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City of Washington Terrace

Minutes of a Regular City Council meeting
Held on September 18, 2018
City Hall, 5249 South 400 East, Washington Terrace City,
County of Weber, State of Utah

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MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

11 Mayor Mark C. Allen
12 Council Member Scott Monsen
13 Council Member Blair Brown - excused
14 Council Member Larry Weir
15 Council Member Scott Barker
16 Council Member Jeff West
17 City Manager Tom Hanson
18 City Recorder Amy Rodriguez
19 Fire Chief Kasey Bush
20 Public Works Director Steve Harris
21 Finance Director Shari' Garrett
22 Lt. Jeff Pledger, Weber County Sheriff

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Others present

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1 WORK SESSION

5:00 P.M.

27 Mayor Allen stated that the work session concerning the future of the Fire Department is one of the most
28 important decisions to be made for the City. Hanson stated that he and Chief Bush have been working on
29 staffing models. He stated that the goal of the session is direction from Council to work on in-house
30 model or move forward with working on a consolidation model.

31 Bush stated that Ogden Fire Department would like to partner with us to help with our Fire Department.
32 He stated that they have added an extra ambulance in the city and has helped reduce ambulance stress
33 from station 51. He stated that the extra ambulance has helped out quite a bit with the current ambulance
34 staying in station. He stated that it has alleviated wait times. Bush stated that he believes that our
35 response time is the best in the area.

36 Bush stated that Ogden will be sending their battalion chief officer run command during an emergency.
37 Bush stated that an in-house model allows us the flexibility to have a fire crew and an ambulance crew.
38 We would become a full fire station. This includes 3 of our fire fighters, two ambulance from Ogden, and
39 a battalion chief. Bush stated that if we staff 3 fire fighters we would be on the automatic aid stack. This
40 will allow 9 other fighters to be dispatched at the same time as we would and should arrive at the same
41 time. Currently, we would have to arrive on scene and then request the extra personnel.

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43 Bush stated that we would be receiving a battalion chief and two fire fighters from Ogden basically for
44 free. Bush stated that the battalion chief would become support staff for himself or the Captains. Chief
45 Bush stated that having three fire fighters enhances what we can do. Bush stated that keeping the
46 department in-house helps us keep in control of the tax base instead of being what to raise by outside
47 sources. Bush stated that the department may have to purchase five new turn out gears to outfit new fire
48 fighters needed to keep 3 on shift.

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Bush stated that one of the benefits of a consolidated district is the larger number of firefighters that are pulled into our shifts. He stated that our station would be staffed with 3 fire fighters, but these would take up fire and ambulance service, meaning that if the ambulance is out, the trucks cannot go out. He stated that this is called “jump staffing”. He stated that the tax rate would not be governed by our City, it would be governed by the district. Council Member Barker stated that he feels that we would not have any control over issues if we consolidated. Hanson stated that the district has casually mentioned that they would like to build a new fire station at the south end of our city and essentially closed our station down.

Mayor Allen stated that there was an article in August concerning tax districts. He noted that the homes in Weber Fire District pay around 320.00 a year just to the fire district, whereas our residents pay around 290.00 for the whole property tax amount.

Bush stated that we would be going to a part time department if we were to keep it in-house. He stated that we would most likely follow the Ogden Fire Department practice of bringing people on and training them. Bush stated that we would need to hire around 10 more people to cover the shifts. Bush stated that public service has a different set of guidelines for when overtime pay could be paid. He stated that we should not have any overtime. Hanson stated that we are right on the edge of volunteer/part time now. He stated that if we don’t explore all our options moving forward, we give up all our options to the District. He stated that it is cumbersome to unwind the consolidation if we join the District. Hanson stated that he realizes that going to a part time force will cost more, however, it would not cost as much as consolidation. He noted that our level of service with the District may go down, as we would only have 3 people staffed as opposed to 5.

Hanson stated that we would have to raise funds, and will have to raise them through taxes. He stated that this would be going on in perpetuity. Hanson stated that we have rough numbers. Hanson stated that taxes will go up whether we keep it in-house or consolidate with the District. The question becomes at what cost. Hanson stated that if we keep it in-house, we control the costs and increase our level of service without the cost or hassle of consolidation.

Hanson stated that the OTIS project will be coming up in 2021 and will show as a tax increase. He stated that we will have to do a good job of educating residents on what the tax increases will buy the city. Mayor Allen stated that once it is decided, there is no easy way to go back. He stated that we would be partnering with a huge neighboring entity (Ogden City) and they will be paying for a large portion of our costs. Chief Bush stated that Ogden does not want to lose their ambulance revenue out of the city, but does not feel that is their sole motivation for their offer to help. Council Member Monsen stated that there is nothing wrong with Ogden getting something from the partnership, as we are also getting something.

Bush stated that our current budget is around \$310,000. He stated that the rough estimates show a \$263,000 change within our budget. Chief Bush stated that the consolidation numbers have increased. Hanson stated that he was told by a City Manager in a fire district has guaranteed that we will pay more in taxes with a district. Council Member Monsen stated that he would like to explore the Washington Terrace In-house Model.

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Mark C. Allen

97 Council Member Scott Monsen
98 Council Member Blair Brown - excused
99 Council Member Larry Weir
100 Council Member Scott Barker
101 Council Member Jeff West
102 Public Works Director Steve Harris
103 City Manager Tom Hanson
104 City Recorder Amy Rodriguez
105 Fire Chief Kasey Bush
106 Lt. Jeff Pledger, Weber County Sheriff

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108 **Others present**
109 Charles and Reba Allen,

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111 **2. ROLL CALL** **6:00 P.M.**

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113 **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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115 **4. WELCOME**

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117 **5. CONSENT ITEMS**

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119 **5.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

120 **5.2 APPROVAL OF AUGUST 21, 2018, MEETING MINUTES**

121 Items 5.1 and 5.2 were approved by general consent.

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123 **6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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125 Resident Cathy Craynor handed out a letter of her concerns regarding the trees that are along the fencing
126 at the hospital. He stated that the trees act as a sound barrier, along with the beauty of the trees. She stated
127 that the thick foliage allows her to be safer, explaining that an escaped patient from the hospital broke
128 into an area in her home.

129 She stated that she was asking Mayor and Council to protect the trees as much as possible. The
130 comments will be attached to the written minutes.

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132 **7. COUNCIL/STAFF RESPONSE AND CONSIDERATION TO CITIZEN**
133 **COMMENTS**

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135 Hanson stated that there is a nuisance ordinance and the Russian Olive tree is on the list as a nuisance
136 trees. He stated that this instance is a case of an owner cleaning up their area. He stated that we protect
137 the land rights of the owner to do with their property as seen fit. Hanson stated that he appreciates Mrs.
138 Craynor position, however, we have no rights to instruct the hospital as to how to take care of their
139 property. Mayor Allen stated that the area has been cleaned up. Council Member Barker stated that they
140 may be cleaning up the property. Mayor Allen stated that he feels the trees are a nice backdrop to the
141 area, but looks a lot cleaner now. Mayor Allen stated that the trees are not allowed to be planted, but if
142 there is a complaint from a neighbor, we can ask them to remove them.

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144 **8. NEW BUSINESS**

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**8.1 MOTION/ORDINANCE 18-12: AMENDMENT TO MUNICIPAL CODE 13.08.090
“METER REGULATION”**

Hanson stated that our meter tampering ordinance needed to be updated to include lids, meters, and utility boxes. He stated that utility boxes are not to be opened by anyone except a utility service worker, or anyone who has permission from the City. Hanson stated that this would not have to go through the justice court. The fines would be put directly onto their water bill. He stated that this is a current practice and has not been amended by the new ordinance. Hanson stated that it is preferred for a plumber to turn off the water during an emergency water leak. This also applies to an authorized individual. Hanson stated that the ordinance applies to all utility delivery systems. Hanson stated that a permit will need to be obtained for water meter change outs within the home.

**Motion by Council Member West
Seconded by Council Member Barker
To approve ordinance 18-12 to amend municipal code
“Meter Regulations”
Approved unanimously (4-0)
Roll Call Vote**

**8.2 MOTION: APPROVAL TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR
TANK #1 SEISMIC UPGRADE**

Harris stated that the CDBG project to upgrade tank #1 is to get the tank back online. It has been closed for several years. He stated that we need more water storage capacity. Harris stated that the bids were opened last Tuesday, noting that there were 3 firms that bid on the seismic upgrades. He stated that they were all above the engineer estimates. He stated that the lowest bid was Spindler Construction for \$235,949. He stated that approve the bid will allow us to attach anchors to the tank so that in the event of an earthquake, the tank will not crumble. Harris stated that we were under \$56,000 on the estimate. He stated that there are few companies that do this work and does not feel that we could do better at this time.

Harris stated that the second part of the project is to improve the tank to bring it to safe drinking standards. Harris stated that the bid came in over \$135,000 from the engineers estimate. Harris stated that he does not recommend awarding the second phase of the project at this time. He stated that he is still researching issues with lead based paint. He stated that this is the reason that the bid came in more expensive than originally expected. Harris stated that the scope may be changed, renegotiated, or the project may be re-bid. Harris stated that lightning strikes have damaged some of the paint. He stated that those areas will need to be prepared. Harris stated that the repairs need to be corrected so that there is not an issue with corrosion in the future. Harris stated that he has worked with Spindler before. He stated that there is pre-evaluation completed on the companies before they submit their bid.

**Motion by Council Member Monsen
Seconded by Council Member West
To award the construction contract for
Tank #1 seismic upgrade to
Spindler Construction for \$235,949
Approved unanimously (4-0)**

8.3 MOTION/RESOLUTION 18-09: AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL

193 **AGREEMENT WITH OGDEN CITY FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES**

194 Hanson stated that this agreement modifies the interlocal agreement with Ogden City concerning
195 ambulance and fire services. This amendment will allow Ogden City to send a battalion chief to support
196 our operations during an emergency. Council Member West clarified that there is no cost to this service.

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198 **Motion by Council Member Barker**
199 **Seconded by Council Member Weir**
200 **To approve Resolution 18-09 to**
201 **Amend the Interlocal Agreement with Ogden City for**
202 **Ambulance services**
203 **Approved unanimously (4-0)**
204 **Roll Call Vote**
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206 **8.4 DISCUSSION/ACTION: DIRECTION FROM COUNCIL ON THE FIRE**
207 **DEPARTMENT COURSE OF ACTION CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATED**
208 **FIRE DISTRICT**

209 Mayor Allen stated that the city has a meeting two months ago with neighboring cities to form a
210 consolidated fire district. Staff and Council have been discussing the issue for many months. Mayor
211 Allen stated that the discussions focused on whether to pursue a consolidation or whether to stay
212 in-house. Several work sessions and discussion meetings have been held on the topic and options.

213 Mayor Allen stated that either option will be a cost increase.

214 Council Member Barker stated that his opinion is not to consolidate, and stay in-house. Council Member
215 Weir agreed. Council Member Monsen stated that this decision is not final and that there is still a vague
216 area as far as numbers are concerned. He stated that he agrees to direct staff to pursue an in-house option,
217 noting that this is not a final decision. Hanson stated that we need direction as to what to tell Riverdale
218 and South Ogden Cities as to our decision concerning the Consolidated District. Council Member
219 Monsen asked Chief Bush a question concerning mutual aid. Bush stated that if we enter into the
220 automatic aid stack, the other cities cannot back out of the support. It is a county wide effort and should
221 not be affected if we do not join the Consolidated District.

222 Hanson stated that he received letters from Riverdale and South Ogden stating that they intend to
223 continue to support a Consolidated District and plan to move forward in the process.

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225 **Motion by Council Member West**
226 **Seconded by Council Member Weir**
227 **To direct staff to look for other options and continue to remain in-house**
228 **And not to consider joining the consolidated district**
229 **Approved unanimously (4-0)**
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231 **9. ADJOURN INTO RDA MEETING**

232 Council Adjourned into and RDA meeting at 7:04 p.m.

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234 **10. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF**

235 Council Member Weir stated that he has seen several trailers in the city not connected to vehicles.
236 Hanson stated that Monroe works with the Sheriff's Office to cite the trailers. There is an ordinance in
237 place. Hanson stated that this is a migratory event that happens every year around this time.

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240 Council Member West stated that Mrs. Lyndell may be calling Hanson concerning a citation issue. He

241 stated that there is an abandoned vehicle near her property as well.

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243 Mayor Allen asked about the football field standards.

244 Mayor Allen stated that he has noticed 4 posts in the city for speed signs. Hanson stated that there are 4
245 posts and three portable electronic signs. Mayor Allen stated that 500 West would be a good location for
246 one of the signs.

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248 **11. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

249 Hanson stated that the Council Retreat has been scheduled for November 17th.

250 Hanson stated that we have our mower back from service. He stated that the fields were mowed today
251 and will be mowed before the game at least two times.

252 Hanson stated that there was an incident concerning Rohmer Park regarding a car driving donuts in the
253 grass. Hanson stated that the offender has been caught.

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255 **12. UPCOMING EVENTS**

256 **September 27- Planning Commission cancelled**

257 **October 2nd: City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

258 **October 8th : City Offices Closed for Columbus Day**

259 **October 9th: Public Works Open House and Emergency Fair**

260 **October 16th: City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

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262 **13. MOTION: ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION**

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264 **Motion by Council Member West**
265 **Seconded by Council Member Barker**
266 **To Adjourn into closed session**
267 **Approved unanimously (4-0)**
268 **Roll Call Vote**
269 **Time: 7:37 p.m.**

270 Council adjourned into closed session to discuss:

- 271 ○ To discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an
272 individual.

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275 **13. ADJOURN THE MEETING: MAYOR ALLEN**

276 Mayor Allen adjourned the closed session and regular meeting at 8:42 p.m.

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Date Approved

City Recorder