

WEST POINT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
3200 West 300 North
February 1, 2011
6:00 P.M.

Minutes for the administrative session and regular West Point City Council Meeting held at the West Point City offices at 3200 West 300 North, West Point, Utah, with Mayor Erik Craythorne presiding.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Erik Craythorne, Councilman Gary Petersen, Councilman Roger Woodward, Councilman Kent Henderson, Councilman Jerry Chatterton, and Councilman Andy Dawson

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: City Engineer Boyd Davis and City Recorder Amy Jensen

VISITORS PRESENT: none

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. City Hall Debt Refinance

Mr. Gary Hill said the Council had discussed this issue during the last budget year. The interest rates then did not make it worth refinancing. It is about time again to look at refinancing, the call date is July 2011. He said right now the City is paying \$128,000 a year in debt service. It looks like we could get a lower interest rate and save roughly \$66,000 over the remaining life of the bonds. A Resolution will need to be prepared, and then it will be discussed at a future meeting. Mr. Hill hopes to have the process finished in April.

The Council feels this will be a good idea.

Councilman Woodward asked about the final principal payment, and if the term of the loan will change.

Councilman Petersen said the term of the loan will be the same; the payments will just be smaller.

2. West Davis Corridor Update

Mr. Boyd Davis said the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) came to the City and explained that the West Davis Corridor alternatives, formerly called the Legacy Corridor which land had been purchased and set aside, were going to change quite a bit. They are in the level 2 screening with 14 alternatives, hoping to get down to 4 in the next week.

Mayor Craythorne asked if everyone was aware that the former Legacy Highway was not being considered anymore. This is a problem because acres of land have been planned for this highway for decades, and now the road is moving somewhere else.

There will be an open house at West Point City Hall on February 8th to inform the public of the alternatives.

Mayor Craythorne said no matter what happens he would like the Council to convey the fact that they do not have any decision in this. They will support the best route for the City.

Councilman Petersen asked if Mr. Davis knows the process they (UDOT) are using to realign the roads.

Mr. Davis said the Utah Core of Engineers is involved with the process, and UDOT has hired environmental consultants to plan the road through designated wetlands. He said at this level of screening there has not been a full evaluation of the wetlands; this will happen when the final 2 corridors are decided on.

Mr. Hill said UDOT has been running their criteria process through the Army Corp of Engineers.

Mayor Craythorne said the Council has always supported the area designated as the corridor in 2001. West Point has sold land to the State for years for the road.

Mr. Davis said UDOT wants comments from Cities.

Mayor Craythorne said the Council and City will form a Resolution stating the City's opinion.

Councilman Petersen said UDOT told him they have at least 30 days to send their comments.

Mayor Craythorne feels it is very important that the City contact the land owners involved so they can attend the open houses.

Mr. Hill said he was told the comments will be most helpful to eliminate options that are not favorable.

Councilman Petersen said he would like to ask UDOT about connecting to current roads. He wants to see how it will work with the widening of SR 193.

Mayor Craythorne said the whole process has included estimated population and future development through the year 2040. They have looked at the funds available, and adjusted how they thought it will work best.

Councilman Petersen wants to suggest to UDOT that they study the traffic that will be sent to current roads. He wants an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) done and compared to the Wasatch Front Regional Transportation map of future projects. Also between 300 N and 700 S is a place where the City had planned a road for the developments going in, and Councilman Petersen wondered if the proposed corridor would take that into account.

Mayor Craythorne said he had already addressed that with UDOT and also other issues in the City that could change drastically like future school sites.

Councilman Chatterton asked if the next phase included roads into Weber County.

Mayor Craythorne said it is in 3 phases. The first phase is from Farmington to Antelope Drive in Syracuse, the second phase is from Syracuse to the Weber County line, and the 3rd phase is from the Weber County line to 12th street.

Councilman Chatterton wondered how UDOT is connecting all of the counties with the different alternatives. He wonders if a situation in another phase is driving UDOT to change their corridor through West Point, which is not fair.

Mayor Craythorne shares the same concern, and feels the open houses will be very informative.

Councilman Chatterton asked how the staff is contacting land owners about the open houses.

Mr. Hill said he would like direction from the Council on how to do that. He is concerned that the general public does not have all of the information now, and will not until the open house. When information is released, he also would like to contact land owners and show them the City is concerned about them.

Councilman Henderson asked if the open house had been advertised.

Mrs. Jensen said there is an article in the newsletter that will be mailed out tomorrow, it is on the website, and Mr. Hill said we will get it on the marquee.

Mayor Craythorne showed the Council on the map future road projects as they had been explained to him. He said there are roads that have not been funded, but they are on the map because the public would really like it constructed.

The Council and Staff discussed shortly the alternatives as they would benefit other cities. They have heard of situations through the years where people who complained a lot got things moved around. They do not want to be complainers, but they want their opinion heard.

Councilman Dawson mentioned that the City radio messages need to be updated.

Mr. Hill said he and the staff will ask the Council at the next meeting what they would like the Resolution to say that will be sent to UDOT. Then the Council can take action at the meeting after that to adopt it. He asked the Council to think about their preferred alignments, the way the roads will interconnect, and frontage roads. Also pedestrian access should be considered.

Mr. Hill said that when residents call the City to ask questions, the staff will refer them to UDOT. The City will contact those who are land owners.

Councilman Dawson asked if the 2001 alignment is taken out as an alternative, would the Council say in the Resolution that they want it to come back. Or should the Resolution be used to say which alternatives the Council likes the least.

Mayor Craythorne said the road could still be different that what is being presented. He said that Randy Jefferies from UDOT had told him the corridor that West Point had been preserving started being an idea in the early 1960's. Changing the route now is a big problem to those who have built around the original corridor.

Councilman Petersen said he had also heard a freeway was going to be built along 3000 W when he was a kid. Then he said he wonders if the wetlands that UDOT is trying to avoid with their new routes will change over the next few years with developments.

Councilman Dawson said he would like UDOT to put their intentions in writing. Then no matter how long it takes, the City can plan around it.

There was discussion about how the land preserved as the corridor will one day be sold for development and if the City will get a reduced amount.

Councilman Henderson said the new Planning Commission Chair is Rawlee Wilson.

Mr. Hill spent some time on the current Legislative topics. He said there was an article in the paper about the immigration issue. It was claimed this topic will take up most of the Legislature time. It will affect the City because if it is passed it will require local governments to enforce federal immigration. Local law enforcement will be required to check immigration status on residents they are investigating. A resident could also sue a law enforcement officer if they feel they did not do their utmost to process an individual. This is where the City would end up paying money for this new bill. Mr. Hill said this law is being called a revolving door with its enforceability.

Mayor Craythorne said the local officials he has been talking to feel it will be ineffective.

Councilman Henderson said he can see where it will really cost the taxpayer and not help the situation very much. He also can see where it will take police coverage away from more serious crimes, and put policemen in the offices trying to prove someone is an illegal alien.

Mayor Craythorne said he will not vote favorably for this bill.

Councilman Petersen said there are a lot of misconceptions about illegal aliens taking the community jobs away from local residents, and so there are emotions that are connected to this bill.

Mr. Hill said another general issue is a bill that requires any fee increase to city residents be done by a resident vote.

GENERAL SESSION

Visitors: Kati Penner, Rachel Penner, and Dustin Morris

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE: Repeated by all
3. PRAYER: Councilman Chatterton
4. COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCLOSURES FROM CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR
Councilman Chatterton had no comments.

Councilman Dawson had no comments.

Councilman Woodward mentioned he attended the ground breaking in Farmington for their new campus center that will include a library, the courthouse, and a juvenile justice center.

Councilman Petersen had no comments.

Councilman Henderson said the Planning Commission has been asked by a bank that has a tie to property in West Point if they will look at the code on frontages. When the housing market was good, home buyers wanted bigger lots, but now that things have slowed down, home buyers want a good price. If the City will lower the requirement on lot frontages they can put more homes in an area. The Planning Commission is looking for feedback from the Council.

The Council will discuss the issue. They do not want to change the code just because the economy has varied. People want a nice back yard, but if it is too big it tends to collect rubbish. The same is true of a large side yard.

Mayor Craythorne said there is an open house here at City Hall in regards to the West Davis Corridor. He encouraged everyone to attend.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

There were no comments.

6. CITIZEN COMMENT

There were no comments.

7. YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

Miss Rachel Penner said the Youth Council will take valentines to the Family Tree Assisted Living Center. 12 Youth Council members attended Legislature Day and met with government officials.

Mr. Austin Morris said the community essay contest entries are due February 14th and they will announce the winners on March 1st at the City Council meeting. There will be 3 age divisions. They are also making hygiene kits to assist a scout in the City working on his eagle rank. They hope to make 100 kits and give them to homeless shelters in the area.

Mrs. Patti Seffker, the Youth Council leader said Mr. Larry Gelwix spoke to the Youth who went to the Legislative Day and they really enjoyed it. He was the Highland High School Rugby coach. A movie has been made about the team's story. It is called Forever Strong.

8. PUT LINDON ESTATES PHASE 3 ON ONE YEAR WARRANTY

Mr. Boyd Davis said Lindon Estates Phase 3 has been constructed for some time, but has just recently recorded and is now ready to be put on warranty. He recommends the City Council put it on a one year warranty.

Councilman Woodward made the motion to put Lindon Estates Phase 3 on a one year warranty.

Councilman Henderson seconded it.

All voted aye.

At this time Mayor Craythorne introduced Deputy Warnshuis who was in attendance. Deputy Sheriff Pope was also here. They asked for any suggestions from the Council on what they can do better.

Councilman Chatterton said he would like more patrol on 3000 W. He fees people are speeding on that road all the time.

Mayor Craythorne said he hopes the deputies will continue to watch the school zones.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 7, 2010 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Councilman Petersen made the motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2010.

Councilman Dawson seconded it.

All voted aye.


10. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Councilman Woodward made the motion to adjourn at 7:22 pm.

Councilman Petersen seconded it.




ERIK CRAYTHORNE,
MAYOR


AMY JENSEN,
CITY RECORDER

