

COUNCIL WORK MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2021

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Maile Wilson Edwards; Councilmembers: Ron Adams; Terri Hartley; Scott Phillips.

MEMBER EXCUSED: Councilmembers Craig Isom and Tyler Melling.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Paul Bittmenn; City Attorney Tyler Romeril; City Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; City Engineer Jonathan Stathis; Police Chief Darin Adams; Airport Manager Nick Holt; City Planner Don Boudreau; Fire Chief Mike Phillips.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Henderson, Jace Burgess, Rich Crommie, Marshall Jackson, Dave Clarke, Tom Jett, Heidi Miller, Teri Kenney, Dallas Buckner, Tim Watson, Jim Rushton, Carter Wilkey, Pastor Joe Carroll.

CALL TO ORDER: Pastor Joe Carroll of Calvary Chapel gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Tim Watson.

AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL: Councilmember Phillips moved to approve the agenda order for both the City Council and RDA meetings; second by Councilmember Adams; vote unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF

COMMENTS: ■Phillips – it has been 3 weeks since we met and I want to publically thank the Cedar City Staff that helped with Wreaths Across America on December 19th, we had a huge turnout. I want to offer thanks and congratulations to the City for their support to the Veterans and their families and thank you to the Mayor. I would also like a shout out to the Street Department for the weeds and debris cleaned on Industrial Way. And last, we are so grateful to live in the community we do; we have civil discourse; we can agree and disagree. It was disheartening to see what was happening in the Nation's Capital. I hope as we move to the New Year, we can work together for the betterment of everyone. Here is to a great 2021. ■Mayor – we have a newly elected School Board member and County Officials, we have a new group to work with in the new year, I hope we can all work together and be agreeable. It has been a sad and disheartening day even at our capital. ■Jonathan Stathis – Engineering Department is beginning to update the Engineering Standards, if you have recommendations get those to the Department and we will evaluate them and take to the Planning Commission and City Council. Mayor – I hope the Home Builders and our local Engineers will work with the Engineering Department to collectively work together. ■Paul – we are planning a retreat for the middle of next month, we don't have a date yet. If you have items to discuss let us know. Also, back in March the President of the United States signed a resolution that required employers to give COVID leave time, the City Council adopted those provisions,

one was with the family medical leave act and receive up to 75% of pay because of a school or daycare closing. Also, the City would receive 80 hours COVID leave for full time and part time employees. We have had 57 full-time employees and 30 part-time and 2 volunteers at the Fire Department which has cost us about \$68,000 directly. That whole leave program expired at the end of 2020. The virus has not expired. The question is do you want us to prepare a resolution for next week to extend the portion of the program of COVID leave for full-time and part-time employees. We excluded FMLA because school closures have not been an issue. Do you want us to move them forward? It will not add an additional 80 hours but extend. Other cities have said so many months, the end of March, the end of March or April or when a vaccine is widely available. Phillips – with the CARES Act funding, it was extended to June 30th. If this moves forward, could some of those funds be used to back fill the expended funds? Paul – no, they did not change the rules with the CARES Act funding, only extended the time. We have spent the CARES act money for small businesses, Shakespeare, cleaning facilities, Care and Share and front-line workers, that is used. I don't think the costs associated with COVID are causing us great distress, it doesn't look like it. Most full-time employees also have sick leave, it does help part-time employees. Phillips – it is still uncertain when we will have vaccinations. I think we should help our employees and their families, so I think we should extend it. I like using a date when the vaccination is available. Adams – I was thinking April, we may have a good picture by then with the vaccination numbers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: ■ Teri Kenney – I also appreciate the Wreaths Across America Program, it was very moving program and I was moved to place a wreath on my father's grave. The upcoming efforts to update the General Plan, I am hoping the City will provide adequate funding for advertising; we need a lot of public input for the plan to meet the needs of the City. I think the process has a potential to unify the community if adequately advertised. Everyone should know about it and choose to participate or not rather than hearing where they could have gone to participate. Please fund advertising, there are creative things available. A mailing to let everyone know it is happening and about the survey, a phone survey and then another mailing to know about public hearings so people can participate.

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM:

Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards opened the public hearing and informed those in attendance that, the purpose of this public hearing is to provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grant program and to allow for discussion of possible applications for the 2021 funding cycle. The grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low- and moderate-income persons. The Five County Association of Governments, in which Cedar City is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$907,269 in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Policies and Procedures Manual and interested persons can review it at any time. Examples of eligible activities include construction of public works and facilities such as water and sewer lines and fire stations. Other examples of eligible activities also include acquisition of real property and provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters. In the past Cedar City has received