

SPECIAL COUNCIL WORK MINUTES
MAY 12, 2022

The City Council held a special budget meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.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 Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; City Engineer Jonathan Stathis; Chief Building Official Drew Jackson; Police Chief Darin Adams; Sergeant Nate Williams; Leisure Services Director Ken Nielson; Parks & Outdoor Facilities Division Head Anthony Pearson; Sports & Recreation Manager Jennifer Weaver; Director of Golf Jared Barnes; Aquatic Facility Manager Marcie Burrill; Cross Hollow Center Manager Scott Christensen; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Library Director Steve Decker; Heritage Center Manager Jason Clark; City Attorney Tyler Romeril.

OTHERS PRESENT: Carter Wilkey.

BUILDING: Drew Jackson, Chief Building Official – we have new carpet going in. They are working on the upstairs and there is still some to do in the Police Department. I was asked for a bid for the partition into three spaces where Gabrielle and Megan are now. That came in at \$34,850. Phillips – I notice upstairs they ripped out carpet in the main walk area, but not in the sides. Drew – where the pop machine is, that will fill in with the carpet. Phillips – have we thought about putting a partition for a mini office/conference room there. We often get asked by citizens to meet on issues, sometimes this room and admin conference room is busy. We need a guest office. Paul – if privacy is what is required to reach out to Jason at Heritage and ask for some space in Festival Hall. The Tower Room is nice and not used often, it has a conference table. we have looked at if engineering and building keep growing, moving the entrance in engineering out to the elevators and making more office space. We have looked at it, but for different purposes.

We had a contractor look at a roofing system, although aged, it is still ok for this year. Phase 1 for HVAC has been completed, there were valves still needing replacement, that is phase 2 that will be talked about later.

Isom – what is building permit surcharge? Drew – a 1% fee that we must pay the State. In 2020 we had 819 permits, in 2021, 945, both records. We are well over 100 per month now, we are busy. Phillips – on revenue side there was a drop in building permit fees. Paul – Jason starts at \$600,000 each year, they go up and go down, that is where we start the budget. If we get more revenue, we will add it in. Jason – we under budget because we need to save some money if we add road graders, GPS and traffic signals. We don't make it part of the operating budget, we underbudget and transfer the money for other purposes.

Drew – our software system has helped a lot. We had a Building Inspector III resign, we hope to have someone on soon. We have Dave working part time. Building trends are busy

for a bit. Hartley – is that a full-time position. Drew – yes. We work with IHBA with a proactive approach which has been going well.

POLICE: Isom – who controls the Public Safety Task Force? Darin Adams, Police Chief – that is the multijurisdictional Drug Task Force, we have a Trooper, Sheriff Office has a deputy, Beaver has a deputy and Garfield County does as well. We have the commander. Department of Public Safety has an office for the Task Force.

Operations – we asked for increase in part-time wages and it increased as well as for Animal Control staff. We have 1 part-time in evidence and the crossing guards, that is the part-time staff. Phillips – do we hire crossing guards? Yes. Many accounts as we ask for personnel we bump the line items up for equipment, anything for daily operations with the understanding that it is to go with what is requested in capital. There are a few unknown costs. If we hire one person, we can generally cover that cost. We have a multi-jurisdiction SWAT as well, all agencies in Iron County and one in Garfield, we deployed 29 times last year, up from the previous year. We have made a more committed effort to get up to where we can handle more. As a board on the Task Force, we oversee critical incident task force where agencies back out and a team comes in and investigates. We realized because each agency doesn't have a robust budget, everyone would pitch in, we have a formula for SWAT, we need to put that together if we need a shield or armor equipment, then it is questioned who owns that equipment. It will come back next year. We are growing, SWAT is more an entity used often. Phillips – is there a tipping point on when SWAT is called out? Darin – yes, the State Legislature put into a practice a threat matrix, you go through and discuss and if they feel it meets then it goes to SWAT commander, Nate Williams from our department and two others that make that decision.

Dispatch services it increases every year. Last year there was 911 monies County Commission wanted to get out from under, so we were down last year. The increase is for adding positions or increases in wages. Every entity contracts with the State and it is based on size. Paul – Darin's budget is also for Fire, flooding, etc., but his budget houses all of it. Darin – we are going to try, many agencies do it, to consolidate all agencies on one channel, I was resistant because we are the busiest. This will put troopers on one channel and a separate service channel for stops. It is concerning, but we are going to try and see where it goes. Dispatchers are the biggest to resist, we think it will improve officer safety, often we have Troopers and UHP in Cedar City so if they hear that they can respond. It will decrease the number of dispatchers needed and streamline the process. It will be Iron, Beaver and Washington County Troopers. Darin – now us and SUU are on one channel, UHP is on their own, Parowan, Iron County, Brian Head, Enoch and DWR is now on one. Melling – all local on one. Darin – all troopers on one channel. Phillips – it will be interesting; you will need to report back and see how it works out. Darin – we will try it for 90 days. Isom – computer and tech service? Darin – an attempt to get a cell phone allowance for everyone in the department, everyone is using their own phones without compensation.

Capital – we have 2 vehicles in investigations needed to be replaced, admin and detective sergeants. Tasers we use are outdated, we limped along for a bit, the X26 taser are not supported any longer. The Taser 7 is the next generation, this will get everyone equipped.