SPECIAL COUNCIL WORK MINUTES
MAY 12, 2020

The City Council held a meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 1:00 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 Attorney Tyler Romeril; City Recorder Renon Savage; Finance Director Jason Norris; Economic Development Director Danny Stewart; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall; Airport Manager Nick Holt; Water Superintendent Robbie Mitchell; Wastewater Superintendent Eri Bonzo; Street Superintendent Jeff Hunter; Fleet Manager Corey Childs; Events Director Todd Hageman; City Engineer Kit Wareham.

OTHERS PRESENT: Teri Kenney.

Terri Kenney read the following statement: Yesterday Paul Bittmenn mentioned getting some people together to work on code enforcement. I think this is the ideal time. COVID-19 has forced us all to slow down and in some instances come to a complete stand-still. Over the past 2 years I've attended most Planning Commission and City Council meetings. I've met a lot of people and heard some of them approach the City on the issue of Code Enforcement. The following points are my opinions based on the information I have gathered by both attending City meetings and hearing people's comments:

*Police Chief Adams has almost no resources for Code Enforcement. He has one code enforcement officer who divides his time between a number of responsibilities.

*The City needs more Code Enforcement resources. Chief Adams mentioned that Kurt Carpenter, the designated code enforcement officer, spends 1/2 his time delivering subpoenas. I called Kurt a few months ago following a City Council Meeting when a Council member stated that there had been no complaints on a particular issue and people attending the meeting insisted they had called and complained themselves with no response from Code Enforcement. Kurt mentioned responsibilities he has in addition to delivering subpoenas that take priority over code enforcement calls. He said he only logs a complaint if he goes to the location to respond to the complaint. After talking to Kurt, I wondered if he was able to dedicate even 20% of his time to code enforcement.

*The enforcement mechanism of some ordinances is parking. Licensing often requires that the licensee provide off-street parking. When residents approach the City for enforcement they are told that the City doesn't enforce parking and anyone can park on a City street. This is particularly discouraging for residents living around SUU who contend with both the high density of the SHD zone and lack of enforcement.

*Terri Hartley helped some of my friends in my old neighborhood successfully get the code enforcement they needed.
Scott Phillips is currently working with code enforcement to get the Valu Inn cleaned up. Although I appreciate their efforts, it suggests that Code Enforcement becomes a priority only when a City Council member or City official takes on a particular issue as a project.

*Code Enforcement needs dedicated funds in order to successfully address the Code Enforcement needs of Cedar City.

Economic Development: Danny Stewart, Economic Development Director – we have been able to work in the budget we have. There are a few minimal changes that can be absorbed in the existing budget. We have a $119 increase over last year for overtime. Civic Plus expense goes up each year, we were looking at $1,250 increase and we had a previous obligation of $600 that is no longer there. We will keep the same budget from last year.

I have been working with SBRC (SUU) and make local businesses aware of State and Federal help, PPE, rental assistance program and others and continue to look for other help. That has been a big part of our office lately. Several are struggling, especially those in hospitality, especially the lodging. Some restaurants have done well, others have struggled. Small retail and car sales are also struggling. Some manufacturers have had an increase, GenPak does food containers and have been busy as well as B-way, the challenge is the help they need. We are trying to stay in touch with businesses. Next week would be the ICSC international Convention of Shopping Centers in Las Vegas and that has been cancelled. However, I have made contact and made some appointments.

We have been looking at needs of the businesses in opening back up, it is difficult and there are regulations and requirements they have to make. Some of that is safety materials, encouraging customers and employees to have certain behaviors. We have been working with Tourism and Events Coordinator to address this. We want to communicate to residents and those that visit that the businesses are going above and beyond to keep the community safe for employees, customers and visitors. We are in the process of finalizing a packet. From the list of business licensees those with walk in traffic for social distancing, they will have decals for the floor, to provide materials, wash your hand decals, decals for take-out containers. We wanted to do this in a way that communicates cooperation of team work instead of mandating. We want it like the banners on main street, bright and happy. #Cedarcitytogether will be on all of this.

Phillips – how many packets? Danny – 500 which exceeds the list we put together. Phillips – how funded? Danny – through Economic Development, tourism and Iron County Brian Head Tourism. Paul – Danny had to get creative, but we can do this with funds that are already budgeted. Danny – the vendor (Rainbow Signs) have been good to work with. This will also go into Parowan and Brian Head. Phillips – how does it correlate with the Chamber? Danny – we hope this helps; they are putting spots showing a business is open. Mayor – Danny already has funds that will go towards the project. Because of cooperation it will work. Mayor – this is due to the hard work of Danny, Brad, Todd and Maria to promote the businesses. Hartley – will the packets be given to the businesses? Danny – yes, we hope it