Minutes of the Centerville City Council work session held Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor
Clark Wilkinson

Council Members
Tamilyn Fillmore (arrived 5:45 p.m.)
William Ince
Stephanie Ivie
George McEwan
Robyn Mecham

STAFF PRESENT
Brant Hanson, City Manager
Lisa Romney, City Attorney
Jacob Smith, Management Services Director
Mackenzie Wood, City Recorder
Paul Child, Centerville Police Chief
Bruce Cox, Parks & Recreation Director (arrived 6:15 p.m.)
Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

FLUORIDE DISCUSSION

Lisa Romney, City Attorney, informed the Council of the statutory procedures and options to place the fluoride matter on the ballot. One way is for citizens to file an initiative petition. Any initiative to reconsider adding fluoride to the public water supply would need to be a County-wide initiative. The initiative process would need to begin early to meet the April 15th signed-packet deadline. Another option is for the County to place this matter on the ballot as a ballot question. This option requires action by the County Commission and would most likely be an option for consideration at the 2020 County election. Ms. Romney said Brian Hatch, Davis County Director of Health, is planning to make a presentation at the Council of Governments (COG) meeting in July or August. Councilmember Fillmore said she hopes the goal would be to include the initiative on the 2020 ballot. Brant Hanson, City Manager, said it will depend on how many cities support the initiative. Ms. Romney said in the 2000 election, the County-wide vote was 52% in favor of adding fluoride and 48% against, and the Centerville vote was 50% in favor and 49% against. In the 2004 election, the County-wide vote was 51% in favor of continuing to add fluoride and 49% against, and the Centerville vote was 51.18% in favor and 48.82% against. Councilmember Fillmore commented that more information about fluoridated water is available now than at the time of the previous elections.

BUDGET ISSUES

Annual Green Waste Collection

In recent years, Centerville has moved away from an annual curbside green waste collection and offered two drop-off locations within the City on select weekends in spring, largely due to information received from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Hanson reported that Farmington and Bountiful are the only two cities he contacted that still offer an annual curbside green waste pickup. Farmington is awaiting an EPA audit. Many cities Mr. Hanson contacted offer citizens city-funded vouchers for green waste drop-off at the landfill. West Bountiful and North Salt Lake both offer one drop-off location twice a year.
Mr. Hanson commented that the $2 per can increase implemented by Wasatch Integrated Waste Management will help fund equipment that will separate green waste from regular waste. Because the Council chose not to increase the rates for Centerville citizens enough to cover the $2 increase as well as all associated administrative costs in FY 2020, there will not be sufficient balance in the Sanitation Fund to cover spring green waste collection. Spring green waste collection would need to be paid from General Fund balance.

Councilmember Ince said he does not think it makes sense to go back to curbside collection having already made the change. He said it makes sense to figure out a way to lengthen the drop-off period and make the drop-off experience easier. Councilmember Mecham said she is not in favor of the voucher approach because a $5 voucher would not make a big difference to individuals, but would add up fast for the City. She added that providing a voucher does not help citizens who do not have a truck or trailer to take the green waste to the landfill. Councilmember Fillmore agreed that success of the drop-off arrangement is dependent on those who have trucks helping those who do not. She said she believes it is less likely individuals would be able or willing to help if the drop-off location were outside City boundaries. It was suggested that part-time temporary help to monitor the drop-off areas would be a good idea. A majority of the Council indicated they are in favor of continuing with drop-off locations within Centerville, with improvements made.

Electronic Sign for Front of City Hall

Jacob Smith, Management Services Director, reported that an electronic sign for the front of City Hall similar to the sign in West Bountiful would cost between $30,000 and $40,000, with a $50 per month maintenance agreement. An electronic sign is not included in the FY 2020 Tentative Budget. The Council discussed the fact that all City departments would benefit, and discussed which Funds could cover the $30,000 expense. Mr. Smith was directed to prepare a funding recommendation. Ms. Romney pointed out that an Ordinance amendment may be necessary to allow an electronic sign on Main Street.

URBAN DEER DISCUSSION

Continuing a discussion from the June 4, 2019 work session, Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has legal responsibility for management of urban deer, but has not been willing/able to take care of the urban deer problem in Centerville. Mr. Cox explained the time required of staff from multiple departments over the last three years in the effort to control the urban deer population within Centerville, and the restrictions involved, with limited success. He estimated that hundreds of hours were spent by both staff and volunteer citizens. Councilmember Fillmore suggested a record of the number of hours and the cost involved would be helpful.

Mr. Cox suggested one option would be to contract with an independent company that would handle every aspect of the urban deer control process. The contractor would work with the DWR, and would only hunt on public property. The cost would be approximately $2,800 per year. The contractor could be hired by individual property owners to remove deer on private property. Another option would be to work with the Utah Mule Deer Foundation, which has had some success in relocation efforts. The Council and staff discussed property owner versus City responsibility in eliminating urban deer.

Chief Child said ten automobile versus deer accidents were reported in Centerville last year. Responding to a request made by Councilmember Mecham at a previous meeting, Mr.
Cox said he learned cities have not had good success with sterilization efforts. Chief Child said the majority of deer killed in the last three years through the Urban Deer Control Program were on large properties on the north end of town. Killing deer safely in residential neighborhoods with small yards is a challenge. He said in his opinion increasing the number of approved hunters would reduce control and increase liability. He said he would be willing to allow property owners to kill deer on their own property if they go through the City Urban Deer Control process.

Chief Child said he would be willing to take over management of the City Urban Deer Control Program from the Parks and Recreation Department because he considers the urban deer to be a public safety concern. He said he likes the idea of the City overseeing efforts and providing contact information for independent contractors to property owners interested in paying for the service. Mr. Hanson suggested a hybrid approach of continuing to work with volunteers, and contracting with an independent company to help the situation. Councilmember Ince suggested that municipalities, through the Utah League of Cities and Towns, should put pressure on the State to alter limitations. Staff will move forward with renewing the COR, and will present cost options at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:55 p.m., Councilmember Ince made a motion to adjourn the work session. Councilmember McEwan seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0).