

Minutes of the Work Session meeting of the Syracuse City Council held on February 8, 2011, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Work Session Room, 1979 West 1900 South, Syracuse City, Davis County, Utah.

Present: Councilmembers: Alan Clark
D. Matthew Kimmel
Matthew Ocaña
Douglas Peterson
Larry D. Shingleton

Mayor Jamie Nagle
City Administrator Robert Rice
City Recorder Cassie Z. Brown

City Employees Present:
IT Director TJ Peace
Finance Manager Amber Fowles
Community Development Director Mike Eggett
GIS Technician Troy Moyes
Administrative Secretary Monica Whitaker

The purpose of the Work Session was for the Governing Body to review the agenda for the regular meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m., receive an update regarding the progress of the Syracuse City website, review and discuss the format of the 2011 Council/Administration retreat agenda, and discuss Council Business.

Update regarding progress of Syracuse City website

GIS Technician Moyes explained that he has been working on updating the City's website and his goal is to make it easier to use. He then provided the Council with a preview of the progress of the website rewrite. He reviewed the home page and explained that it would include a slide-show made up of photos of different events taking place in the City. He added that the home page will also include information about the next Council meeting. He stated there will be a section that deals with City news that will link to the City's newsletter and special events announcements. He stated that each page will have a footer that will include contact information, quick links, a search option, and a link to allow people to leave feedback. He explained that he has integrated Google calendar into the website and each Department Head will be able to maintain the calendar for their respective Department. He stated that the website will be mobile friendly for smart phones as well.

Councilmember Peterson asked if the website will still be hosted in-house. Mr. Moyes explained that it will be hosted off site for a fee of \$70 every two years.

Mayor Nagle asked if the City will maintain the information on the website or if that will be done by the host. Mr. Moyes explained that the City will maintain the information, but the website will be hosted off site in order to allow the City's server to be used for more robust programs.

Councilmember Clark inquired as to the reason that the website will be hosted off site versus in-house as has been done in the past. Mr. Moyes stated that off site hosting will save extensive staff hours spent on the website. He stated that it will be much easier and more efficient. He then explained that he will introduce the new website in phases; phase one will be the introduction of the beta site. He stated that it is very difficult to put together a new website in a matter of six to eight weeks. He stated that he has put approximately 200 hours of work into the website to this point.

Councilmember Clark asked if citizens will run into problems when trying to access the site during the rewrite. Mr. Moyes stated that citizens can still access the current website and get information from it. He stated that he will continue to move information from the old site to the new site. He added that he will also create a blog site that will include live feeds that will automatically post to social media websites such as Facebook and Twitter. He then explained that phase two of the implementation of the new website will be simply including more pages on the beta site, such as pages regarding economic development, demographics, available properties in the City, maps, and information about what makes Syracuse City a great place. He explained that phase three includes the integration of maps whereby he will link GIS information to Google earth. He stated that he wants to utilize the great tools that are already available on the web to make the City's website better. He then provided a slide show including pictures of what the website will look like when it is live.

Councilmember Ocaña asked Mr. Moyes if he could provide the Council with a rough estimate for when the website should be completed. Mr. Moyes stated that it will take him approximately 200 additional hours to move content to the new website if everything goes smoothly. He stated his schedule is dictated by his workload and his supervisor and that will

affect the length of time it takes him to complete the additional 200 hours of work needed. Councilmember Ocaña commented that he thinks the new website looks good.

Councilmember Peterson asked what the website address will be. Mr. Moyes stated the City has the option of registering for a .gov website, such as syracuseutah.gov. He stated the syracuseut.com address can be maintained as well. He stated there is a cost of \$120 per year to register a .gov address. Councilmember Peterson asked if most cities have a .gov address. Mr. Moyes stated that some cities use .gov, some use .org, and some use .com. He stated that the City could use a .org address for an annual cost of \$12.

City Recorder Brown asked if the new website will include a search engine that can search all the content on the website. Mr. Moyes stated that he will include an upgraded search engine that has the ability to search within PDF files posted on the website.

Finance Manager Fowles asked if the website will include an employee intranet section, to which Mr. Moyes answered yes and explained that portion of the site can be password protected.

Councilmember Clark asked if employees will still have the ability to log into the website to check their email. Mr. Moyes stated that he can add a link to the new website to provide employees with that option.

Mayor Nagle stated that she feels the new website looks very good and she congratulated Mr. Moyes on his effort.

Review and discuss format of the 2011 Council/Administration retreat agenda

Mayor Nagle stated that initially she asked if the Council could attend a retreat on March 3 and 4, but Councilmember Shingleton is unavailable that day. The Council reviewed their schedules to determine appropriate dates for the retreat; they decided to hold the meeting on March 10 and 11, 2011.

City Manager Rice stated that each Department Head will provide an overview of what is currently happening in their respective Department and what budget requests they will have for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget. He stated that Ms. Fowles will begin with a zero-based budget and work from that point. He stated that will allow the Council to take a hard look at every single thing that each Department is requesting; it will also help the Council prioritize necessities for the City. He stated those presentations will take up a good portion of the time set aside for the retreat. He stated there will be some other issues that he may add to the agenda for discussion. Mayor Nagle stated that Councilmember Clark had requested time to talk about a couple of important City issues, such as infrastructure. She stated it is not a secret that the City's roads are in bad shape and it would be good for the Council to understand what is needed in order to improve the condition of the infrastructure. Councilmember Peterson added that each Councilmember was assigned to oversee a committee created during last year's retreat and Councilmember Clark had also made the suggestion that each Councilmember provide a report on those assignments. Mayor Nagle stated that she likes that idea as well and she felt it would help Mr. Rice understand the priorities that were outlined by the Council last year. Councilmember Peterson added that there has also been discussion about creating a Council norms and procedures document. He asked if it would be good to start brainstorming regarding the creation of that document during the retreat. Mayor Nagle stated that Ms. Brown has already started conducting some research regarding Council norms and she may have a baseline to provide to the Council at a future date.

Council business

ULCT Spring Conference: City Recorder Brown announced that the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) spring conference will be held April 13 through April 15 in St. George. Mayor Nagle stated that she suggested that City Manager Rice attend the Utah City Managers Association conference as well as the ULCT conference. She then asked if there are any Councilmembers that would like to attend the ULCT conference. Councilmember Clark stated he felt that at least one Councilmember should attend. Councilmember Shingleton agreed and stated that the last couple of years the newest Councilmember has attended; in this case that would be Councilmember Ocaña. Councilmember Ocaña stated that he would check his schedule to determine if he is available to attend.

Staff recognition: Mayor Nagle stated that she wanted to go on record and thank Public Works Director Waite for performing "double duty" while the City was searching for a City Manager. She stated that Mr. Waite worked as the Public Works Director and the City Administrator for approximately four months. She stated that City Attorney Godfrey said it best when he made the comment that the City does not always recognize what an asset Mr. Waite is; he works "in the trenches" all day, but he also has great people skills. She stated she believed the same could be said for all the Department Heads employed by the City.

Storm Water Management Plan: Councilmember Clark stated that he was reviewing the Council minutes to be approved during tonight's regular meeting and he recalled a discussion about the Storm Water Management Plan that the Council was asked to support. He stated that Mayor Nagle had committed to discuss the Plan with the Council of

Governments (COG) and then report back to the Council. He asked if that discussion has taken place. Mayor Nagle explained that she talked to several other Mayors and each of them reported that their City Council had passed a resolution supporting their City's Storm Water Management Plan. She stated that she believed the best approach for the Council if they still feel that the City should not be required to support a Storm Water Management Plan would be to lobby local elected officials. She stated that it may be possible to get a local lawmaker to champion a bill on the issue during the next Legislative session. She then provided Mr. Rice with some background information on the issue. Councilmember Shingleton stated that he has been looking into some ways to possibly object to unfunded mandates, but it will be necessary for more entities to participate in that objection. He stated that as he finds more information on how to proceed he will bring it to the Council. Mr. Rice stated that the first step should be to determine if the mandate is a law or a policy; once that determination is made it will be easier to figure out how to fight it.

Audit recommendations: Councilmember Clark stated that during the recent audit report the auditor made a recommendation that the City collapse all impact fee accounts into the general fund and he asked if staff has made any decisions regarding whether to implement that recommendation. Finance Manager Fowles explained that she will be eliminating two individual funds this year; one is the special improvement district fund and the other is the motor pool fund. She explained the latter has not been used properly for the last three years. She then explained that another idea she has is to combine the park maintenance and street lighting fee funds into one fund, but monitor them individually and track their activity on a separate spreadsheet.

West Davis Corridor: Mayor Nagle stated that the alternative routes for the West Davis Corridor were announced on February 1 and there are some fairly strong feelings about the newly proposed routes. She stated she would like to encourage all Councilmembers and citizens to attend any or all of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) open houses and listen to the public comments about the corridor. She stated that she would also like for the Council to have an extensive discussion about the corridor during the next work session. She stated that it would be wise to express to the public what power the City has in the process; the public needs to understand what the City can and can not do about the newly proposed routes.

Councilmember Kimmel stated that prior to this meeting he was attending an open house in West Point and there were many Syracuse City residents there; many of them were asking why the original Bluff Road corridor had not been included as one of the alternative routes suggested by UDOT. He stated another question, which surprised him, was why the corridor is needed. Mayor Nagle stated that during the preliminary studies regarding the corridor one of the options was to widen Interstate 15. She stated that with the growth that has occurred in western Davis County an expansion of Interstate 15 would not completely solve the problem. Mr. Rice added that currently all traffic flows are to the east and then south, but the goal is to more easily move commuters to the north and south. He stated that UDOT has included all of their study results and data on the West Davis Corridor website and people need to be encouraged to visit that website to try to understand the information that is available regarding this issue. Mayor Nagle then stated that no one was more surprised than the City when UDOT provided their alternate routes. She stated she understands that the newly proposed routes were recommended in order to protect wetlands that are adjacent to the original Bluff Road corridor. She stated that UDOT is very cautious when dealing with wetlands and they want to make sure that their environmental assessments can not be challenged. Councilmember Kimmel stated that many of the wetlands near the Bluff Road corridor are manmade as a result of development as it moved further to the west.

Councilmember Clark asked Councilmember Kimmel if any citizens were making recommendations during the West Point open house. Councilmember Kimmel stated that citizen recommendations are dependant upon where they live. He added that alternatives A and B would travel very close to his home and destroy many of the homeowners association (HOA) amenities included in his subdivision.

Planning Commissioner TJ Jensen stated that the North Davis Sewer District (NDSD) is not happy about alternatives A or B because both routes would infringe upon the buffer zone they have created around the sewer plant. He stated that they have announced that they will object to both alternatives. He added that resident and owner of Black Island Farms, Charlie Black, is unhappy with one of the suggested routes because it will travel through the middle of his property. He stated that the City seems to be getting a lot of blame for UDOT not using the Bluff Road corridor. He stated citizens believe that the City asked UDOT to move away from the Bluff Road to prevent any negative impacts on the Jensen Nature Park. He noted that Davis County Commissioner Petroff is supportive of asking UDOT to reconsider using the Bluff Road corridor. He then stated that the Planning Commission has discussed the alternatives; much of the discussion centered on the impacts to agricultural property in the City. He explained that many felt that the wetlands could be mitigated as they are artificial or man-made. He stated that it seems to him that UDOT has not actually spoken with the people that will be most impacted; rather, they have talked to the larger stake holders, but smaller property owners have not been given a voice. Mayor Nagle stated that UDOT is asking for public comments from everyone and they are working to make sure that they

have all information so they can make a decision for the greater good. She stated she wants to make sure that the City is not putting forth any false information. She stated that she thought that the Bluff Road alignment would be selected by UDOT. She added, however, that the City spent \$8 million to construct Jensen Nature Park and a Bluff Road alignment would travel directly through the parking lot area, thus impacting access and ease of use at the Park. She stated that the Bluff Road alignment could potentially impact the Fire Station as well, which would increase home owners insurance City-wide. She stated that her point is that there is not going to be one option that pleases everyone, but it is necessary to make a decision that is for the greater good of the City. Mr. Jensen stated that one message he would like for the City and UDOT to convey is that there are opportunities to shift any of the three alternatives in either direction.

Councilmember Kimmel reiterated Mr. Jensen's point that the NDSB will resist alternatives A and B; they bought a significant amount of land around their sewer plant to provide a buffer. He stated that buffer is in place for very good reasons; if there were some sort of failure at the plant and toxic gases were released people traveling in that area could be driving through a deadly cloud of chlorine.

Councilmember Clark stated that during the discussion about the West Davis Corridor at the February 22 work session he would like to be able to review all maps that are available to the City. Community Development Director Eggett stated that he will provide each member of the Governing Body with large maps to review. He stated there will also be maps available for the public to review.

Mr. Rice noted that he will be assembling a planning team led by Mr. Eggett; that group will work towards preparing a unified front for the City. Mr. Eggett added that he will provide pros and cons for each alternative route. He added, however, that he will not consider wetlands as that is not an issue for the City to focus on. Councilmember Clark asked if UDOT used a map to determine where the wetlands were. Mr. Eggett stated they used a map, but also used additional study tools. Councilmember Clark stated he remembered UDOT saying that it was not possible for them to walk every foot of the corridor to determine if different areas were truly wetlands. Mr. Jensen interjected that he has reviewed UDOT's maps and he believes they are using some sort of satellite imagery to view the land along the Bluff Road corridor.

No Child Left Out Park: Councilmember Peterson stated that he the Council has asked him for information to provide to those companies that may be interested in becoming prospective donors for the No Child Left Out Park. He provided each Councilmember with a handout providing language that each Councilmember can use when they are soliciting funding.

Mayor Nagle reported that there has been some work done on the marketing video for the Park. Councilmember Peterson stated that is correct and the City should be in possession of the finished product soon. He then reported that the layout and design of the Park has been chosen and he asked Mr. Rice to invite Parks Superintendent Ben Liegert to a future meeting to provide the Council with the artist renderings of the Park.

Miscellaneous Council Business:

Councilmember Shingleton stated that he would like to ask City Attorney Godfrey to review the issue that he raised during the January 11 meeting regarding the rewritten version of Title Two of the Syracuse City Code.

Councilmember Shingleton stated that a local resident, Ben Thurgood, passed away recently. He stated that Mr. Thurgood was a long time resident and a past member of the City Council.

Councilmember Ocaña stated that the Antelope Island State Park Tourism Group met on February 1, 2011. He stated there were attendees from the Antelope Island State Park, the City Council, City staff, Syracuse Museum, Davis Chamber of Commerce, Davis Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Davis County Community and Economic Development Department. He explained the participants met to discuss and plan tourism efforts and activities to bolster visitor and local community opportunities for the Antelope Island State Park, the County, and Syracuse City. He explained they reviewed Antelope Island's 2011 event calendar and looked for opportunities to involve Syracuse City with scheduled activities. He stated that a few of the upcoming events include the Great Salt Lake Bird Festival scheduled for Mary 12 through 16, the Antelope Island Moonlight Bike Ride scheduled for July 15, the Balloon Stampede scheduled for Labor Day weekend, and the Bison Roundup scheduled for October 27 through 29. He stated that the meeting focused on what the group could do to coordinate activities, volunteers, and business support from the local community to help make the events bigger and better than they have been in the past. He stated the events could also be used as a springboard to bring more tourism to the City. He stated the meeting was very productive and they will hold another meeting on March 15.

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

City Council Work Session
February 8, 2011

Jamie Nagle
Mayor

Cassie Z. Brown, CMC
City Recorder

Date approved: April 12, 2011