

MINUTES
HIGHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

Highland City Council Chambers, 5378 West 10400 North, Highland, Utah 84003

PRESENT: Mayor Jay W. Franson, conducting
Councilperson Brian Brunson
Councilperson Steve King
Councilperson Kathryn Schramm
Councilperson Claudia Stillman
Councilperson Glen Vawdrey

STAFF PRESENT: Barry Edwards, City Administrator
David Church, City Attorney
Gina Peterson, City Recorder
Lonnie Crowell, Community Development Director
Matt Shipp, City Engineer
Lynn W. Ruff, Finance Director
Jody Bates, Administrative Assistant
Kip Botkin, Police Chief

OTHERS: Craig Carson, Carol Carson, Tony Peckson, Kevin Pace, Vern Hancock, Jamie Brown, Thomas Nelson, James Nelson, Brontae Underwood, Debra Robinson Underwood, Craig Hendricks, Alyssa Lloyd, Tanner Jarrett, Bradlee Emery, Jacob Elder, Caleb McCurry, Brian Nishomoto, Scott Oldroyd, Connor Wood, Rachel Ruff, and Lauren Jones.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jay W. Franson as a regular session at 7:05 p.m., and notice of the time, place, and agenda had been provided the *Deseret Morning News*, *Daily Herald*, *Salt Lake Tribune*, and *Lone Peak Press* on December 13, 2007. The prayer was offered by City Councilmember Kathryn Schramm, and those assembled were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilmember Glen Vawdrey.

Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2007

MOTION: Steve King moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2007 City Council meeting with minor amendments. Claudia Stillman seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Brian Brunson, Steve King, Kathryn Schramm, Claudia Stillman, and Glen Vawdrey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Appearances

Mayor Franson invited comments from the public regarding items not on the agenda.

Larry Mendenhall, Councilmember-Elect, suggested the City establish a gateway preservation corridor at all gateways to the city. He stated this would be a positive way for the city to beautify open space at

the gateways into the City. He expressed concern that a large east/west highway would eradicate some of the attraction in these areas if something isn't done now.

Claudia Stillman expressed appreciation for outgoing Councilmembers Steve King and Glen Vawdrey as this was their last meeting. She stated she has great respect for the integrity they have shown in their positions.

Consent Calendar

The following item was **removed** from the consent calendar to be discussed with scheduled items:

- Approval of the City Council meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2008

There were no other consent items for approval.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Consideration of an Increase to the Mayor and City Council Compensation

Barry Edwards indicated it was prior to 2004 that the compensation for Highland City elected officials was adjusted. As the city grows the commitment required of elected officials on behalf of the public increases. Staff recommends a 26% increase which reflects a 14% increase corresponding to the past cost of living and a forward increase of 12% representing an increase of time and effort to effectively act as a mayor and city council. This would make the Mayor's annual salary \$12,600 and the City Council annual salary \$9,072 per year.

Mayor Franson opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Glen Vawdrey stated he understands the work required of a City Councilmember since he has done the job the past four years. He said it is hard to foresee the time future City Councilmembers will spend. He feels it would be beneficial to have comparisons of elected official salaries from other communities. Mr. Vawdrey stated the community does not perceive a City Council position as a second job, rather as community service.

Kathryn Schramm stated she agrees with Mr. Vawdrey's comments. She indicated she is not comfortable voting for an increase that she would receive. She feels Councilmembers should continue to be compensated for mileage and phone calls and that the current salary accomplishes that.

No other comments were received and the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the City Council meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2008

MOTION: Glen Vawdrey moved to approve the City Council meeting schedule for the Calendar Year 2008. Kathryn Schramm seconded the motion.

MOTION TO AMEND: Brian Brunson moved to amend the motion to strike the meetings scheduled for July 1 and December 16, and add a meeting on Wednesday, November 5. Glen

Vawdrey seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Brian Brunson, Steve King, Kathryn Schramm, Claudia Stillman, and Glen Vawdrey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

AMENDED MOTION: To approve the City Council meeting schedule with the amendments of striking the meetings scheduled for July 1 and December 16, and adding a meeting on Wednesday, November 5. Those voting aye: Brian Brunson, Steve King, Kathryn Schramm, Claudia Stillman, and Glen Vawdrey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 5: Economic Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 9: Senior Housing Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 4: Environmental and Natural Systems Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 1: Introduction and Background Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 7: Community Design Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 8: Parks, Recreation Facilities and Trails of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 6: Affordable Housing Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 2: Land Use Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing the Executive Summary Element of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Consideration and Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Appendix A, B, C, D, E, List of Tables (with the exception of Tables 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5), List of Figures (with the exception of Figures 3-1 through 3-15), and List of Maps (with the exception of Maps 3-1, 3-2), and the Glossary of Terms of the General Plan Update for Highland City

Re-Consideration of a Motion to Adopt the Transportation Element of the 1997 General Plan with One Amendment Indicating 9600 North as a 66 Foot Right-of-Way and Not a Cow Trail for the purpose of replacing Figure VII-1 with the most current and attached “Recommended Transportation Network Map” and for the purpose of adopting the proposed Street Cross Sections illustrated as “Figure 3-8 through Figure 3-14” on pages 3-13 through page 3-15 as submitted in the General Plan Update Draft dated December 18, 2007

Mayor Franson stated he would personally and publicly like to thank the staff for the draft General Plan document that was produced. He acknowledged the tremendous amount of effort that went into the document. He stated the General Plan revision process has been ongoing for well over a year. Much input has been provided. While he knows the General Plan is extremely important, he expressed his feeling that over the last few months it has exceeded its importance. The General Plan is a concept plan. The real work begins after adoption of the General Plan by putting the framework into ordinances.

The Mayor apologized for personally not being prepared to move forward with the General Plan tonight. He asked staff and the City Council to enjoy the holidays and then refocus on the issue after. He pulled the General Plan items from the agenda.

Mr. Edwards requested the City Council keep their General Plan copies as duplicate copies would be hard to reproduce. Lonnie Crowell indicated the draft copy was also available on the City's website.

Approval for Mayor, City Council and District Court Judge to enroll under City Health Insurance Policy

On and off over the past few years the issue of providing City health insurance to elected officials has been discussed. This proposal would enable the City Council to enroll in the City's health insurance; however the City would not pay the premiums. That responsibility would be borne by the person obtaining coverage. A former justice court judge was allowed to be on city insurance and may have set a past precedence. If approved, this would create a "qualifying event" and City Councilmembers could enroll for the insurance similar to when a new employee is hired.

MOTION: Kathryn Schramm moved to allow the Mayor, City Council and Justice Court Judge to enroll under the City health insurance policy with all expenses, including premiums, to be paid by the individuals. Glen Vawdrey seconded the motion.

Kathryn Schramm stated she thinks this is a good idea and that once a Councilmember is no longer on the City Council, they may be eligible for COBRA.

Mr. Edwards stated Highland City is very fortunate to have a young workforce which has contributed to lower healthcare rates. There is a potential that the class of individuals on the City Council may reflect a difference in the rates.

Steve King expressed concern that this may create a position where the desire to serve on City Council is looked at as a secondary or even primary job. He acknowledged that if the premiums were being paid for by the City Councilmember it would offset that concern.

Brian Brunson stated he was the one that suggested the City Council look at this issue. Previously he was insured with a large national corporation and he approached the Mayor to see if he could join the City's insurance if he paid all his expenses. He noted that even being insured under the City's umbrella his personal premiums would be extensive. He asked if an overall increase in claims would affect premiums. Mr. Edwards replied that the City is not rated that way, it is actuarially based.

Mayor Franson called for a vote on the motion. Those voting aye: Steve King, Kathryn Schramm, Claudia Stillman, and Glen Vawdrey. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4:0. Brian Brunson abstained from voting.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Change Orders #16, 17, 18 & 19 – Highland Fire Station – Peck Ormsby

Peck Ormsby has submitted a change orders (#16-19) for the following Fire Station changes:

- Change the Key Cylinders to match the City Hall and Justice Center in the amount of \$2,636.26
- Credit in the amount of \$590.57
- Material and Labor to add shelving to the fireman bunkers, laundry room and storage areas in the amount of \$44,268.05
- Upgrade acoustical ceiling, add chair rails to various rooms, change the carpet, change the sign lettering and add and engraved address block in the amount of \$22,310.46

Mr. Edwards stated he has reviewed all changes with the architect.

Change Order #10 – Highland City Hall & Justice Center – Peck Ormsby

Peck Ormsby has submitted a change order (#10) for the following City Hall & Justice Center changes:

- Additional equipment and work for the security and audio/visual system in the amount of \$115,941.84

Mr. Edwards indicated this change order deals with security of the building and inside the City Council chambers. He noted some of the costs, related to video broadcasting, will be reimbursed through Comcast.

Brian Brunson asked how this change order would affect the overall budget for the building. Mr. Edwards indicated the projects are slightly over budget; however some funds will be reimbursed. The City also has some accrued interest from the bond that can be used.

Car Allowance Increase

The City grants a car allowance to some executive management staff for which a vehicle is not provided. The car allowance is designed to offset the cost of personal vehicle use. It is generally cheaper for the city and is viewed as a prerequisite by the employee. The city council will be asked to adopt a uniform policy for increases based on IRS vehicle mileage rates.

When Glen Vawdrey asked which three employees receive vehicle allowance, Mr. Edwards responded himself, Matt Shipp, and Lonnie Crowell. It was noted the amounts of allowance vary. General questions regarding insurance costs and the ability to take vehicles home were discussed.

Approval of the Joint Purchase Agreement for the American Fork Debris Basin

For some time the city has been working with Utah County, American Fork and Cedar Hills to purchase the Debris Basin at the mouth of American Fork Canyon. Utah County has agreed to accept \$310,000 for the purchase, even though appraisal costs came in higher. Highland's portion would be \$103,333. The County has asked for acceptance of the offer by January 15, 2008. Highland City and American Fork are in the process of establishing a maintenance agreement which would need to include Cedar Hills.

Claudia Stillman asked the funding source for the purchase. Mr. Edwards indicated the City would use the existing storm water funds.

Brian Brunson asked if the maintenance agreement would be presented at the same time and Mr. Edwards replied yes.

INFORMATION

REPORT – Timpanogos Special Service District

Glen Vawdrey reported TSSD had a very short meeting which included Christmas dinner and other minor business.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Franson stated he has been pushing to get the General Plan completed for the benefit of those serving on the current Council. However, with both Councilmembers-elect having been directly involved on a Planning Commission level the City is not losing a lot of institutional background. He reemphasized the effort that staff put into the General Plan. He stated staff understands their role to serve the City Council and Mayor, but also to serve the citizens of Highland.

Mayor Franson then expressed personal thanks to Councilmembers King and Vawdrey. He has appreciated their efforts and hard work over the last two years he has served with them.

Kathryn Schramm reiterated the Mayor's comments and expressed her appreciation to Councilmembers King and Vawdrey.

Glen Vawdrey stated it is bittersweet for this to be his last meeting. People make his job fun, including the interactions he has had with staff. He stated it says a lot that the Council has been able to disagree and still remain friends.

Brian Brunson noted he has worked with Steve King and Glen Vawdrey for 11 years of civic service. Many citizens will never realize the work these men have done. He stated he hopes they will continue to be involved.

Steve King stated the City Council considers each other friends. He also found it amazing that he went through an election cycle where he considered his opponents as friends. He can't imagine many other cities that would happen. The City Council is there for no other reason than to serve the community. He stated there isn't a right or wrong, just opinions. He said it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the city.

Additional sentiments were given about the greatness of Highland.

ADJOURNMENT

Glen Vawdrey moved to adjourn. Steve King seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Gina Peterson, City Recorder

Date Approved: February 5, 2008