

CITY OF OREM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
56 North State Street Orem, Utah
January 11, 2022

5:00 P.M. WORK SESSION - CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM

CONDUCTING	Mayor David A. Young
ELECTED OFFICIALS	David Spencer, Debby Lauret, Tom Macdonald, Terry Peterson, LaNae Millet, and Jeff Lambson.
APPOINTED STAFF	Jamie Davidson, City Manager; Brenn Bybee, Assistant City Manager; Steven Downs, Deputy City Manager; Heather Schriever, City Attorney; Marc Sanderson, Fire Chief; Joshua Adams, Police Chief; Ryan Clark, Development Services Director; Charlene Crozier, Library Director; Aaron McNight, Assistant City Attorney; Sam Kelly, City Engineer; Jason Bench, Planning Division Manager; JoD’Ann Bates, City Recorder and Nathan Nelson, Deputy City Recorder

NOTE: The referenced report and presentation documents for each discussion may be viewed at orem.org/meetings under “City Council Presentations”

DISCUSSION – Palisade Traffic Calming

Mr. Kelly started his presentation by introducing the Palisade Traffic Calming project taking place on Palisade Drive. He stated around 20 years ago, citizens voiced concern with excessive speeding on the street and 9 speed bumps were installed. Mr. Kelly stated there were recent complaints about the speed bumps, such as emergency vehicles having trouble with them. Because of this, the City decided to redo traffic calming on the road. Mr. Kelly said a city open house was held regarding the subject. Through this open house, speed tables / raised crosswalks with choker islands were decided upon to replace the speedbumps. Mr. Kelly stated they decided on this method because it helps not only with speed calming, but pedestrian safety as well. He then went into detail on different design aspects of the speed tables and showed where similar

examples have been installed in the city. Mr. Kelly stated some citizens have expressed distaste for the choker islands, saying they are dangerous and look unsightly.

Mr. Macdonald stated though many neighbors in the area are supportive of these traffic calming devices, there are also some against these measures. Mr. Macdonald stated there were a few citizen from both sides attending the meeting, and asked if Mayor Young would like to hear their opinions.

A resident from the Palisade area who originally paid for a large amount of the speed bumps put in around the year 2000 stated that before the speed bumps were put in, the average speed on the road was around 35 miles an hour with occasional speeds of up to 70 miles an hour. He stated the city pledged to maintain these speed bumps when they put them in over 20 years ago and asked the city to maintain that pledge.

Bruce Cameron, a resident from the Palisade area expressed his concern for the new choker islands. He stated cyclists and other non-car commuters are forced into the middle of the lanes. Mr. Cameron said this could be dangerous, and he has had skateboarders swerve in front of him in his car. He also stated he has done surveys of his own and said there's over 100 neighbors in the area that are concerned with the choker islands as well.

Mrs. Lauret asked Mr. Cameron if the neighbors are still concerned with speeds. Mr. Cameron stated the neighbors are still concerned with speed, and are fine with the speed tables, but think that the choker islands are dangerous. Mr. Cameron concluded by asking the council to keep the speed tables, but remove the choker island.

Mr. Spencer asked Mr. Kelly if they could remove the choker islands, but keep the white poles which are currently on top of them. He expressed this could keep cars in the center of the lanes, but allow cyclists and other non-car commuters to pass through them.

General discussion ensued regarding possible options of removing the chokers and the direction the city should go from here. The council decided they should do a more all-encompassing survey and Mr. Clark stated the city contracts with a PR firm that could go door to door and collect accurate opinions.

DISCUSSION – Utah Fit Premises Act

Mr. Downs stated he presented this discussion back in November, but would like to go through it again seeing there has been a change in council.

Mr. Downs introduced the Utah Fit Premises Act to the council. The Fit Premise Act sets a standard for livable conditions that Landlords must meet for their property to be rentable. Mr. Downs then showed examples of properties that do not meet the Fit Premise Act, such as dangerous mold growing in an apartment complex in Orem, and stated this act would enforce the basic upkeep of rental property.

General Discussion ensued regarding the reporting, enforcement, and the fixing of these issues.

Mayor Young expressed concerned that Landlords could raise rent on those who report to try to balance out costs.

REVIEW – Mayor Pro Tem, January to June 2022

Mrs. Bates stated every 6 months a new Mayor Pro Temp is chosen. She then said that if Mayor Young got a name to her within the next week it would be on the consent agenda for next meeting.

AGENDA REVIEW & PREVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Earl updated the council on the status of the Wright Development and Orem City lawsuit. He stated the Judge dismissed one of the two points Wright brought against the city, and as of now has ruled in the City's favor. He went on to explain what was next in the process.

The City Council reviewed the evening's agenda. Discussion ensued regarding the scheduled items that would be considered.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS (BOARDS & COMMISSIONS, NEW BUSINESS, ETC)

6:00 P.M. REGULAR SESSION - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CONDUCTING

Mayor David A. Young

ELECTED OFFICIALS

David Spencer, Debby Lauret, Tom Macdonald, Terry Peterson, LaNae Millet, and Jeff Lambson.

APPOINTED STAFF

Jamie Davidson, City Manager; Brenn Bybee, Assistant

City Manager; Steven Downs, Deputy City Manager; Heather Schriever, City Attorney; Joshua Adams, Police Chief; Ryan Clark, Development Services Director; Charlene Crozier, Library Director; Chris Tschirki, Public Works Director; Brandon Nelson, Finance Director; Steve Earl, Deputy City Attorney; Pete Wolfley, Communication Specialist; JoD'Ann Bates, City Recorder and Nathan Nelson, Deputy City Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION / INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT – Carol Walker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Peter Christensen

MAYOR'S REPORT/ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Mr. Lavenstock stated he moved to Orem from California around 30 years ago. He expressed how he feels the city has been going in the wrong direction for a while and he hopes this council will correct the course. Mr. Lavenstock then went on to state he does not want to see any more high-density housing in the city, and does not want to see any low-income housing either.

Ken Messmer stated he has been a resident of the city for over 25 years. He expressed how there is no other place he'd rather be than in Orem and expressed thanks to the new council.

Fred Axelgaurd started by congratulating the new Mayor. He then expressed concern with eliminating an independent Planning Commission. He asked the council to keep the planning commission as it is and not establish a new legal counsel within the city.

Margret Black expressed her concern with the Planning Commission resolution on the agenda as well as the Administrative Counsel Ordinance. She stated the selected individual for the Administrative Counsel was not selected properly and does not have the credentials needed for the job. She then expressed her concern with the Resolution changing the Planning Commission appointments.

Quinn Mecham expressed his concern with the Office of the Legislative Counsel Ordinance and stated the appointment was not properly done and is a waste of taxpayer money. He then went on to voice his concern with stripping the Planning Commission of its political independence. Mr. Mecham finished by urging the council to vote against these proposals.

Fred Johnson stated he has lived in the city for 63 years. He stated he has been concerned with the direction the city has been moving for the past 8-10 years. Mr. Johnson stated there should be as many voices as possible when deciding a position and asked the council to consider the Legislative Council.

Ms. Alisa stated she has not liked the direction Orem has been going for the last 8-10 years. She then went on to express her distrust for Orem city management. Alisa stated she would like to see the Office of Legislative Counsel be established.

Murry Lowe stated he is in favor of what is being suggested tonight. He then stated the city should focus more on renewal instead of high growth.

CONSENT ITEMS

- APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - Minutes of City Council Meeting – December 14, 2021
- APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
 - Beautification Committee – Anne Stahmann, Appointment

Mr. Macdonald moved to approve the Consent Agenda as listed. **Mr. Spencer Seconded** the motion. Those voting aye: David A. Young, Debby Lauret, Tom Macdonald, Terry Peterson, David Spencer, Jeff Lambson and LaNae Millet. The motion **passed**.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

ORDINANCE – Amending portions of Section 2-15-4, 2-15-6, and 2-15-10 of the Orem City Code pertaining to the Appointment, Removal and Compensation of Planning Commission Members

Mayor Young stated that up until this point, the City Manager has been in charge of appointing members of the Planning Commission and explained that this Ordinance would switch that responsibility onto the council instead. He stated the council will have to vote as a majority to appoint members of the Commission.

Mr. Macdonald stated the council already has to vote in majority to approve a Planning Commission member and is happy with the way it currently is.

Mr. Peterson stated it won't be just the Mayor picking who is on the Planning Commission, the City Council will need to vote in majority to approve them.

Mrs. Lauret stated she likes the independence of the Planning Commission and said the way it currently is offers more diversity and differing opinions. She finished by stating she is comfortable with the way it is.

Mr. Spencer expressed he feels the Planning Commission has been rude to Orem residents recently and expressed support for the Mayor and Council to appoint Planning Commission members.

Mrs. Millet stated that even though the Council may be appointing the members, they will ensure they have a diverse background and are well qualified.

General discussion took place regarding how board members are reviewed and appointed.

Mrs. Schriever presented amendments made to the proposed Ordinance that had been previously discussed.

Mr. Spencer moved to by Ordinance to amend portions of Section 2-15-4, 2-15-6, and 2-15-10 of the Orem City Code pertaining to the Appointment, Removal and Compensation of Planning Commission Members as amended on the record. **Mr. Peterson seconded** the motion. Those voting aye: David A. Young, Terry Peterson, David Spencer, Jeff Lambson, and LaNae Millet. Those voting nay: Debbie Lauret and Tom Macdonald. The motion **passed**.

RESOLUTION – Establish the Office of Legislative Counsel and Appoint a Director to the Mayor and City Council

Mayor Young stated this ordinance sets up the Mayor and City Council to have their own legal representation. He expressed he would like to see an alignment between the residents, the council, and the management. Mayor Young stated this full-time employee would attend city meetings and update the council from there.

Mr. Peterson stated he is in favor of another set of ears and more opinions.

Mrs. Lauret expressed her concern with hiring someone she's never met and the fact that they've never held an open hiring process for this position. Mr. Peterson stated they don't have time to do a full hiring process. Mrs. Lauret responded that she'd rather take the time to do it right.

Mr. Lambson stated he does not know anything about the selected individual and does not want to hire him sight unseen. He stated he wishes they had time to vet this individual.

Mrs. Millett stated because of the situation the city is in, they need to get this process done as soon as possible. She finished by expressing her support for additional legal perspective.

Mr. Peterson stated they have to get the moratorium issue right and asked why they would not bring another set of legal expertise into the situation.

General discussion ensued regarding the timeline and process of the moratorium lawsuit.

Mayor Young gave a brief summary of Mr. Riddle's resume and stated he feels the individual is well qualified.

Mr. Spencer stated he supports having an extra-legal opinion.

Mr. Macdonald stated he was not in favor of this resolution, but felt the votes were already there to pass it, and suggested they make a motion.

Mrs. Schriever presented amendments made to the proposed Resolution as previously discussed.

Mr. Peterson moved to by Resolution to Establish the Office of Legislative Counsel and Appoint a Director to the Mayor and City Council as amended on the record. **Mrs. Millet seconded** the motion. Those voting aye: David A. Young, Terry Peterson, David Spencer, Jeff Lambson, and LaNae Millet. Those voting nay: Debbie Lauret and Tom Macdonald. The motion **passed**.

COMMUNICATION ITEMS

No communication items at this time.

CITY MANAGER INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Davidson updated the council on the Hillcrest Park and the water tank project on 4th west. He also updated the council on issues with Covid testing at Timpanogos Hospital. Mr. Davidson concluded by stating they are moving forward with projects such as city center upgrades and city rebranding.

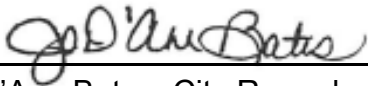
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting. **Mr. Macdonald seconded** the motion. Those voting aye: David A. Young, Debby Lauret, Jeff Lambson, Tom Macdonald, Terry Peterson, David Spencer, and LaNae Millet. The motion **passed**.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.



Approved: January 25, 2022


JoD'Ann Bates, City Recorder