



MINUTES – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

City of Saratoga Springs

City of Saratoga Springs City Offices

1307 North Commerce Drive, Suite 200, Saratoga Springs, Utah 84045

City Council Policy Meeting

Call to Order: Mayor Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Pursuant to the COVID-19 Federal Guidelines, this Meeting will be conducted electronically.

Present Mayor Jim Miller, Council Members Stephen Willden, Ryan Poduska, Michael McOmber, Chris Porter and Christopher Carn.

Staff Present City Manager Mark Christensen, City Attorney Kevin Thurman, City Manager Owen Jackson, Planning Director David Stroud, Finance Director Chelese Rawlings, Budget Coordinator Spencer Quain, Public Works Director Jeremy Lapin, City Engineer Gordon Miner, Fire Chief Jess Campbell, and Deputy City Recorder Kayla Moss.

Invocation: Council Member Willden

Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member McOmber

Public Input: Nicholas Whiting mentioned there was a sewer backup on January 13, 2021 in their basement. It was the result of a mainline backup in the City. They asked the council to review the city's insurance policies and consider reviewing the decision that was given to them.

Steven Hansen from the Local Government's Trust commented that he recognizes that these are sensitive situations and very hard situations. It is the insurance companies responsibility to review each claim and make sure that they are following all guidelines of the policy.

Jeff Rowley agreed that it was an awful situation. It is the insurance company's responsibility to make sure the City is paying out claims that need to be paid and protecting the money that isn't liable to be paid. It would have to be shown that the City was being negligible in the situation. The system was shown to be maintained and has not shown that there have been any backups. There have been more cleanings and inspections than would normally be done. There was no sign that the City was negligent. It looks as though the backup was caused due to wipes in the system that are known to be problematic. There were roots in the pipe that could have caught things but the City cleaned the system out as soon as possible.

REPORTS:

Council Member Porter advised there was an accident at Foothill Boulevard and Pioneer Crossing yesterday. There has been a lot of concern about that intersection. He asked that staff reaches out to UDOT to see if any safety measures can be taken. He has been hearing from Riverview Elementary community that Rive homes has begun construction across the street from the elementary. There is concern about the trail and pathway that is usually used there that has been impacted by the construction.

Council Member Carn commented on HB364. He thanked the staff for the work that was done. It was held in committee and he doesn't think it will come back up this session.

Council Member Willden thinks that the Utah League of Cities and Towns did a great job this year to help the City out.

Mayor Miller advised that he did a tour of a business this week. They are interested in moving to Saratoga Springs. If they do decide to move to the City it would bring in about 70 jobs. He would like to start having full in person meetings at the first meeting of May.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- 1) **Crossroads Boulevard Widening Change Order No. 3; Resolution R21-14 (3-2-21).**
- 2) **Minutes of February 16, 2021.**

Motion by Council Member Porter to approve items 1 and 2 of the consent agenda as specified in the staff report was seconded by Council Member Carn.

Vote: Council Members McOmber, Porter, Poduska, Willden, and Carn - Aye
Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1) FY 2022 Budget Discussion.

Council Member McOmber mentioned that he didn't see a lot of things that would be "no's" in the budget. He wants to make sure residents realize why everything is approved and why things aren't denied.

City Manager Christensen advised that they work very hard to make sure the departments aren't asking for things that they know won't be approved. They tried to be as conservative as possible in their requests.

Council Member Willden advised that he always looks for the increase of expenses versus the increase in expected revenues. He thinks that there are both conservative revenue trends and expense requests.

Public Works Director Jeremy Lapin added that as a department director they filter a lot of requests before they are put in the budget. They have already been told that they can't include certain things so they aren't included in the budget.

CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Council Member McOmber to enter into closed session for the purchase, exchange, or lease of property, discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems; pending or reasonably imminent litigation, the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, was seconded by Council Member Carn.

Motion Carried Council Members Unanimously in Favor

The meeting moved to closed session at 6:49 p.m.

Present: Mayor Miller, Council Members Willden, Carn, Porter, Poduska, McOmber, City Manager Mark Christensen, City Attorney Kevin Thurman, Deputy City Recorder Kayla Moss, and Assistant City Manager Owen Jackson.

Closed Session adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.


Jim Miller, Mayor

Attest:


Cindy LoPiccolo, City Recorder

Approved: *3-16-21*

