

Heber City Corporation
City Council Meeting
December 4, 2008

6:30 p.m.

WORK MEETING

The Council of Heber City, Wasatch County, Utah, met in **Work Meeting** on December 4, 2008, in the City Council Chambers in Heber City, Utah.

Present:	Mayor	David R. Phillips
	Council Members	Jeffery Bradshaw Elizabeth Hokanson Eric Straddeck Nile Horner Robert Patterson
Also Present:	City Manager	Mark K. Anderson
	Deputy City Recorder	Michelle Kellogg
	City Engineer	Bart Mumford
	City Planner	Allen Fawcett
	Chief of Police	Ed Rhoades

City Employee Christmas Dinner – December 6th – 6:00 p.m. – Soldier Hollow: Mark Anderson reminded the Council of the Christmas party and everyone was planning on attending.

Interlocal Advisory Board Meeting on December 9th has been cancelled: Mark Anderson made everyone aware of the cancellation.

Discuss cancellation of January 2nd City Council Meeting: It was explained the regular City Council meeting would fall on the first of January. The City Code dictates if a meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting would be moved to the following day. Mayor Phillips noted he was going to Texas on January 2nd. All the Council members were in favor of cancelling the meeting.

Discuss payment of bills on-line – Discuss acceptance of credit cards and convenient fees: In the packet there was a handout from Impact Payment Solutions. Anderson had studied another option which required a \$4,000 start up fee. This program, which Anderson favored, had

a \$100 startup fee. The company would charge \$.50 or \$.75 for a debit card transaction or an automatic monthly withdrawal. A 2.5% fee would be charged for each credit card payment. Anderson asked what the Council wanted the customer to pay and what the City should absorb. Mayor Phillips asked if customers could pay online each month with their debit or credit cards. Anderson said yes and they could also come into the City Offices and pay with a credit card if they preferred. Councilmember Horner asked if people on ACH through Wells Fargo would stay there instead of moving over to Impact. It was understood that there was no charge through Wells Fargo so that would be best to keep them with Wells Fargo.

Mayor Phillips asked the Council if they wanted to have credit card payment as an option and who would they prefer to pay the fees. Councilmember Horner stated if American Express was accepted, the fee would be more than 2.5%. Councilmember Hokanson said she preferred to accept all credit cards and have the City absorb the cost. Anderson said other companies absorb the cost because they were trying to make sales. The City was not trying to market water and sewer. Anderson said Timberlakes had a \$.75 convenience fee. Councilmember Hokanson thought credit cards would increase the City's productivity.

Councilmember Horner asked if it would also be available to the Justice Court. Anderson said the City would start with the Water and Sewer Department and eventually go to the court system. All Council members agreed to start the on-line billing and credit card acceptance option with the City paying the fees.

Discuss budget workshop date and budget retreat date: Anderson would like to meet at 5:00 p.m. on December 18th to trim the existing budget. He reported that the City would not replace Mories in Accounts Payable, Diaz at the Animal Shelter, and it also would not fill the Assistant Engineer position. The Animal Shelter wouldn't be as accessible as it had been historically. He said the department heads met to propose budget cuts and the Council needed to hear those suggestions and see if they felt comfortable with staff implementing them.

Saturday, January 10th, the Council was scheduled to meet at The Homestead and have a meeting for next year's budget. Councilmember Horner said they needed to discuss the snow removal level of service before December 18th. Anderson said nothing would change before the Council heard the proposed changes. Chief Rhoades talked with Steve Tozier today and they agreed the police would call out Public Works as needed. It was discussed that a standard needed to be set on when to call them out. Chief Rhoades said he and Tozier would also discuss the major roads and the need to plow them at regular intervals. Mayor Phillips wanted Tozier to come in on December 18th to talk with the Council.

Update on Boyer project: Anderson talked to an executive in Arkansas on Walmart's intention. Walmart had three reasons for the building delay: the higher cost of winter

construction, its policy on not opening a store during the fourth quarter of the year, and the lagging economy. They would like to begin construction in April, 2009. Councilmember Horner wanted to know about the store elevations. He was told the Planning Commission had given the final approval on the store elevations.

Update on Valley Hills Park retaining wall: Mumford said the water surfacing in the park was determined to be caused by the canal and the irrigation company was getting someone to repair the canal. Also, storm water runoff was piped to the top of the wall, which was also a cause. Mumford said he needed to get a structural engineer to look at that this winter, and in the spring he would propose the repair of the wall. It was determined that there was no immediate safety hazard.

Anderson said from a historical perspective, the runoff had been overflowing the inadequate storm drain box and went down a driveway into a garage. When that was repaired, the Public Works Department diverted the water to the retaining wall.

Michelle Kellogg, Heber City Deputy Recorder