

City of Taylorsville
Strategic Plan Budget Meeting
Minutes

Friday, April 17, 2013

Council Chambers
Taylorsville City Hall
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

Attendance:

Mayor Jerry Rechtenbach

Council Members:

Chairman Dama Barbour
Vice-Chairman Kristie Overson
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Brad Christopherson
Council Member Larry Johnson

City Staff:

John Inch Morgan, City Administrator
John Brems, City Attorney
Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder
Donald Adams, Economic Development Director
Tracy Wyant, UPD Precinct Chief
John Taylor, City Engineer
Jay Ziolkowski, UFA Battalion Chief
Aimee Newton, Communications Director
Rhetta McIff, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Patrick Tomasino, Chief Building Official
Wayne Harper, Economic Development Asst.

Excused: Community Development Director Mark McGrath; Chief of Finance Scott Harrington

Others: Daryl Gudmundson, Lynn Handy, Royce Larsen, John Gidney, Dave Ballou

19:45:36 City Administrator John Inch Morgan called the Strategic Plan Budget Meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

City Council Priorities Discussion (Facilitated by John Inch Morgan)

Initiative #3: Transportation and Infrastructure

19:46:47 Discussion was held regarding traffic calming devices. Council Member Overson stated that this is an ongoing issue. Mr. Morgan cited speed feedback signs which cost about \$6,000 each. He noted that there are options for mounting them permanently or having them be semi-permanent signs which can be removed and placed around the city. He commented that by investing in these types of signs, they can be temporarily set up in areas of greater concern throughout the City. He referenced another device, which would be speed bumps/humps. He noted that these types of devices have drawn a lot of criticism from residents supporting both sides of the issue. Mr. Morgan stated that many cities have utilized the speed humps. He noted City Engineer John Taylor has voiced his opinion that this is not a good resolution. He brought up the possibility of a combination using pinch curbs and street-scape types of natural barriers which tend to slow down traffic. Mr. Morgan asked Council Members for direction. Council Member Larry Johnson stated he liked the idea of removable speed signs. Mr. Morgan asked to take a poll regarding making speed signs a priority. Council Member Overson raised the question of possibly using a combination of speed signs and/or natural barriers depending on the area. Mr. Morgan suggested identifying a dollar amount for traffic calming devices and designating the City Engineer, Planning Department and Police Department to prioritize the needs based on geographical location. Mr. Morgan gave further explanation on the installation process for temporary speed feedback signs. Mayor Rechtenbach noted that statistically, flashing speed feedback signs work for a short period of time and then they are ignored, which then requires moving them to another location for a period of time. Mayor Rechtenbach asked Council Members to highlight and prioritize the areas of concern within each district so that a strategy could then be implemented based on the need. Council Member Larry Johnson stated he does not want to include this concern as a budget item. Mayor Rechtenbach suggested polling the council. It was noted that City Engineer John Taylor requested at least 6 more signs at a cost of \$6,000 each. He clarified that the City currently has 6 signs and this would bring the total to 12. The results of the poll were as follows: Larry Johnson - no; Brad Christopherson - no; Kristie Overson - yes; Ernest Burgess - yes; Dama Barbour - yes. It was confirmed that a placeholder will be put in the budget for \$36,000.

19:59:22 Discussion was held on bike lanes. Council Member Overson stated that she would like to add a bike lane at the east boundary running east/west. Mr. Morgan noted that there would be no additional cost for striping on 4800 South. John Taylor commented that it will limit parking. Mr. Morgan confirmed that there is no need to include this project in the budget, but it can be included as a priority in the Strategic Plan.

20:01:42 Discussion was held on maintenance for existing roads. John Taylor stated the need for \$2 million annually for road maintenance. He added that adding less than that would mean playing "catch up" over the next few years. Mr. Morgan advised adding \$250,000-\$270,000 in General Fund money to reach the \$2 million maintenance level annually. Council Member Barbour stated she feels that investing in economic development will help to bring in money for future projects. Larry Johnson prefers keeping the road maintenance budget at \$1.7 million. Mayor Rechtenbach advised that \$1.7 million would reach "proper maintenance," but the City is recommending increasing the amount to \$2 million to keep from falling backward. He noted that, otherwise, at some point it will mean a significant capital investment to catch up. Council Chair Barbour suggested taking budget away from maintenance to fund this capital investment. Mr. Morgan clarified that there are definitions and conditions in receiving and using those funds. A poll of the council concluded that additional funding for road maintenance would go into an Add Package.

20:07:04 Discussion took place on constructing a signal at West Point. John Inch Morgan clarified that UDOT is putting in a signal and will activate the signal when there are warrants. He went on to say that when UDOT receives the City's letter of intent, they will start construction. Mayor Jerry Rechtenbach added that a meeting with UDOT is scheduled for next week. He commented that the City's position with UDOT is that we want them to build even if the signal is not activated so that businesses can be promoted.

20:09:15 Discussion ensued regarding flex lanes. Larry Johnson cited concerns. John Taylor cited potential options presented before UDOT. He concluded that UDOT is firm on leaving the signals as they are currently presented.

20:11:54 Council Member Christopherson cited his first priority as traffic flow improvement at 1900 West 5400 South and further discussion was held. Mr. Morgan noted that there will be City funds expended toward the design portion; however, there are questions on how the construction portion will be expended within the budget in future years. Mr. Morgan commented that the funds for future use will most likely be included in the economic development bond.

20:14:01 Council Member Ernest Burgess cited a desire for enhancement walls on Redwood Road from 5400 South to 4100 South. Larry Johnson cited a need for improvements to walls on 4700 South west of 2700 West. He stated that he agrees that Council Member Burgess' request is important, but feels that this wall is a higher priority for using the remaining funds.

20:16:18 Discussion occurred regarding sidewalk repair and weed abatement. The City's 50/50 sidewalk program was referenced and it was clarified that there is currently \$100,000 in the budget for this program. Rhetta McIff described a program for inventorying sidewalk conditions in neighborhoods. John Taylor advised that the City has 300 miles of sidewalk and \$100,000 will repair less than half of what is needed. A poll was taken to decide whether funds should be a

budget item or Add Package item. It was decided that an additional \$100,000 should be placed in Add Packages.

Initiative #4: Quality of the Built Environment

20:23:37 Discussion was held regarding weed abatement and right-of-way maintenance. Council Member Overson noted that these two items go hand in hand. She asked for further clarification regarding how funds are spent. Mr. Morgan gave further clarification and summarized that there has been fairly significant improvement recently. He noted that now spring is here, it is recommended that weed abatement be taken care of early to have greater success. Mr. Morgan stated there is a list available for how these funds are spent. Mr. Morgan recommended that this fund be maintained with what is currently in the budget. Council Members agreed to maintain what is currently in the budget.

John Inch Morgan raised the concern stated by Council Chairman Barbour regarding streetscapes throughout the City. Council Chairman Barbour stated she believes it is very important to set an example by keeping the City in pristine condition. Mr. Morgan suggested the possibility of adding some capital improvement funds to this budget item to increase the effectiveness of the weed abatement program.

20:28:20 Discussion was held regarding costs for the completion of the Redwood Road beautification project. John Taylor listed needs to be a right-of-way for bus stops, lighting sections, block walls, utility re-location, curb, gutter, sidewalks and island relocation. He noted that utility and curb and gutter are the largest dollar items. He reported that for Redwood Road at Taylorsville High School to 5000 South costs would be about \$10 million; the right-of-way is \$500,000; block walls are \$100,000. He stated that the lowest priority would be the projects for curb, gutter and sidewalk and then utility replacements. John Taylor recommended funding \$500,000 toward the projects. Council Member Christopherson asked about receiving funding from UDOT for some of the projects. John Inch Morgan stated that UDOT will fund a dollar amount that would need to be matched by the City. John Taylor stated that the dollar amount UDOT will give is \$2.5 million or 7.5%. Mr. Morgan noted that there is \$100,000 remaining towards this project. Council Member Overson observed that the priority to consider is the overall image of Taylorsville, and inviting businesses and people to live and work in the City. Mayor Rechtenbach cited some State money that may be available. Chairman Barbour noted that anything added will mean a tax increase or bonding. The Council was polled for recommendations. The consensus was for \$500,000 as an Add Package.

20:35:23 Further discussion was held regarding the need for park upgrades, maintenance and desired standards. John Inch Morgan suggested hiring a part-time employee to do basic maintenance and upkeep of the City's parks at a cost of \$15,000. Council Member Christopherson suggested giving it a one-year trial period and readdressing the effectiveness at

the 2014 budget meetings. The consensus was to put \$15,000 in the budget for park maintenance.

20:52:02 Discussion was held regarding softening the impact of the gantries by installing trees and/or landscaping. John Inch Morgan advised that the gantries are UDOT property. He suggested allocating funds to place trees around the areas to soften the landscaping. Council Member Burgess raised his concern about the cost of maintenance for the landscaping used. Rhetta McIff gave recommendations for energy efficient and low maintenance trees and landscaping. The consensus was to place \$25,000 as an Add Package.

Initiative #5: Neighborhoods and Code Enforcement

20:55:53 Discussion was held regarding the need for at least one additional code enforcement officer. John Inch Morgan clarified that the employee would be an entry level, non-police officer status. He noted that the two current employees are Post Certified Category I police officers; one of those employees retired from a neighboring police department and was hired as a civilian; the other employee was transferred in as a Category I police officer with the possibility of being a special function officer. He added that the position does not require law enforcement status. The consensus was to add \$65,000 to the budget for a code enforcement officer.

20:59:42 The possibility was discussed of adding Neighborhood Revitalization as a budget line item. John Inch Morgan gave further clarification for this line item. Mr. Morgan noted that some of the neighborhood revitalization will be taken care of with sidewalks, storm drains, and new curb and gutter from other line items. Mr. Morgan suggested putting a line in the budget as a place holder with a minimal amount of funding so that the project can get underway and then soliciting ideas from Community Councils to clarify the needs. The Council was polled with the consensus being to put a placeholder into the budget and assign an administrative recommendation on an amount at a future date.

21:03:22 Chairman Barbour cited a dream to instigate a revolving fund for homeowners to use for major improvements. John Inch Morgan advised that it would be possible to take home funds which have already been approved in the budget and start a revolving fund. He noted that other cities contract with private entities to accomplish this.

21:06:26 Council Member Larry Johnson expressed concern regarding reported overzealousness of code enforcement officers. He commented that there is a need to be more patient with residents to comply with violations. Chief Tracy Wyant gave clarification on code enforcement efforts. He stated the goal of code enforcement is for compliance and not to create revenue. He noted that the police department receives a greater amount of accolades than complaints from citizens about code enforcement officers.

21:11:55 Community Council Budgets were referenced. Council Member Burgess requested leaving the funding as it currently stands and other Council Members concurred.

21:12:32 Funding for neighborhood cleanup and volunteer days was reviewed. It was recommended to implement a placeholder and Administration will bring back a number at a future date.

Mayor Rechtenbach recommended that discussion continue next Wednesday, August 24, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Taylorsville Courtroom. The following items will be discussed at that time:

Initiative #6: Parks and Recreation

Initiative #7: Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Emergency Management

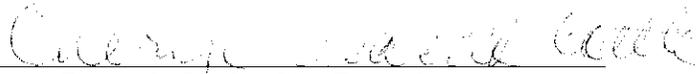
Initiative #8: Volunteers, Staff and Resources

Initiative #9: Environmental

Initiative #10: Arts, Culture and Entertainment

Adjourn

Council Member Brad Christopherson **MOVED** to adjourn the Strategic Plan Budgeting Meeting and reconvene the Regular City Council Meeting in a Closed Session. Council Member Ernest Burgess **SECONDED** the motion and the Strategic Plan Budget Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.


Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder

Minutes approved: CC 05-01-13

Minutes Prepared by: Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder, & Kristy Heineman, Deputy Recorder