

Heber City Corporation
City Council Meeting
05/05/2011
6:30 p.m.

WORK MEETING

The Council of Heber City, Wasatch County, Utah, met in **Work Meeting** on May 5, 2011 in the City Council Chambers located at 75 North Main Street in Heber City, Utah.

Present: Mayor David R. Phillips

Council Members Nile Horner
Robert Patterson
Alan McDonald
Benny Mergist

Excused: Eric Straddeck

Also Present: City Manager Mark K. Anderson
City Recorder Paulette Thurber
City Engineer Bart Mumford
Police Lieutenant Jason Bradley

Michelle Kellogg has received her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation:

Anderson explained Kellogg had been notified she received her CMC designation and there would be a formal presentation at the next City Council meeting. Councilman Mergist asked about a pay increase. Anderson said there was nothing in the job description to require it, but thought a step increase was appropriate. The Council agreed.

Discuss participation in Swiss days Parade: Councilman McDonald said because it was held on Labor Day weekend he was not interested. The other Councilmen indicated if they were in town they would do it. It was suggested Labor Day weekend was a hard weekend to commit to.

Review claim letter from John Moody: Anderson said Moody was affected with the flooding in Muirfield and had been denied by our insurance company as had all the others. Moody sent this letter certified to the Council and was expecting a response. Anderson said he had talked with the City's insurance company today and they recommended insurance be paid on those issues that the City was responsible for but not for things they were not responsible for—they did not have a fund for things the City was not responsible for. Anderson asked for direction from

the Council. The Council felt the City was not liable and would vote to deny the claim. Discussion about the letter Moody sent and his actual allegation. Discussion about the pond and if Moody's circumstances were different than the others. Councilman Mergist felt sure the insurance company investigated all aspect/possibilities before denying the claim. Mumford said he was not sure if the pond overflowed or not but the insurance company said to him that the pond did not affect the flooding. He said when water overflowed the pond it still did not come out the storm drains to flood the homes. Councilman Horner said he wanted to know for sure about the pond overflowing. Mumford said there was no surface damage to homes from the pond--it was all groundwater. Councilman Mergist suggested that in the City's response to him it be clarified that the damage was from groundwater and not overflowage of the pond. Mumford said he would talk to Moody and see what he thought the relationship was between the pond and the flooding in his home.

Anderson was instructed to send a letter to Moody and direct him to provide new information to the insurance company if he had some knowledge the City did not have.

Review proposal from Personnel Systems to update job descriptions & compensation

ranges: Anderson provided a cost estimate to the Council for a wage / job description analysis. He indicated a new analysis would make sure the job descriptions currently being used were accurate and would also determine if wages in the City were in line with market. Councilman Mergist said he was okay with the study as did Councilmen Patterson and Horner. Councilman McDonald suggested using monies allocated for a survey to cover this cost. Anderson felt that was a good idea.

Councilman McDonald wondered about a City e-mail instead of using his personal e-mail. Anderson thought that was a possibility. Councilman Horner indicated he was interested in a City e-mail account, as well. Councilman McDonald also wanted the Council to have business cards.

There was discussion about the best form of communication between staff and the individual Councilmen. Councilman Horner indicated he was out of town a lot so phone calls were better for him than e-mails. The rest of the Councilmen felt e-mail was sufficient.

Discuss Pressurized Irrigation rates for Center Street customers: Anderson said the City added 29 customers to the Pressurized Irrigation system when the Center Street project was complete. He said the City sent those residents a letter last year that said the City would not actually charge them for the PI system but was in the process of establishing a rate for usage and would notify them in the spring when that had been determined. He continued the PI system was now in and the Council needed to determine a rate. He suggested right now billing them the same as everyone else right now which was based on lot size.

Bart Mumford – Update on flood control: Councilman Horner asked about sand bags. Anderson said the City had about 750 bags with 10,000 available to us. Mergist asked about sand. Mumford said yes we did have sand. Anderson said we had offered the bags to the public via the City newsletter.

Mumford felt it was important for the Council to understand the preparations being made for possible flooding and what things were in place to take care of flooding and also if the City should be spending more money on sand bags and sand. Councilman Horner asked how many bags the City had. Mumford said currently 10,000 bags and enough sand to fill them. Mumford brought up an overhead which showed how the waters would be coming down Lake Creek. He showed how the water would split and some go through the lower Wasatch and some to the flood channel. He said there was more snow than in 1983 and even though steps were taken after 1983 to divert flood waters, additional preparation was being made this year because of the amount of snow. He showed a backup plan by breaching the lower Wasatch and run the water down Center Street to 600 West to the Spring Creek Canal. He said everything depended on the amount of water that came down but they would maximize the use of the flood channels before putting the backup plan in place. He suggested if it got to the point of using the backup plan, there probably would be more water than the Spring Creek could handle. Mumford talked about the use of the storm drain system on Center Street and said that would be used first. That also would give 24 to 48 hours to prepare for the alternate plan. He indicated it all depended on how warm the temperature got and how quickly the snow melted in the high mountains. Mayor Phillips felt this was the most critical issue the City faced right now. He wanted Mumford to talk to Steve Tozier about having some bags ready and on pallets. Mumford said there were about 800 bags ready right now. Mayor Phillips felt anything that would save time would be beneficial in the end. Councilman Horner agreed and said 800 bags was not enough and wanted more sandbags prepared. Councilman Horner expressed concern with vehicular traffic on Main Street. Mumford said the Army Corp did not recommend having pre-filled sandbags but what they did recommend was having the materials ready to fill them when the time came. He said he had met with UDOT yesterday. They were not happy about cutting Main Street off. Mumford said they would berm Main Street and spread it out (like speed bumps) so vehicles could still use Main Street even though they would have to drive over the berm and in some water for a space. Councilman Horner suggested that Mumford talk to former Mayor Scott Wright to see what they did in 1983. Mumford said he had used the Army Corp formula to determine how many sand bags the City would need to implement the backup plan. That turned out to be 83,000 bags which amounted to about \$20,000 for sand and bags. He said UDOT had a stock pile of sand bags. (1 million bags) He said it would be the State Emergency Operation Center that would distribute the bags. So the City would have to use everything the City had on hand plus everything the County had on hand. (15,000) After that the City would go to the Emergency Operation Center and depending on what was happening in the rest of the State determine how many they could

give Heber. The question then, was how much more money did the City spend. Mayor Phillips said it would be inexcusable if the City did not buy enough sandbags and sand. There was discussion about other routes to divert the water as suggested by UDOT and Councilman Horner. Councilman Mergist said the Council needed to build a draining canal into their master plan now to take care of situations like this--even if it had to be built in phases, it needed to be done. He felt there needed to be something through the middle of this City that could take all capacity and deliver it to Deer Creek. Mumford said he looked at that when the Center Street project was being planned, but it was too expensive. Mumford said Kent Berg and the irrigation companies were aware of and in support of this plan. Councilman Horner talked more about the flood channel locations. Mumford asked the Council how many more bags to buy. He said he had 10,000 and needed 70,000 more. Discussion about how long the bags would stay usable and what the cost was. Anderson said when he asked Kent Berg how many bags the County had in their possession, Berg suggested the City had to take care of itself. Councilman Horner suggested the City buy enough bags to get to Main Street and then UDOT would make Heber a priority and they would give the City the rest. It was decided to buy 30,000 more bags.

Discuss replacement of banner pole on Main Street: Anderson said the pole on the east of the street had been compromised and there was not an authorized budget to repair it. He said to repair the area the Public Works crew would have to dig down several feet for footings, etc. Councilman Mergist asked if the Council wanted to make repairs could they go a step further and get a device that would be safer to hang the banner and not have to use the pole truck. He said hanging a banner was not an easy thing to do. He explained the process. Anderson said the banners in the park affected the watering and mowing of the park and it was not an ideal situation. Mayor Phillips asked Anderson to look at options. Councilman Horner suggested a cable across the street. Councilman Mergist said there was already one cable in place that ran across the top but on one that ran across the bottom. He felt the answer was to have two cables.

Reports from other Boards: No reports given.

Paulette Thurber, City Recorder