

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, May 13, 2021

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Work Session on Thursday, May 13, 2021 in an Electronic Meeting, pursuant to the Chair's determination and Salt Lake City Emergency Proclamation No. 2 of 2020(2)(b).

The following Council Members were present:

Amy Fowler, Ana Valdemoros, Chris Wharton, Daniel Dugan, Darin Mano, James Rogers

Present Legislative leadership:

Cindy Gust-Jenson, Executive Director; Jennifer Bruno, Deputy Director; Lehua Weaver, Associate Deputy Director

Present Administrative leadership:

Mayor Erin Mendenhall; Rachel Otto, Chief of Staff; Lisa Shaffer, Chief Administrative Officer

Present City Staff:

Cindy Lou Trishman – City Recorder, Katie Lewis – City Attorney, DeeDee Robinson – Deputy City Recorder

Council Member Fowler presided at and conducted the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm

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Work Session Items

1. Council District Two Vacancy Applicant Interviews ~ 12:00 p.m.
96 min

The Council will interview applicants for the vacant Council District Two seat. Each applicant will have up to five minutes to speak to the Council on topics of their choice.

FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

Briefing - Thursday, May 13, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Thursday, May 13, 2021

Minutes:

Council Member Fowler welcomed everyone to and reviewed the reasoning for the meeting.

Stephen Silver Jr. spoke to concerns regarding the lack of low cost/ middle income housing, the need to create affordable housing, homelessness and policing.

Esther Jackson-Stowell stated her children were her priority, reviewed her prior work history and community involvement, stated the concept of “home” was of importance and her hopes for the District 2 community, and emphasized the importance of listening to people.

Katherine Rubalcava spoke on her background, community representation efforts, being a leader, housing crisis, the unsheltered, suicide/trauma, improvements throughout Salt Lake City despite the pandemic, and the desire to serve on the Council not for herself, but for the future of the community.

Mike Fife provided his education/career background, spoke to the importance of retaining historic structures, ways the City could address homelessness /displaced persons, public transport, Inland Port, improving community issues and housing, looked forward to working with Planning Commission, and expressed support for the Jordan River improvements

Melanie Baumgartner stated she was invested in the community, spoke to the importance of building meaningful relationships, focus on community outreach, work experience with diverse backgrounds, and to ensure District 2 communities were represented and her intent to run for election for the Council seat.

Alejandro Puy expressed his love for the City and District 2; stated he would bring a unique perspective to the Council with plans to focus on homelessness, housing affordability, reliable transportation, and making vaccinations a priority on the Westside.

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Benjamin C. Wood provided his background/history, current work experience (journalist), and stated little things make a big difference.

Taylor Thurman, gave her background and work history, spoke to her experience working for the Peace Corps, bringing a younger perspective to the table, advocating for homeless; stated she values ethics, accountability, objectivity and her collaborative nature.

William Palmer spoke on his background/history, experience with youth programs, and stated the community needed a trusted voice.

Scott Christensen reviewed his background, defined constitutional republic, electing community members for representation and serving their communities; and spoke to the history of public service.

Nigel Swaby spoke to his professional background, accomplishments and efforts in various City projects.

Dennis Faris stated attending community meetings encouraged a role of representing the community, spoke to work/efforts in Poplar Grove, and stated he was currently working in homeless services industry.

Eric Turner gave his career history/experience, spoke to making Poplar Grove “home”; he understood the Westside, working post COVID-19 and emphasized business partnering.

David Troester spoke to his areas of concern specifically neighborhood security and addressing homelessness; stated he loved living on the Westside with its diversity and great potential, and spoke to the importance of local level government and finding solutions.

Darin Mann spoke of establishing a community farm, being a community organizer, experience as an environmental advocate; stated housing crisis/homeless was important issue and wanted to listen to and collaborate with the community.

Council Member Fowler thanked all of the candidates, encouraged everyone to stay involved in the community by serving on City Boards, Commissions, and Councils and to campaign for the District 2 Council position. She asked Council Members for any discussions regarding candidates.

Council Member Fowler presented the next steps for voting. Council Member Rogers expressed the importance of the determination due to the impact on the west side of the City.

Voting results were read by Cindy Lou Trishman (City Recorder). Round One consisted of four votes cast per Council Member. Round two consisted of two votes cast per Council Member.

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- Round 1: (3) Alejandro Ale Puy, (6) Dennis Faris, (1) Eric Turner, (4) Esther Jackson-Stowell, (3) Katherine Rubalcava, (1) Melanie Baumgartner, (1) Mike Fife, (5) William Palmer
- Round 2: (1) Alejandro Puy, (5) Dennis Faris, (1) Esther Jackson Stowell, (1) Katherine Rubalcava, (3) William Palmer

Through a straw poll, Council Member Valdemoros requested remaining candidates be provided 1-2 minutes for an additional presentation and Council Chair Fowler concurred. Confirmation of the previously cast votes for Round Three could be rescinded if so noted in order for the applicants to respond to the questions presented by the Council Members. Council Member Rogers asked the applicants what was not on the application that they wished they had included. Mr. Palmer commented he wanted more of a commentary situation wished to expand on the topics. Mr. Faris commented that he also would have preferred a discussion to expound on issues.

Round three consisted of two votes cast per Council Member.

- Round 3: (5) Dennis Faris, (1) William Palmer

Council Member Fowler thanked everyone for working through the process, particularly the applicants for their time and investment in the City, and acknowledged the appointment will be to Dennis Faris for District Two Council Member.

Council Member Fowler thanked all Council Members for their patience and putting time/effort into this process.

Council Member Fowler stated a formal motion would be presented during the Limited Formal Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm

Minutes Approved: September 6, 2022

Dan Dugan
Dan Dugan (Sep 7, 2022 21:03 MDT)

City Council Chair

[Signature]

City Recorder



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This document along with the digital recording constitutes the official minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held Thursday, May 13, 2021.

May 13, 2022 Work Session Minutes

Final Audit Report

2022-09-09

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