

SOUTH JORDAN CITY
CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

February 21, 2023

Present: Mayor Dawn Ramsey, Council Member Patrick Harris, Council Member Don Shelton, Council Member Brad Marlor, Council Member Jason McGuire, City Manager Gary Whatcott, Deputy City Manager Dustin Lewis, CFO Sunil Naidu, Director of Strategy & Budget Don Tingey, Director of Commerce Brian Preece, Director of Public Works Jason Rasmussen, Associate Director of Public Works Colby Hill, Director of Administrative Services Melinda Seager, City Attorney Ryan Loose, City Recorder Anna Crookston, GIS Coordinator Matt Jarman, Senior IS Tech Phill Brown, IS Specialist Ken Roberts, Director of Planning Steven Schaefermeyer, City Engineer Brad Klavano, Fire Chief Chris Dawson, Deputy Police Chief Jason Knight, Director of Recreation Janell Payne, Art's Program Coordinator Tiffany Parker, Meeting Transcriptionist Diana Baun, Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave, Planning Commissioner Nathan Gedge, Executive Assistant to the City Manager Katie Olsen

Absent: Council Member Tamara Zander

Others: Karyl Baun, Sam Bishop, Zanna Bruening, Jonathan White, Alyssa Lonni, Meghna Kamath, Carly Pace, Tiffany Parker, Brenna Miller, Kevin Warner, Skyler Pedroza, Bridger Pedroza, Jason Yeaman, Kyrene Gibbs, Laura Gaillard, Emily Gray, Jared

4:42 PM
STUDY MEETING

A. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introduction: *By Mayor Dawn Ramsey*

Mayor Ramsey welcomed everyone present and introduced the meeting. She excused Council Member Zander who was absent from the meeting.

B. Invocation: *By Council Member Jason McGuire*

Council Member McGuire offered the invocation.

C. Mayor and Council Coordination

Council Member Shelton reminded everyone of the legislative meeting this Saturday at Jordan Valley Hospital at 8:00 a.m.

Mayor Ramsey discussed the current state of the legislature and that the council will be asked soon to start reaching out to legislators. She also noted how much she appreciated Representative

Pulsipher's efforts to collaborate with the city and find out how the city feels about certain issues.

Council Member McGuire noted that he believes Representative Pulsipher was the only one to vote "no" against the redistribution of the sales tax for the gravel pits.

Mayor Ramsey noted that was key, and she very much appreciated that. That already passed the House and Senate, and is the first time in 40 years that a change to the 50/50 sales tax distribution has taken place. The bill favors cities with gravel pits and hurts all the others. She had a meeting with the governor's office and told him what the impact is to South Jordan City. That when combined with all the other bills coming as unfunded mandates and cuts from revenue, they can't run a city if the state keeps taking all the money and the ability to even hold onto the money that the city has worked hard to keep to ensure property taxes stay low. The governor's office did listen, and The League intends to sign a veto letter asking the governor to veto the bill with many explanations as to why the process was out of order, that it is constitutionally challengeable, along with several other things.

Council Member Marlors asked what percentage of cities are being affected by this, and what the big item is that we are getting hit on.

Mayor Ramsey explained that this is taking a portion of our sales tax and distributing it to cities to cover their impact from gravel pits.

Attorney Loose briefly explained the bill and said that the House forced it through in a day while The League was still putting together numbers to show how much cities would lose if it passed. He noted that they are trying to incentivize cities to allow more gravel pits, because of all the controversy related to them.

Council Member McGuire added that it then ties into HB 527, where they are trying to take away local control from the counties related to gravel pits.

Mayor Ramsey said they anticipate sending in a letter that most of the cities in the state, not the ones benefitting from it, will likely sign. Whether the governor vetoes it or not, the expectation is that he will then convene both parties to really listen and open up another discussion regarding how best to handle the situation. Gravel pits have come back every year as an issue, and from a policy perspective, this is not the way to appropriately handle the impact from gravel pits.

Council Member McGuire asked what would keep this from spreading to other industries, like refineries, etc.

Mayor Ramsey responded that's the reason 50/50 has been fought against for 40 years because it creates winners and losers, and opens a door that could lead to something worse and worse.

D. Discussion/Review of Regular Council Meeting

Public Hearing Item

- Resolution R2023-11, Adopting the South Jordan Streetscape Master Plan for the City of South Jordan.

Council Member Shelton had some questions that he emailed to Colby Hill, and received a response from him yesterday. He noted that he forwarded his email, and the responses, to everyone and asked to have that added into the record (Attachment C).

E. Presentation Items

E.1. Art's Council member appointment (*By Director of Recreation Janell Payne*).

Director of Recreation Janell Payne briefly introduced the newest Art's Council applicant, Jason Yeaman.

Mayor Ramsey added that Mr. Yeaman took the photograph for the city's Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, and he has artwork hanging in City Hall as well. She then asked Mr. Yeaman to tell them a little bit about himself and his desire to be on the Art's Council.

Jason Yeaman said he was approached by Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave about being a part of the Art's Council, and he has been looking for an outlet to serve. Getting involved with the local government is something he thinks is great and he has taken many photos of those in attendance. When not taking photos he is a defense contractor on the base, his group helps train fighter pilots. He has been married to his wife, for 21 years and he has a son and daughter, along with two dogs and he lives in Daybreak.

Council Member McGuire asked Mr. Yeaman if he had a background in any other arts.

Mr. Yeaman responded not professionally. He does some professional photography and likes to play music, along with a little bit of videography. He has done some cinematography and helped some independent films come to fruition, especially with his drones.

Mayor Ramsey noted that he works with Mountain Creek Middle School every year.

Council Member Marlbor asked if he has enough time for the extracurricular activities in the city with the arts, showing up to meetings and contributing.

Mr. Yeaman responded yes. He came here to investigate the requirements for the position and he was told they meet once a month for a few hours, and he can definitely spare the time for that.

Council Member Shelton asked about the kinds of drones he uses.

Mr. Yeaman has a Mavic 3 which is his latest purchase, he also has a FBP drone and a Mavic 2 Pro, which was his workhorse for many years.

Mayor Ramsey gave a brief explanation of the process, and that they will get in touch with him tonight with their decision.

E.2. Y2 Analytics Community Survey results (By Director of Strategy & Budget Don Tingey) and Y2 Analytics).

Kyrene Gibbs reviewed her prepared presentation of the survey results (Attachment A).

Mayor Ramsey noted the results tell her there are some messages the city needs to be better about sharing, regarding the work being done and telling stories about the great amounts of work going into planning for the long-term needs of a growing community. The community isn't as aware as she'd like them to be, and there is an education opportunity there to tell those stories and do more.

Ms. Gibbs noted the growing pains don't disappear overnight, so as things are being resolved she thinks residents will start to see the work going into this.

Council Member Harris said many residents are concerned with the issues being seen on the news, like water.

Council Member Marlor noted the survey went out before the news of the Rio Tinto Annexation, so as a result of that alone he thinks there would be more concerns expressed in regards to growth.

Director Tingey said the last few days of the survey was when that announcement was made, and there were a lot of comments in the survey about water.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing the results in Attachment A.

Director Rasmussen noted that, in regards to water, five or more years ago the concerns expressed by residents were all about the rates being too high. There has been a switch, as all the concerns now related to water are whether or not there will be enough.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing results from Attachment A. She noted that a higher concern for the roads was an abnormal result, and asked if there was a new project, or something going on that might have prompted those concerns.

The council discussed and agreed that it's probably the pothole issues this year with the snow storms.

Ms. Gibbs said it's normal to have fluctuations in that score, especially when there is a project undertaken or an issue that many residents are encountering. She continued reviewing the results from Attachment A.

Council Member Harris asked if there were any comments on the frequency of city communication.

Ms. Gibbs discussed some questions that were asked in that area, and she noted they had not looked at those numbers broken out in terms of the specific channels of communication. However, she will follow-up with that after this meeting and let the city know if residents feel the current frequency of communication is right. She said that minus those residents who prefer email communication, the rest feel that the cadence of information received from the city is about right, and if anything they would be interested in receiving slightly more information from the city.

The council discussed the “newspaper” option in the survey and agreed that it’s probably the South Jordan Journal, even though the city doesn’t publish that.

Ms. Gibbs discussed social media and said there is definitely an opportunity to leverage city social media accounts, as residents expressed a desire to see more there. She continued reviewing results from Attachment A.

Council Member Harris believes that fewer residents are having to contact the city because of the updated city website, and the fact that it’s so much easier to use.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing the results from Attachment A, adding that most residents are indicating a high amount of efficiency when they do need to contact the city, with very few residents saying their question or concern was not addressed.

A discussion ensued regarding newer resident results versus longer term resident responses and the effect of the newer resident responses who indicated they were “unsure.”

Council Member Marlor said he believes that this next year will probably create some positives in terms of other recreational opportunities with the announcement of the Larry H. Miller properties and the stadium. He also thinks they will get a lot of negative feedback as far as continued growth because of the annexation, water and traffic. He thinks they have handled it well overall.

Director Tingey noted the ballpark announcement happened during the time of this survey as well.

F. Discussion Item

F.1. Art’s Council discussion (*By Arts Council Chair Laura Gaillard*).

Laura Gaillard reviewed her prepared presentation about the Art’s Council (Attachment B). She added that she hopes Jason Yeaman gets approved because she thinks he would be a wonderful addition to the Art’s Council.

Art's Program Coordinator Tiffany Parker gave a brief introduction, she worked for the city at the Recreation Center for 12 years and she is back as the new Arts Program Coordinator.

The council and staff discussed some of the new programs available, as well as the upcoming Art and Quilt Shows. Applications for both shows are available currently online.

Council Member McGuire motioned to move from the City Council Study Meeting to Executive Closed Session. Council Member Shelton seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

RECESS CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING AND MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

G. Executive Closed Session

G.1. Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION AND RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

Council Member Shelton motioned to adjourn the Executive Closed Session and return to the City Council Study Meeting. Council Member Marlor seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Shelton motioned to adjourn the February 21, 2023 City Council Study Meeting. Council Member Harris seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

The February 21, 2023 City Council Study meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.