

**Pleasant Grove City
City Council Meeting Minutes
Work Session
May 3, 2022
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
Kathy Kresser, City Recorder
Neal Winterton, Public Works Director
Kyler Ludwig, Human Resources Director
Mike Roberts, Police Chief
Denise Roy, Finance Director
Drew Engemann, Fire Chief
Sheri Britsch, Library and Arts Director

Excused: Dianna Andersen, Council Member
Tina Petersen, City Attorney

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

4:30 P.M. WORK SESSION

Mayor Guy Fugal called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed those present.

a. Introduction of New Pleasant Grove Strawberry Days Royalty.

Miss Pleasant Grove, Savvy Allen, introduced herself and announced that her social impact initiative is Project Shine, which empowers the community to build self-esteem through service. She noted that when you do good things, you feel good. She planned to carry this message to the schools and participate in monthly service projects with different organizations. This month, she had been involved in gathering donations for single refugee women.

First Attendant, Jaylee Hoover, stated that she has an uncle with cerebral palsy and had seen first-hand how that condition affected his life. Her social impact initiative project related to increasing education in schools and the community about the disabled and decreasing any stigma.

Second Attendant, Ruth Bliss, reported that her social impact initiative is Every Kid Counts, which increases awareness of and gathers humanitarian kits for the less fortunate. All expressed excitement about serving in this role.

City Administrator, Scott Darrington, introduced Curtis Hutchinson, who has served on the Fire Department for three years. Mr. Hutchinson completed Paramedic School and served on the Dean's List both semesters. He thanked the Council for supporting and funding his education. Mr. Hutchinson reported that he recently took the National Paramedic Registry Test. He presented each of the Council Members with a specially designated coin representing his class, Class 44.

b. Update from Historic Preservation Commission.

Historic Preservation Commission Vice-Chair, Laurel Cunningham, described the Historic Preservation Commission's work. She and Chair, Jeanne Holdaway, thanked the City Council for its support. Ms. Cunningham distributed a handout and stated that each year the Commission meets and evaluates the work it has done through each of its four sub-committees and sets goals for the new year. She noted that COVID impacted last year's activities. She identified the main work of the Preservation Sub-committee and stated that with the help of the Council, they were awarded an \$8,000 matching grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to be used to restore the Old Town Hall. She noted that the building was in the design stage and will be a showpiece once completed.

The Archives Sub-committee's work involved indexing and inventorying the archives located in the basement of City Hall. The documents were not available to the public, but the goal was to make them accessible through a grant from the Utah State Historical Records Advisory Board ("USHRAB"). To that end, the members of the sub-committee attended training sessions to keep up with best practices in managing the City's historic documents.

The History and Publications Sub-Committee wrote and published several books this past year, which were available for sale. One book, by Vice-Chair Cunningham, documented the history of Strawberry Days. A second book was a walking tour book that addressed the history of the Cemetery. There have been two other walking tour books regarding the Downtown Historic District and the Rose Garden Park.

The Community Outreach and Education Sub-Committee was forced to cancel many of its projects due to COVID but was able to assist staff during Strawberry Days and the Heritage Festival. They also maintained a Facebook page which provided the community with historical information. Vice-Chair Cunningham identified the numerous projects the Commission would like to accomplish this year to help meet its goal of preserving the City's history. Specifically, she mentioned that they are planning to research old cemetery markers to determine their conditions, actively reach out to preserve histories by various mechanisms (i.e., oral histories), digitize pictures

and journals of community life, and continue to review and work on Volume 2 of the History Book, which will be available at the Heritage Festival.

Vice-Chair Cunningham reported that Members of the Commission are volunteers. She stated that they were grateful for the support of the City Council and suggested a possible joint session to explore how they could better work together and share new ideas obtained from attending recent training workshops.

c. Discussion of the FY 2023 Budget.

Administrator Darrington reported that copies of the budget were distributed; however, before the general budget was addressed he suggested that the Council discuss the funding of the tennis and pickleball courts at Discovery Park. The funding was to be used to repair and re-purpose two of the tennis courts and six pickleball courts. Administrator Darrington referenced a handout included in the packet and stated that the bids for the project had been received a few days prior. Due to rising costs, the bid amounts were substantially higher. The bids came in just under \$1.2 million with an additional contingency of 15% (\$178,389). Costs not covered by the bid included sound mats to reduce noise levels at a cost of \$40,000, and engineering costs of \$40,000. He stated that the total project cost was \$1,447,654. The City's original funding for the project that was done a few years ago was \$625,000. He noted that to pay for the project, the City would need to add \$200,000 in additional General Fund money, take \$172,654 of CARE Fund money that has a balance of \$300,000, and redirect the funding of \$450,000 designated for the installation of shade covers.

Administrator Darrington stated that the Council had the option to go forward with the proposed project or delay it and rebid during the winter when prices may be lower. He noted that in the last 1 ½ to 2 years, the Federal Government has provided a significant amount of money to governmental agencies for projects. Pleasant Grove City alone has received \$7.2 million in federal funds in the form of stimulus and COVID funding. The State and other cities have received more. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security ("CARES") Act and American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funds must be spent by 2026. He pointed out that this is one-time money and cannot be used for salaries or operations. It must be used for projects, which caused cities, counties, and the State to do more projects than ever before. As a result, there have been higher grocery and construction costs. This change has caused a fundamental shift in the cost of projects. Staff was surprised at the high bid numbers but stated that even if they were to delay the project, prices will not likely come down because there is so much money available and so many projects needed to be completed.

Council Member Bullock looked at the numbers and had a difficult time committing to spend \$1.5 million for a couple of tennis courts and six pickleball courts which often go unused. He suggested that the project be delayed. Council Member Williams asked about the use of the courts compared to the baseball field. Recreation Director, Tyler Wilkins, responded that the baseball fields are used between April and July and football begins in August. Council Member Williams agreed with Council Member Bullock and stated that the cost of the project is not appropriate, particularly because a portion of the funding would need to come from the shade covers, which were to have been put in place this year.

Administrator Darrington commented that the cost of completing the project will not get less expensive. Council Member Williams asked Council Members LeMone and Jensen, as they use the courts, about the need for the project. He noted that courts are available at Veterans Park. Council Member LeMone stated that the pickleball courts at Discovery Park are heavily used early in the morning and in the evenings between now and November. The tennis and the pickleball courts to the south are unsafe. She stated that the project should be done now before the costs increase even more.

Council Member Jensen agreed that the courts are crowded and stated that the season is about to start. He also noted that pickleball is a good way to get the youth out playing. There was general discussion regarding the scope of the proposed project, use, location, and demand of the different types of courts. Administrator Darrington commented that the project is scheduled to be completed this year. Council Member LeMone remarked that having several well-lit courts based on the size of the community was a positive thing.

Council Member Williams asked if there was a way the project could be done and still get the shade covers installed. Administrator Darrington stated that money was designated for other projects that could be repurposed such as the sprinkling system in the Cemetery. He stated that there are few projects proposed of that magnitude. Mayor Fugal suggested the Council shelve the project and rebid it in the winter due to cost. When asked about the bid process, Administrator Darrington stated that there were two reputable bids submitted on the project. There was discussion of supply chain issues, the impact of inflation, future unknown economic climate, the availability of federal money for projects that otherwise might not have been done, and the unknown availability of contractors in the future due to jobs that have already been scheduled. He reported that approval of the bid was on tonight's agenda and could go forward if approved by the Council.

With regard to the general budget, Administrator Darrington stated that nothing has changed from the last meeting. He stated that if they go forward with the bid just discussed, staff would be required to move money to cover the costs. The only other unresolved issue pertained to the scope of work for the Pipe Plant Project. They agreed that no decisions would be made on that matter until Council Member Andersen returned. He reported that issues to be discussed during the Executive Session could also impact budget decisions. He informed the Council that they are required to adopt a Tentative Budget tonight with notice to then go out to the public. Normally, the public hearing on the budget would be heard at the first meeting in June, with a second public hearing and adoption in June. If the intent was to go through the Truth In Taxation process, the public hearings would be moved to the first week in August with a second public hearing on August 16. The budget must be adopted before September 1 if they go through the Truth In Taxation process. Administrator Darrington stated that the only capital change would be to move money for the pickleball/tennis courts and the shade coverings. Because CARE fund money was to be used a budget amendment would be required in June.

Council Member Jensen reported that they need to consider the Cemetery Fees for non-residents. Administrator Darrington stated that this item would be ready for discussion by the August budget discussion meeting. The Council had a Consolidated Fee Schedule before them, which would be

adopted at the same time as the budget. Because the budgeted projects could influence utility rates, they would also need to be evaluated prior to being enacted.

d. Staff Business.

Library and Arts Director, Sheri Britsch, welcomed additional ideas for Memorial Day. She noted they had a *Dia Del Los Ninos* activity on Saturday with about 150 children in attendance. There was a bilingual magic show. The Summer Reading Program was underway. Ms. Britsch reported that they were busy training new employees. It also was announced that the PG Players began their season with great success.

Police Chief, Mike Roberts, announced that they held their first Community Emergency Response Team (“CERT”) Training the previous week. Officers Estrada and Kirkham graduated from Hell Week and de-escalation training was completed. They also completed Officer Training to qualify on firing rifles and handguns. There was a successful Drug Take Back event at Macey’s on Saturday. They plan to update their social media three times per week. He reported on great police work that took place in an attempted murder case the previous week. He stated that they were lucky and grateful that no homicide occurred.

Adjournment.

MOTION: Council Member Williams moved to ADJOURN the Work Session at 5:28 p.m. Council Member Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Bullock, Jensen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Aye”.

The City Council minutes of May 3, 2022, were approved by the City Council on May 17, 2022.



Kathy T. Kresser, MMC

City Recorder

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

