

February 18, 2014 City Council Worksession minutes

Minutes of the City Council Work Session held Wednesday, February 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Payson City Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Rick Moore; City Council Members: Kim Hancock, Scott Phillips, and Larry Skinner; City Manager Dave Tuckett, City Attorney Mark Sorensen, and Recorder Jeanette Wineteer, Utah County Commissioners: Larry Ellertson, and Doug Witney.

Mayor Rick Moore presiding.

Mayor Moore welcomed the County Commissioners and said that they wanted to meet with Payson City Council to let us know about things going on in Utah County. He turned the time over to them.

County Commissioner Ellertson explained that everyone has probably heard there has been some discussion regarding development on the west side of Utah Lake. It was regarding a manufacturing plant in Elberta. They have ended up looking at expansion in another state and went away from this project area for the time being.

He said that they have since some back and are working with EDCU and renewed conversations for a plant in the Eagle Mountain area. However, because of air quality concerns it looks like nothing will be approved anywhere in Utah County at this time.

Commissioner Witney said the County has an implementation plan to get all of the issues taken care of. Therefore, we believe we will have development in that area. The LDS Church owns most of the property out there and also believes there will be development in that area and is planning for it.

MAG already has a proposed road system for the area and proposes that there will be 25,000 on that side of the lake. Before any development becomes reality, we need to work on roads, power, water, etc.

Councilmember Phillips said that communities need to start making developers bring in wet water rather than paper, because we are going to run out. He noted that he is for water to stay in Payson and not go to Elberta or anywhere else.

Commissioner Witney said that we have found that we need to start recharging our aquifers.

Councilmember Hancock stated that SUVMWA has just finished a recharge study and he could get a copy for them.

Commissioner Ellertson reported we have gone from 60% to 80% at this point with the recent moisture, but the next couple of months are critical. He said that the County doesn't have any rights to water and are not a water company. Our interests are for all of Utah County including each of the cities in the county.

Commissioner Witney felt we also need to concentrate on transportation and we want Frontrunner in Payson.

Commissioner Ellertson noted that it has always been stated that Frontrunner runs from Payson to Brigham City. We have Provo to Ogden completed. The only thing that is keeping us from coming south is money. There is work being done to find an additional source to expand Frontrunner, money and time solves many problems. It is something that is very much in the plan and UTA already owns the right of way all the way to Redbridge, except for some minor problems through Spanish Fork.

Commissioner Witney said there is already a great ridership going north from Provo. We will continue to work on those transportation plans.

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Councilmember Hancock asked about I-15 and another interchange north of Payson. Engineer Jockumsen said that he attended a meeting today, and there is a conflict of interest in the qualified bidder and so they have to re-do their selection process.

Discussion was held regarding other transportation issues and solutions throughout the County.

Power was brought up. Commissioner Witney said there is a huge company that is doing wind and alternative power and moving it through Utah to California, and their intent is to bring one leg to the substation in the IPP area in Delta, but nothing else is scheduled. Commissioner Ellertson said there are nuclear power plants being discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.