

**MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE
WORK SESSION HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE
COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL WORK ROOM LOCATED AT 2277 EAST
BENGAL BOULEVARD**

Members Present: Mayor Mike Weichers, Council Member Scott Bracken, Council Member Shawn E. Newell

Staff Present: City Manager Tim Tingey, Records Culture and Human Resources Director Paula Melgar, Finance and Administrative Services Director S. Scott Jorges, Network Administrator Matt Ervin, Community and Economic Development Director Michael Johnson

City Lobbyists: Greg Curtis, Brian Allen, Chantel Nate

Excused: Council Members Ellen Birrell and Douglas Peterson

1. Welcome and Determination – Mayor Weichers.

Mayor Mike Weichers called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

2. Legislative Update and Discussion with City Manager, Tim Tingey, and City Lobbyists Mr. Greg Curtis, Mr. Brian Allen, and Ms. Chantel Nate.

City Lobbyist, Greg Curtis, presented a legislative update and reported that the Legislature is making an effort to move away from line item appropriations and are, instead, addressing block grants. Rather than stating that they are funding particular projects, the Legislature has decided to put \$35 million per year into ongoing outdoor recreation with funds going to the Department of Natural Resources. He explained that a grant process will follow and believed it will clean up any issues.

Mr. Curtis stated that the House of Representatives has been adamant in refraining from spending State funding on local projects. Transportation was looking sluggish. The City continues to pay toward the Quarter of the Quarter Fund. He explained that this fund is a Salt Lake County imposed tax that is held as a restricted account at the Legislature and only spent on Salt Lake County projects. Allocations are based on population, size, and ongoing appropriations. It was confirmed that Cottonwood Heights receives \$400,000 per year.

The State infrastructure bank was discussed. Mr. Curtis reported that funds are available via the Utah Department of Transportation (“UDOT”) and can be borrowed from the State for its bonding rate plus .50%. He stated that there is difficulty in determining the amount of intent language that will be allowed as they try to earmark some of that funding.

City Lobbyist, Brian Allen, reported that House Bill (“HB”) 462, Representative Waldrip’s Housing Affordability Bill, finally dropped and has been in negotiation. The Utah League of Cities and Towns (“ULCT”) is satisfied with where it currently sits with the anticipated changes. He

encouraged City Council review. City Manager, Tim Tingey, reported that Staff is examining the Bill as it includes information related to the Moderate-Income Housing Plan components as well as Accessory Dwelling Unit (“ADU”) requirements.

The Retail Facilities Amendment Bill was heavily negotiated with Representative Schultz, the ULCT, and others. Mr. Allen believed they are at a place where the ULCT is supportive. He believed it will get through the Senate without difficulty. The housing component was based on square footage, but the requirements were reduced. The development is required to include at least one housing unit for every 1,250 square feet of retail space and at least 10% of the newly proposed housing units must qualify as moderate-income housing. It was confirmed that the first square footage was to be no more than 20,000 square feet.

HB 235 pertaining to local speed limit amendments was heard and passed out of the Senate Committee and is currently on the Senate consent calendar. The Bill only affects speed limits on B and C roads and does not affect speed limits on State highways. Mr. Allen reported that any City streets that are under the jurisdiction of the City will not require a traffic study to implement a speed limit alteration under this Bill.

Mr. Allen reported that HB 474, Representative Waldrup’s Municipal and County Land Use and Development Bill, was discussed. The ULCT has been working with Representative Waldrup and believed it would be worth the City’s review to ensure nothing is missing.

Representative Ward’s HB 95 is dead. Representative Wilcox’s HB 282 was amended with the help of the ULCT and is currently in a place where they are receiving their support. It passed out of the Senate Committee and is on the second reading calendar.

It was noted that the Downsizing Notice Bill was corrected and passed out of Committee.

HB 135 pertaining to the Open and Public Meetings Act, failed and was brought back for reconsideration where it failed a second time.

HB 305, the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Program, passed out of the House and was on the second Senate reading.

HB 85 regarding eminent domain amendments around parks, was to soon be in Committee in the House. Mr. Allen confirmed that they are opposed.

Mr. Allen reported that Representative Bennion has a Short-Term Rental Penalty Bill that they will be supporting. The Bill looked positive, and their intent was to support it in moving forward. Mr. Tingey explained that the Bill addresses penalties related to illegal short-term rentals. Penalties are increased and the Bill specifies that the penalty cannot be reduced by a judge for repeat offenders.

HB 399 passed out of the House and was with the Senate. Mr. Allen believed the Bill may see opposition, but they will continue to work with the Committee to assist it getting through.

Mayor Weichers asked if there is any secondary water within the City. Mr. Allen stated that there are private secondary water entities. He believed it will pass but questioned if there will be any funding attached to it.

Mr. Tingey asked for clarity regarding SJR-9, the joint resolution pertaining to protections on Little Cottonwood Canyon on transportation alternatives. Mr. Allen explained that there is no force of policy, and this issue is more aspirational in nature. He believed the Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”) and the alternatives will ultimately determine the outcome with UDOT making a decision based on that information. There is no real force of law, and it is more of a vision statement.

Mayor Weichers thanked Messrs. Curtis and Allen and Ms. Nate for their efforts.

3. Adjourn.

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

The Work Session adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Cottonwood Heights City Council Legislative Work Session held Thursday, February 24, 2022.

Teri Forbes

Teri Forbes
T Forbes Group
Minutes Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 22, 2022