

**NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

April 2, 2024

The North Ogden City Council convened on April 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the North Ogden City Public Safety Building at 515 East 2600 North.

Notice of time, place, and agenda of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on March 28, 2024.

Notice of the annual meeting schedule was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on December 13, 2023.

Note: The time stamps indicated in blue correspond with the recording of this meeting, which can be located on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCriqbePBxTucXEzRr6fclhQ/videos> or by requesting a copy of the audio file from the North Ogden City Recorder.

PRESENT:

S. Neal Berube	Mayor
Ryan Barker	Council Member
Blake Cevering	Council Member
Jay D Dalpias	Council Member
Chris Pulver	Council Member
Christina Watson	Council Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Jon Call	City Manager/Attorney
Rian Santoro	City Recorder
Scott Hess	Community and Economic Development Director
Ryan Nunn	Planner
Dave Espinoza	Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager
Dirk Quinney	Chief of Police (Zoom)
Jami Jones	Finance Director
Dylan Hill	Public Works Inspector
Nate Davis	Building Inspector

VISITORS:

Kevin Burns
Stefanie Casey
Merrill Sunderlund
Karen Sunderlund
Susan Kilborn (Zoom)

0:0:15 Mayor Berube called the meeting to order. Council Member Pulver offered the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **CALL FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

0:1:39 No conflict of interest was disclosed.

2. **ACTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 12, 2024, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

0:2:09 Council Member Cevering motioned to approve the March 12, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes. Council Member Pulver seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Dalpiaz	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

3. **DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE THE SELECTION OF THE 2024 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) CITY COUNCIL MEMBER LIAISON**

0:3:12 Mayor Berube requested that Council Member Barker take on this role, considering his experience in that area as the Northview Fire District Fire Marshal. Council Member Barker accepted the request.

Council Member Dalpiaz motioned to approve Council Member Ryan Barker as the 2024 CERT City Council Liaison. Council Member Cevering seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Dalpiaz	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

ACTIVE AGENDA

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

0:4:44 Karen Sunderlund, a North Ogden City resident, raised a question regarding whether the Mayor and City Council had scheduled FEMA training, which is encouraged for City Councils to undergo, particularly in preparation for emergencies. She mentioned that Weber County Emergency Manager, Lisa Schwartz, has been offering this training to other cities in Weber County and expressed her support for the Council to consider scheduling it soon. Karen emphasized the importance of the training based on her own experience with CERT training and her husband's subsequent participation.

In response, Mayor Berube noted that some Council Members may have undergone FEMA training in the past, but there are still members who haven't. He suggested arranging a time for the training with the City Recorder, Rian Santoro.

0:6:32 Susan Kilborn, a North Ogden City resident, requested the Zoom screen be switched to display the faces of the attendees. She highlighted the importance of being able to see people's faces, especially during presentations and public comments, and expressed her appreciation for being able to see the City Council Members' smiling faces.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE AMPHITHEATER AT BARKER PARK OPERATING PLAN

0:7:18 Mayor Berube initiated the discussion by highlighting the need for a clear plan to use the amphitheater effectively, especially considering the recent lights and sound enhancements. He emphasized the importance of being proactive in inviting people to use the facility rather than waiting for inquiries.

City Manager/Attorney Jon Call provided insight into the current status of the facility and emphasized the need for clear direction from the Council. He outlined the proposed plan, which focuses on community-focused activities like piano and dance recitals, as well as private events. He stressed the importance of the Council's guidance in determining rental fees and incentivizing usage.

Council Members shared their thoughts on parking concerns, safety considerations for large events, and the possibility of partnerships with outside organizations to host events and alleviate financial burdens on the City. Council Members also discussed the need for a long-term maintenance plan, including budgeting for future repairs and replacements. The conversation delved into restoring the Arts Guild and whether it should be an official committee or a citizen-run organization, with City Manager/Attorney Jon Call emphasizing the need for clear guidelines and budget approval. Ultimately, Council Member Watson and Council Member Cevering conveyed their readiness to engage in the recruitment of individuals interested in serving on the Arts Guild, alongside local performing arts organizations interested in using the amphitheater for various events. Overall, there was consensus among Council Members on the importance of proactive planning and community involvement in maximizing the potential of the Barker Park Amphitheater. Council Members expressed willingness to collaborate and explore various options to ensure its success as a community gathering space.

It was agreed to refine the mission statement of the Operating Plan and bring it back for approval at a future Council Meeting. Additionally, consideration was given to funding sources for events at the amphitheater, with suggestions to allocate resources from existing budget lines and explore potential partnerships with private companies. The goal was to ensure the transparent use of funds while maximizing community engagement and enjoyment of the venue.

6. DISCUSSION ON SAFETY AND PROCESSES FOR THE NORTH POLE CELEBRATION AT BARKER PARK

0:55:18 City Manager/Attorney Jon Call, initiated the discussion surrounding the North Pole event, covering various critical aspects that need consideration, such as the necessity of obtaining a Mass Gathering Permit due to the increasing crowd size. Safety measures were extensively discussed, particularly focusing on traffic control and emergency preparedness. Suggestions included having police officers on-site for traffic management, implementing one-way traffic flow in the parking lot and surrounding streets, and establishing a first aid station. The discussion underscored the significance of insurance coverage and liability protection for the City in case of accidents or emergencies during the event.

The legal aspect of the discussion revolved around potential challenges related to the inclusion of religious elements in the event. Concerns were raised regarding the perception of religious endorsement by the City, given activities such as the Hunt family's live performance and the display of a Menorah. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call provided insights into the legal complexities surrounding the issue, citing the Establishment Clause and the need for fairness and inclusivity in event participation. The possibility of allowing other religious or non-religious groups to participate was explored to mitigate any perception of favoritism.

Additional topics included tree planting around Santa's house and budgetary planning for police presence at the event. The discussion concluded with a reaffirmation of the City's commitment to balancing the continuation of the North Pole event with addressing logistical, safety, and legal concerns in a responsible manner, ensuring its success while upholding the City's values and legal obligations.

7. **DISCUSSION ON CITY FUND REQUESTS AND IN-KIND DONATIONS FOR EVENTS/PROGRAMS**

1:17:00 City Manager/Attorney Jon Call initiated the discussion by presenting a comprehensive list of groups the City supports, emphasizing the diverse range of organizations that receive assistance, primarily through the provision of free facility usage. In response, three distinct categories were proposed to categorize these groups based on the level of City involvement and the associated liability. The three proposed categories are sponsored, partnered, and supported.

It was explained that sponsored events, such as organizations like the Cherry Days Festival, entail direct financial support and significant City liability.

Partnered events, on the other hand, involve minimal financial support from the City but may use City facilities.

Supported events receive discounted facility use but no direct financial support from the City.

The discussion delved into the nuances of each category, particularly regarding insurance requirements, budget considerations, and the Council's role in event approval and oversight.

Concerns were raised regarding the legality and financial implications of City contributions to external organizations, prompting a thorough exploration of the Council's responsibilities in approving and monitoring events. There was consensus on the need for clear criteria to guide event approval processes, with a focus on accountability and fiscal prudence. The Council also discussed the necessity of periodic reviews to ensure ongoing compliance and the suitability of events for City support. There was a preference for

avoiding annual approval requirements for established events, instead opting for periodic reviews based on predefined criteria to streamline the process.

Council Member Pulver expressed willingness to collaborate with the City Manager to develop comprehensive guidelines for event categorization and approval.

The objective was to refine the categories and establish clear criteria for event approval, with the aim of balancing community support with fiscal responsibility. Ultimately, the Council sought to ensure transparent and efficient processes for managing community sponsorships and event participation.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1:48:15 Kevin Burns, a North Ogden City resident, emphasized the necessity of hard work for the success of the amphitheater. He highlighted the importance of dedication and effort, drawing parallels to the grind required for running a successful business. Kevin underscored the need for consistent and diligent efforts to make the amphitheater a success, suggesting that relying solely on employees' spare time may not suffice. He concluded by likening the City's operations to a business, emphasizing the significant commitment required for both endeavors.

1:50:04 Susan Kilborn, a North Ogden City resident, addressed the Council with two main points. Firstly, she clarified that the concern about parking on the streets surrounding the amphitheater was not raised by the neighborhood but rather viewed as a safety issue. Secondly, Susan expressed her enthusiasm and eagerness to share her ideas about the amphitheater. Susan offered to share her ideas for consideration and asked for guidance on whom she should connect with regarding her suggestions.

9. MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

1:51:04 City Recorder Rian Santoro reminded the Council to submit their agenda item requests using the Google Form available on the City website, which she created for this purpose. Rian emphasized the importance of using this form as it allows her to track and stay organized with the requests efficiently.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Watson motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

S. Neal Berube, Mayor

Rian Santoro
City Recorder

Date Approved

DRAFT