

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 31, 2023

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 for a Work Session Retreat.

The following Council Members were present:

Ana Valdemoros, Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Chris Wharton, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

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

Present City Staff:

Cindy Lou Trishman – City Recorder, Michelle Barney – Minutes & Records Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 1:20 pm

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 31, 2023

City Council Retreat

Minutes:

Council Member Mano welcomed those present and outlined the Council Retreat design; each Council Member may have time to outline their priorities for discussion of the full Council to unify the direction for the 2023 calendar year.

Interests & Priorities shared by individual Council Member

Council Member Dugan, District Six

- Public Safety, relationships with the community through training
- Homeless Resource Centers (HRCs), Thriving in Place and Accessory Dwelling Units
- Mental health for homeless and underserved (example – Miami Project)
- Advocate for Building Code Compliance
- School Lunch programs
- Sustainability – incorporate fees to drive efficiency for air quality and water conservation (Vision Zero)
- Inland Port and Northpoint area emphasis on water preservation
- Mobility and Motion – Trainbox, obtain the east-west connections
- UTA free fares for K-12 and teachers – requested statistics of current use
- Safe Streets – increase pedestrian safety, changing the structure of lights and crossing areas, reduce potholes, red-light camera possibilities to reduce fatalities in crosswalks
- Parks – address the parks overall, including Bonneville Shoreline, Miller Bird park and Wasatch Hollow, and addressing off-leash dogs and maintenance

Council Members discussed:

- Housing fee schedule
- Reimbursement of University of Utah fees for Public Safety services
- Red light cameras - potential effects and potential support
- Next steps for Trainbox (feasibility study) and prioritizing infrastructure

Council Member Wharton, District Three

- Opportunity in Ballpark area; permanent supportive housing for LGBTQ, veterans, and individuals experiencing homelessness
- Historic Landmark Signage (requested status)
- Traffic calming, exhaust noise policies
- Iconic Art Installation (privately funded option)
- Landscaping ordinance, water-wise
- Increase penalties for non-permitted building construction
- Eviction defense for residents to keep people housed
- Support the International Market at Fairpark
- Ensure the studies and plans for the Foothills Trails were complete
- Evaluation of the Park Ranger program
- Zoning to allow distilleries in downtown
- Fund the cemetery master plan and improvements to Memory Grove, specifically the monuments
- Prepare for I-15 widening – address concerns before the construction commenced, the affected communities should be accommodated for the loss of any property

Council Members discussed:

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

- Invite the International Market group to provide a briefing update on the program including how the \$1 million (funded by Council) was used and did the state contribute any funds to the program
- Arts/mural program
 - If the City would run the program or just make way for murals to happen
 - Redevelopment Agency (RDA) mural program and the Arts Council involvement, timeframe for mural creation
- Addressing yearly priorities of the RDA to make murals a priority and possibly include them in the scorecard for a project
- Zoning for downtown distilleries

Council Member Valdemoros joined the meeting at 1:57pm.

Council Member Valdemoros, District Four

- Individuals experiencing homelessness support
 - Assist/address mental health
 - Encourage people to work in the industry
 - Continue working with the industry to help the people in the City while working with the Service Providers to ensure funding was being used in the best way possible,
 - Statistics of who was served and what services were still lacking
- Housing – keeping naturally occurring affordable housing affordable, maintaining the affordable housing stock
- Open Streets
- Dilapidated properties, incentivizing care
- Public Market at the Rio Grande building
- International Market was received well by the Community
- Systematic Auditing of city programs for efficiency and effectiveness

Council Members discussed:

- Finding ways to support people who live in naturally affordable housing
- Creating options to help people update their homes

Council Member Mano welcomed the Mayor to the retreat

Mayor Mendenhall shared she was there to listen, announced the release of the City's goals, reviewed how the goals aligned with the Council's goals and expressed excitement to work with the Council moving forward

Council Member Mano, District Five

- Zoning Ordinance Rewrite due to complexity
- Best practices for changing the zoning citywide and the most effective way possible

Council Members discussed:

- Potential Benefits to the City of a Zoning Rewrite:
 - Allowance for more high-density construction
 - Less zoning change requests
 - Simplify the ordinance language
 - Consolidating or eliminating special exceptions and conditional uses
- Hiring a consultant to assist with this process (the first step in the process)

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

- Consult with other cities who have completed a rewrite and their evaluation of success
- Funding and guidance needed

Break: 2:33 pm to 2:40 pm

Council Member Petro, District One

- Financial vibrancy & Equity for the City
- Consider transformative revenue streams
- Strategic investments - training fire, dispatch, and police
- Being proactive in all areas, similar to the Perpetual Housing fund
- Addressing grants that create issues with future financing
- Streamlining and efficiency for all City Departments and programs

Council Members discussed:

- Consideration of point-of-sale sites in manufacturing areas
- Grant funding effects on the general budget and ensuring a long-range plan was addressed
- Changing the grant review/approval process to allow for additional time to review and understand funded programs and requests for additional employees

Council Member Puy, District Two

- Westside Train crossings conditions; technology to address traffic issues and routes
- Economic Development for the City
- Assist with improvements and support of the Fairpark property for the continuance of the International Market
- Working with the Legislature in a more uniform way
- Zoning/permitting processes need to be simplified
- Environment issues – address plastic bag ordinance
- Sprinkler rebates for those that make improvements to sprinkler systems
- Refineries need to be more efficient and water-wise
- Bring Arts to the Westside
- Individuals experiencing homelessness support:
 - Ordinances related to code blue and code red (temperature gauge)
 - Constraints on police taking people to the hospital
 - Assisting those with mental health
- Addressing the safety in and around the Jordan River
- Salt Lake City and County Building:
 - Rename the building to Salt Lake City Hall
 - Focus on Safety with a plan to protect the building itself
 - Improvement to the Council kitchen

Council Members and **Cindy Gust-Jenson** discussed:

- Options to address police and homeless individuals needing hospitals and if it could be turned over to the civilian response team
- Code blue ordinance and who should be funding the services
- Plastic bag initiative

Council Member Fowler, District Seven:

- Policing:
 - Review of existing policies; consider body cam review requests and outside internal affair audits

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

- Alternatives to addressing homelessness; keeping people housed, review increasing renter and mortgage assistance programs and review access
- Review RV use policy and procedure; to deter towing and impound
- Working with the formerly incarcerated and criminal justice to help individuals with housing and employment, and decriminalizing activity
- Neighborhood branding
- Changing the mobile business ordinance, allowing for a variety of mobile services
- City-wide dog naming contest for the Council Dream Dog statue

Council Members discussed:

- Programs in other Cities/states that work with formerly incarcerated individuals regarding training, schooling, and housing
- Finding locations for parking RVs
- LGBTQ, Senior and Veteran housing:
- Miami Project: addressed homelessness, mental health issues, and housing
 - The City's role in this type of program (more of a case manager role)
- How to best organize the Council's priorities to be most effective and achieve the goals

Council Members, **Jennifer Bruno** and Cindy Gust-Jenson reviewed/discussed

- Mayor's Office handout regarding the goals of the City
- How to incorporate the goals of the Council with the goals of the Administration which would assist in moving similar items forward
- Promoting commercial spaces on lower levels of RDA developments and the possibility of the City being the control entity of the commercial spaces
- Assigning RDA staff to work with the mixed-use developments (in RDA areas) to develop spaces for businesses who were looking for spaces to rent
- Amending the TSA zoning and adding more points for commercial spaces
- Public Transportation and moving people to and from the airport and other areas in the City
- How to focus on the different goals, give them all proper attention and get the greatest return
- The Council had the most power when working as a group therefore, working through the items and getting everyone on the same page was the best option
- Next steps would include the information provided today and plans to meet again to address the top priorities

Standing Item:

Tentative Closed Session

The Council will consider a motion to enter into Closed Session. A closed meeting described under Section 52-4-205 may be held for specific purposes including, but not limited to:

- a. discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual;
- b. strategy sessions to discuss collective bargaining;
- c. strategy sessions to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation;
- d. strategy sessions to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if public discussion of the transaction would:
 - (i) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or
 - (ii) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

e. strategy sessions to discuss the sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if:

(i) public discussion of the transaction would:

(A) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or

(B) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;

(ii) the public body previously gave public notice that the property would be offered for sale; and

(iii) the terms of the sale are publicly disclosed before the public body approves the sale;

f. discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems; and

g. investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

A closed meeting may also be held for attorney-client matters that are privileged pursuant to Utah Code § 78B-1-137, and for other lawful purposes that satisfy the pertinent requirements of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

Item not held

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm

Minutes Approved: May 2, 2023



City Council Chair



City Recorder



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This document along with the digital recording constitutes the official minutes of the City Council Formal meeting held Tuesday, January 31, 2023 and is not intended to serve as a full transcript. Please refer to the electronic recording for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203.

January 31, 2023 Retreat

Final Audit Report

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