

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-1-

THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012, AT 6:32 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST VALLEY CITY HALL, 3600 CONSTITUTION BOULEVARD, WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AND CONDUCTED BY MAYOR WINDER.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Mike Winder
Steve Buhler
Don Christensen
Tom Huynh
Karen Lang
Corey Rushton
Steve Vincent

Wayne Pyle, City Manager
Sheri McKendrick, City Recorder

STAFF PRESENT:

Paul Isaac, Assistant City Manager
Eric Bunderson, City Attorney
Jim Welch, Finance Director
Layne Morris, CPD Director
Buzz Nielsen, Police Chief
John Evans, Fire Chief
Nicole Cottle, CED Director
Kevin Astill, Parks and Recreation Director
Jake Arslanian, Acting Public Works Director

15619 **OPENING CEREMONY**

The Opening Ceremony was conducted by Steve Vincent who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

15620 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AND SWEARING-IN CEREMONY HELD JANUARY 3, 2012**

The City Council read and considered Minutes of the Special Council Meeting and Swearing-in Ceremony held January 3, 2012. There were no changes, corrections or deletions.

After discussion, Councilmember Christensen moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting and Swearing-in Ceremony held January 3, 2012, as written. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-2-

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Vincent	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Buhler	Yes
Mr. Huynh	Yes
Mr. Rushton	Yes
Mr. Christensen	Yes
Mayor Winder	Yes

Unanimous.

15621 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 3, 2012**

The City Council read and considered Minutes of the Council Regular Meeting held January 3, 2012. There were no changes, corrections or deletions.

After discussion, Councilmember Christensen moved to approve the Minutes of the Council Regular Meeting held January 3, 2012, as written. Councilmember Lang seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Vincent	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Buhler	Yes
Mr. Huynh	Yes
Mr. Rushton	Yes
Mr. Christensen	Yes
Mayor Winder	Yes

Unanimous.

15622 **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

Upon direction, Aimee Tye-Critchley, Administration/Human Resource, addressed the City Council and introduced the following new employees:

Public Works Department

Benjamin Hunter, Engineer IV
John Bagley, Facilities Coordinator I

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-3-

Fire Department

Jamie Fitzgerald, Senior Support Services Clerk

Law Department

Brandon Hill, Assistant City Attorney

Community Preservation Department

Carrie Ashby, Animal Shelter Dispatcher

The City Council welcomed the new employees to employment with West Valley City.

15623

COMMENT PERIOD

Upon inquiry by Mayor Winder the following individuals addressed the City Council during the comment period:

Polina Vyazovkina addressed the City Council and stated she had previously spoken at the City Council meeting on January 3, 2012. She read a prepared statement with information that included statistics regarding the number of volunteers and hours served at the West Valley animal shelter. Ms. Vyazovkina stated she had been fired as a volunteer last week for practicing freedom of speech rights regarding a Facebook page. She advised she would submit written information along with photographs and a recording of a conversation with shelter director, Kelly Davis. She outlined issues of concern at the shelter including use of a gas chamber for euthanasia, low adoption rates, and other matters. She submitted a copy of a volunteer log to Mayor Winder.

Jai Breisch addressed the City Council and stated he also was a shelter volunteer who had been fired by Kelly Davis. He read a written statement and discussed reasons why animals should not be placed in a gas chamber for euthanasia, and related his conversations with Kelly Davis. He showed photographs of certain animals euthanized by gas chamber during the last year, which, he stated, violated AVA standards for young, injured and sick animals. He stated 19 states had banned use of a gas chamber for euthanizing animals as being inhumane to animals and dangerous to humans, and costing more than other methods such as lethal injection.

Brenda Miller addressed the City Council and stated she was a resident of Taylorsville City which contracted with West Valley City for animal services. She requested the City Council consider not using the gas chamber as it was cruel and inhumane to euthanize animals in that manner. She also stated many states had outlawed use of a gas chamber. She requested the City Council take a good look at how the shelter was run.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-4-

Glen Weeks, resident of Taylorsville, addressed the City Council. Mr. Weeks stated he joined in this cause for animals' rights and animal lovers. He also stated this issue revolved around compassion and management policies. He indicated West Valley City had received unwanted attention regarding this issue and he appealed to Mayor Winder directly and the City Council as elected officials to consider this issue. He noted volunteers had given massive contributions to the City and focused on the humane aspect of animal treatment. He stated social media could have information regarding this issue going internationally or virally in a very short time. He indicated volunteer hours were a value given to the City and an irreplaceable loss if current management continued. He suggested that Salt Lake County would be his service of choice for animals in the future. Mr. Weeks suggested the City study the County's processes and services; then make changes to serve residents of West Valley City better. He reminded that elected officials could be replaced. He explained the shelter was dealing with living creatures that should be treated humanely.

Mayor Winder inquired, by show of hands, who had actually viewed the euthanasia process at the West Valley City animal shelter.

Upon request by the City Council, the City Manager, Wayne Pyle, discussed some of the public comments given in this and previous meetings; and responded to allegations made by one speaker. He stated City staff had prepared a written response to allegations and a copy of that response had been given to the City Council and would also be made available to the public upon request. He discussed various methods of euthanasia and offered to allow those in attendance to make arrangements to view that procedure at the animal shelter. He discussed and addressed comments from the public regarding compassion, cost and/or management at the shelter, etc. He also addressed issues raised by volunteers who had previously addressed the Council and he presented some factual information and clarified the City's position on use of volunteers.

15624

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

After discussion, Councilmember Vincent moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting and convene an Executive Session for discussion of professional competency of an individual. Councilmember Christensen seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Vincent	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Buhler	Yes
Mr. Huynh	Yes
Mr. Rushton	Yes

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-5-

Mr. Christensen	Yes
Mayor Winder	Yes

Unanimous.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE WEST VALLEY COUNCIL, THE REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012, WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:06 P.M., BY MAYOR WINDER.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-6-

THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MET IN AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST VALLEY CITY HALL, 3600 CONSTITUTION BOULEVARD, WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR WINDER.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

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Steve Vincent

Wayne Pyle, City Manager
Sheri McKendrick, City Recorder

STAFF PRESENT:

Paul Isaac, Assistant City Manager
Eric Bunderson, City Attorney
Layne Morris, CPD Director

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012, WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:06 P.M., BY MAYOR WINDER.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2012

-7-

SWORN STATEMENT

As the Mayor, I presided at a closed meeting of the West Valley City Council on January 17, 2012. Pursuant to Section 52-4-7.5 Utah Code annotated, 1953 as amended, I hereby sign this sworn statement and affirm that the sole purpose for closing the meeting was to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

SWORN to this 17th day of January, 2012.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

City Recorder

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true, accurate and complete record of the proceedings of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of the West Valley City Council held Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

Sheri McKendrick, MMC
City Recorder