



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 02, 2021, at 5:30 PM
Court Room/Council Chambers (2nd Floor) and Online

Minutes

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Kirk Hunsaker
Council Member Nick Miller
Council Member Betsy Montoya
Council Member Lynn Mecham
Council Member David Hathaway

ABSENT

Council Member Jennifer Bowman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jason Bond led the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT

Offered by Council Member Mecham.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion Regarding City Mural Ideas and Potential Locations

Kyle Vincent showed a potential rendering of a mural on the side of Ivanov's market at the intersection of Center and Main Streets. It included a rendering of the Santaquin mountains with apples being picked emphasizing the agricultural heritage and the diversity of ages and ethnicities in the community.

The Council commented that they liked the mural and the art that it brings to the center of the city. Community Services Director John Bradley said that if the Council was okay with the mural then Kyle should move forward with his art class and the city would get the contract and legal technicalities worked out.

2. Discussion Regarding Possible Future Uses of the West Wing of the New City Hall

City Manager Reeves said the city is finalizing the design of the new City Hall design in the next four months with groundbreaking for actual construction scheduled to start spring of 2022. With the favorable cost estimates for designs the city was able to design two out of three of the city's additive alternates including the shell of the west wing of the building. Reeves then showed a detailed update of the new City Hall designs and then turned the time over to Community Services Director John Bradley.

Bradley introduced the idea of using the basement and main floor of the western portion of the new City Hall as a new library space. Bradley talked of the changing ideas of what of library is beyond books and could include classroom spaces, game room spaces, and green screen spaces for the community gather and be creative.

Reeves added that while the City is able to afford the shell of the west wing the City could seek out a benefactor who could bear the library's name who could finance the interior or whatever the Council would choose to do moving forward. Mayor Hunsaker asked for the Council's feedback.

Council Member Montoya then said with the library being the most used city amenity that this would be a fantastic idea but that the city should take advantage of the General Plan process and get feedback from the citizens.

Mayor Hunsaker then noted that while he likes the idea of the library going into the west wing he is hesitant because a library already got voted down by the citizens and he's not sure they would get behind the idea. Finally, he is hesitant also because if the city needs that space for something down the road then what would happen?

Council Member Mecham then asked if the current library building was up to code and if it was then it could have potential uses in the future. City Manager Reeves said that the current library was up to code and ADA compliant.

Community Services Director Bradley then commented that there are grants available for renderings for spaces like the west wing and that way it would allow for more public input and allow for more exploration of different ideas for the community space. Grants open up May and could be awarded by June and the grant committees like to see applicants with skin in the game and the City is in a great position because it's committed funds to building a new City Hall.

3. Discussion Regarding Redistricting for Municipal Elections as Proposed By the Utah County Clerk

City Recorder Aaron Shirley presented the question from the Utah County Recorder's office on whether or not Santaquin City would like to redistrict. This question from the County comes up every 10 years the year immediately following a census year, the only year allowed by state code for redistricting. Redistricting would look like 5 separate districts in Santaquin with Council members representing those individual districts with the Mayor at-large.

Some pros to having separate council districts would be ensured equal representation from all the communities across the city, for example the core area of town will be outnumbered in the next decade by Summit Ridge and East Bench areas and this ensures that all areas would have that Council seat voice. Cons might be that there would be a smaller 'net' so to speak to cast for a candidate pool and might lead to lower caliber candidates because there isn't the same candidate pool as the city at-large.

Mayor Hunsaker said he liked the idea of redistricting to ensure equal representation. Council Member Mecham said he would like to get more research on the topic and City Manager Reeves brought up the idea of talking with Council Member peers in other cities at the upcoming Utah League of Cities & Towns conference. Council Member Montoya agreed she'd like more time to look into it. Council Member Mecham asked if there was a deadline and City Recorder Shirley said in talking with the representative from Utah County Clerk's office that they'd stated "as soon as possible" but with that said COVID-19 delayed the U.S. census which in turn delayed the census data which is critical to the redistricting process so there might be more time than Utah County Clerk's office says.

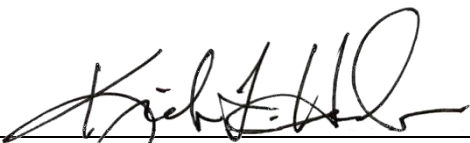
4. Review Upcoming Agenda Items

City Manager Reeves briefly went over each agenda item. Council Member Montoya asked about item 1 for the Summit Ridge Pressure Irrigation Tank and why there was such a delay between the construction of the tank and the booster pump and Assistant City Manager Norm

Beagley clarified this was just part of the process and that delay is an intermediary stage before the booster pump comes online.

ADJOURNMENT

ATTEST:



Kirk Hunsaker, Mayor



K. Aaron Shirley, City Recorder