

PAYSON CITY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND WORK SESSION
Payson City Center, 439 W Utah Avenue, Payson UT 84651
Wednesday, July 19, 2023

CONDUCTING Bob Provstgaard, Mayor Pro Tem

ELECTED OFFICIALS Kirk Beecher, Brett Christensen, Linda Carter, Taresa Hiatt, Bob Provstgaard

EXCUSED: William R. Wright

STAFF PRESENT David Tuckett, City Manager
Cathy Jensen, Finance Director
Kim E. Holindrake, City Recorder
Jason Sant, City Attorney
Brad Bishop, Police Chief
Robert Mills, Development Services Director
Travis Jockumsen, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Scott Spencer, Fire Chief
Jill Spencer, City Planner
Janeen Dean, Community Events Coordinator
Karl Teemant, Community Services Director
Kent Fowden, Streets, Landfill, Storm Drain Superintendent

OTHERS Coleman Cunningham, Tyler Moore – Payson/Santaquin Chamber of Commerce, Doug Welton, Bill Elrick

MOTION: Councilmember Beecher – To appoint Bob Provstgaard as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion seconded by Councilmember Christensen. Those voting yes: Kirk Beecher, Linda Carter, Brett Christensen, Taresa Hiatt, Bob Provstgaard. The motion carried.

Bob Provstgaard, Mayor Pro Tem, called this meeting of the City Council of Payson City, Utah, to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was properly noticed.

A. PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prayer offered by Linda Carter.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Coleman Cunningham.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the July 5, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
2. Resolution – Appointment of board members to the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) Board

MOTION: Councilmember Beecher – To approve the consent agenda as outlined. Motion seconded by Councilmember Carter. A roll call vote was taken as follows and the motion carried.

49
50 Yes - Kirk Beecher
51 Yes - Linda Carter
52 Yes - Brett Christensen
53 Yes - Taresa Hiatt
54 Yes - Bob Provstgaard
55

56 **MOTION: Councilmember Beecher – To suspend the agenda.** Motion seconded by
57 Councilmember Christensen. Those voting yes: Kirk Beecher, Linda Carter, Brett Christensen, Taresa
58 Hiatt, Bob Provstgaard. The motion carried.
59

60 C. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS

61 1. Presentation of new police officer and oath of office
62

63 Chief Bishop introduced Officer Ryan Cunningham who came from Strawberry Water Users
64 Association and Officer John David Tarone who came from Utah Highway Patrol.
65

66 Judge Jewell administered the oath of office to Officer Cunningham and Officer Tarone.
67

68 2. Payson/Santaquin Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Report
69

70 Tyler Moore presented the Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Report. The Breakfast Club meetings
71 have been great and help businesses take the next step in their business. The Hometown Market in
72 Santaquin allows businesses without a physical location to show off their business. The Young
73 Entrepreneurs Night was held a couple weeks ago and allowed these youth to show off their
74 businesses. The Chamber is working on a new project. On average about 80% of businesses with the
75 Chamber are home based with no physical presence in terms of marketing. This project is a website
76 that builds a profile for every member of the Chamber. Each business page will be directed over to that
77 business's website. For some businesses, this is their only presence. Most of these pages will go live on
78 Friday, July 21. A business has the ability to change their page, or the chamber can do it for them upon
79 request. Upcoming events include the Breakfast Club every second Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. with the
80 location changing each time. Meet and Eat is held every fourth Tuesday at noon to learn about other
81 businesses in the Chamber and network with other businesses.
82

83 3. Public Forum
84

85 No public comments.
86

87 4. Staff and Council Reports (6:15 p.m.)
88

89 Staff Reports
90

91 POLICE – Chief Brad Bishop thanked the public for supporting the Crimes are for the Birds event last
92 week. He also thanked Lowes for donating the bird houses and the Payson officers who donated their
93 time. The event had the most attendance than ever before; it was a fun event.
94

95 RECREATION – Karl Teemant reported the Recreation Department hired a new part-time secretary.
96 In the past couple weeks, the Girls Recreation Utah State Fox Tournament was held with 7th through

97 9th grades from throughout the state. The Summer Windup Accelerated Tournament was held last
98 week as well as the Boys State Mustang group. The Pool has been very busy. The last session of swim
99 lessons begin next week. Youth Tackle Football begins next week.

100
101 ADMINISTRATION – Dave Tuckett stated the original Dowdle puzzle painting is displayed in the
102 Council Chambers. He talked with Eric Dowdle this week, and they are really happy how the puzzle
103 turned out. Other cities around the Nation that are looking at these puzzles are told you can do one like
104 these or do one like Payson. They really enjoyed doing the Payson painting and rollout event. The
105 Salmon Supper is coming up and invited the council to help serve.

106
107 COMMUNITY EVENTS – Janeen Dean thanked Brett Christensen for helping with the float at the
108 July 4 parade. He thanked Bill Elrick and the Scottish Festival Committee for the Scottish Festival,
109 which was a huge success. The Western Heritage Festival is July 29 from 6 to 9 p.m. in Memorial
110 Park. A lot of great artists are coming who have all been to Nashville and are all from Utah County.
111 Rodney Atkins will be performing this year for Golden Onion Days.

112
113 FIRE AND AMBULANCE – Chief Spencer stated calls have been busy with both medical and fire.
114 One call last Sunday caused a significant fire in Pine Forest, which was about a quarter acre. Many
115 people like to hike, bike, and camp in Pine Forest. Crews got there quickly and got it contained. He is
116 working with the Forest Service to possibly restrict fires in Pine Forest and an access road like there
117 was a few years ago. The Department is working on fireworks this weekend with staff patrolling along
118 with the Police Department. It’s a challenge to keep track of the illegal fireworks. He thanked Brett
119 Christensen for helping with a fire call at Barnett Elementary.

120
121 SCOTTISH FESTIVAL – Doug Welton stated the Scottish Festival was a great success, and it was
122 great to see the council walking the parade. This was the first year with the city combined. There were
123 a tremendous number of athletic records broken for the state and nationally. There was a record
124 number of soloists for bag pipes. Bands played and competed from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Vendors were very
125 happy. It was good to see Payson law enforcement there, which was appreciated. Dogs in the park are
126 always an issue. It was advertised heavily and consistently that dogs were not allowed in the park.
127 We’ll need to train our Scottish people because they love their dogs. He thanked the Parks Department
128 and Janeen Dean for their help. It was nice to use the elementary school, which was great for
129 ceremonies and bands.

130
131 Bill Elrick thanked the Council. It’s a great partnership, and this year proved it. There were some
132 issues such as providing space for the bands to turn into the field and marking off parking for the
133 bands. He thanked the Parks Department, who did a fantastic job. He thanked Dave Tucket and his
134 team; and most of all, Mayor Bill Wright as Chieftain. This was his first year. It was great to see him in
135 his kilt with his cowboy hat and boots. A vendor called the Silver Connection commented, *it was the*
136 *best festival he ever attended. It was a premium festival with regards to all those he attends.* He
137 thanked Payson and the surrounding communities for their support. Friday night was like a normal
138 Saturday and Saturday was off the charts. We handled it, and it was done well. He was also very happy
139 to see the Payson police officers. There were less dogs than in the past; the Parks Department posted
140 “No Dogs” signs at every entrance. It’s difficult to prevent. Everyone says it’s a service dog. Next year
141 will be the 40th year.

143 Jason Sant stated two questions can be asked to dog owners, i.e., what is the service and what is the
144 service the dog provides. It's a problem all across the country. Emotional support and comfort dogs are
145 not allowed, just service dogs.

146
147 Councilmember Christensen noted some states are requiring proper identification that has to be
148 presented.

149
150 Council Reports

151
152 Councilmember Christensen appreciated Tyler Moore talking about the Santaquin Hometown Market,
153 which he attends. The entertainment was fun. He suggested bringing in some entertainment to Payson
154 because Library Square is off the beaten path. He received a suggestion for electric car chargers on
155 Main Street because people seek out places where they can linger for 45 minutes. This could bring
156 people downtown. He questioned rerouting the parade route. The City needs to ensure the ditches are
157 cleared for the rainstorms, and there is staff available for people to call.

158
159 Dave Tuckett noted the Main Street design includes some charger stations, and the conduit will be
160 installed. The parade route will be rerouted next year.

161
162 Councilmember Carter reported the Scottish Festival Committee did great. There were so many people
163 at the Festival. She introduced herself to people, and many people traveled from outside Utah County.

164
165 Councilmember Provstgaard stated the vacant property on Main Street where the old church building
166 stood is an eyesore. The owner needs to be contacted and told it needs to be done before Labor Day or
167 the City will do it and send a bill. The trees are overgrown and the view to the street blocked.

168
169 Scott Spencer noted the owner lives in Nevada or California, and letters have been sent.

170
171 (Linda Carter excused)

172
173 D. WORK SESSION (Development Services Conference Room)

174 1. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget (6:40 p.m.)

175
176 Cathy Jensen reviewed the certified tax rate (CTR) and the official notice that will be published. The
177 average home value from Utah County is \$415,000 which equates to an increase of \$10.04 per year. If
178 the proposed budget is approved, it would increase revenue by 3.80%. Payson City's portion of a
179 Payson resident is 12%. Historically, the CTR was in a steep decline until the City began holding the
180 tax rate steady.

181
182 Discussion:

183 Residents should be shown what the CTR could be. The City keeps kicking the can down the road with
184 enterprise and other funds, so the City goes without certain services. Five entities/districts are looking
185 at raising water rates according to Fox News. The Taxpayer's Association reported 43 entities/cities
186 are raising property taxes from 30% to 90%. Payson is one of those and only 3%. Holding the CTR the
187 same helps the City overtime in paying for some of the general fund items. The Water Department was
188 paying for the Forebay bond, but it now comes from the general fund. Keeping the CTR the same is
189 better than a large increase at one time.

190

191 Discussion:
192 The sewer plant upgrade is at about \$72 million. The resolution set it at \$70 million, but the City is
193 receiving grant funds. The City will bond for a total of \$70 million.

194
195 Changes since the tentative budget was adopted will be emailed to the City Council for review.

196
197 Councilmember Provstgaard stated the City has kicked the can down the road for a number of things,
198 particularly a fire station. He understands it's baby steps, but the City hasn't made an incremental step
199 toward a fire station or fire station/city office, which are essential services and needs. The staff that's
200 here that keep the City going on a day-to-day basis eventually need a place to come to work to be
201 proud of that has air conditioning and what's needed to do their job. The elected officials need to bite
202 the bullet and do it for the betterment of the citizenry. His goal in elected office was to get the essential
203 services building underway before he left office. Unfortunately, the pandemic cost millions and
204 millions of dollars in labor, supply issues, etc.

205
206 Dave Tucket clarified the plans are in this budget for the design of a fire station.

207
208 Councilmember Christensen noted the sewer plant is a good argument because the City kicked the can
209 for six years and the cost went from \$20 million to \$72 million.

210
211 Discussion:
212 A new administrative building, which is the essential center of Payson and center core. Staff could be
213 moved to Wilson Elementary while the current building is torn down and rebuilt. A new building could
214 also be built on the grassy area. The recent survey of the residents showed a city center last on the list.
215 The community would need to be convinced to support a general obligation bond or the building
216 would need to be funded differently. Other essential services could be tied to the building such as the
217 library and police. A package becomes more palatable to the citizenry.

218
219 Further Discussion:
220 The City is conservative in terms of revenues and expenses. At the end of Fiscal Year 2023, the City
221 revenues were higher than projected and expenses were lower so hardly any fund balance was used,
222 which helps grow the fund balance. The current budget has about \$9 million among all the general
223 funds with \$3.3 million proposed to be spent. The City needs to do a project that boosts the morale of
224 the citizens such as a splash pad or dog park. Employees need a raise; they are the front line.

225
226 2. Payson City Fee Schedule regarding landfill fees (7:00 p.m.)

227
228 Councilmember Christensen stated he spearheaded this discussion. He gets a lot of push back from
229 people, and he's not siding with the citizenry on the landfill. The landfill staff is doing a great job. The
230 landfill is clean, the new scales are coming in, and the new road is being installed. He feels the Payson
231 businesses aren't treated any differently to any other businesses. Payson businesses pay taxes, city
232 bills, and fees; and there isn't any real benefit to them. The City doesn't need to raise the Payson
233 business rate but may need to raise the other rates.

234
235 Councilmember Provstgaard stated he has a different take on it. The landfill is sacred in the sense there
236 isn't more land available. He is sensitive to this because he was with Kent Fowden when the City
237 continued the dream of making the landfill open to the citizens. To take a pickup load to the landfill
238 and pay \$3 is unheard of. Businesses are treated fairly enough and balanced with all the other refuse

239 facilities. The City is trying to balance the budget, and understands they are Payson businesses. He is
 240 more in favor of keeping the Payson business rate the same and raising the other rates. Santaquin
 241 threatened to jump ship and wanted Payson to lower the rates, and Payson said no. The landfill is
 242 special, and the City needs to protect it. He takes construction waste to the landfill every week and
 243 passes the cost on to his customer. He doesn't see any other city having any advantage over our
 244 citizen-owned businesses and dump fees. He is in favor of raising the fee on other entities.
 245

246 Kent Fowden stated the landfill has about 102 years left. In 1992 when subtitle B promulgation came
 247 about, the City had the option of closing the landfill. The City stood fast, spent millions, and chose to
 248 stay in the landfill business. The landfill pulls garbage from all over Utah County, which pays for the
 249 equipment and maintenance. It's not a small-town dump anymore. It's one of the best operated
 250 landfills in the state.
 251

252 Dave Tuckett compared the Payson rates with South Utah Valley Solid Waste District (SUVSWD).
 253 It's up to the Council. The City could have a higher commercial rate for Non-Residential.
 254

Category	Payson	Non-Resident	SUVSWD	Non-District
Resident Municipal Waste	\$3.00	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$15.00
Commercial Load Per Ton	\$43.00	\$43.00	\$38.00	\$49.00
Vehicles with Business Logo			\$38.00	\$49.00
Residential Green Waste	Free	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$16.00

255 Discussion:
 256 Councilmember Christensen would like to make the Payson commercial rates the same as SUVSWD,
 257 but it would take Payson down \$5 per ton.
 258

259 Councilmember Provstgaard totally disagrees with matching the SUVSWD commercial rates.
 260

261 Councilmember Beecher suggested matching only the non-resident with the Non-District.
 262

263 Kent Fowden clarified this would cause Republic Services and Country Garbage to pay a higher rate,
 264 which would hurt Payson businesses. If the rate is too high, people will take garbage to the woods.
 265

266 Councilmember Christensen stated these discussions can sway you. He's okay with the rates.
 267

268 Councilmember Beecher noted his wife took a fully loaded pickup truck to the dump in Oregon at a
 269 cost of \$200.
 270

271 Councilmember Provstgaard noted if it's not broken don't fix it. Kent Fowden has been fair with
 272 residents who have issues such as a fire or need to tear down a home.
 273

274 Dave Tuckett stated Kent has to follow the ordinance, which allows a range in one of the categories.
 275 He and Kent discuss and make the decision. The Beautification Committee is trying to look at areas
 276 where there could be a cleanup and use dumpsters, which would then be taken to the landfill for free.
 277 Staff will give it a try.
 278

279 E. ADJOURNMENT
 280
 281

282 **MOTION: Councilmember Beecher – To adjourn.** Motion seconded by Councilmember Hiatt.
283 Those voting yes: Kirk Beecher, Linda Carter, Brett Christensen, Taresa Hiatt, Bob Provstgaard. The
284 motion carried.

285
286 The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

287
288
289 _____
290 Kim E. Holindrake, City Recorder

DRAFT