

MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 2277 EAST BENGAL BOULEVARD

Members Present: Mayor Mike Peterson, Council Member Scott Bracken, Council Member Tali Bruce, Council Member Douglas Petersen

Staff Present: City Manager Tim Tingey, Police Chief Robby Russo, Assistant Fire Chief Riley Pilgrim, Records Culture and Human Resources Director Paula Melgar, City Attorney Shane Topham, Finance Director Scott Jurgens, IT Technician Jill Cohen, Network Administrator Matt Ervin

Excused: Council Member Christine Mikell

1.0 WELCOME

Mayor Mike Peterson welcomed those in attendance.

2.0 PLEDGE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Pledge was led by Mayor Peterson.

3.0 ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Consideration of Ordinance 360 Adopting Additional Restrictions on the Use of Fireworks.

Mayor Peterson reported that Ordinance 360 involves adopting additional restrictions on the use of fireworks. This is an important issue in the City and it is the City Council’s responsibility to ensure the health and safety of its citizens and constituents. He explained that a letter was received from the United Fire Authority (“UFA”) Fire Marshall indicating that he is determined as the Fire Code Official that hazardous environmental conditions exist that necessitate the controlled use of ignition sources from 1300 East and eastward at a minimum. He recommended the City evaluate the restrictions of ignition sources, including fireworks, with the demarcation line of 1300 East per Utah Code.

Council Member Petersen reported that he has received numerous inquiries regarding hazardous situations. Many shared their concern with what could happen if fireworks are allowed.

Mayor Peterson had also received dozens of texts, emails, and voicemails in support of or requesting the ban and restriction on fireworks above 1300 East.

Assistant Fire Chief, Riley Pilgrim stated that this has been an important topic across Salt Lake County with the Mayor’s recent press conference. Fire chiefs across the valley will be preparing a social media-based message and all fire organizations across the County support the restrictions.

He explained that the current drought conditions, previous demands on Fourth of July celebrations, and all nights leading up to it have caused significant strain on resources. They would like to prevent small fires from utilizing resources should there be a larger event. He explained that this is a strategic move to ensure the communities are as safe as they can be during this time of year.

Mayor Peterson clarified that Salt Lake City restrictions include everything east of 900 East. He confirmed that Millcreek City will be considering take action during the week. The City of Holladay has passed restrictions including everything east of 1300 East, with Sandy City and Draper having restricted everything east of 1300 East.

Police Chief, Robby Russo, stated that they have anticipated the proposed Ordinance and will be doubling their staff to be prepared to adequately handle enforcement. Officers have been given proper instruction on how they would like to see that enforcement occur. They are expecting a large volume of calls and will access and evaluate each as it comes in and respond accordingly.

City Manager, Tim Tingey, reported that the City is coordinating with UFA and will focus on efforts to raise awareness based on the decision of the City Council.

Assistant Chief Pilgrim stated their GIS Department with Salt Lake County is producing maps of the City and will include the proposed restrictions. The plan will include the Prevention Department interfacing with firework retailers. They will what is required as an organization to push their message of educating and raising awareness.

Council Member Bracken reported that Mayor Jenny Wilson held a press conference describing the restrictions. The website will be updated daily to provide the most current details.

MOTION: Council Member Bruce moved to approve Ordinance 360 adopting additional restrictions on the use of all fireworks and to include restrictions in all areas from 1300 East and eastward of Cottonwood Heights through December 30, 2021. Council Member Bracken seconded the motion. Vote on motion: Council Member Petersen-Aye, Council Member Bracken-Aye, Council Member Bruce-Aye, Mayor Mike Peterson-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

4.0 ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING.

MOTION: Council Member Bracken moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Petersen. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Cottonwood Heights City Council Special Business Meetings held Monday, June 21, 2021.

Teri Forbes

Teri Forbes
T Forbes Group
Minutes Secretary

Minutes Approved: July 6, 2021