

MINUTES OF COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 28, 2014

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THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014, 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 BIGELOW.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Ron Bigelow, Mayor
Corey Rushton, Councilmember At-Large
Lars Nordfelt, Councilmember At-Large
Tom Huynh, Councilmember District 1
Steve Buhler, Councilmember District 2
Karen Lang, Councilmember District 3
Steve Vincent, Councilmember District 4

Wayne Pyle, City Manager
Sheri McKendrick, City Recorder

STAFF PRESENT:

Nicole Cottle, Assistant City Manager/CED Director
Eric Bunderson, City Attorney
Jim Welch, Finance Director
Russell Willardson, Public Works Director
John Evans, Fire Chief
Sam Johnson, Strategic Communications Director
Anita Schwemmer, Acting Police Chief
Chris Curtis, Acting CPD Director
Jake Arslanian, Public Works Department

16791 **OPENING CEREMONY**

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

16792 **SCOUTS**

Mayor Bigelow welcomed Scout Troop No. 4 in attendance to complete requirements for the Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

16793 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETINGS HELD OCTOBER 7, 2014, AND OCTOBER 14, 2014**

The Council read and considered Minutes of the Regular Meetings held October 7, 2014, and October 14, 2014. There were no changes, corrections or deletions.

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After discussion, Councilmember Lang moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings held October 7, 2014, and October 14, 2014, as written. Councilmember Buhler 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. Nordfelt	Yes
Mayor Bigelow	Yes

Unanimous.

16794 **PROCLAMATION DECLARING NOVEMBER 1, 2014, AS “EXTRA MILE DAY” IN WEST VALLEY CITY**

Councilmember Vincent read a Proclamation declaring November 1, 2014, as “Extra Mile Day” in West Valley City.

16795 **COMMENT PERIOD**

Upon inquiry by Mayor Bigelow there was no one in attendance who desired to address the City Council during the comment period.

16796 **RESOLUTION NO. 14-180, AUTHORIZE THE CITY TO ACQUIRE, BY NEGOTIATION OR CONDEMNATION, REAL PROPERTY FROM JULIE ANN COOPER LOCATED AT 3027 – 3035 WEST LEON AVENUE**

Mayor Bigelow presented proposed Resolution No. 14-180 that would authorize the City to acquire, by negotiation or condemnation, real property from Julie Ann Cooper, located at 3027 – 3035 West Leon Avenue.

He stated the City was currently attempting to purchase land at the above location and, at present, it appeared condemnation would be necessary to complete that acquisition. The proposed resolution was being requested in the likely event that condemnation became necessary.

The house located at 3027 – 3035 West Leon Avenue was in a group of houses the City must own in order to build a roadway through the Fairbourne Station development. The City had been unsuccessful in attempting to contact Ms. Cooper. A condemnation action would require the appraised value of the property be placed into escrow. The City would file a Motion for Default and a Motion for Immediate Occupancy and, upon order from the Court, receive title to

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the property and build the road. Ms. Cooper's money would earn interest in escrow until claimed.

After discussion, Councilmember Rushton moved to approve Resolution No. 14-180, a Resolution Authorizing the City to Acquire, by Negotiation or Condemnation, Real Property from Julie Ann Cooper Located at 3027 – 3035 West Leon Avenue. Councilmember Nordfelt 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. Nordfelt	Yes
Mayor Bigelow	Yes

Unanimous.

16797

RESOLUTION NO. 14-181, AUTHORIZE WEST VALLEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT AN AWARD FROM THE COPS HIRING PROGRAM THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mayor Bigelow presented proposed Resolution No. 14-181 that would authorize the West Valley City Police Department to accept an award in the amount of \$1,250,000.00 from the COPS Hiring Program through the U.S. Department of Justice.

He stated the awarded funds would be utilized to hire ten additional police officers to help the Police Department meet the growing needs of the City and provide exceptional service to its residents. In order to accept the award the City would be required to provide a cash match of \$626,922.00 over the course of three years.

West Valley City had seen a large increase in population during its history, making it difficult for the Police Department to provide the kind of service residents expected and deserved. Although the Police Department strived each and every day to provide excellent service, having more officers on the road would mean a quicker response time and more time to devote to each case being investigated.

As officers were hired with the subject grant, the intent would be to create a new unit called the Fast Action Unit consisting of five officers and a sergeant. These added resources would be directed to implement intervention strategies that

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targeted persistent or emerging crime problems or community concerns adversely impacting quality of life. The remaining four officers would be assigned to the Community Response Unit. Members of this unit were assigned to specific geographical areas within the City. Their assignment would include regular contact with citizens in their neighborhoods. These officers would be a direct source of contact as they would be familiar with the unique challenges of each neighborhood and be part of a permanent solution. They would be gatherers of intelligence information to be used to arrest suspects committing crimes that impacted the quality of life in the neighborhoods.

Upon discussion, Councilmember Buhler stated it was good to bring monies back to the City thus providing better service to the residents.

Councilmember Buhler moved to approve Resolution No. 14-181, a Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a COPS Hiring Program Grant through the U.S. Department of Justice. Councilmember Huynh seconded the motion.

Mayor Bigelow called for discussion on the motion.

Councilmember Vincent suggested the Council would revisit and evaluate this program when giving consideration to the additional City funds required upon expiration of the federal grant.

Mayor Bigelow expressed concern that the matching funds were not in the current budget and inquired if funds had been identified for future funding of the grant.

City Manager, Wayne Pyle, responded funding for the City's matching portion of the federal grant had not been identified in this year's budget or in future budgets, as yet. He explained matching funding could be found in the fund balance, including some cost savings to be identified in the general fund and individual department budgets. He noted the proposed grant program was a three-year program with incremental increases. He advised West Valley City had participated in this federal program numerous times over the years and matching funds had successfully been taken from the fund balance, departmental savings, and additional revenue sources.

Mayor Bigelow stated this would commit future revenues giving this program priority over other projects. He expressed a dislike to agree to spend money we do not have, but will probably realize some time in the future. He stated he would rather revenue sources be identified in the budget process, and added his vote was particularly difficult as he did not desire to say no to additional officers.

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Upon further inquiry, the City Manager advised the fund balance would cover the matching funds, with those funds being set aside for this program with Council approval.

Mr. Pyle explained difficulties of the grant application process particularly not knowing the matching amounts to be budgeted. He further explained matching dollar amounts were not known until after formal application for the grant and once the grant was awarded it was still a tentative process because it would be possible and completely acceptable for a Council to reject the grant application. He indicated the City was trying to build the Police Department long term while finding itself always behind the curve. He advised that with the grant method, additions to the police force could be made while not bearing huge costs all at one time. He encouraged the Council to carefully decide if this was a long term “build” to increase the City’s public safety resources.

Upon inquiry by Mayor Bigelow regarding if the federal government was trying to force the City to expand its police force, the City Manager indicated he did not think so. He explained the federal grant was a tool to encourage the City’s participation, but the decision was made totally by the City Council. He stated if the City did not intend to keep the officers funded at the end of the grant period with this program, no application would be made in the future.

Mayor Bigelow stated history would bear out that the federal program grants were fully anticipated to be continued by municipalities when the grant expired. The Mayor recommended next year’s budgeting process include setting aside funds for unanticipated matching fund needs.

Councilmember Huynh stated every year the Council held a Strategic Planning meeting and discussed many issues and suggested this topic be an agenda item for further discussion.

Councilmember Rushton stated he desired to speak in favor of the proposed Resolution as he thought the City fortunate to be receiving this grant. He indicated residents continued to request expansion of the narcotics unit and the new unit would address those citizen requests. He informed he did not have reservations about the program as this expenditure seemed a small amount to provide added public safety services not being covered now, which was a major responsibility of the City. He expressed pleasure at having received the grant and stated with four years and planning it would be beneficial to citizens of West Valley City. He stated the grant was an attempt to prevent cities from downsizing public safety departments and West Valley City would have three years to budget for the program.

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Mayor Bigelow expressed concurrence with Councilmember Rushton’s remarks and expressed a desire to increase officers but indicated he would prefer to integrate matching grant funds into the annual budget process.

Mayor Bigelow called for a vote on the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Vincent	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Buhler	Yes
Mr. Huynh	Yes
Mr. Rushton	Yes
Mr. Nordfelt	Yes
Mayor Bigelow	Yes

Unanimous.

16798

RESOLUTION NO. 14-182, RATIFY THE CITY MANAGER’S APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Bigelow presented proposed Resolution No. 14-182 that would ratify the City Manager’s appointment of members to the Utah Cultural Celebration Center Foundation Committee.

He stated the proposal would appoint Rita Martin and V. Kim Martinez to the Utah Cultural Celebration Center Foundation Committee for the term October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016.

After discussion, Councilmember Vincent moved to approve Resolution No. 14-182, a Resolution Ratifying the City Manager’s Appointment of Members to the Utah Cultural Celebration Center Foundation Committee. 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. Nordfelt	Yes
Mayor Bigelow	Yes

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Unanimous.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OF THE WEST VALLEY CITY COUNCIL, THE REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014, WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M., BY MAYOR BIGELOW.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true, accurate and complete record of the proceedings of the Regular Meeting of the West Valley City Council held Tuesday, October 28, 2014.

Sheri McKendrick, MMC
City Recorder