

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 24, 2009, IN THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Councilman Don Antczak, Councilman Scott Bracken, Councilman Bruce Jones, and Councilman Gordon Thomas

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Liane Stillman, City Attorney Shane Topham, Finance Director David Muir, Public Relations Specialist Bob Warnick, Assistant Chief Mike Watson, Assistant Chief Paul Brenneman, City Engineer Brad Gilson,

OTHERS PRESENT: Stephanie Archibald, Karen Wiley, Mr. & Mrs. Roger Kehr, Jake Hansen, Jenness Hansen, Lorna Kuci, Larry Larsen, Celeste Eggert, WT McCarvill, Juan Jimenez, Marilee Christensen, Eric Mabon, Hersch Patton, Jack D _____, David Harrison, Marshall Thompson, Larry Larsen,

1.0 WELCOME/PLEDGE/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1.1 Mayor Cullimore opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those attending.

1.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jake Hansen, Troop 51, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

2.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS

2.1 No comments were received

Roger Kehr stated that the City takes emergency preparedness very seriously. Communications is a critical element during an emergency, and the City had the opportunity to purchase several radio frequencies from the FCC which means that the City can communicate during an emergency without any interference. The frequencies enable the City to communicate for 60 miles.

City Manager Liane Stillman explained that Roger purchased the frequencies for the City, which will be paid for by a grant from Homeland Security. The City has the frequencies because the City has a caring citizen who has put together all of the emergency radio communications, and is a volunteer that has the vision of how good the City can be.

Ms. Stillman said that the City has been recognized for its emergency preparedness efforts, largely because of Roger's involvement and the state is using the City as a base for an emergency preparedness test on October 31st.

3.0 EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION

3.1 Eric Mabon, Troop 1307, Union Park First Ward, explained that he has provided recovery kits for the City that will go to people that have lost their houses in some kind of disaster. The kits include hygiene products, coloring books and crayons, and help from local hotels that will house people overnight.

3.2 Chief Watson said this project will make a huge difference in people's lives when they have a disaster occur. It consoles people just to be able to give their children a coloring book and crayons so that they have something to take their minds off of the disaster.

4.0 **PUBLIC HEARING/PUBLIC COMMENT**

4.1 **Public Hearing to Receive Input on the Use of the City's Community Development Block Grant Funds for FY09-10**

4.1.1 Mayor Cullimore explained that the public hearing is to receive input on the use of the City's Community Development Block Grant Funds for FY09-10. He noted that a portion of the funds can be used for broader charitable community purposes as well as city projects.

4.1.2 Karen Wiley, Salt Lake County, explained that the Community Development Block Grant comes to the County from Housing and Urban Development and is based on a formula. The County distributes the federal funding to the eleven participating cities using the same formula. Cottonwood Heights is receiving \$88,200 this year. 15 percent of the grant is eligible for public service activities such as operating expenses for the food bank, the homeless shelters, and shelters for victims of domestic violence. She said that on March 4th a housing meeting is being held to review the programs that are available to residents.

4.1.3 Mayor Cullimore opened the public hearing.

4.1.4 Celeste Eggert, The Road Home, thanked the City for being supportive in the past. The Road Home is the largest homeless shelter in the State with 4,471 unduplicated individuals being served last year. In addition to the main shelter, The Road Home runs a winter emergency shelter program which provided 3,088 unduplicated individuals service from late October through April 1st. Ms. Eggert requested funding for the basic shelter and for the winter shelter and asked for the Council's consideration.

4.1.5 Lorna Kuci, Utah Food Bank, thanked the Council for their past support. She said that she is asking for funding for the Services for Seniors Program and the 211 program. The Services for Seniors Program is to help seniors stay in their homes as long as they can and do minor home repairs for low income seniors and also deliver food boxes. The staff does approximately 150 home repairs in homes throughout the valley each month and delivers approximately 2000 food boxes per month. There were 33 clients in Cottonwood Heights last year. Lawn mowing and snow shoveling is also provided. 211 is an information center to receive a referral to any number of resources for help. The largest challenge is educating people to what is available.

4.1.6 Mayor Cullimore closed the public hearing. Action on this item will be taken in two weeks.

4.2 **Public Comment Period to Receive Input on a Proposed Site Plan for the Reconstruction of a Trailhead Accessing Ferguson Canyon and the Bonneville Shoreline Trail (Timberline Trailhead)**

4.2.1 Brad Gilson, City Engineer, explained that Phase 1 of this project involves a trailhead that will connect users to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and Ferguson Canyon. One of the City's goals with this trailhead, located on Timberline Drive, to get the users parking along the street, off of the street by providing parking space. An ADA path, drinking fountain, park benches and a learning classroom are also included in the plans. The goal of the project is to have the trailhead blend in with the hillside.

- 4.2.2 Mayor Cullimore explained that two years ago the City was working with a developer who was planning to put in three office buildings at the base of Prospector Drive on the east side of Wasatch Blvd. The zoning for the project had previously been granted by the County. The citizens were opposed to the office complex and there were not many options available. The City began searching for alternatives, including finding a way to buy the property from the developers so that the construction of those buildings could be prevented. Through the Salt Lake County Parks Fund and Open Space Fund, the City was able to apply for funds for the proposed project. The County was skeptical that a trailhead made sense on the corner of Wasatch Blvd. and Prospector Drive. The City pointed out that parking could be done at the Prospector property, people could hike to the trailhead, and ADA parking could be provided at the trailhead. The County provided most of the funding, and the City provided \$175,000 and accepted the responsibility of completing the development of the trailhead according to their approved plan. The City is gathering public comment on the proposal.
- 4.2.3 Mayor Cullimore opened the public comment period.
- 4.2.4 Hersh Patton, 7677 Timberline Drive, stated that he was concerned that he had not been contacted on this matter until two weeks ago and feels like this is a “done deal”. Mr. Patton supports improving the trailhead, but is concerned about the increased traffic. During the summer there are currently 30-40 cars on the street in this area. Parking is his biggest concern and suggested the City consider permitted parking. He would prefer the amphitheatre only be used during daylight hours.
- 4.2.5 Roger Kehr, applauded the City for a beautiful design in a previous dumping ground. He said that access to the Ferguson Trail is essential and access for the impaired to all areas of the City should be a priority. He said that he wants this to be attractive, but not an attraction and does not want it advertised because he does not want his quiet residential neighborhood to change. He asked that the process going forward be transparent and in writing, would like to be included in the process, to have the plan in greater detail, and to work in harmony with the City. He proposed that parking be by permit only. Mr. Kehr submitted a drawing and sign into the record.
- 4.2.6 Jack D_____, lives opposite from the trailhead and feels that the trail is being misused with unleashed dogs to the point people can’t even walk on the trail. Cars are parked in front of the homes, people come very late with flashlights, and throw rocks at the houses. He suggested that parking be on Wasatch Blvd, not on Timberline Drive.
- 4.2.7 David Harrison, said access to the trail is a great thing for the City. He suggested the City consider looking at the east side of the road past the access to the water tank where there is vacant land. This could be used for trail access parking for about six cars. He said that parking is not enforced in the area, and dog feces is a real problem. A dog station was installed but it has not been maintained. He questioned if the Recreation Center could clean the dog station so it would continue to be used.
- 4.2.8 Marshall Thompson, lives north of the proposed project. He said that parking is a concern for everyone and it is not being enforced. He suggested looking at the learning stations being moved because they are almost in his backyard. He said they could be moved by the amphitheatre or down on the trail.

4.2.9 Larry Larsen, 3818 Timberline Drive, expressed concern about parking and believes the lower parking lot should be done prior to the trail. He expressed support for the idea of permit parking in the area.

4.2.10 Juan Jimenez, 3786 Timberline Drive, echoed the concerns of the neighbors. He questioned if the proposal is a good thing or not and would like some clarity on the issues. He asked if the trailhead has to be constructed.

Mayor Cullimore said that was part of the deal, if the County put up the money for the property it had to be for the purpose of preserving open space and creating a trailhead.

Mr. Jimenez said this is the lesser of two evils and clearly the residents do not want the commercial development in the area. He asked the City to consider the proposal on a smaller scale.

Mayor Cullimore said that this will be an improvement over the current status quo because there will be a formalized development that will be controlled much better.

4.2.11 Marilee Christensen, 3818 Timberline Drive, asked if school children are going to be allowed to picnic in the area and whether there would be restrooms in the area. She also expressed concern about the noise school children might create that would take away from the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.

4.2.12 William Carvel, Golden Hills, said that the area has gotten worse over the years and it is clear that for people that enjoy the canyon that something needs to be done. He applauded the City for the effort that has gone into this area. He believes the situation will get worse and the neighborhood will continue to be unhappy. He does not believe that developing this trailhead will increase the people that visit the canyon or increase the troubles that exist. He is glad that something is being done for the neighborhood.

4.2.13 Marilee Christensen expressed concern about the watershed.

The City will talk to the Forest Service about the regulations that apply to watershed areas.

4.2.14 Councilman Jones said that the comments that have been made have been intelligent, thoughtful and helpful and as the plan is put together, these comments are constructive in making the project better and very much appreciated.

4.2.15 Councilman Thomas agreed that the comments have been very constructive.

4.2.16 Councilman Bracken noted that permit parking procedures have been established in the City Code and can contact Deputy City Manager Kevin Smith with questions.

4.2.17 Mayor Cullimore said the comments have been helpful and there have been many ideas the City can look at implementing as part of the development that will make it a compatible development with the neighborhood. He noted that looking at the parking below the trailhead simultaneous with the development is a very good recommendation.

5.0 **REPORTS**

5.1 **Unified Fire Report**

- 5.1.1 Assistant Chief Watson presented the January fire report. He noted that FDM presented a new GIS software product for public safety which will allow the UFA to do more detailed data analysis, mapping, incident trend analysis, response time benchmarks because it will integrate the CAD with real time data.

This month calls are down from January 2008. Fire calls are down by 63 and medical calls are down by 13 compared to the previous year.

Chief Watson recommended that fireplaces and chimneys be inspected annually and cleaned when deemed necessary to prevent creosote. He also noted that space heaters should be used carefully.

The customer service message for Stations 110 and 116 were reviewed.

5.2 **Monthly Financial Report**

- 5.2.1 Finance Director David Muir reviewed the January Financial Report. W-2s and 1099s have gone out and sales tax receipts are being matched with business licensing. The E911 fees are also being reviewed. There have been a lot of budget adjustments this month including raising the PTO reserve budget.

A copy of the financial report is available to the public.

6.0 **ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2009-04 Approving the Cottonwood Heights Mission Statement**

- 6.1.1 **MOTION:** Councilman Thomas moved to approve Resolution No. 2009-04 adopting the Cottonwood Heights Mission Statement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jones and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

6.2 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2009-05 Approving an Independent Contractor Agreement for Lobbyist Services with Capital Hill Advisors**

- 6.2.1 **MOTION:** Councilman Jones moved to approve Resolution No. 2009-05 for lobbyist services with Capitol Hill Advisors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thomas and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

6.3 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2009-06 Amending the Cottonwood Heights Youth City Council Charter**

- 6.3.1 Councilman Bracken explained that the Youth City Council determined that they needed a method to change officers if it became necessary and clarifies several sections of the charter.

6.3.2 **MOTION:** Councilman Bracken moved to approve Resolution No. 2009-06 amending the Youth City Council Charter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thomas and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

7.0 **ADJOURN BUSINESS MEETING AND RECONVENE WORK SESSION**

7.1 Councilman Bracken moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Antczak and passed unanimously on a voice vote. The business meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.