

**COUNCIL WORK MINUTES**  
**JUNE 15, 2022**

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Garth O. Green; Councilmembers: Terri Hartley; Craig Isom; W. Tyler Melling; Scott Phillips; Ronald Riddle.

**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; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Economic Development Director Danny Stewart; Leisure Services Director Ken Nielson; Parks Superintendent Anthony Pearson; HR Specialist Natasha Hirschi.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Laura Henderson, Ann Clark, Christian R. Bearnson, Robert Reid, Katherine Reid, Nate Reid, Nathan Bracken, Roger Thomas, Rob O'Brien, Frank Mack, Donn Jersey, Derek Livingston, Phil Schmidt, Bob Platt, Tom Jett, Melodie Jett, Alysha Lundgren, Kipp Lewis, Wendy Green, Carter Wilkey, Darly Brown, Brad Green, Dallas Buckner, Kathy Hunsaker.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Laura Henderson gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Councilmember Isom.

**AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL:** Councilmember Phillips moved to approve the agenda order; second by Councilmember Hartley; vote unanimous.

**ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF**

**COMMENTS:** ■ Mayor – I have three items I would like to discuss tonight. (1) statute restoration I asked to have done before the Shakespearean Festival, it is complete, they are cleaned and waxed. These are the statutes on Main Street. We haven't done the granite monuments; we will probably do that next year. (2) Robbie Mitchell and I attended American Waterworks Association Tradeshow in San Antonio, TX, it has been there for 25 years since I first attended the show, and at least 15 years since I was last there. It was good to see what is going on, and great to hear the issues today the solutions that are being approached. After 4 days with Robbie, I find him to be a very capable water technician, he really knows his stuff. I picked his brain about our system. Water 2050 was the theme of the show. Their goal is to explore technology, innovation, learn to pivot and change and push our industry to think about 2050 and what the issues will be at that time and develop a strategy. Many are concerned about lead in main transmission lines and supply lines, it is sad that congress and legislators have to tell us what we have to do, and they force us into taking into matters we should do on our own. When those mandates come out there is resistance. I don't think anyone would dispute lead in a water system, such as in paint should not happen. We have 2 years to go through our system and determine where lead supply lines are in our system. We spent 4 hours in the lectures with the experts to see what the city needs to do. We are on a deadline and haven't received anything from the State. We probably will skate past the first

inventory, we probably don't have any full lead supply lines to the houses, and we were relieved to hear that. What we probably have are goosenecks, we take them out when we take out galvanized pipe. The old, galvanized lines don't last as long as they need to. They are exempting the goosenecks as part of this. However, they are lead and we do take them out when we dig up a line. We may have a few hundred still in the ground going to old houses. We should try and inventory them the best we can. They need to be taken out as soon as possible. Phillips – I suggest we start on 300 West. Houses in the 60's or earlier are suspect to these pipes. It is difficult to find where they are and take them out as soon as possible. The inventory is the first step, and it will keep coming until we get all the lead lines out. (3) I gave each of you a book, I ordered a lot, but some have been backordered. I will pass more around when they come. It is a true story, a story that we live, we were not in the Sudan, but in northern Uganda and witnessed the challenges in Uganda and Kenya and the water and the challenges. One part is in red, one part is in black. I didn't see the children's wars, but I did see the water challenges, the part in red. Mayor read Page 26-27 see Exhibit "A". He showed pictures, a borehole with clean fresh water. There is a pump to get water from 100 feet deep the pictures are included in Exhibit "A". I give you that to enjoy reading, it is true, I hope we never have to drink poo water, I hope we find better ways. We need to adjust and change, push ourselves and the industry to make things work, develop a strategy and hope for a few miracles. ■Phillips – I have 3 things, I come with gratitude today. First, I am struck on how beautiful our city is and what a remarkable place we live in, the temperatures, the people, it is a remarkable place. Item #2, if you have driven on South Main the Value Inn is coming down, I couldn't be happier. And #3, I would like to offer gratitude to the City Staff, I participated in a promotion review board for the Police Department, we have remarkable officers that work under trying situations. I don't have to make the final decision, but rest assured we have deeply qualified officers that are very dedicated. ■Riddle – as you have put out job offers both Ken and Jeff, have you been able to fill every job offer you have put out? Ken – no. Riddle – I had someone say Mr. Hunter came to me with only a few applicants. Jeff – we did fill a few and will have a few more to fill. We used to get 50-60 applicants, we now get a few. Ken – in some areas we have trouble filling, custodial and labor-intensive jobs. St. George News called Marcie, we are the only Aquatic Center fully staffed in the State, that is unique, we didn't have that last year. Labor intensive jobs are a struggle, parks and recreation, trying to get high school kids and we hope we get some that will continue from year to year. Riddle – I know Natasha puts out notices for positions. Ken – we are thankful for administration and the council because of pay raises, it hasn't caught up but helped. Riddle – 2-3 years ago I could hire a laborer for \$10-\$11 an hour, now, if you don't start at \$15, they will go to fast food and get paid more. Ken – high school kids are not keen on custodial jobs. Natasha – we are struggling to fill some positions, building inspector, constantly a police officer positions are open, custodial positions no one wants to do that work. We opened a meter reader, we got 3 applicants, we need all three, the ability to be selective is not there. Pay raises, and the seasonal and part-time wage increase will help out. ■Hartley – the parking on Greens Lake has been resolved. Riddle – along the freeway, Sage Drive is that in the same situation as far as parking? I noticed that last Thursday, there were a lot of vehicles parked there, the road is not extremely wide. There were two semis' parked along the curve, it was very tight both ways. Hartley – they were parked in the roadway on Greens Lake. Riddle – there is no shoulder on that road, maybe we should look at that. I don't know how often it is a problem. Phillips – it is bad from Starbucks to the curve.