

**MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE AND RECEPTION, JANUARY 3, 2022 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 Christine Mikell, Council Member Douglas Petersen

Staff Present: City Manager Tim Tingey, City Attorney Shane Topham, Police Chief Robby Russo, Community and Economic Development Director Michael Johnson, Public Works Director Matt Shipp, Finance and Administrative Services Director Scott Jurgens, Records Culture and Human Resources Director Paula Melgar, Assistant Fire Chief Riley Pilgrim

Excused: Council Member Tali Bruce

1. WELCOME – Mayor Mike Peterson

Mayor Mike Peterson welcomed those in attendance and recognized State Legislator Gay Lynn Bennion, Amber Schill of the Canyons School District, former Council Member Mike Shelton, and former Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore who were present.

2. POSTING OF COLORS – Color Guard: Cottonwood Heights Police Department

The Posting of Colors was led by the Cottonwood Heights Police Department Color Guard.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Council Member J. Scott Bracken

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bracken.

4. MUSICAL NUMBER – America the Beautiful, Brian Allen and Chantel Nate

Brian Allen and Chantel Nate performed “America the Beautiful”.

5. REMARKS - Mayor Mike Peterson and City Council Members

Council Member Petersen expressed gratitude to Mayor Peterson for his leadership and inclusiveness and considered what he has done during his tenure to be immeasurable. He expressed appreciation to the City Council and those in the City who have rendered service.

Council Member Mikell commented that Mayor Peterson has been a mentor to her and she appreciated his service over the last four years. She thanked the residents for allowing her to represent them and looked forward to the future.

Council Member Bracken was excited to interact with new faces and looked forward to moving forward as a City. He thanked Mayor Peterson for his involvement in the City prior to his service on the City Council and during his time as Mayor. He considered him to be a tremendous example of a life dedicated to service to the community. He thanked Council Member Mikell for her service.

Mayor Peterson expressed gratitude to those online, present, and others for the outpouring of support. He reported that it has been 50 years since he began working for Salt Lake County with intercity youth. He worked for the County Recreation Department, The Hansen Planetarium, County Criminal Justice Services, and recently retired after 30 years. He worked in the service area for 15 years where he retired a second time. He was next honored to become a member of the City Council 10 years ago and eventually served as Mayor for four years. His focus has always been on people. He thanked the residents for electing him and allowing him to serve.

Mayor Peterson thanked Former Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore and prior Council Members for their service. He thanked Council Member Bracken for his service and believed his abundance of institutional knowledge has been extremely helpful. He expressed gratitude to Council Member Mikell for her passion for the foothills, open spaces, and the balance she brought to the Council. He thanked Council Member Petersen who is a lifetime resident with deep roots and commitment.

Mayor Peterson expressed appreciation to Staff for their service and to City Manager, Tim Tingey, for his dedication and professionalism. He also thanked Finance and Administrative Services Director, Scott Jorges for allowing him to leave office with a healthy fund balance. He thanked Community and Economic Development Director, Michael Johnson, and his Staff for their extensive knowledge. He thanked City Recorder, Paula Melgar, who oversees numerous aspects of the City. He greatly appreciated Police Chief, Robby Russo for his dedication to the City as well as the Police Department for providing a police force that is customized to meet the needs of the City and its ongoing challenges. He highlighted the City's partnership with the Unified Fire Authority ("UFA") and emphasized the importance of the firefighters and EMTs. He noted that the majority of calls to a residence are not fire-related, but health-related. He expressed gratitude to Riley Pilgrim and his predecessor Mike Watson and City Attorney, Shane Topham, for his service.

Mayor Peterson stated that a famous author once stated, "Seek first to understand, then to be understood." He believed it was critical that the elected officials listen and gather facts and information prior to making a decision or taking an action. He stated that it will pay dividends as they move forward as a City. He offered his best wishes to the newly elected officials and those remaining and thanked them for their service to the City.

6. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS – City Recorder, Paula Melgar

6.1 Remarks – Council Member Shawn E Newell - Cottonwood Heights Council District 3.

City Recorder, Paula Melgar administered the Oath of Office to Shawn E. Newell from District 3.

Council Member Newell, a 30-year resident, expressed gratitude to those who voted for him to serve as a Member of the City Council. He stated that the City is an engine and he looked forward to being a piston in that engine to help create progress. He hoped the entire citizenry will be a part. He was excited to work with the Cottonwood Heights Police Department.

6.2 Remarks - Council Member Ellen Birrell – Cottonwood Heights Council District 4.

Ms. Melgar administered the Oath of Office to Ellen Birrell from District 4.

Council Member Birrell thanked those present and was humbled that so many within her District elected her to this prominent position. She hoped to bring skills, expertise, and good judgment to her role. She described herself as a mother, a businesswoman, and a 40-year member of the community. She considered the foothills to be the doorstep to Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons and Cottonwood Heights as the gateway to those Canyons. She expressed her commitment to protecting the natural resources as well as the safety and public health of residents and visitors alike. She pledged to protect the character and unique qualities of District 4 and ensure that State and Federal agencies, surrounding cities, and Salt Lake County know where Cottonwood Heights stands.

Council Member Birrell stated that all have experienced disruptions due to COVID-19 and recognize what is important in the community. She was excited to work toward unifying a City infrastructure that serves public health and safety, residents, and Staff. She emphasized the importance of mobility in the City and stated that as traffic increases, they can use all of their capabilities to ensure that the City is protected.

6.3 Remarks – Mayor Michael Weichers – Cottonwood Heights Mayor.

Ms. Melgar administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Michael Weichers.

Mayor Weichers was humbled to be the third Mayor of Cottonwood Heights. He recognized the contributions of Mayors Cullimore and Peterson and respected their integrity, honesty, and passion for the City. He thanked them for their service and stated he will lean on them over the next four years. He thanked those who were willing to engage and work on his campaign including multiple volunteers and City leaders. He pledged his commitment to working

tirelessly to maintain and enhance the community. He expressed gratitude to his wife and children and looked forward to working closely with the current City Staff. He recognized the citizens who did not vote for him and committed to being their Mayor and listening to all voices. His personal preferences will not become the City's preferences but he will fight for the ideals of the community to ensure they have a voice together.

7. ADJOURN

Mayor Peterson thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

8. RECEPTION WITH REFRESHMENTS

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Cottonwood Heights City Council Administration of Oath of Office and Reception held Monday, January 3, 2022.

Teri Forbes

Teri Forbes
T Forbes Group
Minutes Secretary

Minutes Approved: January 18, 2022