

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SPRINGVILLE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022, AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE CIVIC CENTER, 110 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SPRINGVILLE, UTAH.

Presiding and Conducting: Mayor Matt Packard
Elected Officials in Attendance: Liz Crandall
Craig Jensen
Jason Miller
Mike Snelson
Chris Sorensen

City Staff in Attendance: City Administrator Troy Fitzgerald, Assistant City Administrator/City Attorney John Penrod, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Bruce Riddle, Deputy Recorder Jennifer Grigg, Community Development Director Josh Yost, Public Works Director Brad Stapley, City Planner/Economic Development Specialist Carla Wiese, Assistant Golf Pro Joel Grose, Police Chief Lance Haight, Library Director Dan Mickelson, Library Supervisor Kim Christensen, Power Director Leon Fredrickson, Administration Director Patrick Monney, Parks and Recreation Director Stacey Child and Museum of Art Director Dr. Rita Wright.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Packard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Calendar

- Jul 12 - Work/Study Meeting 5:30 p.m.
- Jul 19 - Work/Study Meeting 5:30 p.m., Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Jul 25 - Pioneer Day Observance (City Offices Closed - Monday)
- Aug 02 - Work Study Meeting 5:30 p.m., Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

2. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a) Mayor Matt Packard

Mayor Packard started his presentation by asking the City Council if they read the budget. Councilmember Miller asked about the CRC. Director Riddle answered and offered to prepare more details in a one-time report covering revenue and expenses through June 30, 2022, and asked the Council to be aware some invoices may not be processed yet. The numbers will be preliminary and not audited. He turned the time over to Councilmember Crandall.

b) Councilmember Liz Crandall

Councilmember Crandall started her presentation on the Community Board by articulating that the board is studying and trying to understand the general plan while preparing to meet with consultants who will revise the general plan. She noted attending the meeting *Reframing Downtown*. She said the board is educating themselves and taking that information out into the community. Councilmember

Snelson asked what organizations are included and the stewardship of the board. Mayor Packard answered the Community Board broadly oversees subjects like zoning and public safety, but currently has little involvement with specific projects. Administrator Fitzgerald answered there could be more board involvement if the Council approves minor tweaking in the rewrite of this general plan. Each member is responsible for a couple of chapters of the general plan including presenting, changing, and following up with the Council.

Councilmember Miller commented there were teens in attendance at the *Reframing Downtown* meeting who asked for a gathering place for teens. Planner/Specialist Wiese confirmed there is a downtown gathering place planned. Mayor Packard added the big job of the Community Board is updating the general plan as well as responsibilities with the Senior Citizens Center and the Youth Council. He continued by stating the members appointed to the board are diverse and from different parts of town. Councilmember Jensen asked if property owners attended, referring back to the *Reframing Downtown* meeting. Director Yost said the stakeholders were there and they are fully informed because they have their own channel of communication. Councilmember Crandall said the area includes 400 South to 800 North on Main Street. Councilmember Sorensen suggested the study should include 4 blocks east on 400 South.

c) Public Safety Update

Chief Haight said the Public Safety Department has had a rough stretch starting May 18 with several homicides, all completely unrelated. The national trend is most homicides and suicides involve mental health and drug use and it is the job of the Public Safety Department to professionally address mental health and drug use issues. Mayor Packard asked about the officers. Chief Haight answered they are impacted and there is a peer support group for police officers along with other resources. When there is a critical incident an officer is debriefed, but the stress takes its toll over time. Mayor Packard asked what can be done to support them. Chief Haight thanked the Council for the extra day off. He requested additional law enforcement mental health resources and the hiring of more officers to provide more staff when responding. He said it is easier for his teams to respond when they are experienced and there is more help.

Chief Haight continued the presentation by explaining trends and defining mass shootings, which are on the rise. He added that Utah is not a major player, even though the state statistics are increasing 5.5% year to year. Councilmember Miller asked about readily available crime statistics for cities our size. Chief Haight showed overall crime statistics compared to Spanish Fork. He reported progress on the canine program. He reported that in a recent presentation, a representative from Wasatch Mental Health said modern marijuana is not a harmless drug and that 25% of youth have vaped marijuana at least once in Utah. Reducing drug use is his priority as well as keeping dangerous drivers off the road. He moved on to statistics from the Fire Department, including backup ambulance dates and relying on other agencies. The Council expressed appreciation for the robust data. Councilmember Sorensen questioned drug dogs in schools. Chief Haight recommended some cases should go to Youth Court. He thanked the Council for the great support for the Public Safety Department compared to California. He asked for another salary increase to be competitive with outside agencies stating Spanish Fork and the Utah County Sheriff are our main competitors.

Administrator Fitzgerald added that sometimes Springville City pays for POST (police training) for new hires who later quit to go to work for another agency for a few dollars more pay. Chief Haight said retention is a national topic and it takes about five years for a team of responders to feel comfortable.

Administrator Fitzgerald said the Water Department is also losing employees over starting pay and Administration will take a hard look at reducing benefits to raise wages.

d) Library Update

Director Mickelson explained the library collection is diverse and dialed into our community with 80,000 books, audiobooks, magazines, movies, and 280,000 eBooks, and eAudiobooks for a total annual circulation of 600,000 last year which places us in the top tier nationally in circulation per capita. He said a diverse collection is important because both sides of an issue should be represented to serve all members of a community and foster a sense of inclusion. A diverse collection also demonstrates our commitment to upholding intellectual freedom and first amendment rights. He explained this presentation is to inform the City Council of library policies and practices, to remind them of our responsibility to serve all within our community, and to prepare them for when this comes up for discussion with a resident.

Since this will come up for discussion, Supervisor Christensen stepped in and explained staff training to deal with these challenges including listening to anyone who needs to voice their thoughts, while remaining neutral, and solution-oriented. If a resident challenges a book in the collection, the process includes a title review by the librarian and continuing to the library board if necessary.

In conclusion, Supervisor Christensen said the Springville Library is known for the displays that change weekly covering new interests and integral topics which increase circulation. She said the Latino collection is 13% checked out and there are resources for LGBTQ. She said activities and collection at the Springville Library together help residents see themselves on the pages and show a snapshot of our community. The Council and Mayor said that they had been contacted by concerned residents about certain book titles in the library collection. Mayor Packard noted there is information online on the Utah State Library statistic report card.

e) Community Development Update

Director Yost addressed a question Councilmember Jensen had about the *Reframing Downtown* meeting. He proceeded to show the Building Division metrics for 2022 on the permit process including reviewed, inspected, and active permits, the amount of time staff spend waiting on applicants making required changes, and tracking the age of the oldest permit in the system. Currently, building permits are trending down. He explained a concerted effort to clear old inactive permits out of the system and announced his department is finally fully staffed. On the residential side, if an applicant submits a new permit today, it will be completed in fewer weeks. Building is trending down and Springville is out of lots. The department is fully staffed for when big projects like Westfield Central and Lakeside Landing begin. He stated at times, there are no permits in the application system so staff trains and studies including inspectors working toward full certification for all types of inspections. So far in 2022, there are \$24 million in commercial permits.

Councilmember Jensen asked about efficiency in the Community Development Department. Director Yost stated that Springville is generally very strict and precise in reviewing development proposals. Compared to other communities, the longer time elapse is because Springville historically has been more of a stickler when it comes to building and general development review. Engineering is also fully staffed and the two departments are fully collaborating. Administrator Fitzgerald explained he asked Spanish Fork why their process is so fast and they said they believe all development is good development. He continued by stating if the Council wants staff to be more lenient and have fewer requirements or interest in zoning that can be addressed. Councilmember Snelson said he agrees with strong requirements as long as the City staff is quick and efficient.

Mayor Packard asked the Council to let staff know if they want further discussion because there is always room for improvement in customer service. Councilmember Crandall agreed and suggested the Community Development Department take training as described by Supervisor Christensen at the library. Administrator Fitzgerald suggested a director's customer service training retreat for supervisors throughout the city. He returned to the discussion of efficiency in the Community Development Department by stating most large developers have architectural staff to quickly make corrections, but the one-off middle developers and the little guys are a big part of our incremental development and add to our sustainability.

f) Finance Update

Director Riddle referred to a chapter in the budget covering the Hardship Committee and asked the Council if it should remain. Few customers have taken advantage of the committee over the years and the county HEAT program is better suited with a caseworker assigned to each individual to help navigate the process. Councilmember Sorensen requested staff not abandon the \$22,000 set aside in the city budget for the Hardship Committee. Director Riddle described a one-time donation to the county HEAT program of the balance specifically for Springville residents. Councilmember Jensen agreed stating the county has a better way and right now, the existing Hardship Committee is not helping anyone anyway. Councilmember Sorensen asked how much the City is losing to bad debt. Director Riddle answered .2%. Mayor Packard asked the Council if they are ok with moving the benefit to the county with it earmarked for the people of Springville. The Council agreed and staff said they will work toward a budget amendment authorizing that.

CLOSED SESSION, IF NEEDED - TO BE ANNOUNCED IN MOTION

The Springville City Council may temporarily recess the regular meeting and convene in a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, as provided by UCA 52-4-205.

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMEMBER MILLER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 6:50 P.M.
COUNCILMEMBER JENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION, AND ALL PRESENT VOTED AYE.

*This document constitutes the official minutes for the Springville City Council Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022
I, Jennifer Grigg, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified, and acting Deputy Recorder for Springville City, of Utah County, State of Utah. I do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes represent a true and accurate, and complete record of this meeting held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022*

DATE APPROVED: August 16, 2022

Jennifer Grigg
Deputy Recorder