

1 Minutes of the Centerville City Council **work session** held Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 5:40  
2 p.m. in the Centerville City Council Chambers, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

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4 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

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6 Mayor Paul A. Cutler

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8 Council Members Ken Averett  
9 Tamilyn Fillmore  
10 Stephanie Ivie  
11 Lawrence Wright

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13 **MEMBER ABSENT** John T. Higginson

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15 **STAFF PRESENT** Steve Thacker, City Manager  
16 Lisa Romney, City Attorney  
17 Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

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19 **STAFF ABSENT** Blaine Lutz, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager

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21 **VISITORS** Senator Stuart Adams (arrived at 6:09 p.m.)  
22 Representative Roger Barrus  
23 Senator Todd Weiler  
24 Roger Tew, Utah League of Cities and Towns lobbyist  
25 Clayton Schmoekel, Intern to Senator Weiler

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27  
28 **WORK SESSION WITH STATE LEGISLATORS REPRESENTING CENTERVILLE**

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30 Roger Tew, lobbyist for the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT), expressed a hope  
31 to see Centerville officials at the ULCT Local Officials Day on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Tew referred to  
32 a speech given by Kevin Lo, Google Fiber General Manager, at the ULCT annual conference in  
33 September of 2013. He believes Mr. Lo's remarks may have changed the minds of some  
34 legislators and raised important issues regarding fiber networks. Mr. Tew stated that fiber to the  
35 end user is now widely recognized as infrastructure. He said Google representatives expressed  
36 a concern regarding impediments towards implementation from different government entities.  
37 Mr. Tew has been put in charge of a study group that will identify and examine existing  
38 impediments, and try to facilitate improvements. The Council and Legislators discussed open  
39 access versus proprietary infrastructure, a discussion that Mr. Tew pointed out is happening  
40 nationwide.

41  
42 Mr. Tew updated the Council on the Marketplace Fairness Act passed in the U.S.  
43 Senate in 2013 which addressed the collection of sales tax on internet sales. He stated he does  
44 not have confidence it will pass in the U.S. House of Representatives. State Legislators may  
45 see a bill during the Session that would expand the definition of "nexus" or presence of a  
46 company in the State. Companies are required to collect sales tax on sales originating in states  
47 in which they have a presence. Mr. Tew added that if the Marketplace Fairness Act were to  
48 pass, it would prompt discussions regarding redistribution of sales tax. Senator Weiler  
49 commented that Davis County could enact a .25% sales tax increase currently authorized by  
50 State law for transportation purposes if the County Commissioners chose to do so. One of the  
51 allowed uses in the law is streets maintenance. Senator Adams added that distribution of the  
52 .25% increase would be at the discretion of the County Commissioners. Senator Adams  
53 explained that 17-20% of current sales tax income is auto related, making it, to some extent, a  
54 user-related fee, because cities are using some of their sales tax revenue for streets  
55 maintenance. The Council and Legislators discussed sales tax versus fuel tax, and

1 benefits/drawbacks of user-related fees. Councilman Wright asked if a study has been  
2 conducted to examine the impact various taxes all together have on individual citizens. Senator  
3 Adams stated there are arguments in favor of a local option, arguments in favor of a tax  
4 increase, and arguments in favor of increasing registration fees.  
5

6 Mayor Cutler stated he would like to see the fairest methodology possible to cover costs.  
7 He stated that a gas tax seems fairer than a property or sales tax increase. The Mayor  
8 expressed that maintaining high quality roads is an essential function of government and  
9 essential to an effective economy. Councilman Wright disagreed, stating that taxes are an  
10 inhibitor to commerce. Councilman Wright expressed appreciation to the Legislators that a  
11 pedestrian walkway to the west side of the City has been added to the 18-month HOV-lane  
12 expansion project beginning in 2014. Senator Adams responded that the addition of the  
13 walkway to the project is the result of hard work by City staff and officials.  
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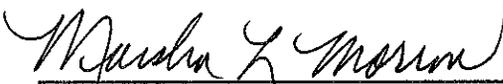
15 Councilman Averett asked if owners of fuel efficient cars pay a premium when they  
16 register their vehicles. Representative Barrus responded they do not. Councilwoman Ivie  
17 stated that a gas tax increase results in lower-income families paying more for fuel, as well as  
18 other goods that become more expensive as a result of increased transportation costs.  
19 Councilwoman Fillmore pointed out that owners of fuel efficient vehicles pay a premium  
20 purchase price and therefore more sales tax, and provide a benefit to society by helping the  
21 environment. Councilwoman Fillmore stated she believes officials should do everything  
22 possible to encourage the purchase of vehicles that will contribute less to the air quality  
23 problem. Senator Weiler added that about 55% of the smog visible this winter is due to vehicle  
24 emissions. Home furnaces and fireplaces are also a major contributor. Representative Barrus  
25 serves on a task force examining air quality, and he pointed out that the Salt Lake area currently  
26 has half the pollution that was present in 1997. Much has already been done to improve air  
27 quality. As a society, behavior will have to change for improvement to continue.  
28

29 Senator Adams explained Senate Bill 153, which passed in 2013 and provides that  
30 developers be allowed to install infrastructure to serve their projects before recording the plat,  
31 and without depositing a bond with the city to assure the proper construction of such  
32 infrastructure. Centerville staff is working on revisions to the City's ordinances to harmonize  
33 with this new State law, which came as a surprise to many cities. Lisa Romney, City Attorney,  
34 expressed concerns raised by the change. Senator Adams stated it is important to be careful  
35 with barriers to development. He expressed respect for the ULCT and a willingness to listen if  
36 significant problems are raised.  
37

38 At the Mayor's request, the Legislators briefly described topics they will be addressing  
39 during the upcoming Session. They indicated that email would be the best way to communicate  
40 with them during the Session.  
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42 **ADJOURNMENT**  
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44 The work session was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.  
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48 Marsha L. Morrow, City Recorder  
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52 Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

2-4-2014  
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Date Approved

