

1 Minutes of the
2 BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL
3 May 12, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
4

5 Present: Mayor Randy Lewis
6 Councilmembers Millie Segura Bahr, Kate Bradshaw, Kendalyn Harris,
7 Richard Higginson, Chris R. Simonsen
8 City Manager Gary Hill
9 Asst. City Manager Galen Rasmussen
10 City Engineer Lloyd Cheney
11 City Planner Francisco Astorga
12 City Attorney Clinton Drake
13 Recording Secretary Maranda Hilton
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15 Official notice of the City Council Meeting was given by posting an Agenda at the temporary
16 City Hall locations (805 South and 150 North Main Street) and on the Bountiful City Website and the
17 Utah Public Notice Website and by providing copies to the following newspapers of general
18 circulation: Davis County Clipper and Standard Examiner.
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21 **Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.**
22 **South Davis Metro Fire Station Conference Room**
23

24 Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Mr.
25 Mike Eggett led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Eric Hattabaugh offered a prayer.
26

27 **COUNCIL REPORTS**

28 No reports were given.
29

30 **CONSIDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR ADOPTION - MR.**
31 **GALEN RASMUSSEN**

32 Mr. Galen Rasmussen presented the Council with the FY 2020-2021 Tentative Budget. He
33 explained the process they took to prepare and forecast the budget, and explained that if the tentative
34 budget was approved tonight, the next step will be having it available to the public for inspection
35 from May 13 – June 16, 2020. On June 16, public hearing is scheduled to make adjustments to the
36 FY 2019-2020 budget, to approve the FY 2020-2021 budget and to approve the 2020 tax rate.

37 He explained that due to the uncertainty in revenues as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,
38 each department was asked to create contingency plans that reduced their budgets by 5% and 10%.
39 These budgets will be given to the City Manager and implemented if necessary.

40 Councilman Higginson thanked Mr. Rasmussen and staff for their work on these budgets, and
41 for finding ways to reduce the budget instead of raising taxes. He asked Mr. Rasmussen if sales tax
42 revenue figures for May were available yet. Mr. Rasmussen said it is not finalized yet, but the latest
43 data shows revenue was around \$669,000, approximately \$36,000 less than May 2019 revenues.

44 Councilman Higginson made a motion to approve the FY 2020-2021 Tentative Budget and to
45 designate June 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Training Room of the South Davis Metro Fire Agency
46 main station for the Public Hearing and Councilwoman Bahr seconded the motion. The motion
47 passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bradshaw, Harris, Higginson and Simonsen voting “aye”.

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2 **VETERANS PARK DISCUSSION – MR. GARY HILL**

3 Mr. Gary Hill turned time over to the Bountiful Veteran’s Park Committee (BVPC) to explain
4 the phasing of the planned park and to give an update about their initial fundraising efforts. He
5 reminded Council that the park is planned to be built in phases and that at their last discussion about
6 it, the Council asked that Phase I look like a complete park and that the funding be in place to
7 complete Phase I before beginning construction.

8 Councilman Simonsen, acting as Chairman of the BVPC Board of Directors, took a moment
9 to share why the construction of this park means so much to him personally as a Vietnam War
10 veteran, and why that site was chosen for the future park. He said that there are have already 3,000
11 names submitted to go on the wall at the park and that community interest continues to be very high.
12 He said since creating the non-profit in November 2019, almost \$700,000 has been raised and an
13 additional \$160,000 is pledged from other entities.

14 Mr. Rob Vandegrift, the landscape architect for the project, explained what Phase I would
15 include. He said 15 of the final 35 proposed benches would be installed (and have already been
16 donated), the “Columbia” statue will be placed at the center of the park (which is almost finished and
17 paid for), and the “We the People” monument will be erected. The park will be fully landscaped and
18 include all the flags/flagpoles and a sign out front. Items that will be added in Phases II and III will
19 include the remainder of the benches and more bronze statues and monuments for the different wars.

20 Councilwoman Harris asked when the estimated completion date is and Mr. Vandegrift
21 answered that they would like to have an opening ceremony on Veteran’s Day (November 11) of this
22 year, and that they believe it is entirely feasible to do so if they can break ground soon. Mr. Lloyd
23 Cheney (City Engineer) added that the grounds north of City Hall should be ready for them to occupy
24 in two to three weeks’ time, when the City Hall renovations that are occupying that site are complete.

25 The Mayor asked if any of the pledged donations will be rescinded amidst the economic
26 hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Councilwoman Bradshaw asked if there is a
27 contingency plan in place in case funding does fall through. Councilman Simonsen said they do not
28 believe anyone will rescind their pledges and that he has spoken with everyone in order to determine
29 just that. He also said benches or trees can be eliminated if they do not have enough funding for all of
30 them during Phase I. He is confident, however, that they will have the funding they need, especially if
31 they can break ground and get the project rolling. Assurances were also given by Mr. Vandegrift on
32 behalf of his firm and that of the construction company, JMR, that they are both committed to
33 building this project and will make it happen.

34 Mr. John Marc Knight was invited to say a few words about the park and he reiterated that
35 they will undoubtedly receive all the funding they require if they can schedule a groundbreaking and
36 take advantage of all of the news articles and media that will accompany that event. He said that this
37 park will be a wonderful amenity for the City.

38 Mrs. Julie Hattabaugh, secretary of the BVPC, added that the park will also have a monument
39 or sculpture dedicated to recognizing the sacrifice and service given by the families of veterans. She
40 also said that interest is indeed very high and that she received 71 emails that day alone from people
41 requesting more information about the park. The committee hopes it will become a destination all its
42 own and that it will be an educational venue for students and citizens.

43 Councilwoman Bradshaw made a motion to allow the BVPC to announce a groundbreaking
44 pending City Engineer approval of final site plans and Councilman Higginson seconded the motion.
45 The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bradshaw, Harris, Higginson and Simonsen voting
46 “aye”.

47
48 **COVID-19 DISCUSSION – MR. GARY HILL**

49 Mr. Gary Hill explained that it’s necessary to evaluate certain policies that have been put in
50 place and the scheduling/canceling of certain events as risk levels change surrounding the COVID-19
51 pandemic here in Utah. It is likely that Davis County will be moved to the Yellow (Low Risk)

1 category soon which will loosen some restrictions surrounding gathering sizes but will not change
2 social distancing requirements. He asked the Council for their input on the following items:

- 3 1. Food Truck League – They are hoping to start their weekly food truck events as soon as
4 this Friday. The City believes that with certain policies put in place, the Food Truck
5 league will be able to meet the current requirements to operate.
- 6 2. Summerfest – Due to their revised event schedule (Monday nights in June) and their
7 hopeful use of the Bountiful Town Square as a location, the City doesn't feel like there is
8 a safe or feasible way to have this event take place this year.
- 9 3. Farmers' Market – The market is scheduled to begin on June 18, but it remains very
10 tentative. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) put out guidelines for
11 the operation of farmers' markets in Utah during the pandemic which would require all
12 booths to be spaced 10' apart and would not allow for the sale of anything except produce
13 (no sale of food to consume on site or handicrafts would be permitted). The decision
14 whether or not to hold the market doesn't need to be made right away and the City and
15 planners are hopeful that new guidelines will be issued soon which will help in that
16 process.
- 17 4. Concerts in the Park – The feasibility of this event series is still questionable as well, but it
18 may work if the State changes to yellow. Contracts between the City and performing
19 groups now allow for cancellation without a penalty if needed to comply with applicable
20 regulatory restrictions.
- 21 5. Coats for Kids Car Show – This event had originally been postponed from mid-June to
22 late August, but Councilman Simonsen explained that the Rotary Club met earlier today
23 and decided to cancel the event this year. Maintaining social distancing during such a
24 well-attended event would be nearly impossible so they do not want to risk it.
- 25 6. Chalk Art Festival – The Joy Foundation is still planning on holding the festival and the
26 City would certainly like to host as well depending on the level of risk in September. So it
27 will be a situation of wait and see what September brings.

28 Mr. Hill asked the Council how they feel about letting the Food Truck League begin their
29 season in Bountiful. Councilmembers Harris, Higginson and Bahr all stated they are in favor of
30 letting the League begin operations as soon as possible.

31 The Council also approved the City to move forward with the following:

- 32 a. The rental of park boweries starting May 15
- 33 b. The reopening of park restrooms following necessary preparations
- 34 c. Up to 20 people using the Dog Park at one time
- 35 d. South Davis Recreation using City fields for their programs

36 Mr. Hill explained that a public hearing about the Deer Abatement program was to be held
37 soon, but public hearings have been postponed due to the current situation. He asked the Council if
38 they would approve soliciting comments from residents through social media and the City website in
39 order to gather valuable community input on that subject. He feels if this isn't done soon, things will
40 not be able to be put in motion before The Council approved that action. The Council liked this idea
41 and approved it to move forward.

42 Mr. Hill next explained that during the pandemic the City has not shut off electricity due to
43 delinquent utility payments, as a way to ease the economic troubles that some residents may be
44 feeling at this time. The list of residents overdue on utility payments has skyrocketed recently and he
45 believes staff needs to start proactively contacting residents on the disconnect list and find out who
46 can pay. He fears that if nonpayment is allowed for too long, residents will never be able to pay it all
47 off and the City will have to absorb that loss. He advised setting up payment plans and perhaps
48 offering discounts to certain individuals in order to help ease this growing problem. The Council
49 agreed that it would be good to get in front of the problem before it gets worse. Mr. Hill said he will
50 have staff draft a more refined plan that will assist residents who are truly in need of help with their
51 utility bills.

1 Mr. Hill announced that the City has scheduled a fireworks display on July 17 this year. All
2 other Handcart Days events have been cancelled except for a tentative concert in the 400 North Park
3 on July 17. Staff feels the City can safely allow for a fireworks display in order to celebrate. The
4 Council asked if the date was set in stone or if we might consider having the fireworks on July 4th or
5 24th instead. Mr. Hill said he would talk to Mr. Brock Hill, Parks Director, about it and see if the date
6 can be changed with the fireworks company.

7 Mayor Lewis announced that the golf course has had a very successful month and that
8 revenues are up from last year. It may be due to a shift to an exclusively online scheduling policy that
9 requires pre-payment for reservations. He also stated that Senator Mitt Romney called him to ask if
10 he could do anything for our City. Sen. Romney also thanked the Council for their service and hoped
11 residents would be safe and able to get jobs back quickly. The Mayor asked the Council what they
12 should ask Sen. Romney to do for them.

13 Councilwoman Bradshaw asked that Sen. Romney lend his support in helping us in our
14 negotiations with the U.S. Forest Service concerning land for trails and improvements that affect our
15 residents. She also hoped that perhaps he could write a letter helping us secure more wildfire grants
16 as we recover from fires on the hill.

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18 **ADJOURN**

19 Councilman Higginson made a motion to adjourn and Councilwoman Bradshaw seconded the
20 motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bradshaw, Harris, Higginson and Simonsen
21 voting “aye”.

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23 The regular session of City Council was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Mayor



City Recorder