

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Richmond City Council was held at the Park Community Center located at 90 South 100 West, Richmond, Utah on Thursday, December 15, 2022. The meeting began at 6:30 P.M.; Mayor Paul Erickson was in the chair. The opening remarks were made by Lyle Bair.

The following Council Members were in attendance: Tucker Thatcher, Lyle Bair, Terrie Wierenga and Amber Ervin.

Council Member Kelly Crafts was excused.

City Treasurer HollyJo Karren, City Administrator Jeremy Kimpton and City Recorder Justin Lewis were also in attendance.

VISITORS: Bryce Holt, Sherrie Davis, Katelyn Davis, Matt Jarboe, Brandy Jarboe, Jay Bair

APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2022.

A motion to approve the November 17, 2022 city council meeting minutes was made by Lyle, seconded by Amber and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin

No Vote: None

Absent: Crafts

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

KATELYN DAVIS: I am the youth council mayor for this year. We helped with the Veteran's Day dinner and received 64 free meals from the Texas Roadhouse for the meal.

MAYOR: Let's make sure and send them a thank you card and I would like to sign it.

KATELYN: We recently held our election for the year and here are the officers for this year: Katelyn Davis – Mayor, Kimball Black – Vice Mayor, Shaylie Port – Secretary, Colin Misrasi and Tyler Henson – Secretary, Madi Theobald – Historian, Lyndsee Shields – Public Relations, Hanna Dowding – 12th Grade Representative, Korina Black – 11th Grade Representative, Ashtyn Hawes – 10th Grade Representative, Alia Mecham – 9th Grade Representative, Brooklyn Knutson – 8th Grade Representative, Lily Condos and Naivie Knutson will work with The Park Bench, Madi Theobald and Norah Knutson will work with the planning commission and Annie Griffiths and Alexia Lott will work with the library board.

SHERRIE DAVIS: We are hoping at least one of The Park Bench, planning commission and library board representatives will attend their meetings.

AMBER: When do you meet?

KATELYN: The first Monday of each month.

SHERRIE: We will meet twice a month when we get close to Black & White Days.

KATELYN: We helped with Sub for Santa last weekend. We helped for about four hours. Some of us are going to attend the Day at the Legislature on Wednesday, January 18th. It is at the state capitol in Salt Lake. Any of you can join us if you want.

SHERRIE: Anyone who wants to attend must register by January 11th.

KATELYN: The attire is nice dress for the day.

MAYOR: Is it hard to get off of school?

KATELYN: We will miss a full day of school but it is excused where it is considered a learning experience.

SHERRIE: It is not mandatory to attend so only those who want to attend go.

AMBER: Next month, The Park Bench will be holding some evening activities.

MAYOR: Will you come before the council monthly?

SHERRIE: We have been coming bi-monthly. If Katelyn does not attend the vice mayor will.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE CONDITIONAL-USE PERMIT AND BUSINESS LICENSE REQUEST FOR BLOOM EATERY TO OPERATE A RESTAURANT/CAFÉ AT 196 WEST MAIN.

BRANDY JARBOE: We currently operate a restaurant in downtown Logan. We took it over about a year ago. It has done really well. We heard what happened to the SoulFull Café. We were going to buy some of their equipment but we fell in love with the place. Matt, my husband, is from a tiny town in Kentucky. We want to bring healthy food options to small town areas. It is a menu similar to the SoulFull Café. I have brought some samples this evening. We are going to do a more expanded menu here than in Logan. We have an oven and walk-in fridge here where we don't in Logan. We have a lot more ideas for here. We don't have the capacity to expand in Logan.

MAYOR: Where are you located in Logan?

BRANDY: Just west of Center and Main. We love the downtown area and Center Street. We have limited space on what we can do in Logan.

AMBER: What are your proposed hours?

BRANDY: Monday through Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. works well for us. We had some staffing issues but overall we have been lucky and been able to fill shifts. It is a fun place to work. We get a lot of comments from our customers how well our staff gets along. We are willing to consider employees of the SoulFull Café if they are interested in working for us.

MAYOR: Do we require anything from Fire Chief Jay Downs?

JEREMY: He has already reviewed and approved the request from a fire department perspective.

TERRIE: Are you aware of the parking challenges of that building?

BRANDY: Our parking situation in Logan is much worse than here. Paul White did some parking improvements to the east we can use. There is some designated parking on the north end of the building as well. In Logan, we only have two designated parking stalls and they are usually occupied by others. We understand the parking challenges of this building. We don't think the drive-thru will be very effective. We envision it more as a pick up window. We don't want parking problems. We hope people will order online and just use the drive-up window to pick up their order.

TUCKER: Do you plan to offer inside seating?

BRANDY: Yes. It won't include a server. The customer will place their order and can then sit down and eat in the building.

AMBER: I am ecstatic you are coming. We were sad to see a healthy option close. We are happy to hear you are coming.

A motion to approve the conditional-use permit and business license for the Bloom Eatery was made by Tucker, seconded by Terrie and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin

No Vote: None

Absent: Crafts

PUBLIC HEARING, NO SOONER THAN 6:45 P.M., TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR WHICH FUNDING MAY BE APPLIED FOR UNDER THE CDBG SMALL CITIES PROGRAM FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2023. SUGGESTIONS FOR POTENTIAL PROJECTS WILL BE SOLICITED, BOTH VERBALLY AND IN WRITING, FROM ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

Mayor Erickson read the following statement:

Richmond City will now open its 1st Public Hearing for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant Small Cities program. The purpose of this hearing is to gain citizen input regarding community needs and potential CDBG projects.

Funding is expected to be available in the Bear River Region for CDBG projects, some of which will be available through competitive grants for projects that meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development national objectives to benefit low- and moderate-income individuals. Projects may include local infrastructure projects such as water system improvements, construction of a fire station, or purchase of playground equipment; or

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projects that improve the availability and quality of housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families such as purchasing land for subsidized housing, or rehabilitation of homes and apartments. Projects that displace low- to moderate-income individuals are not likely to receive funding.

We would like to ask that representatives of the public and non-profit organizations that are in attendance specifically for this hearing please sign the attendance roll, including your name, address, and telephone number. If you have questions or comments, we would like to invite you to share them. Please identify yourself by name before you speak. The clerk will include your name in the minutes and we would like to specifically respond to your questions and suggestions during the hearing.

A motion close the regular council meeting and open the public hearing was made by Terrie, seconded by Lyle and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin
No Vote: None
Absent: Crafts

The public hearing opened at 6:50 P.M.

JUSTIN: Richmond City intends to file an application for renovation projects in the north end of the Park Community Center. The improvements will be to help The Park Bench our senior center program. The intent is to apply for some air conditioning and heating units, an awning for the north entrance as well as some other improvements for the seniors. An awning is needed to keep the rain and snow off of the north entrance so it can be safely entered. There is not any air conditioning in the north end of the building.

A motion to close the public hearing and reopen the regular council meeting was made by Amber, seconded by Terrie and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin
No Vote: None
Absent: Crafts

The public hearing closed at 6:52 P.M.

MAYOR: There will be more applications than available funding through this program. It is competitive. Amber has done a great job overseeing The Park Bench. It has really taken off. Many people are participating in the program and utilizing the building. We are hoping for some funding to improve the program.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING RESOLUTION 2022-04, A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE PREVAILING FEE SCHEDULE OF THE CITY SPECIFICALLY THE GARBAGE UTILITY RATE.

MAYOR: Justin, please give us an overview of what has gone on this year in regard to garbage service.

JUSTIN: Logan City notified the county and all the cities and towns in January of this year they would stop offering garbage service outside of the Logan City limits starting on July 1, 2023. The city was briefly part of a consortium which included all of the other cities and towns as well as the county. After consideration, the council decided to leave the consortium and explore other options. Smithfield, Richmond, Lewiston and Providence ended up leaving the consortium. The council issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) back in August. Four bids were received. The city council accepted the bid from Econo Waste, Inc. The formal contract is in the process of being finalized. The city explored continuing to offer recycling service in the future. A poll was done with the residents and it was overwhelmingly decided the future cost of recycling was too much. Recycling service in the city will stop in July 2023. Recycling will continue through June 2023. The council looked into the option of offering green waste service in place of recycling service. Due to the cost the council ultimately decided it was too costly to offer green waste service at this time. The city created an enterprise fund for solid waste service effective July 1, 2022. The fund has no funding in it because the city pays Logan City directly right now. The city will need to purchase garbage cans in order to offer future service. Logan City currently owns the black and blue cans. Logan City is willing to sell the city

the cans at a discounted rate. A new garbage can cost approximately \$80. Logan City is willing to sell us the used garbage cans for approximately \$35. We need to start saving money in order to purchase the cans. We also need funds to pay for the rate studies we did for the city as well as the joint rate studies with Smithfield and Lewiston. Tonight's proposal is to increase the cost of the black 60-gallon garbage can from \$15.20 per month to \$19.50 per month. The proposal for the 90-gallon garbage can would be to increase the cost from \$17.45 to \$22.00 per month. The increase would be effective in January 2023.

A motion to close the regular council meeting and open the public hearing was made by Tucker, seconded by Lyle and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin

No Vote: None

Absent: Crafts

The public hearing opened at 6:56 P.M.

There were not any comments or questions.

A motion to close the public hearing and reopen the regular council meeting was made by Terrie, seconded by Lyle and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin

No Vote: None

Absent: Crafts

The public hearing closed at 6:57 P.M.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON RESOLUTION 2022-04.

MAYOR: I would like to commend Logan City for taking care of us for so many years. Other cities don't agree with that but I strongly agree. We used to have a city dump where the sewer lagoons are now located. Logan City stepped up in the late 1970's to take care of garbage service in the valley. They purchased the equipment and offered the service. The cost increase is to help us build a reserve to pay for the garbage cans and other costs. Recycling would have increased from \$3.00 per month to approximately \$10.00 to \$15.00 per month. We asked the residents if they would support the cost increase and by a vote of about three to one, they said to get rid of the service at that cost. I hope we can have an option in this regard long term. Right now nothing is being considered or discussed in regard to recycling. We will make a decision about whether or not to purchase the blue cans in the next few months. The only change in service should be the color of the garbage truck dumping the garbage cans. We received the proposed contract from legal counsel today. A new enterprise fund has been created. I talked with Mayor Petersen from North Logan. It is hard for the consortium to get all of the cities and towns on the same page. There are a lot of strong personalities involved. They are struggling with how to handle costs for the high-density cities versus the low-density towns. The high-density cities will end up subsidizing the smaller towns. We voted months ago to leave the consortium. We approved an agreement with a contractor in October. The contract will be finalized in the next couple of months. I think what we are doing is good for the community long term. We have spent around \$10,000 on consulting fees and rate studies. The rate model can be used long term. Providence City is looking at possibly offering the service themselves rather than using a contractor.

TERRIE: Will the rate increase again in July 2023?

JUSTIN: At this time there are no additional increases proposed. I am hopeful we won't have to make any changes before July 2024.

TUCKER: I thought the pricing was going to be much higher. I was thinking we were going to see an increase of fifty to one hundred percent. I was pleasantly surprised at the new pricing. I am pleased with where we are at. It could have been much worse.

AMBER: I appreciate all of the work which has been done to get us to this point.

MAYOR: I talked with Daryl Black. His company was one of the bidders on the proposed contract. He said we received a good price.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-04, a Resolution updating the Prevailing Fee Schedule of the City specifically the monthly garbage utility rate was made by Terrie, seconded by Amber and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin
No Vote: None
Absent: Crafts

JUSTIN: The change in amount won't show up until the bills which go out at the end of January.

DISCUSSION ON CULINARY WATER USE, CONSERVATION AND THE UTILITY RATE SCHEDULE.

LYLE: Water conservation is a mixed bag in regard how cities deal with it. I think we need to have a discussion on our culinary water tiered rates. I reviewed and prepared information on thirteen cities. Every city has varying tiered rates. I think this is one area we can improve upon. As the rate increases for the more that is used, it should drive people to conserve.

MAYOR: Are you suggesting adding more tiers?

LYLE: Yes. I am not making a formal proposal tonight. Right now we have two tiers plus the base amount. I think we could add some additional tiers.

MAYOR: Are all thirteen of the cities in the comparison from Cache Valley?

LYLE: No. Saint George, Santa Clara, Park City, Vernal, Sandy and some from the valley are included. Those who abuse the amount of water they use should pay more. Only three cities did not include any gallon amount in the base amount. Many of the cities include 10,000 gallons in the base amount. Justin, please explain the information you provided regarding water usage in June.

JUSTIN: We pulled actual water usage for the month of June for the city. I was actually very surprised. We don't have a bunch of high-water users like I expected. Overall, the numbers are much lower than I expected.

<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Actual Culinary Water Usage</u>
431	10,000 gallons or less
108	11,000 – 15,000
64	16,000 – 20,000
112	21,000 – 30,000
49	31,000 – 40,000
35	41,000 – 50,000
16	51,000 – 60,000
26	61,000 – 99,000
14	100,000+

JUSTIN: Only four of the fourteen accounts using more than 100,000 gallons per month were residences. The rest were businesses, churches and schools.

MAYOR: What percent of the city do you think have access to irrigation water?

JUSTIN: I don't know as we don't have information from the irrigation company. Based on the numbers, I would say at least 50% or more.

AMBER: I know people with water shares but no irrigation lines running to their property.

MAYOR: It is a good deal where the user only pays a small annual assessment per share per year.

AMBER: What happens with residential accounts that have shares but don't have access to irrigation water in regard to metering?

MAYOR: If there isn't water to the property then it cannot be metered. The irrigation company thinks there are about 512 residences. We asked people to conserve this year and they did. We pumped some water for the irrigation company as well.

JEREMY: We have pumped water for the irrigation company for the last two summers.

TERRIE: The numbers from June are good. If the legislature doesn't tweak secondary water metering this will change. The cost to put a meter on each connection is approximately \$2,500. The meters then need to be maintained which will be a cost. The meters have to be read monthly and the readings reported to the state. A lot of work is being created. It is not over when a meter is installed.

MAYOR: Will we help them to read the meters on a monthly basis?

TERRIE: We cannot help due to the cost to the irrigation company of using the same platform. There are other cheaper options for them to use than the software we use.

LYLE: I think we should consider adding some tiers to our rate structure.

TERRIE: I agree.

LYLE: I don't think we change the bottom end amount of the current base rate which includes 10,000 gallons. An average household of four uses around 10,000 gallons per month inside the home.

MAYOR: In a time when we don't have enough water, we could consider lowering the 10,000 gallons per month but that is not right now.

LYLE: One key to conservation is education. We need to put out water conservation information regularly. When people hear we want them to conserve they think we are out of water.

AMBER: We need to let people know we are being proactive not reactive.

LYLE: I think we need to work on park strips as well. I like the idea of possibly mandating all future new homes and businesses are xeriscaped in the park strip. If we do something like this, we need to be the first and lead by example. I think we could start in the front of the Park Community Center. We have wide park strips. If we are serious about it, we should be the leader. I also like what North Logan City does in regard to culinary water use. They have five phases of water use and they are normal, moderate drought, moderate to severe drought, extreme drought and most severe drought. There are trigger points for each phase of when they kick in. Each phase gets more restrictive. There might be some legalities to implementing these types of restrictions so we are checking on that potential issue. We could consider activating a very high tiered rate cost if we encounter a very low water level scenario. Some cities have winter and summer tiered rates which are different. I like the idea of considering trigger points. We should charge more when less water is available.

TERRIE: I like what North Logan is doing.

AMBER: Every city has different circumstances. It is hard to compare from city to city. I like what North Logan is doing.

LYLE: We could create our own model and adapt as needed. People say they want open space. I like open space as well. Open space means grass and those areas use a lot of water. If we want to consider conserving water, we should consider allowing smaller building lot sizes. Santa Clara only allows a certain percentage of a lot to be grass. I don't know how to enforce that but it does conserve water.

MAYOR: I think our current focus could be on the tiered rate structure.

AMBER: Education is being proactive. We want to tell the residents we don't want to implement restrictions but here are some things we can do to help. Utah State University has a great program where they will test people's yards.

LYLE: We could have a list of designated plants which could be included in a xeriscaped park strip. We could offer recommendations.

TERRIE: Utah State University and the local water conservation districts in the state have information on plantings and being waterwise. Local scaping is where there is just a little bit of grass and it is only put in high traffic areas. It is only where people walk or play.

MAYOR: The type of grass matters as well. Blue fescue uses about ¼ the amount of water of other types of grasses. It has a different look to it as well but it can be walked on and mowed.

TUCKER: The June usage numbers help put things in perspective. I think we could lower our upper tier from 100,000 gallons to 40,000 gallons. The vast majority of the city is less than 40,000 gallons per month. We could leave the base rate alone and change the next tiered rate from 10,001 gallons to 100,000 gallons down to 10,001 gallons to 40,000 gallons.

MAYOR: The highest level we implement must be a deterrent.

TUCKER: Changing the upper level to 40,000 gallons will change the thought process for some people.

TERRIE: We had more tiers in the past.

TUCKER: I think the upper tier starting at 100,000 gallons is too high.

TERRIE: Do we have a new water model being worked on now?

JEREMY: Yes. The engineering firm is still working on it.

LYLE: Water conservation must be included in the General Plan update.

JUSTIN: Any interest in making changes to the park strip for new construction? It will take a few months to get something drafted and approved if that is something you want to consider.

MAYOR: I am not sure if that is the right thing to do.

TERRIE: Some cities pay people to remove the grass from their park strip. We cannot afford to do that. I am torn. Personal property rights versus public space. There is an education component to it. I would rather see all of the new homes not have grass in the park strip.

JUSTIN: The ordinance would be drafted only for new construction moving forward not for existing park strips.

MAYOR: If we have a great water year there is no momentum to conserve.

TERRIE: I would consider requiring new development and construction to not have grass in the park strip moving forward.

MAYOR: Let's start the process of drafting some code to consider.

TERRIE: There are several websites which list drought resistant plants and trees we can reference.

MAYOR: Remind me of the agreement with the Richmond Village development regarding landscaping.

TERRIE: In a PUD (Planned Unit Development) it is required that 1/3 of the open space be landscaped in a water wise manner.

JUSTIN: We will put something in writing for next month in regard to possible tiered water rate changes. I will work with Terrie on coming up with some verbiage for no grass in the park strip moving forward.

MAYOR: Lyle will bring us some suggestions on the tiered rate structure to the January council meeting.

TUCKER: How would we let people know?

JEREMY: We could include information in the building permit packet.

TERRIE: We can start by asking people to do it on their own.

LYLE: We are going to get some bids to replace our park strips as well. We must lead before we can ask people to follow.

MAYOR: We own a few park strips we could change.

JEREMY: We don't have a lot actually. There would be the Park Community Center, library, fire station, community building and post office.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

JEREMY: We did not have any new building permits last month. We are working with some developers on some projects. The mayor asked about salaries and the challenges we are facing with employees. It is hard hiring new employees and retaining existing employees. We don't think our wages are dramatically out of line with where they need to be. I spoke with the mayor and reviewed this issue. The mayor would like to propose a three percent cost of living adjustment for all employees in January. Any future adjustments would be considered as part of the new budget in July.

TERRIE: I know the other groups I work with are experiencing employee challenges as well. They all have done increases as well.

JEREMY: I am worried three percent might not be enough.

MAYOR: Cache Valley Bank has around 320 employees. They did an eight percent increase. Eight percent means different things to different people based on their current wage. I think we need to do something now for everyone. It is needed. It is hard for us where our income is fixed sources. I think we do three percent now and then evaluate over the next six months where things are going. I would recommend a three percent increase be effective in January 2023. We did provide a nice Christmas bonus. The feedback we received was very positive. This is just an additional thank you. Every city is having a hard time keeping employees.

TUCKER: I agree we need to do something.

JEREMY: I am comfortable with three percent at this time. I understand it might not be enough. I don't think I have any employees currently looking to leave because of wage concerns. I know they will appreciate anything we can do for them.

AMBER: I am good with what has been proposed. Our employees do a good job. I have yet to tromp through the snow to get into this building. The seniors are not concerned about getting in and out of the building because it is always cleaned off. We need to keep our trained employees. There is no need to get new employees if we can keep our current employees. We need to keep who we already have.

JEREMY: We have a lot of good employees. Overall they don't need much oversight. They just do their jobs.

MAYOR: I support implementing the three percent increase in January.

The consensus of the city council was to increase employee wages three percent, 3.00%, on the first payroll in January 2023.

JEREMY: The generator for the water tank should arrive in the next five days. The generator for the Park Community Center will arrive anytime. We need to obtain better information from Rocky Mountain Power on this building. It might be as much as six figures to update this building for the generator. The service upgrades and new

lines from the power pole to the building will be expensive. It is a good thing the new parking lot has not been paved in case we have to run a conduit for the new power line.

MAYOR: Why is this being required?

JEREMY: Rocky Mountain Power Company regulations. The upgrade triggered them reviewing our system. If we don't move forward installing the generator then we won't have to do the improvements. If we install the generator then improvements are mandatory. It is estimated this building would be without power for two working days. We would have to work with Spartan as this would directly impact them.

MAYOR: Is it possible to have the generator hooked up and functional before the power service is updated?

JEREMY: I don't know; it is something we can look into.

JUSTIN: Rocky Mountain Power is reviewing the request and going to provide us an estimate.

MAYOR: Thanks for keeping the roads clear. I know we have received some complaints regarding snow removal. Those are because of poor decisions I made earlier this year. I am staying out of snow removal decisions in the future. Jeremy knows more than I do and will handle this moving forward.

JEREMY: There is a reason we go out early. The earlier the salt hits the asphalt the better shape we are in. The reaction of the salt helps to warm the asphalt and will help to keep the ice off. Once there is ice on the road the salt just sits on top of it.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW WITH DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS AS NECESSARY.

JUSTIN: We had another good sales tax month and received \$54,771. Black & White Days has already received \$700 in donations. Between donations and meals the senior program has received \$3,755. Our first property tax distribution should be received anytime. We receive about 90% of our property tax revenue in December and January. We received our second distribution in Class "C" Road funds of \$30,065. It was much better than our first distribution of approximately \$20,000. Interest earnings are still high compared to previous years. With building really slowing we have received only one water impact fee this fiscal year and no sewer impact fees.

HOLLY: We received our first property tax distribution today.

MAYOR: What is the payment of \$15,005 to A&D Landscaping for?

JEREMY: To fix some long-term issues of water pipes going underneath this building. The best course of action was to run a new waterline around the entire building rather than deal with a waterline running underneath the building. We also did some major sprinkler repairs as part of the project.

MAYOR: What is the payment to Pelorus Methods for?

JUSTIN: We are replacing our current utility billing software, inHANCE, with Pelorus. inHance has done what we needed but is terrible in regard to reports and making changes. We have grown enough we need to have a more modern software. The residents will not notice any changes other than how their bill looks but it will be a big improvement on the backend.

JEREMY: Many cities use Caselle which is governmental accounting software. Several cities have switched from Caselle to Pelorus.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR REPORTS

AMBER: The planning commission met this week. The two items they discussed are being reviewed by legal counsel. The senior center has fifteen committed volunteers. About 159 hours per week are being donated. I am donating about thirty hours a week myself. Tara Larsen is donating about the same amount of hours and possibly more. We had not anticipated such a large turnout. We are seeing about five to seven new faces per week. Last week included our first free food distribution day. Around twelve residents used it. We are using a new calendaring system. The Lions Club is helping with food donations. The Cache Food Pantry is helping as well. As a council we need to consider what we want from the senior program. Do we want to provide more? What do we want to provide? Currently, we are providing a meal every Thursday. I have to drive and get the food. It takes around 2 ½ hours to drive and get the food and return. We need to consider getting a food service manager for the kitchen. We have a couple of people who are willing to do it. It requires a pretty intense nine-hour course. These people would oversee the kitchen. They would oversee the food coming in and out as well as what is purchased. We could possibly reduce the cost of the lunch by making it ourselves. We are charging \$5.00 per meal and the cost of the meal has been between \$7.00 and \$8.00. Some people have made donations by bringing treats.

MAYOR: So we would need additional people with food handler's permits as well?

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AMBER: Yes. We could reduce the cost of the meal by cooking it ourselves. Some of the volunteers are asking for better transportation options. Some cannot see to drive or have the ability to drive safely. They need help getting here. Even some members of the volunteer committee need help getting here. I am hoping the youth council can help out with the evening activities. We have people willing to provide entertainment. Tumbleweeds donated their time this week. It is very fulfilling to see new people coming. I have had many great conversations with people. People are comfortable coming here. People want to come here regularly. Are we happy with where things are at? What are we willing to provide? A refrigerator was donated. It has been so nice to have access to it in the rooms and not to have to go to the kitchen.

MAYOR: If we raised the cost of the lunch to \$6.00 would people stop participating?

AMBER: That is an unknown. Right now we are doing a lunch pass. Some people are purchasing meals for others because they cannot afford \$5.00. I was contacted by the radio. They asked if I wanted to be interviewed to explain what is going on. I think there are sponsorship opportunities available as well. I don't want to do a lot of advertising until the parking lot is completed and accessibility is better.

MAYOR: I don't think it is a bad thing to let people know what we are doing now.

AMBER: We even received a donation from someone from Smithfield. It is just not local people. Right now the rooms are being utilized from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

MAYOR: My mother attends on a regular basis. I don't know how we will continue doing this financially in the future. Amber has spent a lot of time and effort on it. She cannot continue to spend so many hours on it. Financially it cannot keep going the direction it is going either.

TERRIE: The Cache Valley Transit District public engagement committee would like to make a ten-to-fifteen-minute presentation to the city council at a future council meeting.

JUSTIN: Let's put them on the Thursday, February 16th agenda.

TERRIE: I have provided a copy of the General Plan matrix. The priorities are listed as well as the goals and objectives. Please review at your convenience. The update to the existing General Plan will be based off of this information. Right now the first draft is being worked on. Ideally it will be presented to the planning commission in February. A public hearing will be held. We are hoping the first draft is ready no later than January 21st. Once we receive a copy we will provide it to the council for review. There are many questions on the future land-use map. There are many areas where future zoning classifications could be changed.

MAYOR: I recently learned there were not any zoning regulations until 1978 and that is when they were implemented.

TERRIE: There is a lot of money available for trail projects. There are grants for items such as installing a climbing wall at the park as well as renovating the existing park and outdoor structures. When reviewing our open space to population ratio compared to others, we have quite a bit. We have a lot if the Cub River Sports Complex is included. The first update of the Trails Master Plan should be ready for review in January. The steering committee will review and then it will go before the planning commission and city council hopefully in February and March, respectively. The highway crossing study is still being worked on. We are hopeful to change where the reduced speed on the highway goes into effect on the north and south ends of the city.

TUCKER: Do we have an update on the COG (Council of Governments) funding for 500 North?

MAYOR: We received the funding. The total project cost is around \$1,300,000. Our match is very small. The eight percent match will be split equally by the city and the county. They are hoping to begin the project in the spring. Around eighty percent of the project will be done in the county. We are working with Forsgren engineers on some water related projects. The COG has some rural set aside funds which equates to about seven percent of their yearly allocation. It is for small communities like us. Mendon and Trenton recently received some funding. We need to apply yearly. We could consider projects on the north end of State Street especially where there is a blind curve in the road. There are safety concerns with vehicles and pedestrians in that area. There isn't any sewer in that area of town as well. Around seven or eight homes are on septic in that area. The COG applications are due in August of each year. The funding is available yearly. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

A motion to adjourn was made by Terrie, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Bair, Wierenga, Ervin

No Vote: None

Absent: Crafts

Adjournment at 8:26 P.M.

RICHMOND CITY CORPORATION

Paul J. Erickson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Justin B. Lewis, City Recorder