

MINUTES OF COUNCIL STUDY MEETING – APRIL 18, 2023

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THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MET IN ELECTRONIC STUDY SESSION ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023 AT 4:30 P.M. AT WEST VALLEY CITY HALL, MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, 3600 CONSTITUTION BOULEVARD, WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AND CONDUCTED BY MAYOR LANG.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Karen Lang, Mayor
Lars Nordfelt, Councilmember At-Large
Don Christensen, Councilmember At-Large
Tom Huynh, Councilmember District 1
Scott Harmon, Councilmember District 2
William Whetstone, Councilmember District 3
Jake Fitisemanu, Councilmember District 4 (*electronically*)

STAFF PRESENT:

Wayne T Pyle, City Manager (*electronically*)
Nichole Camac, City Recorder
Nicole Cottle, Assistant City Manager/General Counsel (*electronically*)
Eric Bunderson, City Attorney (*electronically*)
Colleen Jacobs, Police Chief (*electronically*)
Mike Fossmo, Deputy Police Chief
John Evans, Fire Chief
Jim Welch, Finance Director
Steve Pastorik, CED Director
Layne Morris, CPD Director
Dan Johnson, Public Works Director
Nancy Day, Parks and Recreation Director
Mark Nord, RDA Director (*electronically*)
John Flores, HR Director (*electronically*)
Sam Johnson, Strategic Communications Director
Ken Cushing, IT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF STUDY MEETING HELD APRIL 11, 2023

The Council considered the Minutes of the Study Meeting held April 11, 2023. There were no changes, corrections or deletions.

Councilmember Huynh moved to approve the Minutes of the Study Meeting held April 11, 2023. Councilmember Nordfelt seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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NO REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS

A. FORM OF GOVERNMENT DISCUSSION

Councilmember Whetstone asked if public hearings could be held before the passing of the resolution. Nichole Camac, City Recorder, replied yes. Councilmember Whetstone asked if those two meetings would count after the passing of the resolution. Nichole replied no and indicated that an additional two meetings would need to be held. Councilmember Huynh stated that the Council has considered controversial items before where many people attended meetings. He indicated that this item has been on the agenda for awhile and no one has attended the meetings. Councilmember Huynh stated that he plans to campaign beginning next week and will be pushing this.

Councilmember Whetstone stated that the majority of the feedback he has received has been to keep the form of government as is. He indicated that he can't in good conscience ignore the comments he has received from his constituents and agree to place this on the ballot. Councilmember Whetstone stated that he would like to hear more comments from residents and he is fearful that people will vote without understanding the full implications. He noted that he likes the current form of government personally but he does understand the benefit to allowing residents the option to choose but would like more time for education.

Councilmember Fitisemanu stated that he has reached out to residents in his district and has also overwhelmingly heard that a majority of residents like the form of government as it is. He indicated that he would not be in favor of adding a resolution to the agenda and noted that the timeline is too quick. He indicated that it's important that residents have time to do research, to be properly educated, and to be given ample opportunity to speak about the issue. Councilmember Fitisemanu stated that the Council has a big responsibility to ensure that a sustained, fair, non-objective campaign and educational process be conducted before allowing this type of change to be placed on the ballot.

The Mayor and Council had no further questions or concerns.

B. BUDGET CUT DISCUSSION

Councilmember Christensen stated that he read the memo about the suggested budget cuts and came away from reading that memo very worried. He indicated that this would cut deeply into the infrastructure and function of City Departments and he is unwilling to make these types of cuts.

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Councilmember Harmon stated that he would be in favor of the budget cuts with the exception of those that would apply to Police and Fire. He noted that he also would not be in favor of eliminating the connection to the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

The Mayor and Council had no further questions or concerns.

C. COUNCIL CALENDAR

Mayor Lang referenced a Memorandum previously received from the City Manager that outlined upcoming meetings and events.

Mayor Lang thanked Councilmember Christensen for agreeing to go to the Shakespearian Festival event being held this Thursday at the UCCC on short notice.

Members of the City Council had no further questions regarding the Council Update.

NEW BUSINESS

A. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Whetstone stated that a young lady attended Council meeting the week before and requested that a reading of the Constitution be held on a specific day in September. Mayor Lang stated that she met with the group and suggested they meet with the Youth City Council for them to consider. She noted that if the Youth City Council doesn't agree, this is something the Council can discuss. Nichole Camac, City Recorder, noted that the Youth City Council will meet on this issue May 2.

B. COUNCIL REPORTS

COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN- DOWDLE

Councilmember Christensen verified that staff will move forward with the Dowdle project. Nichole Camac, City Recorder, indicated that the Council agreed to include this in the upcoming budget for next year. Mayor Lang stated that she has three other priorities she would like to be considered first. She indicated that the first is the fence at Fassio repair, the second is a graffiti shed, and the third is to ensure current City committees and boards have enough funding. Wayne replied that the Fassio fence project was on the CIP fund last year but was not approved by Council. He indicated that this can be added to the list this coming year for consideration again. Wayne stated that there is no longer a need for the graffiti shed as a space for the equipment was found within the fleet building. He indicated that he would be happy to provide a financial list of City committees/boards. Mayor Lang stated

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that she would also like to know how much is being dedicated to outside committees like CEP as well.

COUNCILMEMBER FITISEMANU- INTO THE WOODS, UCCC

Councilmember Fitisemanu stated that he attended Into the Woods and he and his family enjoyed it. He noted that next Wednesday is the last day for the Pacific Islander Committee exhibition and would encourage people to check it out as it includes art and exhibits from residents in West Valley City.

COUNCILMEMBER WHETSTONE- MICRO FLEX 2

Councilmember Whetstone stated that he attended the groundbreaking for Micro Flex 2 which will allow low rent spaces for start-up or small businesses.

MAYOR LANG- CHAMBERWEST

Mayor Lang indicated that she attended a ChamberWest event at the UCCC and she saw the Pacific Islander Exhibition. She stated it was very nicely done and put together well and added that it's great for other City's to come and see what UCCC has to offer.

C. STRATEGIC DISCUSSION LIST

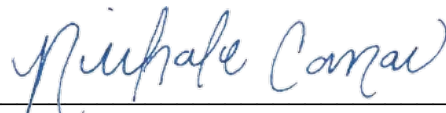
Mayor Lang stated that items would continue to be discussed on the list.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Upon motion by Councilmember Huynh all voted in favor to adjourn.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE WEST VALLEY COUNCIL THE STUDY MEETING ON TUESDAY APRIL 18, 2023 WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:09 PM BY MAYOR LANG.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true, accurate and complete record of the proceedings of the Study Meeting of the West Valley City Council held Tuesday, April 18, 2023.



Nichole Camac, CMC
City Recorder