

SOUTH JORDAN CITY  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

April 4, 2023

**Present:** Mayor Dawn Ramsey, Council Member Patrick Harris, Council Member Tamara Zander, Council Member Brad Marlor, Council Member Jason McGuire, City Manager Gary Whatcott, Deputy City Manager Dustin Lewis, City Attorney Ryan Loose, Director of Recreation Janell Payne, Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave, CFO Sunil Naidu, Director of Strategy & Budget Don Tingey, Director of Commerce Brian Preece, Director of Public Works Jason Rasmussen, Director of Administrative Services Melinda Seager, Executive Assistant Melanie Edwards, GIS Coordinator Matt Jarman, Senior IS Tech Phill Brown, IT Director Jon Day, Director of Planning Steven Schaefermeyer, City Engineer Brad Klavano, Fire Chief Chris Dawson, Deputy Police Chief Jason Knight, Meeting Transcriptionist Diana Baun, HR Director Teresa Cook, Communications Specialist Joshua Timothy, Marketing Specialist Matthew Jorgensen

**Absent:** Council Member Don Shelton

**Others:** Josh Dallin, Dwayne's iPad, Skyler Pedroza, Bridger Pedroza

4:44 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 Shelton who was absent tonight.

**B. Invocation:** *By Council Member Brad Marlor*

Council Member Marlor offered the invocation.

**C. Mayor and Council Coordination**

Mayor Ramsey and the council discussed the conference coming up and who will be attending in person.

**D. Discussion/Review of Regular Council Meeting**

**Presentation Item**

- Proclamation in recognition of Child Abuse Awareness Month
- Proclamation Arbor Day 2023
- South Jordan Youth Council

**Action Items**

- Resolution R2023-14, Approving the potential Bureau of Reclamation grant match commitment for funding opportunity. RCV
- Resolution R2023-16, Prohibiting the use of an ignition source, including fireworks, lighters, matches, sky lanterns, and smoking materials, in certain areas.
- Resolution R2023-20, Authorizing the City Manager to enter into encroachment agreements for certain limited structures on the City's Property maintained for flood channels along Midas Creek.
- Resolution R2023-21, Adopting revised Citywide Policies 200-1 through 200-14 regarding Fringe Benefits.
- Resolution R2023-15, Adopting a Tentative Budget; making appropriations for the support of the City of South Jordan for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. RCV
- Resolution RDA 2023-01, Adopting a tentative budget for the fiscal year 2023-24. RCV

#### **E. Presentation Item**

##### **E.1. USU Bastian Agriculture Center** *(By Executive Director, Josh Dallin)*

**Josh Dallin** reviewed his prepared presentation (Attachment A). He noted that the current polo field will not be turned into a parking lot, as is noted on the second concept map; that was a note leftover from a previous concept plan for a specific event.

Council Member McGuire asked where the water for the pond will be coming from.

Mr. Dallin responded that they have two different sources, the first from the original plan was to look at irrigation shares; they currently have a 20 year donated agreement from Rio Tinto of over 200 shares, which is more than they would need. They are also owners of roughly 35 shares themselves, but they are currently working on possibly transferring shares for acre/feet if possible. If that is possible, they are potentially looking at the idea of having a well and being metered in the aquifer. If they are able to do that, they can have trout and swimming without worrying about what goes into the canal. Salt Lake County spent a lot of money installing a drainage system that works very well, and they want to make sure that they are utilizing that. Also, that drainage system goes back down into the river and eventually makes it to the Great Salt Lake.

Council Member Harris asked about the planned lodges, if they will be for youth groups to stay overnight in.

Mr. Dallin said no, the intention will be more for events and open space for programming. They also anticipate them being used for public rentals. They also have plans in the future for three housing units adjacent to the STEM Center. They felt this would be important since Utah State is an all-encompassing University that reaches throughout the state, and one of problems with youth participation is the youth having places to stay that are secure and safe. They are planning to make these housing units similar to their housing units available in Logan for visitors. They are hoping to be able to comfortably accommodate 600-800 in those housing units for events.

The first two phases should happen fairly quickly with the support of the Bastian Family. The county was also very supportive with grants for the arenas and natural resources area, and they are hoping to go back and ask the county for more. The outdoor arenas could be done by December, the indoor arena will probably be done in 2024 due to supply issues and timing. Phase 2 is planned to include better lighting for safety, better sound systems available, etc., things that make sense and work, and that will probably come at a later date due to funding available. The donors for the natural resource area are very motivated and they want to see that happening, so that will be done very quickly. The STEM Center is an expensive idea, so the development people are working on those campaigns to see how quickly they can do that. He then shared some impacts from 2022, including:

- Turning the jockey house into the 4H Clubhouse. That staff has been able to use that location to reach out to over 15,000 youth in the area and serve them.
- Having a Junior Teen and Teen Council that has over 300 participants.
- Bringing 4000 seventh graders from the Jordan School District to the Bastian Ag Center and teaching them about agriculture.
- A program teaching Agriculture Principles to fifth graders, which has reached nearly 7000 kids from this location.
- Helping 14 youth last year raise sheep and goats at the Bastian Center that otherwise couldn't have due to distance. They have received grants and hope to double that number next year. He also noted that the Bastian's always buy the animals to make sure that the kids get the return they need and to support them.

To get more information on these programs, you can search "Bastian Agricultural Center" and the 4H Programs section of the website to learn more. This location has allowed more people to have access to these programs with its ease of access compared to other locations. This 4H program existed in the past at another location, but moving it here to this location in South Jordan has allowed it to grow. They have opened this up to a grant, advertised just through social media channels and a lister; within two days they had 11 youth sign up who had never participated in a program with livestock before. He shared that they hosted over 620 events this last year, reached boarding capacity with a current waiting list, seen an increase in open riding attendance, are the home to multiple equine clubs that come and ride together, are the home to the third largest dog show in the nation, and many other events. In 2023 they are looking forward to hosting the Gem Show, multiple breed horse shows, a Renaissance Fair, a jousting competition, etc.

Council Member Harris asked Mr. Dallin to keep them updated and let them know if there are ever events that he feels would benefit from having some of the city officials attend.

Mr. Dallin noted that they do have a high school rodeo coming in October which is a big deal, and has never been able to attend here; that would be an event that could benefit from direct city support. He also added that big events like that actually need more stalls than the current 300 that are available, so they just purchased 200 temporary stalls that can be set up and taken down for big events like this. Lastly, he discussed their current branding and a new archway entrance that

the Bastian Family wants to add, along with a subtle marquee on the corner with a military monument honoring David and his service along with others.

Mayor Ramsey asked if Mr. Dallin felt there might be some value in putting together an event with some key legislators invited, where they can show them around and explain the vision and what's going on here.

Mr. Dallin said as they get the archway entrance done, they want to do a grand opening type of event and that would be the perfect time to invite those guests. Currently, they are focused on serving all of their constituents and they are right next door to two major military installations with families and kids who want to learn. They are hoping that the Bastian Center will become a hub for extension education to military members and their families, along with expanding the reach for these livestock programs and education opportunities.

#### **F. Discussion Items**

**F.2.** Communication discussion *(By Administrative Services Director Melinda Seager & Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave).*

Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave reviewed her prepared presentation (Attachment B).

Administrative Services Director Melinda Seager noted that our team has been able to influence trends around the state by their strong example, and as a result they have been given a seat at the table when it comes to some discussions of the more innovative and creative ideas that are beginning to emerge.

Manager Van Cleave continued reviewing Attachment B.

Council Member Marlbor suggested covering the topic of Airbnb's in the future, including the impacts, what is legal vs. illegal, and what residents can do about neighborhood disruptions from those rentals.

Director Seager said they can discuss how to approach that and save that topic for future campaigns, that way council members can point people to an area on the website with more information if they start to have a lot of questions. They also need to look at potential impacts with timing of releases and the political climate, as well as making sure to vet all information before any release.

Council Member Zander said based on the high engagement posts, the public likes to see themselves in the media more than our city officials.

Mayor Ramsey noted they do have to be aware of any liability issues, and of those who may not realize they are being filmed. She suggested possibly posting some signs at public events, making those in attendance aware that they could be filmed or photographed.

Director of Recreation Janell Payne responded that any event with a registration and waiver has a section releasing participant's images, allowing the city to film and share their images.

Council Member Zander continued by saying that the residents want to be a part of the city, which includes the media. Also, any time they can get those watching on social media to share and interact with the videos, those posts will come up more in feeds.

Council Member McGuire thanked the whole communications team, noting that his constituents constantly comment what a great job he does communicating with them. He is not creating any unique content, he is usually just sharing what the city shares online, and that has been helpful to those not following the city specifically on social media.

Council Member Zander added the city's posts are always great quality and written very well.

Mayor Ramsey discussed the social media platform algorithm, and how it can make it hard to reach everyone intended. They have to learn how to live with those issues and get around them to continue growing on social media.

Communications Specialist Joshua Timothy added that's why they focus so much on the emails, because they always reach more people with email than they would ever reach with social media.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Council Member Zander motioned to adjourn the April 4, 2023 City Council Study Meeting. Council Member McGuire seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Shelton was absent from the vote.**

The April 4, 2023 City Council Study meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.