

**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JUNE 8, 2022**

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 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; Leisure Services Director Ken Nielson; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Lisa and Tony Pellegrini, Vicki Christian, Laura Henderson, Nicholas Willis, Jared Hatch, Gerald Van Iwaarden, Nathan Bracken, Bob Platt, Tom Jett, Steve Nelson, Heather Carter, Wendy Green, Dixon Tiffany, Michael Carter, Dallas Buckner, Tim Watson.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pastor Gerald Van Iwaarden of Westview Christian Church gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Mayor Garth Green.

**AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL:** Councilmember Phillips moved to approve the agenda order for all three meetings; second by Councilmember Hartley; vote unanimous.

**ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF**

**COMMENTS:** ■ Mayor – last week I brought a tuna can and Councilman Isom took it home. Isom – it is a wonderful way to monitor the watering. I put it on my lawn, checked Thursday and made minor adjustment it works wonderful. It was a great way to monitor. Mayor – I brought two more cans; one is slightly deeper than the other. A lawn should be watered 1-1.5 inches a week, 20 inches of water on an entire lawn is what it takes to keep a lawn green. I brought a few more cans, a tun and salmon can. It is interesting, a cubic foot of water, we talk about that all the time. Apartments uses .3 a cubic foot. Jonathan – it is .3-acre foot per unit. Melling – yes, about .3-acre feet per unit. Mayor – a framer without a pivot uses 4-acre feet per acre, if they use a pivot, it is less. We need to look at this, and if we use from the WWTP it is more. I hope we will use conservation measures and use every drop wisely. I appreciate Pastor praying for gentle rain. ■ Phillips – a few things, I was impressed by Pastor Jerry for his enthusiasm, we are blessed to have people from each religious denominations pray for us, and we are lucky to have that in our community, it helps all of us. Also, I want to ask how we are going to celebrate the Juneteenth observance. Paul – we close our offices for holidays listed in our personnel policy and it is not listed. Phillips – I don't know how the federal law is written. Paul – if a holiday falls on a Sunday it is celebrated on the Monday. Tyler – is it something the council wants in the policy? Phillips – it is something we should consider; the Federal and State leaders have added it. ■ Riddle – in saving water, I had the weeds sprayed in my yard, at the shop and my mother's yard, and they are doing great without water. I have noticed that we have a lot of weeds personally,

maybe we should get them cleaned up, so we don't have a large fire danger. I would suggest we visit with our city residents; we are in extreme fire danger. Chief Phillips – we have fire restrictions in place. The State of Utah put fire restrictions for SW Utah, Brian Head has also done that. Phillips – does that change anything for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with fireworks and designated places. Phillips – the designated places work great. If we want to restrict them in the city it has to be done by next week. Phillips – my understanding is we can't do that in conflict with state law. Mike – we can restrict in the wildland area and restrict it to the designated areas, but not ban them. ■Melling – I was at a meeting last week and an issue of transparency was raised that I want to raise here to have on the record. One had to do with the YouTube broadcast, it is live and, on the channel, comments are disabled during the meeting. If we permitted comments live, they would have to be entered as official comments during the meeting, why are they disabled? Tyler – we want the public to come and be involved and see the context in the chambers and ask questions back and forth rather than a directive comment. We did allow comments when we are in Heritage during COVID, at that time there were not comments of substance, they were congratulating a volunteer from the Fire Department. Melling – if they have health issues, they cannot comment that way but can send someone. Tyler – they can send an email and we will read it into the record. Melling – also a comment about how council meeting went and the lack of comments, a standard meeting. A couple residents approached and said the meeting is illegal, not transparent that elected officials should not comment on a meeting in a social setting. Three of us had a meeting today at a ribbon cutting, that is social setting, not interactive, where is the line between when we post and council responsibility. Tyler – public meetings are open, posted with an agenda and the public can be present and comment on a public hearing. If it is not a quorum, the second is if there is a quorum, are we taking care of the people's business, you shouldn't have been talking about the meeting during the ribbon cutting, as long as you don't talk about what is being voted on. Melling – the people's business, things coming up for a vote, we need to be cautious if there is a quorum present, but if they are it shouldn't be advertised as a public meeting. But we as a council can meet individually or with two, we can meet with people and be careful about how we discuss things. Phillips – everyone of us has meetings every week with constituents in the community, come look at the weeds, etc. we represent the citizens that elected us, and people need to understand that is what we do, but not have a quorum. Melling – I appreciate when true transparency issues have come up staff and council has been willing to work on the item. I brought up council minutes not being searchable and that was done within a few months. ■Hartley – I have had a lot of people in my neighborhood talk about the parking situation by Mo'Bettahs angle parking, asking if something is going to be done? Adams – I called the manager, and she took it seriously and took care of it, but I haven't been up there since. Hartley – they are ok to park in the right of way, but not angle and out in the asphalt. It is an accident waiting to happen. Chief Adams – I will follow up on that. ■Phillips – I received a text from President Benson to have us all at Utah Summer Games to march in the opening ceremonies. ■Ken Nielson, Leisure Services – they are doing some tree work along with the lights on Main Street, there will be cones and trucks, they are taking the lights off, we will trim the trees and then put the lights back up. Phillips – they are cleaning up after themselves? Ken – I hope, they are shooting to be done by the 17<sup>th</sup>.