

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HOLLADAY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, April 20, 2023

6:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

4580 South 2300 East

Holladay, Utah

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Rob Dahle
Paul Fotheringham
Dan Gibbons
Matt Durham
Ty Brewer
Drew Quinn

City Staff:

Gina Chamness, City Manager
Jayme Blakesley, Legal Counsel
Stephanie Carlson, City Recorder

I. *Welcome* – Mayor Dahle.

Mayor Rob Dahle called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. *Pledge of Allegiance.*

Mayor Dahle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. *Public Comments.*

Mayor Dahle noted that an email was received from Stacey Johnson and Christy Marchant. They were concerned that the Cottonwood Elementary School sign is old and in need of repair. There was a desire to replace it with an electronic billboard sign. Mayor Dahle informed those present that there had been debates about those kinds of signs in the past. Unless there is a desire from the City Council to further discuss the matter he did not believe the sign would be approved. Council Member Durham pointed out that part of the concern was that a precedent would be set that would allow other businesses and entities to use electronic signs.

Council Member Gibbons confirmed that electronic billboard signs were discussed approximately two years ago with Cottonwood Elementary School. If allowing the sign would make it possible for commercial businesses to use electronic billboard signs, he agreed that the existing rules should remain in place. However, if there was a way that the signs could be permitted for schools only, he would be open to having another discussion. Council Member Fotheringham stated that when the electronic sign was on at Olympus High School before it was turned off, there were a lot of requests from businesses asking for a similar type of sign. It would be difficult to allow the use for schools and not businesses. He felt there needed to be consistency with the types of signs permitted. Mayor Dahle reiterated that the email comment was received. If any of the City Council Members wanted to explore the matter further, it could be added to a future meeting for discussion.

Christy Marchant - 2018 Juniper Way. She thanked the City Council for acknowledging the email that was sent. Ms. Marchant is a member of the Parent Teacher Association (“PTA”) at Cottonwood Elementary School and the sign needs to be updated. The current sign is in disrepair and it was

believed that a digital sign would be best for replacement. Generally, she appreciated that the City of Holladay does not have electronic billboard signs but she felt that those types of signs are appropriate for places like schools, libraries, or even City Hall. They are a beneficial way of sharing information. Based on bids she received, she learned that the technology allows the signs to be dimmed on cloudy days. She did not believe the sign would be as bright or intrusive as others that are out there. Ms. Marchant informed the City Council that the school fundraised for the new sign and have the funds available.

Mayor Dahle stated that the request would require an amendment to the City Code. It would need to start at the Planning Commission level and then be considered by the City Council. Ms. Marchant noted that electronic billboard signs have been done tastefully at other schools in surrounding areas. An upgrade of some kind was needed for the existing Cottonwood Elementary School sign. There was a desire to do it right with a sign that looks good and is informational. She added that there is support from the community because contributions have been received from parents of students.

Trudy Jorgensen-Price shared updates related to the Library. She thanked all who attended the Blood Drive at the end of March. There were 32 donations, which was a new record for the drive. Tax season is over and there have been 898 tax appointments in total. Ms. Jorgensen-Price reported that April is Poetry Month and it was possible to write a haiku and add it to the tree. The Dementia Dialogue Series was to take place each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. through May 3, 2023. It was being presented by Adult and Aging Services and for caretakers of people with dementia. Ms. Jorgensen-Price reported that there is a new feature at the Library, which is a Puzzle and Game Exchange. She stated that it is a “bring one take one” exchange.

IV. *Consideration of Resolution 2023-15 - Approving an Agreement with Salt Lake County for the Use of Holladay Skate Park.*

Mayor Dahle reported that the County was to hold recreational classes there in June, July, and August, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. each Thursday. City Manager, Gina Chamness stated that it was similar to an agreement that the Council approved last year. There was a provision in the Salt Lake County Agreement specifying that it could be extended next year if both the City and County were supportive of holding the recreational classes again. It was confirmed that the classes would be open to the public. Ms. Chamness believed there was a small fee to participate but the County would handle registration.

Council Member Gibbons moved to APPROVE Resolution 2023-15 – Approving an Agreement with Salt Lake County for the Use of Holladay Skate Park. Council Member Quinn seconded the motion. Vote on Motion: Council Member Brewer-Aye; Council Member Durham-Aye; Council Member Fotheringham-Aye; Council Member Quinn-Aye; Council Member Gibbons-Aye; Mayor Dahle-Aye. Resolution 2023- 15 was approved by a unanimous vote.

V. Consideration of Ordinance 2023-03 - Restricting the Use of Personal Fireworks.

Mayor Dahle reported a few years ago, there was an opportunity to restrict fireworks east of 1300 East due to drought conditions until October 15, 2023. That restriction could be implemented again based on input from the Fire Marshal. A letter from the Fire Marshal was included in the packet. Mayor Dahle noted that the Fire Marshal still saw a risk related to personal fireworks use. Though there was now a lot of water, there was concern that it would create a lot of grass undergrowth. If that dried out, it might present a danger that was equal to the dangers that were caused by the previous drought conditions.

Council Member Gibbons believed the Foothills and Canyons Overlay Zone (“FCOZ”) would be the biggest area of concern. By July 4, 2023, that area would likely be fairly dry. He believed it made sense to approve the restrictions, as presented. Amendments could be made in the future, depending on the conditions. Council Member Fotheringham clarified that it was a ban on personal fireworks. There would still be a few events held in the City for holidays, but those events needed to be licensed and approved by the City.

Council Member Fotheringham moved to ADOPT Ordinance 2023-03 – Restricting the Use of Personal Fireworks. Council Member Durham seconded the motion. Vote on Motion: Council Member Brewer-Aye; Council Member Durham-Aye; Council Member Fotheringham-Aye; Council Member Quinn-Aye; Council Member Gibbons-Aye; Mayor Dahle-Aye. Ordinance 2023- 03 was approved by a unanimous vote.

VI. City Manager Report - Gina Chamness.

a. Flood Update.

Ms. Chamness shared updates with the Council and reported that a successful sandbag event was held last week where nearly 400 people filled between 4,000 and 5,000 sandbags. All of the sandbags were distributed along Big Cottonwood Creek within three days. Ms. Chamness was reassured that the community would respond to whatever runoff challenges there were. Another 5,000 sandbags had been filled at self-service locations. There had also been some smaller events with a smaller number of volunteers. Those events were taking place on Wednesdays and Saturdays at Knudsen Park and City Hall. Ms. Chamness reported that there had also been some work done with local groups in the community. Another sandbag event was planned at Knudsen Park on April 29, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The plan was to have volunteers fill sandbags and place sandbags along the bank there the same day.

Information about the flow through Big Cottonwood Creek was shared. Ms. Chamness reported that Big Cottonwood Creek at Cottonwood Lane, which was one of three monitored spots along Big Cottonwood Creek in the community, was running at 63 Cubic Feet per Second (“CFS”). For perspective, she explained that a bank's full level is 250 CFS and a flood flow rate was 700 CFS. There had been an ideal warm-up and cool-down pattern so far and she hoped that would continue over time. It would be best if the snowpack melts slowly and in a controlled manner. City Staff and Salt Lake County Flood Control have walked the creek to make sure that it is free of obstructions.

Council Member Brewer reported that there was a lot of debris in the creek between the Arbor Lane bridge and Highland Dr and was surprised that nothing had been done about that. Mayor Dahle believed those were remnant beaver dams. However, there was probably some clutter in the area that could be cleaned out. Ms. Chamness offered to share those concerns with City Staff and the County.

Council Member Brewer wondered if the City delivered sandbags. Ms. Chamness explained that some deliveries had been made but the City was not able to respond to the number of requests that had been made. Volunteers were connected with residents who were in need.

Council Member Brewer pointed out that some people were sandbagging places that were unlikely to flood. Ms. Chamness reported that the messaging had changed a lot over the last few weeks to focus on Big Cottonwood Creek. That was where the highest risk was in the community. She did not know whether the shift in messaging had made a difference. The creek would continue to be emphasized in all messaging moving forward.

Council Member Durham referenced the news about Wasatch Hollow and wondered if the City of Holladay had taken steps to determine whether there were similar infrastructure issues. City Staff and Salt Lake County Flood Control continued to walk Big Cottonwood Creek to make sure that there were no obstructions like that. City Staff was being proactive to make sure those kinds of blockages did not exist or were managed.

Council Member Gibbons believed that property lines go to the center of Big Cottonwood Creek. In that instance, landowners might have some kind of responsibility to clear trees. He asked if there were crews that could be called to remove trees or debris when needed. Ms. Chamness confirmed that in most cases ownership goes to the center of the creek. In terms of whether there were crews available to remove trees or debris, Salt Lake County had crews available should the need arise.

Ms. Chamness reported that other communities declared a state of emergency due to potential flooding associated with spring runoff. Salt Lake County, Millcreek, and Salt Lake City had all declared States of Emergency. Given the numbers mentioned earlier in Big Cottonwood Creek, she did not believe the City needs to make that same declaration yet. However, she asked the City Attorney to prepare an Order so that if there was an imminent threat, it would be possible to declare a State of Emergency. Ms. Chamness reviewed what would happen if there was a need to declare a state of emergency. She explained that there would be a declaration that a threat was imminent and the Emergency Order would then be in place for 30 days or until the Legislative Body terminated the State of Emergency by a majority vote. That could be done at any point after an emergency is declared. The reason that would be done was to ensure that aid could be brought to the community. It would also enable the City to potentially recover some emergency funds.

Ms. Chamness shared additional updates with the Council. She reported that Representative John Curtis officially submitted the \$3.6 million funding request for Highland Drive Reconstruction to the House Appropriations Committee. It was on his select list of projects, which were called community funding projects. The next step in securing that funding was that the House Appropriations Committee would need to make that part of their budget recommendation.

b. Night Out Against Crime – August 1.

Ms. Chamness proposed a Night Out Against Crime event on August 1, 2023. It would be an event held at City Hall and allow community members to meet officers and look at some of their equipment. There was also a desire to hold an Emergency Preparedness Fair that same evening. Council Members could meet with residents about public safety issues as well. She asked for Council Member feedback about the suggested date and the proposed event.

In the Salt Lake Valley, a lot of communities hold the event as they provide an opportunity to talk to residents about public safety. Council Member Fotheringham wanted to make sure that the organization does not have extreme views one way or another. Council Member Durham believed that Happy Healthy Holladay was interested in having a booth to address substance abuse and opioid issues. Council Member Gibbons thought the event would be a great way to show continued support to the Unified Police Department (“UPD”) officers as well.

Mayor Dahle thanked City Staff for all the work that was being done and for communicating with residents. It was important to continue to share information about the spring runoff.

VII. Council Reports & District Issues.

Council Member Gibbons expressed gratitude to Jared Bunch. He was perfect for his role and interacts well with residents. Council Member Gibbons also discussed a constituent who is a member of the Holladay United Church of Christ. The church wants to relandscape and applied for a grant with the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (“CUWCD”). However, the Church was informed that they would not qualify for the grant unless the City of Holladay signs onto water efficiency standards.

Ms. Chamness reported that last year, the Council approved revised water conservation standards. At the time, it was believed that those standards met the requirements of the CUWCD. In August, it was discovered that the way the standards were adopted did not meet the requirements. Ms. Chamness clarified that the ordinance requires no minimum landscaping but the CUWCD was looking for a maximum of 35% in residential properties and 20% in commercial areas. If this was something that the City Council wanted to revisit that could be done in the future. Ms. Chamness asked for policy direction from the Council.

Council Member Gibbons was supportive of looking at the requirements again. Council Member Durham was as well. Council Member Fotheringham thought it was worth discussing further but stressed that the flooding concerns should be a priority rather than the CUWCD requirements. Council Member Brewer asked for additional information about the percentages. Ms. Chamness explained that those would apply to any new development. Since there was Council support, additional discussions could take place in June or July.

Council Member Quinn shared information about the corner of Nila Way and Lisa Dr had been reconfigured. The project was recently finished and the result was excellent. There was previously a gentle curve and a lot of vehicles sped there. More of a 90-degree angle was designed that slows down vehicles.

Council Member Fotheringham reported that the Dance Concert that took place earlier in the month was successful. There were approximately 500 attendees. He noted that the Children’s Theater event was to take place from June 5, 2023, through June 9, 2023. Council Member Fotheringham expressed concerns about vehicles running the stop sign at Woodcrest and Winward Drives. This happens most often once school is dismissed. Many run the stop sign and do not even slow down. It might be a good idea to post an officer in the area and write some tickets as that tends to remedy the situation.

Council Member Durham attended the Tree Talk at the Holladay Library a few weeks ago and thanked Mr. Teerlink for taking the time to speak, it was a helpful and interesting event. Council

Member Durham reported that Mayor Dahle would be speaking at the Earth Day event on April 21, Howard R. Driggs Elementary. The following week he will be at Crestview Elementary for their Arbor Day observation. Council Member Durham attended the Happy Healthy Holladay meeting recently. They were focused on analyzing some of the data that the Salt Lake County Health Department had on the most pressing health issues. There was a desire to help people be more active, so an event in June was planned, which was a jump rope activity. He reiterated that there was also a desire to participate in the Night Out Against Crime event.

Council Member Brewer reported that he has been attending the South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District Meetings for the last year. The district is well-established and tightly run. He did not know that citizens are aware of what is done there, so he thought the next Council Corner Message could be dedicated to the services provided by the district. Council Member Brewer shared comments related to the Skate Park. An email was received the previous week and there were concerns about vandalism and certain behaviors. There was a desire to address those issues.

Council Member Brewer noted that a constituent reached out to him with a question. Salt Lake City has a Turf Trade program, where there is a type of seed mix that requires 30% less watering than traditional grass seed. A constituent wanted to know if the City of Holladay is familiar with the program and if it is something that could be done in the community. Ms. Chamness was aware of the program. She reported that City residents who are served by Salt Lake City Public Utilities are eligible to participate.

Council Member Brewer reported that he serves on the Association of Municipal Councils and Friends of Herriman recently made a presentation. He found the presentation fascinating and subsequently reached out to them to schedule a meeting with Council Member Fotheringham, Mayor Dahle, Holly Smith, and a handful of others. Friends of Herriman is a 501(c)(3) that is dedicated to supporting parks, trails, arts, and culture. He encouraged the Council Members to look into the organization and learn more about the work that they do. Council Member Brewer believed that Friends of Herriman put together an impressive model for community-related work.

Mayor Dahle reported that he met with Ken Melby and brought up the idea of a Workout Room downstairs. There was a desire to move it across the hall and update it. It was a room where changes could be made and it would be beneficial for employees.

VIII. *Closed Session Pursuant to Utah Code Section 52-4-204 & 205 to Discuss the Physical or Mental Health or Professional Competence of an Individual, Potential Litigation, Property Acquisition, and Disposition.*

Council Member Quinn moved to go into CLOSED SESSION Pursuant to Utah Code Section 52-4-204 & 205 to Discuss the Physical or Mental Health or Professional Competence of an Individual, Potential Litigation, Property Acquisition, and Disposition. Council Member Durham seconded the motion. Vote on Motion: Council Member Brewer-Aye; Council Member Durham-Aye; Council Member Fotheringham-Aye; Council Member Quinn-Aye; Council Member Gibbons-Aye; Mayor Dahle-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council convened in a closed session at 7:15 p.m. Those in attendance in the Closed Session included Council Members Durham, Fotheringham, Quinn, Gibbons, Brewer, and Mayor Dahle. Others present included Gina Chamness, Jayme Blakesley, Stephanie Carlson, and Jon Teerlink.

The minutes of the Closed Session were taken and are on file as a Protected Record

Council Member Brewer moved to adjourn the Closed Session. Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion. The Council roll call vote was as follows: Council Members Durham, Fotheringham, Quinn, Gibbons, Brewer and Mayor Dahle in favor. The motion to go out of closed session at 7:45 p.m. passed with a unanimous vote.

IX. Adjourn.

Council Member Fotheringham moved to ADJOURN. Council Member Durham seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

The City Council Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:46 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Holladay City Council Meeting held Thursday, April 20, 2023.

Stephanie N. Carlson, MMC
Holladay City Recorder

Robert Dahle, Mayor

Minutes approved: July 13, 2023