

**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 24, 2022**

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, August 24, 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; Public Works Director Ryan Marshall.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Becki Bronson, Ann Clark, Nathan Bracken, Eric Packer, Sandy Packer, Rob O'Brien, Laura Henderson, Brent Drew, Tom Jett, Wendy Green, Angie Lewis, Danny Lewis, Clay Tom, Clayton Truscott, Marc Peterson, Karen Ence, Jean Krisle, Terri Draper, David Woods, Sean Killary, Alysha Lundgren, Kevin Tipton, Colleen Thorley, Colby Batty, Stephanie Hill, Susan Rice Tipton, Ryan Shoemaker.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Director Hussein Samaha of the Al-Hekma Center gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Tyler Romeril.

**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 would like to announce the formulation of a water advisory committee, the committee does not vote, they will get together twice a month to talk. I have called 6 people and will maybe have 1 more, I will serve, Mr. Bittmenn from the City, Mr. Melling from the Council, Kimball Holt representing Agriculture and Conservation; Ron Thompson, he has a lifetime of experience, a Cedar City boy that went to Washington County Water Conservancy District; Dane Leavitt concerning development. This is not a public meeting, we will meet a few times a month on water conservation, wastewater and Coal Creek and all matters on water. I will be out of the country next week, if you text, I will call when we are both awake. I will be back for the next meeting in September. Also, I drove out this morning to the pipe on Center Street, the job is done, they look fine and they were loading their equipment, we are pleased with that. We had two pieces of pipe left over, there may be a project we can use two large pieces of pipe. One other item, I got a call from Fred Rowley, he said be careful about stop signs on 600 South and 1100 West and Center, he thinks there will be a lot of rear enders, it will compound the problem. I told him I would pass that on to the council. ■Phillips – last week we discussed a zoning issue, it came to light we need to look at our posting of zone changes, I am not trying to disparage staff, normally they post 5 days, I think they should be up 2 weeks and it should not come down after the Planning Commission meeting, it should stay up through the Council meeting, Planning Commission is a recommending body only. When we do zone changes, we want a longer time. Paul – what content do you want, they say proposed zone change for Planning

Commission on this date, so through council it would not make sense. Phillips – do we reuse the signs? Jonathan – they are printed for each meeting and item and posted on a board and taken to the site. Paul – if you want to revisit that ordinance, we can bring it back. Phillips – I do, if it is up for 5 days and I am on vacation I would miss it. Tyler – the city far exceeds the minimum requirements set by the State, but we can do additional if you want. Jonathan – they are posted 5 days prior to Planning Commission. Phillips - the other thing, I will be gone on September 7<sup>th</sup>. And I have had two or three phone calls and emails about Thunderbird Gardens and the road and the bad conditions, could we have the Street Department look at it and clean it up after the rains. I know they are chip sealing, but I want it on the radar. ■Melling – someone reached out to me with afternoon rains, a microburst in a small area east of town and ended up with a lot of debris. I appreciate the responsiveness of the City Staff, and Mr. Hunter who takes the time to look at everything. There is always room for improvement, but I appreciate how responsive they were. ■Hartley – the stop ahead sign is gone again on Greens Lake, I don't know if someone is hitting it on purpose or not. And, someone ran the stop sign going east again, the intersection is getting busier. Jonathan – I have talked to Ryan Marshall about getting it painted. ■Phillips – on the 5 o'clock news there was a story on Cedar City and Gabbie did a great job on all we are doing to prevent flash flooding, it was very positive. They are looking for volunteers to fill sandbags, they have a pile of sand and only 5 bags full, that is at the Public Works Building on Airport Road. You can contact Ryan Marshall, Public Works Director.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** ■St. George Regional Hospital update. Eric Packer, Administrator of Cedar City Hospital, and I will speak on behalf of both Cedar City Hospital and St. George Regional – it is my pleasure to be here and share comments and give a brief update and tell about the connection with the St. George Hospital and how it is beneficial to the Community. See Exhibit “A”. People don't realize how busy we are, we are proud of what we are able to accomplish. For the 7<sup>th</sup> year we are one of the top 20 rural & community hospitals, we are the only hospital able to achieve this. Merative, is 100 top hospitals, they identify 15 top teaching hospitals, 25 teaching, 20 large community, 20 medium and 20 small hospitals which is 100 beds or less and that is where we fall, we have done well there. The State of Utah has recognized us for low occurrence of employee injuries and the safety. We have survived COVID, it is still here, but rare in the hospital now, if we have someone there is more things driving it. At the clinics, emergency room and Instacare has signs and symptoms, but it is more like a cold. At this point we don't need to be afraid of COVID. We held an Emergency Drill with the Airport a few weeks ago, a shout out to the Fire and Police, they represent the community well and the drill went very well. We have great services in the community. A shout out to Darin Adams for the support the police provide us, we have had to up our security guards, so we have 2 security guards on 24/7, sometimes that is not enough and we need the police to respond and they are very responsive and make a difference. Darin and I are on speed dial, we talk a lot. You may have read we are going through a structure change the director resigned. Because of mergers and growing, we have a new regional structure, I am happy for. Garfield, Cedar City and St. George are now working together with clinics in Las Vegas, we have a great leader, Mitch Cloward, the Administrator in St. George, we are working together, the plan is we want care provided locally if we can, we don't have all the services we need, but as we grow, we will add new services. We will collaborate with St. George, but we want to keep people here. As St. George gets larger with