

COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 15, 2020

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 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; Craig Isom; W. Tyler Melling; Scott Phillips.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Paul Bittmenn; City Engineer Kit Wareham; City Attorney Tyler Romeril; City Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; Police Chief Darin Adams; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Parks & Outdoor Facilities Division Head Wade Orme; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall; Economic Development Director Danny Stewart.

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Hartley, Ron Larsen, Don Oswald, Rhea Church, Julie Robbins, Ed Miller, November Dou, Tom Jett, David Mineer, Dallas Buckner, Joel, Pete Akins, Dallin Staheli, Paul Roelandt, Len Gleim, Debbie Gleim, Rick Hunsaker, Kathy Hunsaker, Janet McCrea, Ruth Stott, Joe Stott, Mark Kenney, Barbara Hunt, Scott Hunt, Teri Kenney, Stephanie Hill, John Hill, Dave Staheli, Kelsey Keener Cooke, Carter Wilkey, Bob Platt, Aleese Cardon, Adam Snow, Maria Twitchell, Dixon Tiffany, Bob Ogie, Ben Davidson, Jacqueline Grant, James Howells, Mary Belle Royer.

CALL TO ORDER: Pastor Pete Akins of Cedar City Foursquare Church gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Councilmember Hartley.

AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL: Councilmember Isom moved to approve the agenda order; second by Councilmember Adams; vote unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF COMMENTS: ■Phillips – I would like to find out, on 200 South none of the fire hydrants have no parking red paint and one with weeds very high, all along 200 South, from Main Street east. ■Employee of the Month, Ed Miller – EAC: Wade Orme – Ed Miller from the Parks Department – Ed has been with the City for 2 years and he phenomenal, someone that can fill in with anything, we have a few injuries and Ed fills in and picks up the slack which is a great asset, especially with the Christmas holidays. He is one with the horrendous wind storm putting the present back up. He is an employee I am grateful to have on my staff. ■Wade Orme, Parks Division Head – the Cemetery is ready to sell niches in the columbarium, it is ready for business. ■Paul – Kenny Nielsen has been working with Jean Loupour regarding issues with Cross Hollows Arena and today she dropped off a check for \$100,000 to go towards the arena projects. We wanted to let you know, she didn't want to come to Council for any recognition.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: ■Dallin Staheli, Ice Rink – I want to give a quick report and then report on what I handed out, see Exhibit "A". It has been another great start to the year, public skating 9304 skaters through the month of December that is on par for the

past 2 years, 68 season passes 50% increase 105 learn to skate participants, 170% increase from last year. Youth hockey registrations are up 40% adult skate is up 15% and private rentals up 15%. We are really happy; it's great to see what is going on. I just came from getting hockey practice started. We are not going to be able to move forward with our plans for the future; we have hit a road block. We had discussions on the contract and don't feel comfortable with, it is not a knee jerk reaction and get input from smart people that know business and have followed the issue, and no one has advised us to move forward. With that we will withdraw our efforts, not in bad faith, no hard feelings; it is an impasse we have come to. It is time for us to call it quits. We have learned things and I hope the City has learned some things, hopefully something else good will come along. In no way is our faith in viability gone away, we feel 100% it would be successful in the community. We are going to give it our all with what we have got. Until you ask us to leave, we will continue to provide what we can in the current facility. Thanks for all the hours and discussion.

Phillips – this is very disappointing; we spent hundreds of hours to make it work. I need to wrap my head around this; it came as a complete surprise to me. Why can't we set down and talk, is it the lease or the fundraising, what is the final nail in the coffin? Dallin – it is the lease, we reached out and it was indicated that there was not an interest in talking further. You know it has been frustrating and challenging process that we have been happy to do. There were concerning things in the lease and the approach that we were not partners, we were tenants. It is challenging for us to move forward and I am not confident we will get there the way we are going. Phillips – a lot of that is terminology, if we really believe it is the best interest of the youth and children to have winter sports, we need to find a way through it. In all respect we govern the city, we have excellent staff, I wish you would have talked with us, I am very disappointed.

Isom a \$2.8 million-dollar commitment said that we were a partner, but it is your choice. How are fundraising going, was it even going to go on that basis? Dallin – those efforts have been suspended. Isom – we would have loved to hear before this. Dallin – no one has more heart and soul than I have. Phillips – this may never happen in the future.

■ Dave Staheli – Dallin asked me not to comment. We don't have any hard feelings, I know there were efforts made to talk to some of the council and there was an interest that they were not willing to discuss it further. The only other thing I want to say is the day the agreement was voted on we made it clear that the terms we would not be able to move forward under those terms. One of the major problems was being able to secure funding or feel confident in securing funding, the shaky ground was staff really discouraged the Council in splitting the \$2.8 million in two parts, Paul and Jason, they said the money was available and were opposed to seeing it split. That became an issue for some of the entities we were working with, the first portion of a cash donation was fine, but the second part could be withdrawn depending on who was on the City Council that put the rest on shaky ground and put it in a precarious situation on those donating funds. It set an attitude problem, and some withdrew from making donations. To me as a business man was unlike any other agreement I have entered into, it was lopsided, some of the provisions I don't think if seeking counsel from Small Business Development Center would have been looked at as a solid agreement in order to get the project done. It is