in organizing the event.

A holiday open house had been held the previous week for community partners around the valley. It was attended by legislators, contractors, developers, elected officials, business community members, public safety and more. The mayor explained it had been the perfect opportunity for people to connect and to highlight all the good things that had happened in Taylorsville in 2021.

Mayor Overson had recently attended the Taylorsville Salt Lake Community College Symphony at the new performing arts center. It had been a lovely evening with some very talented musicians. She expressed her thanks to the Arts Council for the wonderful celebration.

Senior Planner Jim Spung was taking the lead on updating the city's land development code. It was a major undertaking, but the mayor knew the planning department was up to the task. The initial meeting for the project had taken place and those present had discussed what to expect as the project moved forward.

1.2.1 Taylorsville Police Department Officer Swearing In – *Jamie Brooks*

 The Oath of Office was administered to Officer Marten Thomas who had recently joined the Taylorsville Police Department. Mayor Overson welcomed Officer Thomas to Team Taylorsville as he was congratulated by the city councilmembers.

1.2.2 Recognition of Service Award for Councilmember Armstrong – *Mayor Overson*

 Mayor Overson wished to recognize outgoing Councilmember Armstrong for his eight years of service to the City of Taylorsville. She had appreciated his budgeting expertise, his humor, his friendship, and the fact that he always spoke his mind. She had asked several others to describe him in one or two words. Some words they used were:

- Statesman
- Integrity
- Gentleman
- A man of his word
- Public servant
- Compassionate
- Hates the spotlight

The mayor wished Councilmember Armstrong well in his future endeavors and presented him with a plaque which recognized him for his eight years of service on the Taylorsville City Council.

1.3 Citizen Comments

 Chair Cochran provided an opportunity for any citizen who wished to provide comment for council consideration. There were no citizen comments, and Chair Cochran closed the comment period.

2. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments

3. REPORTS

There were no appointments

4. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no consent items

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Audit Report – *Scott Harrington*

 Scott Harrington explained that earlier in the day he had sent the councilmembers an electronic copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which he and his department had been working on for several months. He then turned the time over to Rob Wood of accounting firm HBME.

Mr. Wood began his comments by congratulating the council and commending the citizens that sat on the Budget/Audit Committee. He explained there was more citizen involvement in Taylorsville's budgeting process than in any other city he worked with.

He stated that he and his firm had reviewed the governmental activities, business-type activities (storm drain fund), each major fund, the discretely presented component units (the Arts Council and the Taylorsville Dayzz Committee) and he did not believe there were any material misstatements within the financial statements. Included within the audit were comparisons of records of UDOT, the tax commission, the city's bank, and bonds.

Mr. Wood commented that it was clear the city had been busy and had undergone many construction projects. Records showed "other" liabilities of \$8.9 million, half of which represented

ARPA grant funds (American Rescue Plan Act) instituted in response to the COVID pandemic. The city had healthy net positions which had increased. The storm drain fund had increased by approximately \$155,000 and “governmental activities” increased by about \$6.2 million. A single audit was still in progress regarding CARES Act funds but speaking preliminarily, he did not see a problem with how those funds had been spent. He expected that audit to be complete within a month.

Mr. Wood explained that the general fund balance was at \$6.6 million. The state legislature recently increased the maximum percentage that a city could hold unassigned within that fund from 25% to 35% of the total budget. Taylorsville’s was at 20.4%. He had no concerns with the governmental funds and pointed out that none of them exceeded the budget which had been previously adopted by the council.

For reporting purposes, the storm drain fund had to borrow \$831,000 in cash from the general fund because there had been such significant capital improvements during the year. Quite a bit of cash was converted to a capital asset which had subsequently depreciated. The unrestricted portion of the fund was in a deficit, and this was something that the city should keep an eye on since the number should be positive rather than negative. It wasn’t an issue yet but should be carefully watched.

The city’s proportionate share of the liability related to Utah Retirement Systems had gone down significantly from over \$700,000 to \$116,000 which was a good thing.

Councilmember Burgess asked that for the benefit of the listening public, Mr. Wood go into more detail regarding the Storm Water fund, which he did.

Councilmember Armstrong interjected that one of the things the Budget/Audit committee looked at was the fact that some of the city’s infrastructure was 15 years old. The committee members had discussed the possibility of creating a replacement fund and/or increasing certain fees in order to address aging infrastructure. Mr. Harrington responded that the Storm Drain Fund was already set up to handle aging infrastructure, so he did not recommend increasing fees. It would only be in a negative cash position for this particular year, although he agreed it was something to keep an eye on. Mr. Taylor noted that the projects the \$4.00 storm drain fee was based on had all been completed. Therefore, the current fee should cover any future infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Wood stated that based on what he looked at, he did not find any material weaknesses or significant deficiencies that needed to be reported in accordance with government auditing standards.

Councilmember Barbieri said that the council’s fiscal responsibility was overwhelming, and she was very grateful for the expertise of the budget/audit committee and the financial staff.

Mr. Harrington invited John E. Gidney to speak on behalf of the Budget/Audit committee which met monthly. Mr. Gidney said he appreciated that when asked a question by the committee, Mr. Harrington always either knew the answer or if not, would find it and get back to the committee with the answer. He stated that he and the rest of the committee felt the city was very well-run in most every aspect.

Rob Wood stated that he would soon submit a letter formally letting the council know that there were no “findings” made in the audit, meaning the city’s financial condition was healthy. He mentioned how much he enjoyed working with the Taylorsville staff.

6.2 Mid-Year Budget Discussion – *Scott Harrington*

 Scott Harrington explained that he would email the recommended budget adjustments to the councilmembers after the meeting, but he would now hit the highlights. The administration wished to add \$5.2 million to the FY21-22 budget, much of which was grant money, an increase in anticipated sales tax revenue, and money from fund balance for the purchase of real property.

On the expense side, he had transferred funds to the capital projects fund to pay for real property which was purchased. There was also an increase to public safety salaries, keeping them on pace with the market. There had been some building expenses and an increased events schedule that would result in increased expenditure as well. Costs for the telephone system had increased, as had the costs of parks maintenance. Additionally, some police vehicles that were originally intended for purchase during the 2020-2021 fiscal year ended up not being available until FY21-22 so that would result in the need for a budget amendment.

A public hearing would be held during the first city council meeting of January. The council could choose to vote on the budget adjustments that evening or at a later meeting. Whichever the council was most comfortable with would be fine. He pointed out that the public would need to have the actual dollar amounts available to them at the time of the January 5th public hearing.

Councilmember Barbieri asked for further information regarding the “buy back” agreement as it related to police vehicles. Mr. Harrington explained that a vendor had guaranteed the city a price to buy the leased vehicles back.

Mr. Harrington hoped to meet with each councilmember individually to go over the proposed budget amendments and answer any questions they had. Mr. Taylor asked that if there was anything that councilmembers wished to add to the budget, they bring it up during those meetings so that the item(s) could be presented to other councilmembers during their own meetings.

7. OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters on the agenda

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

8.1 Council Chair Burgess – nothing for subsequent consideration.

8.2 Council Member Armstrong - nothing for subsequent consideration.

8.3 Council Member Cochran – He had noticed that the new fountains at Centennial Plaza had been on. He wondered if that was because the fountain was just being finished or was the intent to have them run all winter long? Mr. Taylor responded that there was still some work to be done on the west side, but the plan was to keep the fountains running throughout the winter, so they did not freeze.

8.4 Council Member Harker – She had been told that a rock sign at Vista Park needed some repair. Mr. White had not heard about it but both he and Mr. Taylor indicated they would look into it. She also asked if all the lights were up at Centennial Plaza. Mr. White pointed out that something had blown a power strip the previous night, so the lights were currently off. The problem would be taken care of, however.

8.5 Council Member Barbieri – nothing for subsequent consideration.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

9.1 Elected Officials' Swearing-In Ceremony – Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

9.2 City Council Briefing Session - Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 6:15 p.m.

9.3 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

9.4 Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

9.5 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

9.6 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, January 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

9.7 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, January 19, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

9.8 Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, January 25, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

9.9 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, January 25, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(For more Details on Events, Visit the City's Website)

11. CLOSED SESSION (Conference Room 202)

- For the Purpose(s) Described in Statute U.C.A. 52-4-205

A closed session would be needed in order to discuss the following:

- **Strategy Session Concerning the Sale or Purchase of Real Property**
- **Strategy Session Regarding Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation**

Minutes for the closed session would be taken and be kept on file as a protected record.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilmember Armstrong moved to adjourn the regular meeting and convene a closed session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation as well as the sale or purchase of real property. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Burgess

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

The motion passed 5-0

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder