

**Pleasant Grove City
City Council Meeting Minutes
Work Session
August 18, 2020
4:30 p.m.**

Mayor: Guy L. Fugal

Council Members: Brent Bullock
Eric Jensen
Cyd LeMone
Todd Williams

Staff Present: Scott Darrington, City Administrator
Daniel Cardenas, Community Development Director
Deon Giles, Parks Director
Tyler Wilkins, Recreation Director
Tina Petersen, City Attorney
Kathy Kresser, City Recorder
Marty Beaumont, Public Works Director
Kylar Ludwig, HR Director
Sheri Britsch, Library Director
Mike Roberts, Police Chief
Drew Engemann, Deputy Fire Chief
Denise Roy, Finance Director

Excused: Dianna Andersen

The City Council and staff met in the Community Room, 108 South 100 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

4:30 P.M. WORK SESSION

1) COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Council Member LeMone invited David Hartle to introduce his family to the Council. He reported that the Hartle Family started the “Star on the Mountain” tradition in Pleasant Grove. The different designs put up on the hillside near Grove Creek Canyon have been a light in the community. People look forward to it every holiday, during Strawberries Days, Halloween, and Christmas. She presented the Community Service Award to Mr. Hartle and his family in appreciation for their dedication to the City.

David Hartle reported that he used the lights in his yard and dug a big dipper up the hill to make them visible. He received positive comments from the community, which inspired him to

continue. He used the same lights to design the pumpkin and Christian star up the Mountain. He stated that a lot of people requested that the lights be left up the whole month of December.

Mr. Hartle reported that he hosted a competition for children to help design the lights. The winning design was put up on the mountain at the start of COVID-19. He noted that the design has to be mapped on a paper grid to get a visual of how it will look once it is up. He stated that most designs include 40 to 60 lights and he seeks help from his family to put them up.

Council Member LeMone asked what type of lights are used. Mr. Hartle reported that solar lights are used. He noted that the lights are from China and very bright. When there is more sun the lights last longer compared to colder months. The design has to be 1.8 feet in height to make it look the same as one foot in width for distancing.

Mr. Hartle concurred with Council Member LeMone that a lot of coordination, planning, and hiking is needed to put up the designs. He further explained that once the lights are hauled up the mountain, coordinates and maps are drawn out before laying them out. He noted that the bat design was the most difficult and required several adjustments.

Council Member LeMone asked if the strawberry design was the largest. Mr. Hartle confirmed that it was and added that the design was 500 feet tall and 200 feet wide. Council Member LeMone reported that the designs have had a positive impact on the community and the response the City has received has been overwhelmingly positive. She thanked Mr. Hartle and his family for their time and effort. City Administrator, Scott Darrington reported that an acrylic award will be sent to Mr. Hartle's home as soon as the City receives it. Council Member LeMone asked Mr. Hartle if he needed help from the community.

2) ENVISION UTAH

Ryan Beck, Envision Utah's Vice President of Planning, thanked the Council for allowing him time to address visioning. He noted that the Association of Utah County Chambers, the Pleasant Grove/Lindon Chamber, UVU, BYU, and the Pleasant Grove City Council are key partners in the Valley Visioning project.

Mr. Beck reported that by 2050, Utah County is expected to double in population and grow by approximately one million residents by 2065. During Phase 1, they went out and interacted with the public. He explained that Envision Utah held workshops at Pleasant Grove High School and a Phase 1 survey. Workshops were conducted throughout the County.

Mr. Beck explained that during the workshops, maps were presented to the attendees. The participants were asked to draw transportation improvements and identify city centers that they expect in the future. Pleasant Grove got a fair share of the pie and had a city center identified. On the maps, most of Pleasant Grove is developed. Places such as Eagle Mountain have quite a bit of land to develop.

Mr. Beck reported that Phase 2 of the workshops included priority working groups such as housing, transportation, air quality, agriculture, water quality and quantity, and workforce experts. He explained that 11,000 people in these categories were requested to weigh in on different scenarios.

In scenario A the participants were asked if growth would be similar to what has happened over the last 20 years. Scenario B pertained to growth in organized centers nearing high capacity transportation. Scenario C addressed westward growth, which is growth heading into Cedar Valley. This was modeled with transportation and land use and the impacts of both. Scenario D had to do with growth in Provo and Santaquin. Scenario E addressed how the City will accommodate growth in existing urban areas that already have infrastructure.

Mr. Beck reported that Lighthouse Research conducted a random sample to verify that the survey technique was correct. According to the survey, people saw growth going westward towards Eagle Mountain. Most requested that the agricultural land to the south be protected.

Mr. Beck reported that according to the survey results, the specific goals for the future are to provide convenient transportation choices, support housing options, ensure that there is open space, and recreational opportunities. The goals also included the availability of sustainable agriculture, water management, education, and clean air.

Mr. Beck reported that Envision Utah does not have jurisdiction to control Pleasant Grove and other communities in Utah. Although they have the power to influence people, the jurisdiction lies within the City to make decisions.

Mayor Fugal appreciated Envision Utah for the work, thoughts, and research done on the Valley Visioning Project. Council Member Williams inquired about the bridge over Utah Lake. Mr. Beck stated that people primarily from Saratoga Springs identified the bridge and requested that there be public transportation there. He reported that construction of the bridge is included in the Regional Transportation Plan. Council Member LeMone requested information on how the public could receive updates regarding the project. Mr. Beck explained that that information can be found on their website.

Mr. Beck described the next steps and stated that comments will be incorporated and a draft document prepared. The document will then be circulated to the cities. A launch party will be held online to present the document to the communities.

3) FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON FUNDING OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

Administrator Darrington presented a list of items to be funded using COVID-19 and capital funds. If approved, the list will be presented to the Council with a budget amendment to officially allocate the money.

Administrator Darrington reported that after discussions with the department heads, a priority list was created for how the City plans to use the COVID-19 funds. The priority items included the following:

- An ambulance;

- A restroom remodel at the Recreation Center;
- Restrooms at the Pickleball Courts;
- A pavilion at the Veterans Park;
- A restroom remodel at the Library; and
- An additional upstairs restroom at the Recreation Center.

Finance Director, Denise Roy reported that the Engineering ADA Compliance Project will be paid for with the Class C money. In response to a concern raised by Council Member Williams, Administrator Darrington stated that the budget is \$631,000 for COVID-19 projects and \$682,000 for General Fund projects.

Administrator Darrington did not have preapproval for the COVID-19 related projects and wished that the government had an Auditor to consult. He remarked that the City Council should understand that if they use the COVID-19 money and the auditing process confirms that some items do not qualify, the City will fund them from the General Fund balance.

Council Member Jensen asked about the Clock Tower Project and stated that the Council agreed on removing the clock and replacing it with panels. Administrator Darrington confirmed that \$5,000 will be used for the project. The original budget was \$15,000 to fix the clock tower.

Council Member Jensen was concerned about the paramedic training and that the amount used to train the personnel is high. He commented that if they leave the City's employ within 1 ½ and 2 years of completing the training it will be a loss to the City. Administrator Darrington explained that the training is similar to sending officers to the Police Academy. He preferred that those pursuing paramedic training pay for some of the training costs. Deputy Fire Chief, Drew Engemann reported that it is a two-year program and the school itself costs \$9,000. Council Member Williams was in favor of the training. He said that the City is already losing funds outsourcing work to other cities.

Council Member Jensen was concerned that the City could turn into a training ground and that people may leave soon after the training is completed. He suggested that processes are in place to protect the City if that were to occur. City Attorney, Tina Petersen reported that each of the trainees sign a contract. They owe the City a prorated amount based on how long they stay. If they leave and owe the City, their last paycheck is what the funds are taken from.

Council Member LeMone asked if training will be offered to other departments who need certifications and degrees. Administrator Darrington stated that it is a one-time cost. He further explained that the Council needs to discuss how to be fair and equitable in terms of the varied needs of each department. Administrator Darrington felt that the City should carry out training on a need basis. He was in favor of trainees paying toward the cost of training. Mr. Darrington stated that the City used \$10,000 in July to hire paramedics. Research was needed to understand the average amounts spent every month.

Administrator Darrington reported that there will be stacked calls regardless of whether the City has paramedics. He suggested that another shift or two full-time employees be added at an estimated cost of \$200,000 per year. He explained that it is less costly than what is needed to hire a full-time employee to fill each position.

Administrator Darrington reported that the City pays \$1,000 per year as tuition reimbursement for employees who are pursuing a degree. If they leave before two years pass, they will pay back the cost with their last paycheck.

Council Member LeMone asked if CARE funds can be used to replace the tennis courts. Administrator Darrington confirmed that it could. He explained that if the Council wants them repaired by next spring, \$200,000 can be allocated from the General Fund. He stated that if the project can wait a few years, the CARE money can be used instead. Administrator Darrington said that the CARE money this year has already been used for the Discovery and Downtown Parks. The City is obligated to construct batting cages and a water feature as promised to the residents.

Council Member Williams suggested that the two tennis courts be repaired. Administrator Darrington stated that four more courts will need to be fixed as well. He noted that use of the CARE funding will be a long-term plan. He reported that there are soccer fields being planned that are expected to cost \$2,000,000.

Council Member LeMone commented that she would like the tennis courts fixed with CARE funds instead of taking \$200,000 from the General Fund. Council Member Jensen reported that the CARE funds are not enough to cover the cost of the project. Council Member Bullock asked about re-keying the Library. Administrator Darrington stated that it will be funded using COVID-19 funds.

4) STAFF BUSINESS

5) ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Council Member Jensen moved to adjourn the Work Session at 5:28 p.m. Council Member Bullock seconded the motion. The motion carried with the unanimous consent of the Council.

The City Council Work Session Minutes of August 18, 2020, were approved by the City Council on September 15, 2020.

Kathy T. Kresser, MMC
City Recorder

(Exhibits are in the City Council Minutes binders in the Recorder's office.)