

City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes

Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Council Chambers
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd., Room No. 140
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

BRIEFING SESSION

Attendance:

Mayor Lawrence Johnson

Council Members:

Council Chairman Brad Christopherson
Vice-Chairman Daniel Armstrong
Council Member Dama Barbour
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Kristie Overson

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder
Tracy Wyant, UPD Precinct Chief
Mark McGrath, Community Development Director
Jay Ziolkowski, UFA Battalion Chief
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Tiffany Janzen, Public Information Officer
Scott Harrington, Chief Financial Officer
Shay Smith, City Engineer

Others: Meredith Harker

6:00 BRIEFING SESSION

Chairman Brad Christopherson conducted the Briefing Session, which convened at 6:10 p.m. City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle conducted a Roll Call, wherein all Council Members were present.

1. Review Agenda

The agenda for the City Council Meeting was reviewed.

Chair Christopherson asked City Attorney Tracy Cowdell to prepare some information on pros/cons regarding municipal election options and vote by mail data, similar to what was provided to the Council back in 2015, for the next City Council Meeting,. It was confirmed that Salt Lake County would like the contract for elections services back by March 14, 2017.

Council Member Dan Armstrong stated that he would like to review City ordinances regarding panhandling. Mr. Cowdell cited an ordinance he wrote previously for Midvale City regarding collecting money at dangerous intersections. He indicated that he would track what is happening with this issue in the legislative session and then address any gaps in City code.

Council Member Ernest Burgess referenced the need to educate citizens regarding dangerous situations related to public safety through collecting/donating money at intersections.

Council Member Dan Armstrong cited the need for some type of ordinance regarding camping gear and sleeping bags without preauthorization in order to eliminate camping along the Jordan River Parkway, etc.

Chair Christopherson indicated that he would like to hold a Closed Session this evening regarding professional competence of an individual and receive information on the Council's legal obligations.

2. Adjourn

Chairman Christopherson declared the Briefing Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance:

Mayor Lawrence Johnson

Council Members:

Council Chairman Brad Christopherson
Vice-Chairman Daniel Armstrong
Council Member Dama Barbour
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Kristie Overson

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Mark McGrath, Community Development Director
Tracy Wyant, UPD Precinct Chief
Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder
Scott Harrington, Chief Financial Officer

Wayne Harper, Economic Development Director
Jay Ziolkowski, UFA Battalion Chief
Kristy Heineman, Council Coordinator
Tiffany Janzen, Public Information Officer
Shay Smith, City Engineer

Others: Judy Bunkall, John Gidney, Connie Taney, Charlie Evans, Royce Larsen, Meredith Harker, Joan Thalmann, Gordon Willardson, John Inch Morgan, Lynn Handy, Scott Brown, Carl Fauver, Scouts from Troop 1216 and 1415

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

[6:31:43 PM](#) Chairman Brad Christopherson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle conducted a Roll Call, wherein all Council Members were present.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge/Reverence – *Vice-Chair Armstrong (Opening Ceremonies for March 1, 2017 to be arranged by Council Member Barbour)*

Council Member Dan Armstrong directed the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Dan Armstrong offered the Reverence.

1.2 Mayor's Report

There was no Mayor's Report.

1.3 Citizen Comments

[6:34:52 PM](#) Chairman Brad Christopherson reviewed the Citizen Comment Procedures for the audience. He then called for any citizen comments. There were no citizen comments, and Chairman Christopherson closed the citizen comment period.

2. APPOINTMENTS

2.1 Appointment of Judy Bunkall to the LARP Committee – *Vice Chair Armstrong*

[6:35:27 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong recognized Judy Bunkall and nominated her to serve as a member of the Taylorsville LARP Committee.

Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to appoint Judy Bunkall to the LARP Committee. Council Member Kristie Overson **SECONDED** the motion. Chairman Brad Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Armstrong-yes, Barbour-yes, Overson-yes, Christopherson-yes, and Burgess-yes. **All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

3. REPORTS

3.1 Historic Preservation Committee Report – *Connie Taney*

[6:36:46 PM](#) Committee Chair Connie Taney reported on recent activities and upcoming events for the Historic Preservation Committee. She referenced goals recently set by committee members. She expressed appreciation to Council Member Kristie Overson for serving as Council Advisor to the committee.

[6:37:33 PM](#) Ms. Taney cited the effects of harsh weather upon the museum property and addressed maintenance needs. She relayed that there is bare exposed wood around the dairy store at the outside top of the building. She indicated that the soffit and fascia has been blown away. She observed that the outside appearance of the building is an important maintenance issue. Ms. Taney also addressed continually chipped paint on the front porch and inquired whether it could be treated with something that will allow paint to last longer without chipping. She said she will be investigating a rubberized paint product that is used on garage floors.

[6:41:12 PM](#) Ms. Taney relayed that some revenue funds received from dairy store rentals will be used to reinvest in some different flooring in the store. She cited a desire to have rewiring performed to provide electrical outlets on the north outside of the dairy store.

[6:43:09 PM](#) Ms. Taney noted a need for some sidewalk repairs in front of the property on the north side of 4800 South. She also cited missing gutter and loose gravel that may be a safety issue. Chair Christopherson suggested that this could likely be taken care of fairly quickly.

[6:44:48 PM](#) Chair Christopherson observed that everything being asked for is reasonable. He suggested writing up and submitting proposals to be included in next year's budget.

[6:45:31 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor suggested giving the information on maintenance needs to Mark Dailey to see if it can be done out of his maintenance budget funds; if not, it can be submitted as a proposal for next year's budget. He indicated that the sidewalk repair is on the list to be done. He confirmed that 4800 South is a City road and the sidewalk will be addressed.

[6:46:01 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour asked about any known costs for the maintenance needed. She stated that she is in favor of all the requests. Ms. Taney stated that she will be

obtaining three bids for the flooring to be covered by rental funds. Mr. Taylor explained that Mr. Dailey can help obtain quotes and costs for the maintenance needs.

[6:46:57 PM](#) Ms. Taney described two grants written for the committee, as follows: (1) ZAP Grant in the amount of \$4,500 to fund bus transportation for school tours in May; and a CLG Grant in the amount of \$2,500 to fund education on the City website about the museum property.

[6:47:59 PM](#) Council Member Overson shared a commitment from the Taylorsville Youth Council to come to the museum property on April 29, 2017 to help prepare for school tours. She also cited a need for some new computer equipment at the museum and said monies have been budgeted for such. Ms. Taney acknowledged an expense of \$460 for needed IT updates to facilitate cataloging performed on computers.

[6:49:23 PM](#) Chair Christopherson thanked Ms. Taney and the Historic Preservation Committee Members for their volunteer hours.

[6:49:47 PM](#) Chair Christopherson recognized scouts from Troop 1216 and Troop 1415 in attendance.

3.2 Legislative Updates – *Charlie Evans*

[6:50:21 PM](#) City Lobbyist Charlie Evans reported on current legislative issues. He described the status of the short-term rental bill. He explained that under this bill, the City cannot just go out and investigate short-term owner occupied rentals based on online advertisement; however, if the City receives a complaint about the short-term rental, the City can then go out and investigate the situation and enforce code. He said the bill passed committee this week.

[6:52:29 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour stated that she is very much against this bill and believes this situation should be locally controlled. She observed that this bill could be detrimental to neighborhoods. Mr. Evans confirmed that the bill does not affect the City's parking ordinance.

[6:54:33 PM](#) City Attorney Tracy Cowdell cited problems seen with flop houses. He said that this bill may pass, but he would like to see the City's transient room tax applied to these places because of additional resources they require. Mr. Evans indicated that is covered in the proposed legislation. Mr. Cowdell indicated that if this passes, the City will send these short-term rental places a bill for the applicable tax.

[6:56:04 PM](#) Council Member Barbour observed that under this bill, single family residences could constantly rent out part of their home, creating a lot of duplexes in single-family homes. She indicated this is a big concern and asked how the City can stop this from happening.

Mr. Evans indicated that it is likely that some form of this bill will pass. He explained that the thinking is, if the owner is occupying the home, it will be more under control. He said this is the steam under which this bill is currently being carried.

[6:58:32 PM](#) Council Member Kristie Overson referenced other bills being considered regarding short-term rentals, but said this particular bill is considered a free speech issue. Mr. Evans reiterated that if there is ever a complaint, the City can go and enforce the ordinance, but if it is owner-occupied, the City cannot go online to identify and investigate these types of owner-occupied short-term rental properties. He confirmed that if someone is not registered or licensed, the City can tell them that they must license, etc. Council Member Overson agreed that it is not good to lose local control of this situation.

[7:01:10 PM](#) Mr. Evans said he thinks the bill will pass eventually, but will change to another form. He said city lobbyists and the ULCT are opposing the bill. He clarified that if it is suspected that the owner does not occupy the home, the City can also investigate.

[7:01:35 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess observed that rooms for rent compromise neighborhoods. He said he is not in favor of the bill and stated appreciation to Mr. Evans for relaying the City's concern.

[7:02:25 PM](#) Mayor Larry Johnson cited potential parking problems with short-term rentals. Mr. Evans clarified that there is nothing in this bill that prevents enforcement of the City's parking ordinances.

[7:03:25 PM](#) Mr. Evans indicated that the bill has been given traction based on home owner property rights. He said the argument is that if an owner is home and not an inconvenience to neighbors, they should be able to do it. He shared that there are approximately 1900 people in the state that are doing short-term rentals in homes and it is a growing problem.

[7:04:23 PM](#) Council Member Barbour suggested that residents who are concerned with this issue contact legislators.

[7:05:18 PM](#) Council Member Kristie Overson thanked Mr. Evans for time he spent with Council Member Barbour and herself to share legislative information. She said she appreciates him looking out for City issues.

[7:05:25 PM](#) Mr. Evans confirmed that it is very unlikely a big bond will be done this year and revenues, except for the education fund, are expected to be flat. He observed that this will help schools in Taylorsville, but does not help City funds as most of the new revenue will be in the education fund. He explained that if a bond is done, priorities on the TIF list for the City will be followed. He clarified that there is no tax impact with a bond.

[7:07:47 PM](#) Mr. Evans indicated that he is in daily contact with the Mayor. He encouraged any City Council Members to contact him, as well, and to let him know if they are at the capitol at any time so he can meet up with them.

[7:08:44 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burges asked about homeless shelters. Mr. Evans relayed that there is a bill (HB 161) regarding panhandling that should address some concerns. He cited a problem with homelessness and said that Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County are making progress in resolving some conflicts.

[7:10:15 PM](#) Mayor Johnson said that Taylorsville will wait to see where the legislation on panhandling goes before bringing back any new ordinance for the City.

Mr. Evans stated his appreciation for the opportunity to represent Taylorsville.

3.3 VECC Report – *John Inch Morgan*

[7:10:58 PM](#) VECC Director John Inch Morgan reported on services provided through the Valley Emergency Communications Center (VECC). He inquired about the definition of an emergency and quizzed those present about when to contact 911. He distributed a brochure regarding calling 911 and stressed that 911 should only be called to: (1) save a life; (2) stop a crime; or (3) report a fire. He cited a new promotion to help educate people about only dialing 911 for an emergency. He clarified that there is another 10-digit number to call for non-emergencies.

[7:13:56 PM](#) Mr. Morgan relayed that VECC processes 28% of all of the emergency calls in the State of Utah, which is about 600,000 calls per year. He reported that there are approximately 30 individuals on duty at one time, ten of whom take calls. He explained that dispatchers are trained to first ask for a name, an address, and the nature of the emergency. They will then immediately order appropriate response, but will continue to ask questions of the caller. Mr. Morgan stressed the importance of callers providing an exact address, including an apartment number, floor, etc.

[7:17:21 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour asked about communications bills before legislators. Mr. Morgan referenced two bills sponsored by Senator Wayne Harper and described proposed changes to the structure of the Utah Communications Authority Board. He also discussed funding aspects that are being evaluated following recent audits and a new fee that is proposed. He gave clarification on separate fees and amounts that are being reallocated. He confirmed that VECC is supporting the bills.

[7:22:45 PM](#) Mr. Morgan described the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Project which was organized in order to consolidate records among various entities in the valley. He indicated that the consolidated system will not be fully implemented for about 12 more months. He cited plans to distribute videos to member cities and agencies to provide education on the new system.

[7:25:26 PM](#) Mr. Morgan described VECC's recent certification through the International Academy of Professional Communicators on processes for medical, fire, and police. He relayed that VECC is only one of seven in the world who have accomplished that international designation. He acknowledged that VECC was out of compliance when he first came on board and great strides have since been made.

3.4 UFA Quarterly Report – *Battalion Chief Jay Ziolkowski*

[7:27:01 PM](#) UFA Battalion Chief Jay Ziolkowski reported on fire services provided in Taylorsville by the Unified Fire Authority for the previous quarter.

[7:29:04 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski reviewed statistics for fire and medical responses and gave breakdowns on types of medical call-outs. He illustrated locations for calls dispatched to Stations 109, 117, and 118 during the last quarter. He cited a higher number of calls on the east side of the City.

[7:32:31 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski discussed fire prevention activities that were provided in Taylorsville. He referenced significant calls as outlined in the Council packet report.

[7:33:12 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski gave a construction update on the new fire station and indicated that the building is almost finished. He relayed that a ribbon cutting ceremony is being planned for March 7, 2017. Chief Ziolkowski indicated that he will be working with the Mayor and the new fire chief to establish staffing at the new station.

[7:34:48 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski referenced a safety message about correct ways to relay information when placing 911 calls and cautions for assisting at an emergency scene.

[7:35:05 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski shared an employee spotlight of the UFA's newly appointed Fire Chief Dan Petersen.

[7:35:16 PM](#) Mayor Johnson reported that he met with the new UFA chief last week and was very impressed with his abilities and his plans. He observed that the new chief is aware of problems and issues related to the City and has committed to address them.

[7:36:21 PM](#) Chief Ziolkowski agreed that he is very impressed with the methodical efforts of the new UFA chief. He indicated that the chief brings a good dynamic to the organization.

[7:37:15 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess stated appreciation to Chief Ziolkowski for his stabilizing influence as liaison to Taylorsville.

[7:38:25 PM](#) Chairman Brad Christopherson referenced a number of open UFA positions from a few months ago. Chief Ziolkowski confirmed that those open positions have largely been filled. He noted that some vacancies were unfilled because of Draper's intention to withdraw from UFA. He indicated that the new recruits have graduated and are now on the streets. The Chief cited work with the Board of Directors on new staffing levels.

[7:40:24 PM](#) Chair Christopherson asked about Chief Ziolkowski's own involvement in recruitment and staffing. Chief Ziolkowski relayed that UFA's Deputy Chief is taking the lead on staffing, but Chief Ziolkowski will meet with him to advise specifically what was promised and what is needed in Taylorsville.

[7:41:39 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess inquired whether Draper has officially left UFA. Chief Ziolkowski acknowledged that they will leave UFA either July 1 or August 1 of this year. He clarified that Draper is not a member of the Fire District, but will leave Unified Fire Authority.

[7:42:26 PM](#) Chair Christopherson commended UFA for improvements made in response times over the past four years.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no matters for the Consent Agenda.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Resolution No. 17-04 – A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Declaring Certain City-Owned Property as Surplus Property – *Scott Harrington*

[7:42:58 PM](#) Chief of Finance Scott Harrington presented the subject resolution and relayed that the City desires to declare its street sweeper, identified as a white 2008 Elgin Road Wizard Street Sweeper, as surplus property. Mr. Harrington reviewed the history of the street sweeper, explaining that Taylorsville previously joined Holladay and Cottonwood Heights in providing street sweeping services. He relayed that Holladay and Cottonwood Heights recently pulled out of the agreement, so Taylorsville is considering going with Salt Lake County for more frequent street sweeping. He indicated that there is an approximate \$20,000 repair needed on the City's Street Sweeper. Mr. Harrington confirmed that it does not make sense to repair the vehicle and so the City is looking to surplus it as is. He relayed that there is between \$10,000 and \$20,000 in

residual value for the street sweeper. He observed that the City paid off the vehicle a few years ago and it has served the City well.

[7:45:36 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor relayed that Taylorsville approached Salt Lake County to see if they had any use for the used street sweeper, but they are not interested due to its age and condition. He explained that the County will have someone from Public Works either on a street sweeper or a snow plow working full-time in Taylorsville.

[7:46:19 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour asked about cost comparisons in the City's contract through going with the County. Mr. Taylor clarified that the cost to lease the sweeper with the County is roughly the same as that through the interlocal with all three cities (about \$65,000 to \$75,000 per year). He noted that the City will not be paying additional amounts for labor, but will be reallocating labor.

[7:47:12 PM](#) Mr. Harrington noted that the change will result in a definite service improvement within the City, as it was previously swept four times per year. Mr. Taylor observed that public works services will not decrease in regard to road work, etc.

[7:47:46 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess questioned whether the City will have a better outline of which streets are being swept and when sweeping occurs. Mr. Taylor acknowledged that an increase in services should be seen, which should decrease complaints. He indicated that there will be a defined route and reports can be given on when the sweeper will be in each district.

[7:48:50 PM](#) Mayor Johnson relayed that quite a few complaints were previously received about the sweeper. He cited past issues and observed that this should provide better service.

[7:49:36 PM](#) Mr. Taylor indicated that the City will approach the State to see if they would be willing to pay the City to take over sweeping of State roads in Taylorsville.

[7:49:59 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour expressed hope that individual homeowners will take initiative to clean up streets in front of homes following garbage days, etc. Mr. Taylor suggested placing a reminder to residents in the Taylorsville Journal about helping to keep the City clean.

[7:50:13 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour **MOVED** to adopt Resolution No. 17-04, as presented. Council Member Ernest Burgess **SECONDED** the motion. Chairman Brad Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Armstrong-yes, Overson-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Barbour-yes. **All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 **Resolution No. 17-05 – A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between the City of Taylorsville and Salt Lake County on Behalf of the County Clerk Elections Division for 2017 Municipal Election Services – Cheryl Peacock Cottle**

[7:50:40 PM](#) City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle presented the subject resolution regarding an interlocal agreement with Salt Lake County's Election Division to conduct Taylorsville's 2017 Municipal Election. She noted that there are three offices up for election in Taylorsville this year, as follows: Mayor, Council Member for District 4, and Council Member for District 5.

[7:51:22 PM](#) Ms. Cottle relayed that Salt Lake County has historically provided Taylorsville's election services over many past years. She noted that, because they also conduct the elections of all the other cities in the county, the City is able to participate in some cost sharing with those other cities. She explained that the estimate given is a not-to-exceed amount and if primary elections in some of the races are not required this year, the actual cost could come in much lower. She indicated that the City will be billed after the November election is concluded for its share of actual costs, based on the number of voters and primary races held in Taylorsville.

[7:52:11 PM](#) Ms. Cottle stated that the scope of services provided by the County is large, as outlined in Exhibit A of the agreement. She noted that there are a couple of things that the City is still responsible for and, as Taylorsville's Election Officer, she is the liaison with the County to relay information. She indicated that she does accept the declarations of candidacy from candidates during the filing period and handles campaign finance statements as required, but everything else is pretty much handled by the County. She observed that this is a great benefit to the City.

[7:53:04 PM](#) Ms. Cottle explained that the County is asking that the signed agreement be returned by March 14th, so this is being presented tonight for consideration. She noted that there is still one more Council Meeting before the agreement must be finalized and in place. Ms. Cottle called for any questions from the Council.

[7:53:24 PM](#) Ms. Cottle described the two options being offered by Salt Lake County as: (1) an all vote by mail option; and (2) a consolidated polls option. She said that basically the only difference between the two options is that with all vote by mail, every registered voter in Taylorsville would initially be mailed a ballot. She relayed that if all vote by mail is selected, early voting will still be provided and Taylorsville is being suggested as an early voting location for the two weeks preceding the election, with extended hours of 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Ms. Cottle clarified that just because voters are mailed ballots does not mean they are locked into voting by mail, as they still have many options for coming and voting in person on machines

both during early voting and on Election Day. She indicated that both options will provide at least three voting locations in Taylorsville on Election Day.

[7:54:30 PM](#) Ms. Cottle reported on a phone conversation she had with the Salt Lake County Elections Director earlier in the day. She stated that the County has assured that they are receptive to doing the type of election Taylorsville prefers and has allowed room in the estimates to provide more voting locations and additional machines if needed. She relayed that the County is concerned, however, that if the City does not do all vote by mail, there may be some confusion among voters since they were all mailed ballots during the recent 2016 Presidential Election. Ms. Cottle explained that if the City decides not to do all vote by mail and instead does the consolidated polls option, then only those voters who are signed up for the County's permanent vote by mail program would receive ballots; the other approximately 16,000 Taylorsville voters would just receive information about when/where to vote in person. Ms. Cottle reiterated that the County is willing to do whichever option the City prefers.

[7:55:54 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour asked for clarification that under both options the City would be provided three voting centers on Election Day. Ms. Cottle confirmed that the County believes that three voting locations on Election Day would work for either option. She added that there will be three vote centers in Taylorsville, but there will also be a total of 40 vote centers placed throughout Salt Lake County on Election Day for municipal elections. She noted that this is way more than what was provided during the Presidential Election and should alleviate long lines, etc. She observed that the turnout for this year's municipal election will, of course, be much smaller than that in the 2016 election.

[7:56:59 PM](#) Ms. Cottle explained that anyone can vote at any of the 40 vote centers provided. She clarified that a Taylorsville resident who works in another area of the County can go to a vote center in the area they work and still receive a Taylorsville ballot on Election Day. She noted that other Salt Lake County residents who live in different cities in the county can likewise come to Taylorsville vote centers and vote on Election Day.

[7:57:16 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour observed that it will cost more to stop mailed ballots from going to every registered voter. Ms. Cottle explained that the costs are only estimates and are split over both a potential primary and a general election. She relayed that if a consolidated polls election is conducted, the County will need to bring in more voting machines, more staff, and more laptops, so there would be added expense. The County would still mail to all those voters who do not receive mailed ballots; they would just mail them different information and printed materials on when and where to vote.

[7:58:10 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour said she is trying to understand why the City would choose to do the consolidated polls option. She asked the Mayor for his suggestions and reasoning.

[7:58:29 PM](#) Mayor Larry Johnson said he is all about saving money, but is also about choice for the people. He observed that there are approximately 24,500 registered voters in Taylorsville and 8,300 have asked to be mailed ballots, while the rest want to vote at the box. He noted that anyone can ask to be mailed a ballot.

[7:59:01 PM](#) Council Member Barbour observed that if the City does not do all vote by mail and additional voters want to be mailed a ballot, they must take an extra step to get one.

[7:59:07 PM](#) Mayor Johnson stated that there were not enough polling locations during the last election and people were lined up for hours. He noted that there may be a day when voters do not have a choice of how to vote, but he still sees that 66% of the people want to vote in person.

[7:59:30 PM](#) Council Member Barbour questioned whether individuals would still have that right to vote in person even if they are mailed a ballot. Mayor Johnson agreed that 8,300 voters would be mailed a ballot, but the others would not. He said that he believes the majority of the people want to vote in person.

[8:00:05 PM](#) Council Member Barbour observed that all voters would still have the right to vote in person. Mayor Johnson reiterated that under the consolidated polls option, the people who have requested a mailed ballot will receive one and the others will not.

[8:01:08 PM](#) Chair Christopherson clarified that there is a \$16,000 increased cost if the City does not do vote by mail, but the only difference is that voters will either receive a mailed ballot or a voter information pamphlet. He observed that there is still a postage and printing cost for mailing to voters who have not opted into the permanent vote by mail program. He asked for confirmation on early voting.

[8:01:40 PM](#) Ms. Cottle confirmed that both scenarios will have an early voting option in Taylorsville from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the two weeks prior to the election and both options will provide at least three voting centers in Taylorsville to vote in person on Election Day. She clarified that it is ideal if voters who are mailed ballots, but then desire to vote in person, bring their ballots to surrender at the vote center; however, they will still be allowed to vote even if they do not surrender a ballot. All they are required to bring is voter identification.

[8:02:26 PM](#) Chair Christopherson summarized that the only difference if the City goes with all vote by mail is that every voter is mailed a ballot, although they do not have to use it and they still have just as many options under that scenario to vote in person during early voting or at a polling location anywhere in the county on Election Day. Ms. Cottle confirmed this is the case and that the only difference between the two options is whether voters are initially mailed a ballot or simply a voter information card.

[8:03:44 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour asked the Mayor why he would object to everyone being mailed a ballot and then using their own prerogative as to whether they want to mail it or vote in person.

[8:04:01 PM](#) Mayor Johnson said the reason he prefers people to vote in person is because they have to show identification and they do not have to do so with a mail-in ballot. He said he has a list of things that he has a hard time with and he believes having a choice is worth the extra \$16,000. He reiterates that he likes to save money, but this is the way he feels about the issue.

[8:05:05 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong asked for clarification on the added expense for the consolidated polls option even though no additional voting locations would be added. Ms. Cottle cited the County's extra expense to bring in more machines, staff and equipment if the consolidated polls option is chosen. She indicated there is also some expense for testing more machines and for printing different mailing materials for those who do not receive a ballot. She said she is not clear on exact costs for specific materials mailed to voters.

[8:06:29 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong stated that he has a real problem with just confirming identification through a signature. He cited potential other ways of verifying identity through driver's license numbers. He expressed skepticism that signatures can be compared and verified accurately. He said he believes the idea of voter fraud is real.

[8:07:25 PM](#) Ms. Cottle said she recently had the opportunity of touring the Salt Lake County Election Center facility and observing the processes used. She indicated it was enlightening to her and that quite an intense process is used to verify signatures. She said the County welcomes visits from any elected officials or staff members who are curious about how the process is done.

[8:08:06 PM](#) Council Member Armstrong said he has seen trained experts fooled and if the verification method was changed, he might be more receptive to vote by mail. He stated that, as a result of the last election and in observing the number of people who wanted to vote in person and the issues with not having enough locations available to do so, he would want enough voting sites and machines available for voters this year; otherwise, the same problems will be encountered with the next Presidential election.

[8:08:48 PM](#) Chair Christopherson confirmed that this year's election is city-wide. He asked whether the City can ask the County to provide more polling locations. He said having more locations would make a difference to him. Ms. Cottle said that the County has indicated that they are receptive to having more locations if Taylorsville really felt it was needed, but they have made the determination that no more than three locations are warranted based on Taylorsville's past voter turnout history.

[8:10:03 PM](#) Ms. Cottle explained that the County strategically places vote centers where everyone can vote within cities in the County. She said the vote centers are sort of universal locations for the entire county and are not necessarily placed within each Taylorsville Council District. She indicated that the county believes three voting locations on Election Day are enough for the Taylorsville area.

[8:10:55 PM](#) Chair Christopherson stated that if these are the only two options, he believes it makes more sense to go with all vote by mail so that voters are mailed a ballot and then can decide how and where to vote. He said he does not have the same concerns as the Mayor and Council Member Armstrong over potential voter fraud issues.

[8:11:24 PM](#) Chair Christopherson said that it would be meaningful to him to have another one or two voting locations on Election Day, rather than having the fiasco that was seen last November.

[8:12:13 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor clarified that the model for having one place to go vote in a precinct has changed and because the County is conducting the election county-wide, voters can now vote their Taylorsville ballots in another location. He observed that the county is globally evaluating where to best sporadically place voting locations for the entire county. He reiterated that under both options any Taylorsville voter can vote a Taylorsville ballot anywhere they are in the county on Election Day.

[8:13:22 PM](#) Ms. Cottle stated that she has already asked the County about the chances of getting five polling locations in Taylorsville and they replied that they are open to that, but do not believe it is warranted at this point. It was relayed that voter numbers only really justify two locations, but the County is planning three just in case. It has been stated that more machines and people can be brought in if needed, even if more locations are not warranted. Ms. Cottle added that the County has indicated they will evaluate the situation in Taylorsville as the election season progresses, and make needed changes depending on the number of candidates in each race, etc. They also have relayed that there is already a buffer amount built into Taylorsville's cost estimates in case more locations are needed.

[8:14:32 PM](#) Council Member Dama Barbour said she is fine with waiting for a decision on this until the next meeting. She indicated that she would like to put the options out before her constituents for feedback. She observed that to her it appears the consolidated polls option takes away choices from residents instead of adding them, but she will solicit opinions from voters in her district.

[8:14:59 PM](#) Mayor Johnson stated that already 2/3 of the people have said they want to vote in person and agreed that surveys can be conducted. He indicated that he had a lot of people thank him following his veto to vote by mail back in 2015.

[8:15:42 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess **MOVED** to table Resolution No. 17-05 until the next Council Meeting. Council Member Dan Armstrong **SECONDED** the motion. Chairman Brad Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. Mr. Taylor asked whether the Council needs any more information brought back. Chair Christopherson said that there was a request during the Briefing Session for the Attorney's Office to update a previous memo and do additional research on voting options. Council Member Armstrong said he would like to see a commitment on the number of voting locations in the agreement. Ms. Cottle reaffirmed that the County has committed to at least three locations in Taylorsville. Council Member Armstrong expressed skepticism and Chair Christopherson said he would like to see one location in each district. Mayor Johnson expressed concern over delays in knowing who has won elections as a result of vote by mail. Council Member Burgess commented that he is pleased that this time more options for voting in person are provided through vote by mail. There being no further discussion, Chair Christopherson called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Armstrong-yes, Overson-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Barbour-yes. **All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

[8:19:00 PM](#) Chair Christopherson observed that this has been a good discussion and asked that the resolution for the election agreement be included on the next Council Meeting agenda.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

[8:19:36 PM](#) Chair Brad Christopherson noted that the City is waiting on legislation regarding panhandling before addressing city ordinance on that issue. He referenced the issue brought up by Council Member Armstrong related to prohibiting camping in parks. The Chair observed that there is already an ordinance on the books prohibiting overnight camping in City parks, except for allowing scout troops to camp at Labrum Park per a prior agreement with the LDS Church when they donated the property to the City.

[8:19:51 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor confirmed that overnight parking of vehicles or tents is not allowed in City parks. He said if there is a problem with violations, police should be notified.

[8:20:07 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong said the challenge is catching violators and cited specific problems with overnight parking along the Jordan River.

[8:22:08 PM](#) Mr. Taylor observed that until brush and hidden areas can be cleared along the Jordan River trail, it is going to be a game that is played back and forth. Council Member Dan Armstrong referenced impacted private property owners that should be involved, as well. Mr. Taylor said the area just needs to be cleaned up in order to make it visible. He acknowledged that this is a massive project and the area is currently very dangerous.

[8:23:28 PM](#) Mr. Taylor referenced a recent redevelopment proposal from Sorensen and potentials for cleanup. He said there is a financial gap, but the City is awaiting a plan. He said everyone will need to come together regarding the section between 4100 South and 4700 South to truly solve the issue.

[8:24:13 PM](#) Council Member Armstrong noted that he is serving on the Jordan River Commission and this is a real problem up and down the river.

[8:24:59 PM](#) Chair Christopherson asked City Attorney Tracy Cowdell to review legislative options for dealing with transients and overnight camping along Jordan River. Mr. Cowdell said that cities in the south end of the valley have grappled with the same problem. He agreed to research how other cities are dealing with the issue.

[8:25:51 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess cited issues with transients and asked for clarification on remedies. Mr. Taylor agreed that there is a money issue related to clearing trees and brush and until that time there is a place for transients to hide. He said that police pushed out another camp in the area just this week. He relayed that Detective Scott Lloyd has been very proactive in trying to move camps out, but it is a recurring problem.

[8:27:08 PM](#) UPD Chief Tracy Wyant discussed efforts to control transient activity along the Jordan River corridor. He cited a massive increase in homeless situations throughout Salt Lake and Utah Counties. He acknowledged that the problem along the Jordan River corridor is unique to Taylorsville and confirmed that it is a continual and significant problem. He noted that the offense is not bookable and only misdemeanor citations can be issued. He said that officers will continue to do what they can on the enforcement end, but it is a challenge. The Chief said that resources are offered to offending individuals, but observed that there are certain individuals who do actively choose this type of lifestyle.

[8:35:02 PM](#) Council Member Burgess inquired whether there are other cities that have been successful in dealing with this type of problem. Chief Wyant said he is not aware of any and noted that Salt Lake City has increased enforcement without any great success being seen.

[8:31:43 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked about the best tools or resources the City could provide to resolve the issue. Chief Wyant gave his opinion that the private area owned by Sorensen is the greatest issue in Taylorsville and must be addressed. He said that this specific area in the summer is so densely vegetated that it is a frightening situation. Mr. Taylor said the City must humanely deal with the issue and developing the area and providing something useful there for the general public may be the best option. Chief Wyant referenced potentially digging out an irrigation type system.

[8:34:21 PM](#) Mr. Taylor observed that this is a public safety issue and also a humanity issue. He suggested it may need to become a State issue.

[8:34:40 PM](#) Council Member Kristie Overson asked whether the issue has been addressed with Sorensen and whether they feel any responsibility. Mr. Taylor relayed that they have been asked to clear the area, but it is potentially a half million dollar project.

[8:35:10 PM](#) Mayor Johnson observed that even if the area is fenced up, transients will find another place to go in the City. Chief Wyant agreed and said that active enforcement is not solving the issue, but simply displacing transients, usually to north of 3900 South.

[8:36:08 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess cited a cleaned up area near 4500 South in Murray. Mr. Taylor noted that a lot of the problem area is owned by Salt Lake County, as well. He said even if funds are spent to clean the area out, unless the area is maintained it will be overgrown again within a couple more years and more expense will be required. He observed that there must be a plan for that area as well as addressing the true transient problem that exists. He confirmed that everyone is at the table right now, including Jordan River Commission, to determine what can be implemented in the area that is sustainable and usable. Mr. Taylor said that the overall transient problem should probably be addressed on a State level. He suggested getting a group together and approaching the State for discussion on the issue.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING)

[8:37:46 PM](#)

- 9.1 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, March 1, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.2 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 1, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.**
- 9.3 Work Session – Wednesday, March 8, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.4 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, March 14, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.**
- 9.5 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, March 15, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.6 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 15, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.**
- 9.7 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, March 28, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.**

[8:38:16 PM](#) Discussion was held regarding plans for the March 8th Work Session regarding State of the City Reports. Chair Christopherson asked that anything that still needs to be added to the existing list of topics be given to Council Coordinator Kris Heineman as soon as possible.

10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10.1 Town Hall Meeting – State of the City – Wednesday, April 26, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.**

[8:39:56 PM](#) Mayor Johnson described the format for a planned Town Hall Meeting on April 26, 2017 when he will be giving a State of the City address. He said the meeting will be advertised in the Journal for the next two months.

[8:40:33 PM](#) John Taylor noted that there is also a Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for February 28, 2017.

11. CLOSED SESSION (*Conference Room 202*)

- For the Purpose(s) Described in Statute U.C.A. 52-4-205

[8:41:04 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to convene a Closed Session to discuss the professional competence of an individual at 8:41 p.m. Council Member Dama Barbour **SECONDED** the motion. Chairman Brad Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Armstrong-yes, Overson-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Barbour-yes. **All members of the City Council present voted and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

The meeting was closed at 8:41 p.m. for the purposes listed below, wherein no other matters were discussed.

- **Discussion of the Character or Professional Competence of an Individual**

Those in attendance at the Closed Session were: Mayor Larry Johnson, Council Members Barbour, Burgess, Christopherson, Armstrong, and Overson; City Attorney Tracy Cowdell; City Administrator John Taylor; Chief Financial Officer Scott Harrington; and City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Dama Barbour **MOVED** to adjourn the Closed Session and the City Council Meeting. Council Member Dan Armstrong **SECONDED** the motion. Chairman Brad Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Armstrong-yes, Overson-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Barbour-yes. **All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder

Minutes approved: CC 03-01-17