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City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes

Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Council Chambers, Room No. 140
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

BRIEFING SESSION

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Chair Anna Barbieri
Council Vice Chair Meredith Harker
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Curt Cochran
Council Member Bob Knudsen

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin./CFO
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Kris Heineman, City Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director
Richard Rich, Unified Fire Authority Captain
Ben White, City Engineer

6:00 BRIEFING SESSION

Chair Anna Barbieri conducted the Briefing Session, which convened at 6:03 p.m. A roll call was conducted, wherein all council members were present.

1. Review Agenda

The agenda for the City Council Meeting was reviewed. City Attorney Tracy Cowdell gave a brief explanation regarding Agenda Item No. 7.1 which addressed two changes that Utah's legislature had made pertaining to electronic meetings.

Councilmember Cochran asked City Engineer Ben White which part of 4700 South he would be reporting on for Agenda Item No. 7.2. Mr. White responded that it would be I-215 to 2700 West.

There was some confusion regarding whether Jim Dunnigan would be reporting on the 2022 Taylorsville Dayzz event during that evening's meeting. Council Coordinator Kris Heineman explained Mr. Dunnigan had asked that his report be pushed back to October.

Councilmember Cochran had received a complaint regarding the homeless sleeping in Taylorsville Park. He asked if TVPD could increase patrols in the area.

Councilmember Harker explained that the Parks and Recreation committee had recently met with Jen Andrus to discuss the possibility of holding a Trick-or-Treat event at Centennial Plaza. The chosen date was October 22 which was a Saturday, and further information would be pushed out via social media. It was anticipated that there would be a QR code made available for those who wished to secure a location as a vendor. She asked that the councilmembers talk to the committees they sat on and see if the committee would send a representative to the event to encourage volunteerism in the community. She also hoped that TVPD and Unified Fire would get involved. Ms. Heineman suggested that the volunteer appreciation dinner the following week would present a great opportunity to address all the committees at once.

If residents wished to know more about the art and artists highlighted in the Plaza +Art program, additional information was available on the city website.

Councilmember Harker asked if a date had been chosen for a Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Mayor Overson responded that Jen Andrus had the date, and she would contact her as soon as she was back in town so that the event could be well-advertised. Councilmember Harker announced that the 2022 Saturday with Santa event would be held on December 10.

Mr. Cowdell mentioned that a closed session would be needed that evening pertaining to pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

2. Adjourn

Chair Barbieri declared the Briefing Session adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance:

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Council Chair Anna Barbieri
Council Vice Chair Meredith Harker
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Curt Cochran
Council Member Bob Knudsen

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, Asst City Admin/CFO
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Kris Heineman, City Council Coordinator
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director
Richard Rich, UFA Captain
Ben White, City Engineer

Others: Blake Anderson, Chris Anderson, John Anderson, Amalia Andrews, Debbie Barton, Dominic Burchett, Haven Campbell, Elsa Elizondo, Judy Garrigus, John E. Gidney, Pat Martindale, Vanessa Martinez, Roseanne Matavao, Tammy Parker, Dean Paynter, Jared Smith, Kevin Tarma, Blair Tomten, Gordon Willardson, Claudia Wilson, and Howard Wilson

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Chair Barbieri called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge/Reverence – *Mayor Overson* (Opening Ceremonies for September 21, 2022 to be arranged by *Council Member Cochran*)

Mayor Kristie Overson directed the Pledge of Allegiance before offering a Reverence.

1.2 Mayor's Report

 The Mayor reported that there had recently been two ribbon-cuttings—one at Los Tapatios Taco Grill on 5400 South and the other at Home Goods in the Crossroads of Taylorsville Shopping Center. She thanked all those who attended and helped celebrate the new businesses.

Tombstone Tales at the city cemetery had clearly been a hit since more than 500 people attended the event. She stated that the Historic Preservation Committee, the Arts Council, the Facilities staff, and cemetery staff all went above and beyond in order to prepare for and host this event.

The mayor explained that the Plaza +Art program had brought 14 stunning new sculptures to Centennial Plaza. A lovely dinner had been held to celebrate the art as well as the artists and she said it had been a pleasure to hear from those who had created each piece. She expressed her appreciation to generous donor who made the Plaza +Art program possible. She gave a special thank you to artist Dan Toone and mentioned that many artists had commented on the overwhelming level of support provided by the elected officials and the community at large in Taylorsville.

Mayors from across Utah had recently been invited to tour the State Capitol and dine with Governor Cox and Lt. Governor Henderson. Mayor Overson thanked Chair Barbieri for joining her and appreciated the opportunity to meet with colleagues and listen and learn from state leaders.

Granite School District had recently invited elected officials for a casual budget discussion which she and Councilmember Burgess attended. Additionally, Chief Cottam had joined her in meeting with Superintendent Nye to discuss school resource officers and school safety in general. She appreciated having the opportunity to discuss such critical issues with the school district and exchange ideas and needs. She thanked Det. Christensen and Chief Cottam for inviting her to the swearing-in ceremony for Bennion Elementary's student safety guards. She appreciated any opportunity to interact with young people and help them understand the importance of volunteering for one's community.

Mayor Overson explained that the Jordan River Commission Board had recently taken a field trip to North Salt Lake to see what was being done to preserve and protect that portion of the river. It made her realize how much she appreciated Taylorsville's Planning Commission for upholding the city's policy of respecting the 100' no-build zone along the river and understanding the importance of the area.

Taylorsville's Youth Council was recruiting other high schoolers that wished to be involved in the Youth Council program. She encouraged the council and audience members to spread the word to anyone in that age group who might be interested in learning about government, leadership, and service.

The mayor expressed her appreciation for Ben White and his work coordinating construction of a wall on the west side of 2700 W. She thanked the city council for approving funding of the project as it improved the safety and aesthetics of that area. Mayor Overson also wished to give a shout-out to Public Works Inspector Wes Butterfield for coordinating with Google Fiber as they brought service to Taylorsville residents.

Unified Fire had responded to a structure fire that took place on Labor Day as well as a house fire earlier that day. She appreciated all that first responders did to keep Taylorsville safe.

The mayor concluded her report by pointing out that the following Saturday would be a day of service in commemoration of the anniversary of 9/11. She explained how easy it was to find projects that needed volunteers. She encouraged people to reach out to their neighbors, their friends and church groups, to see who needed help. She specifically mentioned justserve.org as a website that listed many projects in need of support.

1.2.1 Welcome and Introduction of Unified Fire Authority Chief Dominic Burchett

 Mayor Overson invited Chief Burchett to step to the podium and introduce himself to the council. He had been appointed in April and was the 14th chief in the department's 100-year history. He briefly explained his personal and professional background before indicating that it had been his goal to meet every UFA employee within his first 100 days as chief. He wanted their feedback about what they needed. He sought that information in order to determine what was needed immediately and what he would include in his 3–5-year plan.

Councilmember Cochran asked Chief Burchett what his top three priorities were as chief. He responded that the first was the health and wellbeing of his personnel. The second was to foster engagement with each of the 16 communities served by UFA and finally, to continue to build upon the foundation built by outgoing Chief Petersen.

1.3 Citizen Comments

 Chair Barbieri opened the citizen comment period and invited anyone who wished to speak to step forward.

Roseanne Matavao explained that she lived just off 4700 South and was concerned about the coming “expressway.” She indicated that many years ago a UDOT representative had promised a 20’ high sound barrier between the expressway and nearby homes. She had more recently been told the wall would be only 8’ tall. She mentioned that both children and adults could scale 8’ walls quite easily.

Chris Anderson explained that 4700 South was near her backyard. Their primary concern was that they had no idea that the project was happening and wanted to be kept in the loop. They would appreciate being informed via email about issues that directly affected them. She had been told the barrier would only be 6’ tall—not even 8’. She felt that was insufficient.

Blake Anderson did not understand why he was going to lose 10' of his yard to the project which was where his Tuff Shed currently sat. He was also concerned about the insufficient wall/fence height.

Judy Garrigus explained that she lived next door to the Andersons. She said that she and other neighbors were upset that they were not kept informed by the city—that they heard about the meeting from a neighbor. Like the others who had spoken before her, she did not feel an 8' fence was sufficiently high. She said she and her neighbors expected more protection than a 6' fence would provide. She felt that there were already too many problems with people parking commercial vehicles in the area and having work parties on 1300 West at all hours.

Pat Martindale said that a neighborhood meeting had previously been held in her backyard. She expressed deep concern that she and some of her neighbors had been told that the future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT project) would be on the agenda, only to be told that it was not—that a different portion of 4700 South was the actual topic as opposed to BRT. She felt the citizens had a right to be heard regarding any issue that affected them. She said that a 6' fence was unacceptable and non-negotiable, as it would not provide the proper level of safety, security, or privacy of the homeowners. She pointed out other major roads in the city which had lower speed limits but higher walls.

Claudia Wilson lived right across the street from Fore Lakes Golf Course on 4700 West. She expressed great concern about having a bus stop directly behind her home. She said that unlike some of the previous speakers, she did not have problems with people jumping her fence. She indicated she had a more serious problem of cars smashing through her fence—two of them had done so. She wanted a 9' wall and wished for the bus stop to be moved to the intersection rather than right behind her house.

Haven Campbell said he agreed with everything that had been said. He did not want a tragedy like the recent one in Riverton wherein two children playing 300' from the road were killed by a speeding vehicle. On another topic, he informed the council that the slide at Cabana Park was broken and his daughter had recently cut her hand on it. He said he had sent two emails reporting the problem, but nothing had been done to repair it.

Vanessa Martinez reiterated the concerns of the previous speakers regarding the insufficient protection that a 6' fence would provide. She explained that she had several people jump her fence and that the area was already a hot spot for crime. The number of pedestrians would increase, and she recommended moving the shared path from the residential side off the road to the golf course side. The golf course would be less effected than would the side lined with homes. She asserted that the wall needed to be taller for the residents to feel safe in their own backyards. She conceded the expressway would be an improvement. However, if the wall was not taller than currently planned, she would move out of Taylorsville, and she really did not want to do that.

Councilmember Harker pointed out that the project was still in the design phase, so nothing was written in stone. The citizen comments would be taken under consideration and there would be future meetings to communicate with nearby residents. She encouraged residents to keep an eye on the city website and Facebook to stay in the know. Chair Barbieri mentioned that several articles had been written in the Valley Journal so that was another resource for information.

City Administrator John Taylor explained that although it had been mentioned that Mr. White would be presenting information on 4700 South later in the meeting, It was not going to involve the future BRT, so he wanted to make that clear. He did not want people to spend their time waiting for a presentation that was not on the agenda for that meeting.

A citizen in the audience asked how they would know when BRT *would* be discussed if not that evening. Councilmember Harker reiterated that information on upcoming meetings could always be found on the city's website, Facebook, Instagram, and in the Valley Journal.

Mr. White stepped to the podium and pointed out that the BRT was not a city project. Instead, it was a Utah Transit Authority (UTA) project. Therefore, it was UTA that would be responsible for keeping residents in the area informed of project plans and activities. Still, it was a federally funded project which meant that certain procedures needed to be followed, whether it was UTA or UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation). UDOT had involved a public engagement professional who would be tasked with keeping the nearby residents informed so it was actually UTA rather than the city who would keep the residents informed on that specific topic.

Several audience members began to address Mr. White with complaints regarding the lack of communication they had experienced thus far. City Attorney Tracy Cowdell interjected that UTA's Bus Rapid Transit project was not on the council's agenda for consideration and the council needed to move forward with the city business that *was* on the agenda. He recommended the residents take these particular concerns to UTA.

Mr. White told the audience members that UDOT's public engagement professional, Amalia Andrews was present and currently moving out into the foyer. If people had questions for her, they were welcome to speak with her outside the council chambers.

The citizen comment period ended at 7:15 p.m.

2. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Parks and Recreation Committee Report – *Jared Smith*

Jared Smith, chair of the Parks and Recreation committee reported on the committee's activities since he last reported to the city council.

- Three new committee members
- Planting project at Loving Labrum Park
- Five movies at the plaza had been presented during the summer
- Bicycle and running portions of the Taylorsville triathlon had been held although there was insufficient water in the river to hold the "floating" portion of the event
- A trick or treat event would be held the following month
- Saturday with Santa at the Heritage Museum would be held in or near December

Councilmember Harker pointed out that the three new committee members were great. Additionally, Aaron Johnson was looking into obtaining grant funding for more park improvements in the city.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Minutes – August 16, 2022 Special City Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Cochran moved to approve the minutes of the Special City Council meeting held on August 16, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Burgess.

Council Chair Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes

The motion passed 5-0

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters on the agenda.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

There were no financial matters on the agenda.

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 **Ordinance No. 22-27** **An Ordinance of the City of Taylorsville amending Taylorsville Municipal Code Section 2.12.033: Electronic Meetings – Tracy Cowdell**

 City Attorney Tracy Cowdell explained that in the last legislative session, a law had been passed which clarified how quorums were to be calculated, particularly when a member of the body was attending the meeting electronically. Therefore, he was recommending a change to the language currently in city code so that at least three members of the council were required to be physically present in the “anchor location” (the council chambers) but up to two members could attend electronically. There was a different state law regarding electronic meetings in emergency circumstances such as the Covid pandemic. This proposed change only addressed typical, non-emergency circumstances.

The second part of the proposed ordinance made it clear that any time a councilmember attended a council meeting electronically, and a member of the body wished to vote “no” on a matter, there now must be a roll call vote. A simple voice vote was no longer sufficient for any motion when a member was attending electronically.

MOTION: Councilmember Harker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 22-27, amending the Taylorsville Municipal Code Section 2.12.033 regarding Electronic Meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Burgess.

Councilmember Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Chair Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes

7.2 **Discussion Regarding 4700 South Improvements – Ben White**

 Mr. White apologized that his report was not on the topic that some people had expected. He explained he was there to address the roadway on 4700 South between 2700 West and I-215. There were still many moving parts to the project, but the intent was to build an additional westbound lane on the north side of the road which would involve the relocation of overhead power lines. The burial of those lines would begin on the east side of I-215 and would be buried by the substation near 2200 West to 2700 West. On the south end, a roundabout was proposed at Sable Drive. The intent was to eliminate the traffic signal at Chentelle Drive so that through traffic on 4700

South will no longer have to stop. He anticipated the change would allow many more vehicles to move through that section of roadway than was currently the case.

Mayor Overson appreciated Mr. White's explanation of what was to come. She had asked him to provide this update because there had been many complaints about the poor condition of 4700 South. She understood his recommendation to delay spending money fixing a road that would soon be torn up for BRT and the project he had just described. It would be akin to throwing money away. There was still no signed agreement with a property owner on the north and the project could not begin until there was.

Councilmember Harker said the council was very aware of the poor condition of the 4700 South. But they were also very aware of how much it would cost to fix it and they did not want to waste taxpayer dollars fixing it, only to have it torn up shortly thereafter for the BRT project.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

- 8.1 Council Member Burgess** – Nothing for subsequent consideration
- 8.2 Council Member Knudsen** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.3 Council Chair Barbieri** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.4 Council Member Harker** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.5 Council Member Cochran** - nothing for subsequent consideration.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING)

- 9.1 City Council Briefing Session** – Wednesday, September 21, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
- 9.2 City Council Meeting** - Wednesday, September 21, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
- 9.3 Planning Commission Work Session** – Tuesday, September 27, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
- 9.4 Planning Commission Meeting** – Tuesday, September 27, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
- 9.5 City Council Briefing Session** – Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
- 9.6 City Council Meeting** – Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Chair Barbieri announced that there would be a third Localscapes class held on September 23rd from 7pm to 8pm in the council chambers. Registration was available on line.

The Arts Council would host *An Evening with Walt* which would run from September 23-24 on the outdoor Centennial Plaza stage.

11. CLOSED SESSION (*Conference Room 202*)

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

MOTION: Councilmember Knudsen moved to recess the public meeting to convene a Closed Session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Harker.

Council Member Cochran	Yes
Chair Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Knudsen	Yes

The meeting recessed at 7:45 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Closed Session adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

Minutes Prepared by: Jamie Brooks, City Recorder