

**MINUTES OF LAYTON CITY
COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING
WORK MEETING**

DECEMBER 20, 2017; 8:00 A.M.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS
PRESENT:**

**MAYOR BOB STEVENSON, JOYCE BROWN,
BRUCE DAVIS, TOM DAY, SCOTT FREITAG
AND JOY PETRO**

STAFF PRESENT:

ALEX JENSEN AND KIM READ

The meeting was held in the Council Conference Room of the Layton City Center.

Mayor Stevenson opened the meeting and turned the time over to Staff.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mayor Stevenson asked about the pickleball courts and Alex Jensen, City Manager, responded funds had been appropriated in the budget for four courts to be constructed at Chapel Street park and four at Vae View park. He stated this should take place sometime in the Spring of 2018. Councilmember Day asked if they would be new amenities at the parks or if the current tennis courts would be re-striped. Mr. Jensen responded it would be combination of both; the east tennis court at Vae View would be converted to pickleball courts. A discussion took place regarding pickleball within the City and Mayor Stevenson suggested having an insert in the utility bills announcing the indoor pickleball courts would be located at the new junior high.

Mayor Stevenson requested an update from Mr. Jensen specific to UTOPIA.

Mr. Jensen explained the refinancing of the tax exempt bonds was progressing for UTOPIA and explained the challenges associated with refinancing the City's piece. He reminded the Council of the specifics associated with refunding the bonds and reviewed the refunding process with the Council. He reported on specifics associated with the rating agencies and stated he had signed final closing documents as of Tuesday, December 19, 2017. He believed it would take approximately two years for the build out to take place within Layton City and the discussion continued. He explained how a rate increase would accommodate for capital expenditures associated with the infrastructure.

Councilmember Petro expressed concern about the proposed rate reflecting as a line item on the utility bill. Mr. Jensen clarified the Council should consider the rate similar to the capital/operating expense. Councilmember Brown pointed out residents benefitted from the UTOPIA infrastructure due to how the different services were received; Fire, Police, Parks, Water, Utilities, etc. within the network.

Mayor Stevenson reported fiber infrastructure was critical to future economic development in the City. The discussion continued specific to the proposed rate structure and analysis, and future capabilities and possibilities associated with the benefits of the fiber infrastructure. Mr. Jensen suggested the Council identify the best way to educate the public about the benefits of UTOPIA.

Councilmember Brown mentioned the Council needed to begin planning for the City's 100th Anniversary in 2020. She suggested identifying a budget and possibly implementing a committee for this purpose and a discussion took place. Mayor Stevenson suggested the involvement of the Interfaith Committee and

Councilmember Day also suggested involving the individuals involved with the historical/museum. Councilmember Brown believed this would be a great project for a Public Relations Specialist. Mr. Jensen cautioned the Council it needed to determine budget parameters prior to the establishment of a planning committee for the event. He indicated Staff would research what other cities had previously done for their celebrations.

Councilmember Freitag believed the City needed to set a date for the groundbreaking of the new fire station. Mayor Stevenson asked how the Highway 89 fire station would impact the timing associated with the process and Mr. Jensen shared his opinion regarding the timing for both proposed fire stations. He also informed the Council on discussions with UDOT regarding property options for the proposed new fire station. Councilmember Freitag pointed out IHC's (Intermountain Health Care's) needs and the advantages with having that station operational sooner rather than later. Mayor Stevenson suggested Chief Ward submit his plans to the Council for both facilities and the discussion continued. Councilmember Brown shared her idea on completing both stations simultaneously. Councilmember Davis asked about the process the City would use to construct the fire stations and Mr. Jensen explained the City could not fund two fire stations at the same time.

Mayor Stevenson pointed out the need for the Adams Canyon parking and Mr. Jensen explained a new Park and Ride would be completed by UDOT and suggested it could also be used as overflow parking for the trailhead. He shared an illustration and identified where the City would be allowed to construct a parking lot. He continued the City was also proposing constructing restrooms and picnic tables near the area and a discussion took place.

Mayor Stevenson asked about the need for an Assistant City Manager position in conjunction with the Public Relations/Marketing position. Councilmember Davis believed the City needed a Public Information Officer for the City to manage social media and a discussion followed. Mr. Jensen updated the Council on the process for hiring the Marketing/Public Relations position and suggested the Council identify how this individual would be used to benefit the City and the discussion continued.

The Council discussed the opportunity to purchase property for a park in an underserved area within the City and Mr. Jensen reviewed the City's process used to develop parks. Councilmember Petro would like to see a dog park built somewhere within the City and Mr. Jensen reported on discussions with Parks and Recreation Staff specific to dogs allowed in parks and presented an option for consideration. The Council concluded if there was still a need for dog parks within the City to designate specific dates and times for this use at existing parks.

Councilmember Petro stated one of her priorities was a Community/Senior Citizen Center. Mayor Stevenson believed this was a county issue and Councilmember Petro responded Davis County believed the needs of senior citizens were being met by the centers located in Kaysville and Clearfield. He believed the City should be patient with the County in recognizing this need.

Mayor Stevenson asked about the roundabout at Oak Forest/Antelope. Mr. Jensen reminded the Council this topic had been previously discussed and the solution was to raise the medians; however, after further consideration he realized buses wouldn't be able to navigate the roundabout. He informed the Council the City's Engineering Staff had explained why that wasn't feasible in order to accommodate school buses and other large vehicles. A discussion took place regarding the intersection. Mayor Stevenson shared his solution to slow the east/west traffic on the road. Councilmember Freitag suggested eliminating the "yield" signs and replacing them with "stop" signs. Mayor Stevenson suggested holding a neighborhood meeting with the Council and Staff to address the residents' concerns.

Mayor Stevenson requested Mr. Jensen briefly review previous discussions related to Code Enforcement,

Police Officers, COLA and salary surveys.

Mayor Stevenson inquired about the use of RAMP Tax funds and Mr. Jensen explained the City's process in appropriating RAMP Tax revenue. Mayor Stevenson pointed out the City was recognizing more RAMP Tax revenue than what was originally anticipated and suggested creating a fund and allowing it to be carried over from year to year allowing it to increase significantly and a discussion followed. He believed this would allow the City to accomplish projects of a larger scale such as a performing arts center or future park property.

Mayor Stevenson asked how the City disbursed Prop 1 funds and Mr. Jensen responded the City received those funds for the first time last year and they were appropriated during the budget process. He explained Staff would make recommendations to the Council for projects to be completed using those funds. Mayor Stevenson requested a work meeting take place prior to the Budget Meeting at which time Staff would present proposed projects and anticipated revenue to the Council.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Stevenson pointed out the demands associated with the Mayor's role for the City as it continues to grow and suggested the need for a full time Mayor in the near future. He believed there would still be a need for a full time City Manager allowing the City's form of government to remain as it currently was. He suggested a study take place to determine the feasibility and needs of the City. He expressed his opinion the City would continue to need a strong City Manager and City Attorney to lead the City in the future.

He also requested the City send two councilmembers to the National League of Cities Conference this year. Mayor Stevenson mentioned he would be making a few changes to the councilmembers' assignments for this next year.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Kimberly S Read, City Recorder