

MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE WORK SESSION HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021, AT 9:00 A.M. THE MEETING WAS HELD ELECTRONICALLY, WITHOUT A PHYSICAL LOCATION DUE TO THE CURRENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AS AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER DATED 18 MARCH 2020

Members Present: Mayor Mike Peterson, Council Member Tali Bruce, Council Member Christine Mikell

Staff Present: City Manager Tim Tingey, City Attorney Shane Topham, Records Culture and Human Resources Director Paula Melgar, Finance and Administrative Services Director S. Scott Jorges, Communications Manager Tim Beery, Senior City Planner Andrew Hulka

Excused: Council Member Scott Bracken, Council Member Douglas Petersen, Police Chief Robby Russo, Assistant Chief Fire Chief Riley Pilgrim, Community and Economic Development Director Michael Johnson, Public Works Director Matt Shipp

1. Welcome and Determination – Mayor Peterson.

Mayor Mike Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and welcomed those listening. He read in its entirety the declaration giving the Council the authority to hold the meeting via Zoom, pursuant to Utah Code Annotated §52-4-207(4).

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

City Lobbyist, Brian Allen, presented a legislative update and reported that the Accessory Dwelling Unit (“ADU”) Bill is still being negotiated. Discussions would continue between Representatives Ward and Schultz. He stated that they may not get everything they want but will be much closer than where they started.

Two billboard Bills were currently being negotiated. The League of Cities and Towns (“ULCT”) will meet and move toward a consensus on one of the Bills. He believed it was closer to resembling the Cottonwood Heights City Ordinance and was moving in the right direction. The second Bill had not yet been addressed.

The Property Tax Bill included a third substitute that further mitigates a portion of the impact to the City. The initial Bill included a \$16 million to \$32 million impact on local government. The third substitute has a \$2 million impact on local government. Mr. Allen reported that Senator Harper put forward a Bill that would increase the property tax deduction for businesses from \$15,000 to \$50,000 and will have a significant financial impact on local government. After negotiations, the Senator agreed to reduce it to \$25,000 and reinstate a previous provision. There will be a break for small businesses and the hit to local government is much reduced. Mr. Allen

confirmed that the numbers will be in the hundreds of thousands range as opposed to the original millions.

Representative Paul Ray's Bill on permitting and inspecting was next discussed. Mr. Allen believed they will reach a consensus that the ULCT seems to be willing to support. He had not reviewed the language and stated there is no substitute. He reported that Senator Andrews' Affordable Housing Bill is still in Rules and has several issues they are trying to work through.

City Lobbyist, Greg Curtis, reported that Representative Dunnigan's Bill was substituted and passed out of the House on Tuesday with broad support. The Bill will direct \$300,000 to Cottonwood Heights over the next 15 years. The outlier was Taylorville, which was represented by Representative Dunnigan as well as Senator Harper. This has caused consternation in the Senate and they are meeting to discuss it further. Mr. Curtis believed they will carry the day with how it is currently drafted. The Bill will go to the Senate Committee for a vote and with no amendments, will pass, and return to the House, if amended.

Funding for Wasatch Boulevard was next addressed. Mr. Curtis stated significant funding decisions are being discussed but no decisions have been made. There is a Bill in the House that would move the Office of Outdoor Recreation to the Department of Natural Resources and change who directs how the money is disbursed. There has been concern expressed with giving the Executive Branch \$100 million for Parks, Trails, and Open Space without any legislative direction. The Office of Outdoor Recreation has a match component where they evaluate the local government contribution. He reported that President Adams is reluctant and wants a new dedicated revenue stream using ongoing money to bond.

In response to a question raised regarding police reform, Mr. Allen stated that there is a group called Listen, Love, Lead that has promoted multiple Bills that have been moving through the process. He believed there could be as many as 40 police reform Bills. Those in law enforcement and advocates have worked together and are moving fairly quickly through the process with broad support. Multiple Bills have not had a hearing and will continue to be monitored. The Use of Force Bills were advancing as well. Mr. Allen reported that the Citizen Review Board Bills are similar with one passing and the other failing due to exclusion of running for public office.

Mr. Curtis reported that there may be a large amount of money designated to the Office of Outdoor Recreation. He suggested that City officials initiate talks with those at the County. He explained that Salt Lake County receives .05%, which equates to \$12 million, plus an additional \$12 to \$13 million per year. He believed that some of it can be used for active transportation, including trails. Mayor Peterson noted that the City received a \$1.5 million grant previously for the Bonneville Shoreline and they have tried to leverage that. The City will continue to look for additional opportunities to partner and collaborate with the County.

Council Member Mikell noted that she and Mayor Peterson met with the Utah Department of Transportation ("UDOT") several weeks ago. She believed there was a notion of mitigation payments if a mass transit hub were to be located in Cottonwood Heights. Even if the gondola or cog rail ends up immediately adjacent to the property purchased, there will be impacts to Cottonwood Heights. She asked if there was a way language can be included with any UDOT

legislation. Mr. Curtis indicated that he has had this discussion with UDOT who has a firm policy that if they start paying mitigation to non-adjacent property owners, it will set a precedent with every project that is built. He agreed to have that conversation again and provided examples as to why UDOT could potentially be opposed.

Mr. Allen stated that the ADU Bill is close to receiving a final offer with involvement from Representative Ward, the ULCT, Representative Schwartz, and leadership. There will be licensing and endorsement provisions included in the Bill and preemption on the zoning. Leadership's perspective was that they will end up with a better Bill than what they started with. Parking issues were discussed.

3. Adjourn.

MOTION: Mayor Peterson moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mikell. 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 11, 2021.

Teri Forbes

Teri Forbes
T Forbes Group
Minutes Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 2, 2021