

COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 11, 2022

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Garth O. Green; Councilmembers: Terri Hartley; Craig Isom; W. Tyler Melling; Scott Phillips; Ronald Riddle.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Paul Bittmenn; City Attorney Tyler Romeril; City Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; City Engineer Jonathan Stathis; Police Chief Darin Adams; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Economic Development Director Danny Stewart; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall.

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Bates, Ann Clark, Teri Kenney, Tom Jett, Tyson Nelson, Carter Wilkey, Bob Platt, Wendy Green, Tim Watson, John Word, Gary Lister, Alysha Lundgren.

CALL TO ORDER: Councilmember Isom gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Councilmember Hartley.

AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL: Councilmember Isom moved to approve the agenda order; second by Councilmember Hartley; vote unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF

COMMENTS: ■ Isom – I want to acknowledge the new carpet; it is nice and practical and it is a nice addition to the City offices. ■ Phillips – I recognize the time of year and difficult to get all the Leisure Services up and running for the year. The interchanges are looking really bad, especially the center. Mayor – there is a fellow who needed service hours for the Judge the volunteered to spend two full days there. Phillips – It is busy, maybe we need an outside source. It is a reflection on the community. Riddle – those are city property? Paul – the State builds, the city maintains. ■ Riddle – I have had a few people approach me, we have had baseball tournaments, around the fields behind in the seating areas need to be cleaned up and weeded and the grass cut to the right height. They have not been up to par. I know we are struggling with staff and getting everyone where they need to be.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: ■ Ann Clark – thank you for bringing that up, I have been the Aquatic Center weeding every day. I noticed last week they looked terrible. I was at Cedar Middle, Mr. Lee was retiring, every one of the band concerts have been awesome. I can't go to School Board meeting until the 4th. The kids here have had an excellent education. We have a problem, one phone call to the schools is insufficient. It is the City's responsibility to inform the school of what is going on. The schools have little say in the City's decision to have wildly rapid uncontrolled growth, and it is putting the schools into crisis. We see we are getting to crisis on staffing, classes are packed. We will need portables and we hope we can get them. We have to hope we can get credential teachers; I have lived this. I lived where they asked for any parent with a college degree that can teach, then any parent with a few years college that can teach. We are going to give our kids a bad education. This could have been controlled by controlled growth. I think we need to stop building permits for 6 months. Infrastructure needs to be in place. Who pays for irresponsibility, it is a crisis the

city has created by the overbuild, the kids will pay. Different from Palmdale and Fruita, Palmdale grew like Cedar City, and it turned into a ghetto and Fruita slowed and built the schools and infrastructure first. They want it a rural community. It takes 5 years to build a school. Mayor – I would like you to make an appointment and come and set down with me, and the City Attorney and others to address the issues that you keep repeating each week and see if we can answer some of your questions. ■ Amy Bates, I work with Utah Foster Care and have also been a foster parent for 22 years. May is National Foster Care Month. When we talk foster care it is the community children. In Iron County we have about 62 children in Foster Care at any given time, and we have 20 foster parents and foster families that are willing to open their hearts and homes. DCFS is always trying to do whatever they can to have reunification with their parents, that is always the goal. That happens about 40% of the time, otherwise the children go to relatives which is the second-best option, or they are adopted by their foster families, hopefully. Having that many kids in Iron County in foster care is a big deal, they are the communities children. A lot of times people think they are kids that come from out of the area, they are actually kids that are going to your schools and live in your neighborhoods, and these children and families need your support. I recognize not everyone can be a foster family. But I strongly believe we can all support foster families and children in foster care. We have a wishing well fund, that is money that will go to local children that will help pay for foster kids that want to do music lessons, or if they want to play football, things that are out of the ordinary but are a huge expense for foster families, they can petition to the wishing well. Another is feed a foster family, when I get a new child or 2 or 3 new kids in our home it is a really busy day for me, so I get pizza that night, so people can buy dinner for a foster family. Another option is birthday boxes, I love this because we have kids that are not in families, and they have no way to get their birthday celebrated. These boxes DCFS holds onto, and they have candles, cakes, and a gift card, and often they go to teenagers. When we ask for donations, people often forget teenagers. Businesses can offer discounts to foster families, a great way to say we appreciate you and we value you. If none of those work for you, mow a lawn or offer to babysit. These kids are in care for no fault of their own. I want to quote Mr. Rogers “We live in a community which we need to share responsibility, it’s easy to say it is not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem. Then there are those that see a need and respond, I consider those people my heroes.” I encourage you all to figure out a way to support children in foster care. Phillips – how do we do some of these things? Amy - you can contact me. Donations are for local children, the businesses we have a card to show we are foster families. It is really a popular thing in some communities. First Lady Abbey Cox got this started where you can get discount tickets at Tuacahn, Hogle Zoo, etc. We don’t have a lot of things locally. Melling – we appreciate that. Mayor – I have been your neighbor and you are my hero.

CONSENT AGENDA: (1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED APRIL 20 & 27, 2022; (2) RATIFY BILLS DATED APRIL 29, 2022; (3) APPROVE MATERIAL QUOTES FROM SOUTHWEST PLUMBING SUPPLY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$136,150 FOR THE STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 2022 – STORM DRAIN PIPE MATERIALS (FROM CENTER STREET TO HARDING AVE. CONFLUENCE). JONATHAN STATHIS; (4) APPROVE ENTERING A RIGHT OF ENTRY AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JAMES BOUD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1480 WEST CENTER STREET. TYLER ROMERIL; (5)