Minutes of the Centerville City Council meeting held Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor

Paul A. Cutler

Council Members

William Ince Stephanie Ivie George McEwan Robyn Mecham

**MEMBER ABSENT** 

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STAFF PRESENT

Steve Thacker, City Manager

Blaine Lutz, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager

Lisa Romney, City Attorney Marsha Morrow, City Recorder

Randy Randall, Public Works Director Dave Walker, Drainage Utility Supervisor

Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

STAFF ABSENT

Jacob Smith, Assistant to the City Manager

**VISITORS** 

Brian McKenzie, Davis County

Curtis Koch, Davis County

Interested citizens (see attached sign-in sheet)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Maxwell Dodge, BSA Troop 7121

PRAYER OR THOUGHT

Mayor Cutler

# OPEN SESSION

Steven Weed - Mr. Weed stated he has become aware of the Trails Committee proposal to construct a mountain bike switchback trail on the hillside across the street from his home. He explained that he is against this proposal, mainly because of the likelihood that the sensitive hillside would be destabilized. He said he would also not want the street to turn into a parking lot for mountain bikers. Mr. Weed said the neighborhood has recently experienced a number of break-ins, and he is concerned about inviting an element that would not be desirable.

Patricia Marsh - Referring to the Trails Committee proposal to construct a mountain bike trailhead on Island View Drive, Ms. Marsh said she uses the hillside daily and is aware of the unstable slope. She expressed concern regarding erosion, and the fact that Island View Drive is not zoned as a community parking lot. Ms. Marsh pointed out that an area for recreational parking is already designated nearby on 100 South. She said she is opposed to a mountain bike trailhead so close to a residential neighborhood.

Kayleen Weed - Ms. Weed pointed out that Twin Hollows has a mountain biking trail with parking. She said she has experience with the unstable hillside - the hill is totally sand and would erode with bike use, eventually ending in flooding.

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Lori Love - Ms. Love said she has young children. She said there are already fourwheeler users that race up and down Island View Drive, and she is concerned that a trail head would bring additional four-wheeler users and add to the danger for residents.

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## MINUTES REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE

The minutes of the January 3, 2017 work session and regular Council meeting were reviewed. Councilman McEwan requested an amendment to the regular Council meeting minutes. Councilman Ince made a **motion** to approve the January 3, 2017 work session minutes and regular meeting minutes as amended. Councilman McEwan seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

## **SUMMARY ACTION CALENDAR**

- a. Ron Schultz Subdivision Commence Warranty
- b. Amendments to Personnel Policies Resolution No. 2017-01
- c. Accept Public Utility Easement for Rohletter Small Subdivision
- d. Approve Public Improvements Deferral Agreement for Lot 10 of the Duncan Hills Subdivision Amended

Councilwoman Mecham pointed out that the address listed in the staff report for the Ron Schultz Subdivision is incorrect. Staff agreed to amend the address. Councilman Ince made a **motion** to approve all items on the Summary Action Calendar as amended. Councilwoman Mecham seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

#### 2017 MUNICIPAL ELECTION - VOTE-BY-MAIL RECOMMENDATION

Marsha Morrow, City Recorder, introduced Brian McKenzie and Curtis Koch representing Davis County. She informed the Council that beginning this year Davis County will only administer the vote-by-mail option for elections. She explained reasons in favor of the vote-by-mail option, and reasons against the city running its own traditional election. Mr. Koch confirmed that the County experienced a turnout of 88.21% of registered voters in the 2016 election, with just over 85% of the voters utilizing the vote-by-mail option. The County's recommended plan includes one polling location in each city that would be consistent from year to year to avoid confusion. Mr. McKenzie stated that with a four-week mailing period, the County found that one-quarter of the ballots were returned in each of the four weeks. With a three-week mailing period, the County found that one-third of the ballots were returned in each of the three weeks. The County has asked for a tentative decision from the cities by February 13, 2017.

Responding to a question from Councilwoman Mecham regarding the cost of the city running its own election, Mr. McKenzie encouraged the Council to remember that the County has a full staff focused on efficient election preparation, with years of experience. Councilwoman lvie said she is disappointed at the loss of traditional voting, and said she feels the vote-by-mail method trivializes voting rights a little bit. Councilwoman lvie talked about taking her children with her to the polls as a teaching experience. She said she realizes the efficiency and cost effectiveness, but she feels vote-by-mail caters to heavily-funded candidates. Councilwoman Mecham said she worries that citizens will receive the ballot in the mail and color in the circles without researching the options, whereas with the traditional method citizens had to make an effort to vote. Councilman McEwan stated that most people do not pay attention to the issues until the week prior to Election Day, and he feels there are a lot of people who will just check boxes and mail the ballot back. He agreed that the vote-by-mail option trivializes voting in a way.

Mr. Koch agreed that candidates will need to rethink how they reach out to the voting public. The County has tried to help facilitate that by hosting a website where each candidate can place a 200-word or less bio, as well as a link to personal websites. Mr. McKenzie stated

the election system cannot be hacked because it is not networked. Responding to Councilwoman Ivie, Mr. McKenzie said he understands the nostalgic feeling of going to a polling location, but he explained that when he receives the ballot in the mail he sits down to discuss the issues and candidates at home with his children. The method is different, but can still be meaningful. He repeated that polling locations will still be available. Mr. McKenzie recommended the Council allow the voting public to decide for themselves what they want to do with their ballot. Councilwoman Ivie said she feels taking the exit poll and discussing it with her children is a valuable learning experience.

The Mayor expressed the opinion that higher voter involvement is better, and recommended the Council choose to contract with the County to facilitate the 2017 election. Councilwoman Mecham asked why the polling location is at a school with school in session, rather than City Hall. Mr. McKenzie responded that the slope of the City Hall parking lot does not meet accessible parking requirements. Mr. Koch said the County is working on finding a different polling location other than the school.

The Council expressed a desire to have time to get more information before making a decision. The issue will be placed on the agenda for the first meeting in February. Councilman ince asked staff to put together estimates of the cost of doing an election as it has been done in the past.

## STORMWATER REGULATIONS AND IMPACTS ON CITY OPERATIONS

Dave Walker, Drainage Utility Supervisor, briefed the Council on Federal stormwater regulations and their impact on City operations, and answered questions from the Council.

## **GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**

For many years the City has offered a green waste curbside pickup service in the spring. Residents are allowed to place green waste in the gutter for pickup by the City's contractor over a two-week period. Placing this debris in the street is contrary to the City's own stormwater regulations, which are intended to protect the quality of stormwater runoff and operational condition of the drainage system. Debris in the streets also interferes with garbage pickup and mail delivery. Mr. Walker explained that the estimated cost for the annual spring curbside pickup for 2017 is about \$35,000. Although the spring curbside pickup is extremely popular, Mr. Walker explained that staff recommend it is time to discontinue a practice that is at odds with City regulations. Staff propose three alternatives to the current practice in Centerville:

 Provide residents with vouchers to pay the tipping fee when they haul their own green waste to the landfill.

 Allow residents to haul their green waste to the Public Works/Parks Maintenance Facility on designated days. A contractor would be hired to bring in a tub grinder, grind the green waste, and haul it off.

 Allow residents to haul their green waste to two designated locations at City parks on designated days. A contractor would be hired to bring in a tub grinder, grind the green waste, and haul it off.

Council members expressed concern that many citizens do not have access to a vehicle that could haul green waste to a separate location. Councilman McEwan commented that the spring pickup service helps with beautification of the entire city. Councilman Ince pointed out that, in addition to beautification, the cleanup helps the city qualify for wildfire insurance with the State. Mr. Walker expressed confidence in the volunteer spirit within the community. Mr. Thacker said he believes individuals and groups in the community would step up and help their

neighbors if given enough notice. The suggestion to change is prompted by the annual violation of ordinances, with the cost being a secondary consideration.

Mayor Cutler pointed out that eventually the city will have to make a change. The Council discussed ways to continue providing the service. Mr. Walker commented that many citizens would be able to fit the green waste in their own green waste cans if the spring pickup is moved to the parks or does not happen. Councilman McEwan suggested the Council leave the program alone this year, and educate citizens so they can plan ahead for a change next year. Mayor Cutler suggested moving the service to the parks this year, with the intention to discontinue the spring pickup beginning next year. The Mayor pointed out that a fee-based fall cleanup is already in place, and asked why the spring cleanup could not be the same. Blaine Lutz, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, responded that the spring pickup has been in place long enough that citizens expect it to happen. Only 10-15 households have participated in the fall pickup in the last several years. Mr. Lutz suggested a notice be included in the community brochure emphasizing that material cannot be put in the street more than one week prior to the pickup. Councilwoman Mecham suggested offering the service in the parks, with the option that citizens could pay \$10-\$15 for curbside pickup.

Councilman McEwan asked what the Council needs to do to get a permitted use during the spring pickup to be ordinance compliant. Staff discussed requirements that would have to be met, emphasizing that compliance would really be unmanageable. Mr. Thacker said he is willing to support Councilman McEwan's idea of continuing the service this year, with education that a change will occur next year. Councilman McEwan made a **motion** to leave the spring green waste collection in place for 2017, with instruction to begin education that the service will move to the parks in 2018. Councilman Ince seconded the motion, which failed (2-3), with Council members McEwan and Ince in favor, Council members Mecham and Ivie against, and Mayor Cutler voting against. Councilman Ince made a **motion** to begin community education, offer the service free at selected parks and offer curbside pickup for a \$15 fee to be implemented as well as possible in 2017, with either park-only or no service at all next year depending on results this year. Councilwoman Ivie seconded the motion. Staff and the Council discussed the logistics of implementing the motion. At 9:44 p.m., Mayor Cutler opened an impromptu public hearing.

<u>Spencer Dodge</u> – Mr. Dodge commented that placing yard waste in the park strips instead of the street might minimize the stormwater concern. Mr. Walker responded that the equipment used to collect the green waste rips up grass and sprinklers in park strips. Mr. Dodge said he feels it would be okay if the city does not offer the service.

The motion passed (3-1), with Councilman McEwan dissenting. Mr. Lutz stated that staff will try to implement the motion, but he predicted it will be a disaster this spring.

At 9:49 p.m. the Council took a break, returning at 10:00 p.m. Staff explained difficulties associated with the motion that passed, and recommended the Council reconsider. Following further discussion, Councilman Ince made a **motion** to reconsider the motion on the advice of staff. Councilwoman Ivie seconded the motion to reconsider, which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

Councilman McEwan made a **motion** to maintain the spring green waste pickup in 2017, and instruct staff to educate citizens on stormwater regulations and the change that beginning in 2018 the green waste service will be offered only at selected City parks. Councilwoman Ivie seconded the motion, which passed by majority vote (3-1), with Councilwoman Mecham dissenting.

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#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- UTOPIA financial statements are included with the agenda on NovusAgenda.
- Mayor Cutler updated the Council regarding plans for the Centerville Fire Station.

#### **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Councilman McEwan explained that the Mosquito Abatement Board is concerned about possible legislation that would require all boards to be election based, including the Mosquito Abatement Board. Councilman McEwan stated he is not in support of such legislation. He stated there may also be legislation regarding the ability of special districts to bond.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Mr. Thacker showed proposed changes to the Marketplace Drive/Parrish Lane intersection and the 400 West/Parrish Lane intersection. Funding applications are due to Wasatch Front Regional Council by Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The Council will meet in a work session on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Council is invited to submit comments regarding the 2017 community brochure until Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Romney stated a revised Municipal Code will be ready for Council review sometime in February.

## **OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS TRAINING**

The Council chose to table the training to a future meeting due to the late hour.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:33 p.m. Councilwoman Ivie made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Ince seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

Marsha L. Morrow, City Recorder

2-7-2017 Date Approved

Katle Rust, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Centerville City Council work session held Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Centerville City Council Chambers, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor

Paul A. Cutler

Council Members

William Ince Stephanie Ivie George McEwan Robyn Mecham

MEMBERS ABSENT

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**STAFF PRESENT** 

Steve Thacker, City Manager Lisa Romney, City Attorney Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

**STAFF ABSENT** 

Blaine Lutz, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager

Jacob Smith, Assistant to the City Manager

**VISITORS** 

Senator Todd Weiler

Representative Tim Hawkes (arrived at 5:47 p.m.)

Senator Stuart Adams (arrived at 6:00 p.m.)

## **WORK SESSION WITH STATE LEGISLATORS REPRESENTING CENTERVILLE**

<u>Cemetery Expansion Update</u> — City Manager Thacker updated the Council on staff research regarding the options for expanding cemetery space. He suggested that a terraced approach to a retention wall on the west side of the cemetery may be financially feasible. Councilman McEwan asked about the possibility of partnering with the County for memorial park space on the County-owned property on 100 South. Staff is compiling a list of plot owners who may be interested in selling unused cemetery plots back to the City, if City ordinances were altered to allow the City to re-purchase the plots at current rates.

Online Sales Tax – The Mayor and Council members discussed the need for online sales tax legislation with Senator Weiler and Representative Hawkes. The Legislators said they do not expect the Legislature to take further action this year considering Governor Herbert's recent agreement with Amazon. Senator Weiler expressed the opinion that this is an issue that should be addressed by Congress. Mr. Thacker emphasized that he would not be in support of action that would make collection of online sales tax revenue neutral for the cities. Senator Weiler said he feels there is no logical policy argument as to why online sales should be tax-free.

<u>Education Spending</u> – Responding to a question from Councilman McEwan, the Legislators explained that State and local school boards are responsible for education spending, and are the groups that should be questioned regarding financial accountability.

<u>Land-Use Task Force</u> – As a member of the State Land-Use Task Force, City Attorney Lisa Romney said she would encourage that any legislation regarding land use be submitted to the Land-Use Task Force for review.

Need For Connecting Road on West Side – Mayor Cutler emphasized the need for a connecting road on the west side of the freeway to connect with Farmington – a need that will increase when the new high school opens in Farmington. Representative Hawkes mentioned a few factors that may help resolve transportation issues in Northern Utah.

<u>Parrish Lane Corridor</u> – Mr. Thacker reported that UDOT has spent a significant amount of money in the last six months studying the Parrish Lane corridor. Significant congestion has been documented at the Marketplace Drive/Parrish Lane intersection and the 400 West/Parrish Lane intersection. He described some of the options being considered to improve traffic flow.

<u>Hillside Recreation</u> – Mayor Cutler mentioned that the City is hoping to partner with the County to further develop recreation on the hillside.

<u>Legislative Issues</u> – The Legislators reported on upcoming Legislative issues that might impact Centerville, including air quality and changes to the juvenile justice system.

<u>Crosswalks on Main Street</u> – As a Centerville crossing guard, Councilwoman Mecham asked for help in working with UDOT to get approval for a device that would allow crossing guards to activate school zone signals remotely on Main Street. Senator Adams asked her to send him an email with information he can use to contact UDOT.

The Legislators gave the Council and staff their contact information, and Mayor Cutler adjourned the work session at 6:54 p.m.

**Date Approved** 

Katle Rust Record

Kathe Rust, Recording Secretary