

## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2015, ROY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Approval of the February 3, 2015, minutes
2. Public hearing to amend the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget
3. Presentation by Weber County Elections Officer regarding voting-by-mail
4. City Manager's report
5. Public comments
6. Mayor and Council reports
7. Motion to hold a closed meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual
8. Closed meeting
9. Adjourn

Minutes of the Roy City Council Meeting held February 17, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Room of the Roy City Municipal Building.

The meeting was a regularly scheduled meeting designated by resolution. Notice of the meeting was provided to the *Standard Examiner* at least 24 hours in advance. A copy of the agenda was posted.

The following members were in attendance:

Mayor Willard Cragun	City Manager Andy Blackburn
Councilwoman Marge Becraft	City Attorney Clint Drake
Councilman John Cordova	Secretary Michelle Drago
Councilman Brad Hilton	
Councilman Dave Tafoya	
Councilwoman Karlene Yeoman	

Also present were: Cathy Spencer, Management Services Director; Jason Poulsen, Fire Chief; D. L. Thurman; Jane Thurman; Danny Hammon; Greg Sagen; Gary Emp; Aimee Dimick; Ruayne Freeman; Danielle C., Kamri Spinden; Austin Cox; Karch Denney; Saune Toutai; Brittany Slage; Cody Hansen; Rick Davis; David Webb; Amy Webb; B. Argyle; Maryann Reed; Rachel Trotter; Jennifer Morrell; and Boy Scout Troop 186.

Moment of Silence: Councilman Cordova

Pledge of Allegiance: Boy Scout Troop 186

#### 1. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2015, MINUTES

**Councilman Hilton moved to approve the minutes of February 3, 2015, as written. Councilman Tafoya seconded the motion. Council members Becraft, Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, and Yeoman voted “aye.” The motion carried.**

#### 2. PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET

**Councilman Tafoya moved to open the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Councilman Cordova seconded the motion. Council members Becraft, Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, and Yeoman voted “aye.” The motion carried.**

Cathy Spencer, Management Services Director, stated that the administration was proposing a few budget adjustment; most dealt with personnel. Several employees had retired or planned to retire before the end of the fiscal year. Adjustments were being proposed to allow for funding of the benefits paid out at retirement. A total of \$207,953 was spread between Administration, Legal, Police, and Finance for the transition of employees. A new firefighter had been added to the Fire Department with a total cost of \$25,000 for the rest of the year. When the FY2015 budget was originally approved, funding for the merits and COLA's was placed in the Finance Department. The proposed budget adjustments included allocating those funds out to the individual departments. The General Fund allocation was \$288,099. The budget adjustments

included the cost of upgrading the HVAC systems in the Police Department, Justice Court, and the old Senior Center for a total cost of \$167,200. Ms. Spencer said revenue sources had been adjusted to cover personnel costs and the HVAC system. In some cases, revenue was adjusted down, such as franchise fees. They had been adjusted down due to the very mild winter. In total, revenue was adjusted upward by \$261,335. An additional \$133,801 was needed from fund balance to cover the budget adjustments. She asked that the Council approve Resolution No. 1064 approving the outlined adjustments to the FY2015 budget.

Councilman Hilton asked if retirement costs were one-time expenses. Ms. Spencer said they were.

Mayor Cragun asked what retirement costs consisted of. Ms. Spencer said retirement costs included payment for benefits, such as accrued sick leave and vacation, and in some cases severance pay.

Mayor Cragun opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

**Councilman Tafoya moved to close the public hearing at 6:07 p.m. Councilman Hilton seconded the motion. Council members Becraft, Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, and Yeoman voted “aye.” The motion carried.**

**Councilman Cordova moved to approve Resolution No. 1064 approving adjustments to the FY2015 budget. Councilwoman Yeoman voted “aye.” The motion carried. A roll call vote was taken: Council members Tafoya, Becraft, Cordova, Yeoman, and Hilton voted “aye.” The motion carried. (Copy filed for record).**

### 3. PRESENTATION BY WEBER COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

Jennifer Morrell, Weber County Elections Office, stated that Ogden City invited the Weber County Elections Office to make a presentation regarding voting by mail. A number of other cities had asked to hear the presentation. Roy City was fortunate that Amy Mortenson was the Election Official. The County would be submitting costs to her for a traditional election, an election done entirely by mail, and mix of the two. In March, the County would ask the City to approve an interlocal agreement detailing the platform the City wanted to use.

Ms. Morrell said Weber County was moving toward voting by mail and was encouraging cities in the county to move in that direction as well. The County's voting equipment was aging. Voting machines weren't manufactured any longer. The technology was outdated. For instance, it would cost taxpayers \$50,000 to replace the batteries in the machines if she could find them. The County would still have polling places for anyone who wanted to vote traditionally on Election Day. Her goal was to make the voting machines to last until 2020. She hoped that in another five years there would be new technology.

Ms. Morrell stated that the County was also struggling to find buildings that could be used for polling places. They were using some churches, which some citizens had angst about. They could no longer use schools that didn't have a second external entrance due to security issues. Polling places also had to meet strict ADA guidelines. They wanted to keep polling places in the same locations no matter whether it was a municipal election year or a presidential year. Election judges were aging and were required to be able to operate new technology as polling books were now electronic.

Ms. Morrell said for all those reasons the County was considering voting by mail. There was concern about how voting by mail would affect voter turnout. Studies showed there was a greater propensity for increased voter turnout when entities used voting by mail. In 2013, Riverdale saw voter turnout increase from 24% to 48% when it used voting by mail. Davis County used voting by mail for both the primary and general elections and had about 50% voter turnout as well. One demographic that increased with voting by mail was mothers with young children. Voting by mail gave voters more time to study the ballot, look at candidates, and study the issues. Voting by mail was convenient. Voting by mail allowed results to be tabulated quickly on election night. Some were concerned that voting by mail would take away the sense of community. The biggest complaint she received about voting by mail was not receiving an *I Voted* sticker.

Ms. Morrell said whether the Council chose to use voting by mail or voting machines, it needed to be aware that election traditions were changing. The County was already starting to explore voting via the Internet. Whenever there was a change in the way people voted, there was a perceived risk of fraud. When voting machines were first used, some people were sure they could be hacked. The most common type of fraud was actually registration fraud. Oregon had been voting by mail since 2000 with over 24 million votes cast. In all that time, only 13 cases of fraud had been identified.

Ms. Morrell stated that the overall cost of voting by mail was \$4 per vote, which was more than the traditional voting method. Traditional voting was about \$2 per vote cast. However, the higher voter turnout when voting by mail decreased the cost per vote. Voting by mail changed the way candidates campaigned. Ballots were mailed out 30 days prior to Election Day. One-third of the ballots were returned within a few days; one-third trickled in over the 30 days; and one-third was received just prior to Election Day. If the Council decided it wanted to use voting by mail, a polling place would be available at the Municipal Building on Election Day. Utah was a 'no excuse absentee ballot' state. Voters could sign up to receive an absentee ballot if they wanted. They didn't have to be out town. Weber County was doing the best it could to communicate with voters. It was working with Weber State to conduct a survey with tabulated results. They would share the results with Roy City.

Councilman Tafoya asked when the City had to make a decision made about the election. Ms. Morrell said the interlocal agreement would be submitted to Roy City by March 20<sup>th</sup>. The County asked that the City make a decision within a month. By May,

the County needed to know what the City was planning to do, as they had to order supplies.

Councilman Cordova asked if there were any cities that had voted by mail. Ms. Morrell said Davis County did both their primary and general elections via mail and some other cities in Salt Lake County did as well. Weber County did the special election last June completely by mail, and Riverdale did both of their elections by mail.

Councilwoman Becraft asked what the voter turnout for the special election was. Ms. Morrell said it was 37%. Historically, Weber County averaged 8% to 9%. Weber County was ecstatic about 37%.

Mayor Cragun asked how voting by mail addressed voters in transit; people who moved in and out. Jennifer Morrell said Weber County tried to keep its voter registrations as clean as possible. Ballots were non-forwarding. If a ballot was returned to them, they tried to find out where the voter had moved to.

#### 4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Andy Blackburn stated that the beautification project would start in the next week. It would begin on 5200 South. The City just put a new roof on the West Park baseball tower. UDOT was pouring concrete on Midland Drive. Roy City had some water pipes in Midland Drive that needed to be replaced. Due to the timing of UDOT's project, Roy City planned to use funds for other budgeted projects, to replace the waterlines in Midland Drive now.

Andy Blackburn updated the Council on the Utah State Legislature.

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

#### 6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Tafoya stated that the Roy High School girls' basketball team made it to the State play-offs. He wanted to congratulate them on a good year.

Councilman Hilton stated that there would be an dedication and open house on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Roy ER for a new helipad.

Councilwoman Becraft stated that the Roy Youth City Council would be introduced at the first meeting in March. The Youth City Council consisted of students from Roy High School that were interested in learning about government and its process. The youth would shadow the Council members. In the next year, the Youth City Council would visit the Utah Legislature as well. Mayor Cragun thanked Councilwoman Becraft for her efforts to put the Youth Council together.

Mayor Cragun echoed the comments from Councilman Tafoya about Roy High's girls' basketball team. It had been awhile since they had been to the State playoffs. The girls were a credit to the community. He thanked them.

Mayor Cragun said it gave him great pleasure to see the beautification project in downtown Roy starting. It had been a long time coming. As it moved forward, citizens and merchants would be able to see what was being done. It would make an impact on developers as they looked at Roy. He asked the Council and staff to put together a survey with the help of Weber State to find out what the citizens wanted the City to do to improve the services in the City.

Councilman Hilton felt it was worthy to note that Damien Trujillo took State as a wrestler for Roy High School with a record of 41 and 0. He was in the 285 weight bracket. Damien was also on the football team and was an All Stater. Mayor Cragun asked that Councilman Hilton invite Damien to a Council meeting so the Council could recognize him.

7. MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED MEETING TO DISCUSS THE CHARACTER, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, OR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL

**Councilman Tafoya moved to hold a closed meeting in the City Manager's Conference Room at 6:38 p.m. to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Councilwoman Becraft seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Council members Hilton, Yeoman, Cordova, Tafoya, and Becraft voted "aye." The motion carried.**

8. CLOSED MEETING TO DISCUSS THE CHARACTER, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, OR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL

A closed meeting was held in the City Manager's Conference Room from 6:38 to 7:49 p.m. Those in attendance were: Mayor Cragun, Councilwoman Becraft, Councilman John Cordova, Councilman Brad Hilton, Councilman Dave Tafoya, Councilwoman Karlene Yeoman, City Manager Andy Blackburn, and City Attorney Clint Drake.

**Councilman Tafoya moved to adjourn the closed meeting at 7:49 p.m. Councilman Cordova seconded the motion. Council members Becraft, Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, and Yeoman voted "aye." The motion carried.**

9. ADJOURN

**Councilman Hilton moved to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Councilwoman Becraft seconded the motion. Council members Becraft, Cordova, Hilton, Tafoya, and Yeoman voted "aye." The motion carried.**

Attest:

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Willard Cragun  
Mayor

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Amy Mortenson  
Recorder