

**MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY
COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

Members Present: Mayor Pro Tempore Gordon Thomas, Councilman Scott Bracken, Councilwoman Nicole Omer, Councilman Tee Tyler

Excused: Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore

Staff Present: City Manager Liane Stillman, Deputy City Manager Kevin Smith, City Attorney Shane Topham, Finance Director Steve Fawcett, Chief Robby Russo, Assistant Chief Paul Brennemen, Assistant Chief Mike Watson, Public Information Specialist Bob Warnick, Sgt. Chris Gebhardt

Also Present: Meghan Maughan, J. Eugene Peterson, Rick Rose, Glenn Clapp, Kara Clapp

1.0 WELCOME/PLEDGE/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1.1 Mayor Pro Tempore Gordon Thomas opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those attending.

1.2 Councilman Bracken recognized Ian Bradley, a member of the Youth City Council, who was in attendance.

1.3 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Omer.

2.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS

2.1 Eugene Peterson, expressed concern over the high property tax and business licensing rates. He considered both to be excessive and used the City of Wells as an example of a well-run municipality that limits their licensing fees to \$30. He reported that the Wells City Offices are located in a modest building and they encourage teamwork to bolster local businesses.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

3.1 **Public Hearing to Receive Input on the Use of the City's Community Development Block Grant Funds for FY 10-11.**

3.1.1 Meghan Maughan was present on behalf of The Road Home. She asked for the city's support in the form of a \$2,000 donation to help fund the Salt Lake Community Shelter, which is the main shelter in downtown Salt Lake. They also requested \$1,000 for their Community Shelter Program which runs November through March and operates as an overflow shelter. The intent is to avoid turning anyone away during the winter months. Ms. Maughan reported that last year they provided over 278,000 nights of shelter. This year those numbers increased, primarily because the number of families served is up 80% over two years ago. In response to a question raised, Ms. Maughan reported that the average length of stay is 40 to 50 days. She reported that in the three separate shelters, The Road Home is able to house about 350 single men, 75 single women, and 31 families and children each night.

- 3.1.2 Roger Borgenicht was present representing ASSIST, an emergency home repair program that has been in existence for four years. The program is designed specifically to help people with very low incomes stay in their homes. He explained that emergency home repair works on critical components only, such as plumbing and heating, as well as accessibility and safety modifications, such as railings. The program operates in 12 cities and the unincorporated county. Funds received from Cottonwood Heights City will benefit Cottonwood Heights' residents who meet the low income and critical need guidelines.
- 3.1.3 City Manager Liane Stillman explained that the \$18,300 received is for soft costs. The hard cost request for \$10,000 will come out of the administrative costs. She presented the Council with a summary along with the applications received. The total amount of CDBG funds received was \$88,300. She asked for direction on how to allocate the funds prior to the next business meeting in order to prepare a resolution.
- 3.1.4 Ms. Stillman explained that the intent is to use the city's share of the allocation and begin saving for a senior citizens' center facility as there is great demand. She reported that at some future time, a portion of a public building can be dedicated to senior use.

4.0 **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

4.1 **K-9 Donation to Cottonwood Heights Police Department**

- 4.1.2 Chief Robby Russo introduced Glenn and Kara Clapp who have assisted with the K-9 program. This year they contributed money that will be used to train the city's new bloodhound and her handler. Appreciation was expressed to the Clapps for their efforts.

4.2 **Introduction of Chaplain Brian Robertson**

- 4.2.2 Chaplain Brian Robertson was introduced by Chief Russo who reported that the chaplain had done an outstanding job under difficult circumstances. He was able to provide comfort that police officers cannot. Chaplain Robertson commented that what he discusses with officers is confidential and sacred. When a shooting occurs officers go through extreme distress and his goal is to comfort and serve in the trenches with them.

4.3 **Recognition of Officer Nick Garcia**

- 4.3.1 Chief Russo commended Officer Garcia and presented him with an incentive award for outstanding detective work.

4.4 **Administration of Oath of Office to Officer Kevin Wyatt**

- 4.4.1 This item will be rescheduled to a future date.

4.5 **Police Report**

- 4.5.1 Sgt. Gebhardt presented the police report and as requested, gave more detail with regard to the stats presented. He reported that in Cottonwood Heights, response times begin when the dispatcher enters an address. The stats were reviewed and reports given on current cases. It was reported that crime increased dramatically in January 2010 but has since subsided slightly. Sgt. Gebhardt commented that compared to January 2009, they were seeing an increase in winter

vehicle burglaries. He highly recommended that citizens not leave valuables in their car and resist the temptation to warm up their cars or lock them if they do.

- 4.5.2 Sgt. Gebhardt described a website staff is working on internally. The intent is to make certain portions of it available to the public. The website automatically generates reports for the department and creates a route log that gives an update of what takes place during a shift. The report is then distributed via email. He described other available resources including policies, procedures and call lists. He considered the most important feature of the website to be a crime map that will remain internal to the city and be automatically updated every two hours.

5.0 **ACTION ITEMS**

5.1 **Consideration of Ordinance No. 152 Establishing A GRAMA Fee**

- 5.1.1 City Manager Liane Stillman described the definition of GRAMA and explained that methods have been established whereby the ruling body may be exempted from some forms of disclosure, such as closed meetings. Sometimes GRAMA requests become overburdening and result in excessive staff and attorney time. If these instances are significant in terms of volume and time, the city can recoup the costs of providing records to the requester. Ms. Stillman explained that the fee proposed by the city attorney is based on what is permitted by State Code and the methods of administering GRAMA requests from of the State Attorney General's Office.
- 5.1.2 City Attorney Shane Topham stated that nearly every state and local governmental entity has a GRAMA fee schedule. The proposed schedule is based on the Attorney General's fee schedule, which he considered to be fairly modest. Mr. Topham considered the proposal to be a conservative approach.
- 5.1.2 **MOTION:** Councilman Bracken moved to approve Ordinance No. 152 as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyler and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

5.2 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2010-07 Appointing Tee Tyler as a Representative to the South Salt Lake County Mosquito Abatement District**

- 5.2.1 Councilman Tyler reported that he recently attended his first Mosquito Abatement District Meeting. He stressed the importance of the district as two of the five dominant varieties of mosquito now carry the West Nile virus. On a positive note, he reported that of the 20 cities represented, Cottonwood Heights City has the fewest incidences of West Nile and applications to kill mosquitoes.
 - 5.2.2 **MOTION:** Councilman Bracken moved to approve Resolution No. 2010-07 and appoint Tee Tyler to serve as the city's representative to the South Salt Lake County Mosquito Abatement District. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Omer and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
- ### 5.3 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2010-08 Approving a Contract with PropertyRoom.com, Inc. for the Disposal of Property**
- 5.3.1 Chief Russo reported that PropertyRoom.com is similar to EBay and is a private firm that takes property from police evidence rooms that is ready to be disposed of. The website gets about 38,000 hits per day and items are auctioned off all over the nation. The result is to take the burden of disposing of items away from the city. It also gives the city greater integrity and allows

items to be seen by a much larger audience. Typically items sell for more than they would in a local sale. It was reported that Property Room.com keeps 50% of the sale proceeds. Typically the return to the department is 40% or 50% more than if items were sold by the city. Shipping costs are paid by the purchaser.

- 5.3.2 **MOTION:** Councilwoman Omer moved to approve Resolution No. 2010-08. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bracken and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

6.0 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

6.1 **Approval of January 26, 2010 Minutes**

- 6.1.2 The minutes were approved as submitted.

7.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

- 7.1 Councilman Tyler moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bracken, and passed unanimously on a voice vote. The business meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.