

AMERICAN FORK CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 19, 2021
WORK SESSION MINUTES

Members Present:

Bradley J. Frost	Mayor
Kevin Barnes	Council Member
Staci Carroll	Council Member
Ryan Hunter	Council Member
Rob Shelton	Council Member
Clark Taylor	Council Member

Staff Present:

David Bunker	City Administrator
Camden Bird	Community Services Director
Terilyn Lurker	City Recorder
Aaron Brems	Fire Chief
George Schade	IT Director
Cherylyn Egner	Legal Counsel
Casandria Crane	Library Director
Derric Rykert	Parks and Recreation Director
Scott Sensanbaugher	Public Works Director

Also present: Jason Wilson, Cody Backus, Laura Salazar, Brian Thompson, Nan Kuhn, Laurel Shelley, John Miller, Jeff Schneider, Reggie and Laura Walker, Spencer Stevens, Jessica Heaton, Holly Williams.

WORK SESSION

The purpose of City Work Sessions is to prepare the City Council for upcoming agenda items on future City Council Meetings. The Work Session is not an action item meeting. No one attending the meeting should rely on any discussion or any perceived consensus as action or authorization. These come only from the City Council Meeting.

The American Fork City Council will meet in a work session on Tuesday, October 19, in the City Administration Office Conference Room, located at 51 East Main Street, commencing at 4:00 p.m. The agenda shall be as follows:

1. Presentation by Intermountain American Fork Hospital

Mr. Jason Wilson presented on behalf of the Intermountain American Fork Hospital. He noted that while this is a private organization the ownership is really the community. He went through some of the structure of the organization beginning by addressing the community of Board of Trustees. He gave a brief history on the hospital. He said they serve all communities of the County, but they are close-knit partners with American Fork. Mr. Wilson introduced the Administrative

team for the hospital and provided the following statistics: 90 in-patient beds, 323 physicians, 180 aps, and 818 caregivers. He noted 80 percent of what they do is not in-patient care so the number of beds has been reduced over the years. He stated they have been having more same-day surgeries as there are not enough beds. Mr. Wilson stressed that healthcare is evolving very fast, and times have changed as they have more specialty doctors. He added that they have between 1,500 and 2,000 jobs with the hospital in the community. Mr. Wilson emphasized that the Hospital's mission is "Helping People Live The Healthiest Lives Possible."

He then listed the statistics for 2020 and 2021. Mr. Wilson stated they are in the top 100 hospitals in 2021 in Watson Health and are in the top 20 of community hospitals. He stressed that patients feel confident in their care at the hospital.

Mr. Wilson went on to discuss the ways they are continually improving. He said they are currently expanding their Newborn ICU. He stated that, a while ago, they met with Utah Valley and Primary Children to map out where they wanted to go with pediatrics. He noted the plan was to take a half step back to move forward. Mr. Wilson shared that they are opening up a 20 bed NICU along with a new Primary Children's Hospital in Lehi.

Mayor Frost asked him to elaborate on their NICUs. Mr. Wilson explained that there are different levels of NICUs. He noted that the American Fork Hospital is a level 2 and can take births up at 32 weeks, adding that anything earlier would have to go to a level three nursery at Utah Valley. He explained that a level four nursery is more of a teaching facility located at Primary Children's Hospital. Mr. Wilson explained that there is technology in the room that allows them to communicate with doctors all over the State.

Mr. Wilson continued by noting they are making improvements to the cancer center, updating labor and delivery units, installing additional 3D mammography, purchasing a surgical robot, and vamping up campus access planning. He added that they want to work with the City on access to the hospital.

Council Member Shelton asked about 200 North going through. Mr. Wilson said he would love for that to happen, but there is a horse pasture there. Mr. Wilson went on to discuss the hospital's huge investments to reduce water. He noted they have been converting to xeriscape to save in water and less mowing.

Mr. Wilson then went over the COVID-19 response. He praised the staff for how hard they have worked. He noted they have had a lot of employees cross train so they can help out in other areas as they have had to share and coordinate their health care personnel. Mr. Wilson emphasized their desire to be a source of trust for the community, especially with the uptick in behavioral health needs. He added that there have been visitor restrictions, which is hard on patients and staff. Mr. Wilson discussed the increase in minimum wage payments. He said they have paid over \$900,000 in incentives and differential pay to keep the place staffed and will be up to \$1.5 million. He added they have also paid \$500,000 pulling nurses in from other states. Mr. Wilson then acknowledged how morale has taken a beating which has been tough on staff. He noted they had curbside testing, but that ended in July, and staff had to take on extra shifts to cover.

Even with all the difficulties, Mr. Wilson noted they are looking at opening a Saratoga Springs Campus of American Fork Hospital. He then thanked the City for all of its support.

City Administrator David Bunker asked if, as they expand, if they need more parking. Mr. Wilson said he believed they would have enough.

Mayor Frost expressed trust in IHC and thanked Mr. Wilson for the information.

2. Report by PARC Tax recipients.

Community Services Director Camden Bird asked recipients to send information but noted he did not ask them to prepare any presentation.

American Fork City

Quail Cove Amphitheater Restroom

Mr. Bird said a Quail Cove Amphitheater Restroom was added near the parking lot. He noted they already had a bathroom at the park. However, it was felt another restroom was needed as the amphitheater is very popular and the most requested items are access to water and bathrooms. He stressed that they still need to install utilities. Council Member Carroll asked if the sewer line was more expensive. Mr. Bird said it was scoped correctly.

Scoreboards

Mr. Bird said scoreboards were at Beehive ballpark, though they were not usable and were eventually replaced. He indicated new scoreboards were installed by City staff thereby saving money, and also had wireless controllers.

Art Dye Bond

Mr. Bird said the annual bond payment went through for the completion of Art Dye.

Council Member Shelton said he noticed some wear and tear on the fence. He felt maybe some signage could be added to list rules. Parks and Recreation Director Derric Rykert noted they can install a soft toss sign. He added they are making some uniform signs to install as well. Council Member Shelton also suggested installing signs in the dog park reminding people to clean up after their dogs. Council Member Taylor added he would also like to keep dogs off the softball field.

Quarterly Updates

Mr. Bird reported that staff just bid on the children's room. He noted they are looking at funding options for a pool, pickle ball court, and other amenities. He noted many of these funding opportunities and grant applications have not been started yet. Council Member Shelton added that they don't have the 2021 allocations for the PARC website. Mr. Bird said he will add that to the website.

Timpanogos Art Foundation

Mr. Reggie Walker spoke on behalf of the Timpanogos Arts Foundation. He said they switched their budget to a fiscal budget to match the City's needs. For 2020-2021, he stressed this had been quite a challenge. He acknowledged that arts events are typically mass gatherings, and COVID naturally shut things down for a while. He expressed gratitude that they were able to hold the

events they have been able to hold. He reiterated that they are the local arts agency for the City and are committed to making sure there are community arts events at every level.

Next, he discussed the Youth Theater which had five productions and held classes. He noted they were very strict on the rules regarding COVID and most people worked with them. Next, he noted the American Fork Symphony was more of a variety of things to draw more of the community in. He then added that they had a summer camp which consisted of a full week of classes and coaching along with a youth choir who held a concert at the end of the week. Mr. Walker discussed the choir restructuring along with their Spring concert. He said they now have 25 members which feels like a good start. He noted this choir is being kept up all on their dime and is growing and doing well.

Next, he discussed the visual arts show and the classes they have in progress. He said they are working to stick to a normal schedule though they moved the history and heritage pageant down to the park to work with the DUP. He added that Mary Kawakami's speech has been scheduled for November. Next, he discussed the arts festival which had a low turnout but is moving to a new location which he feels optimistic about. Mr. Walker stressed how excited they are for the future as they completed 46 grants and have brought \$35,000 in arts grants in along with \$113,000 in CARES grants.

Council Member Shelton expressed a deep appreciation for all their grant writing. He noted that Nationwide, five through 11-year-olds have had a spike in problem behavior, and these outlets are more needed than ever. He added that he loves the variety of programs as well. Council Member Shelton then asked about the \$7,000 administrative fee. Mr. Walker explained that this money covers insurance, storage, admin and HR fees, and non-profit legal fees. Council Member Shelton asked for a line item report on this to be confirmed.

Wasatch Music

Mr. John Miller said had been excited to see Wasatch Music and noted their income and attendance had doubled. He felt they were handling money matters well and pointed out they are waiting for both their 501(c)3 and donation numbers.

Alpine Community Theater

Next, the ACT representative thanked the Council for all their hard work helping the community. He noted they are saving and changing lives. Mr. Miller reiterated that this is especially important given Covid.

New Friends Quilting Circle

Laura Walker discussed the acquisition of sewing machines. She said they were anticipating the community helping them out with five machines, but when they went to the Bernini store in Provo and learned about the groups there, they received nine sewing and quilting machines.

Harrington Center for the Arts

Spencer Stevens spoke on the amazing year they had. He felt they challenged each organization to greatness and helped maximize the subsidies earned through the grants.

Daughters of Utah Pioneers

Holly Williams spoke about the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum. While she noted they didn't open in 2020 due to COVID, she pointed out how they prepared for this year and they were able to have the 24th of July and 61 years of being a museum. She expressed appreciation for the City's support.

Wasatch Contemporary Dance Company

Jessica Heaton spoke about performances taking place at the Hampton House, which was unique this year as most places weren't renting. She stated they did six shows back-to-back for small audiences to allow for social distancing.

Cassandra Crane expressed her appreciation for all the support the library has received from the City. She reported that this year they have six or seven projects in the works.

3. Discussion on PARC Tax application requirements.

Mr. Bird expressed a need to be in contact with the City Council and ensure requirements are met. He noted they reached out to Orem but have not heard back.

Council Member Shelton raised several complaints they have received on transparency. He emphasized the fact that all meetings are open to the public and all information is readily available via multiple outlets. He reminded the group that meetings are open to the public, though he would love to have those meetings back on YouTube so the public can readily view them. He also noted these meetings were televised during COVID and expressed hope they could do that again. He said he knows they attempt transparency though he does not believe the public is aware.

Mr. Brian Thompson discussed the application process, explaining the need to be project specific and have thorough meetings throughout. Council Member Hunter agreed and asked Mr. Thompson what they were requesting of the applicants. Mr. Thompson said the big question revolved around what the applicants are doing with their project to best support the community. He also stressed the need for self-sustainability and experience with appropriately using funds. Council Member Carroll asked about how they are getting the financial data they need to which Mr. Thompson noted that they are able to get this information from the application candidates. Council Member Carroll asked that the same information be passed onto the board.

Mr. Bird discussed the requirements they ask for in their reports. Council Member Hunter noted that the PARC Tax has a natural progression which has continually improved the process of awarding these grants as well as streamlined the application process.

Mr. Stevens spoke about his experience as an applicant. He said it was requested by the City that he provide fund usage plans along with a narrative vision for those funds. He said they submitted their funds usage in a simple report format though felt keeping all of this information in one form would help streamline the process and better enable transparency. Mr. Walker said he felt they were incredibly thorough during his respective application process.

4. Update of the Strategic Goals.

Mr. Bird began by noting the revised dates for their upcoming audit. He stressed the importance of these dates to ensure fiscal responsibility. Council Member Shelton said his biggest worry is that their original dates and goals from last year were pushed off, and he had hoped there would be a larger discussion on this in November. He added that he had concerns about the budget and expressed frustrations as this has been an ongoing issue since 2018. Council Member Shelton suggested a work session to further discuss these problems.

Council Member Taylor said the Council knew about all of these issues earlier in the year but had backed off because of PARC and elections. He acknowledged the impact this had on the City and promised to do better and discuss this further in November. Council Member Carroll said she felt they had had an adequate time to think about these policies and felt they could assess the data once more before making a decision. Council Member Shelton and Council Member Taylor felt they did not actively avoid making a decision, rather something always delays the process. Council Member Shelton agreed that getting the necessary data and having a work session would jumpstart the discussion and help them reach a decision.

Mr. Bunker suggested bringing forward a plan wherein all departments could put together their respective requests. He felt that going through a priority based budget every year would help the Council in deciding what to fund. He acknowledged the hard work everyone is putting in alongside the fact that some issues have to be pushed off while others must be accelerated.

Council Member Shelton said he thought they did a good job on the expense side though they could better address their methods of collecting revenue. He felt expenses have exceeded the revenues, and this was presenting problems. Council Member Carroll disagreed with this assessment, and Council Member Shelton clarified that this largely had to do with inflation. Mayor Frost said he was comfortable waiting on further discussions on property taxes until they better addressed their needs. Council Member Shelton expressed caution at raising taxes.

Infrastructure improvements

Lastly, Mr. Bird broke down several City infrastructures updates and improvements. He began by noting the survey they will send out assessing the City's Fiber options. He said they have received a handful of quotes from vendors and are looking into who is the best fit. In conjunction with this survey, he said they have also updated their timelines.

At 200 South, he noted that they have finalized the design work, and the biggest issue looks to be funding. He said they plan on meeting with the school district along with the full School Board.

With the water/sewer lines, he noted the three areas they are reevaluating: PI Metering/AMI, their water recycling program (partnered with Horrocks), and the rate structure for the lines themselves.

Quality of Life

Next, he addressed the Art Dye Parking lot. He noted they are in the last phase and will be simultaneously looking at the dog park. He noted they have met with Fox Hollow to look at property lines, and the design of the parking lot has been started.

Next, he discussed the new land acquisition on the south of I-15. He noted they are in the process of locking in a purchase of 30 acres of land. Mayor Frost added that they are working on water issues now and are hoping it will be done soon.

5. Adjourn

The work session adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terilyn Lurker".

Terilyn Lurker, City Recorder