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City of Washington Terrace

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Minutes of a Regular City Council meeting Held on January 21, 2025 City Hall, 5249 South 400 East, Washington Terrace City, Utah

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MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

22 Mayor Mark C. Allen
23 Council Member Jill Christiansen
24 Council Member Zunayid Z. Zishan
25 Council Member Cheryl Parkinson
26 Council Member Jeff West
27 Council Member Michael Thomas
28 City Recorder Amy Rodriguez
29 City Manager Tom Hanson

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OTHERS PRESENT :

33 Mike Lawrence

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1. WORK SESSION

5:00 P.M.

37 Hanson and Council reviewed the Council Policy and Priorities that were compiled during the Council
38 retreat in November. Hanson asked for feedback so that a final version can be completed.
39 Council discussed the city's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats, highlighting that unfunded
40 mandates are one of the city's threats. They noted that grants are one of our strengths with many projects
41 relying on grants.

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Fiscal Responsibility

45 Council commented that grants are very important to the city in all departments. Need to keep looking for
grant opportunities and maximize our grant capabilities.

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Community Safety and Wellbeing:

49 Council Member Zishan stated that contracting with the Sheriff Office saves us a lot of money instead of
50 having to fund and manage our own department.
51 Council Member Parkinson stated that she appreciates the partnerships that we have with the County
52 Sheriff and appreciates the reports that show how active they are in the city. She stated that the deputies do
53 so much around the city and is glad that residents do not always see all that happens within the city. She
54 stated that we have a good force to take care of the issues.

55 Hanson stated that we have a strong volunteer Fire Department. He stated that historically, volunteers
56 would come and receive training and leave for other jobs. The city still supplies training, and recruitment
57 and retention efforts have helped tremendously in keeping a strong force.

46 Operational Excellence

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48 Community Engagement

49 Hanson stated that this is one of the toughest objectives. The Mayor agreed, stating that it is hard to get a
50 community of 9,100 to do the right thing and become active and involved.

51 Council discussed how residents can help with nuisance ordinance compliance, whether helping a
52 neighbor clean their yard, or speak with them about code that they may not understand. The city tries to
53 keep compliance with the “Firm but Fair” attitude.

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55 Community and Economic Development

56 Hanson stated that we are working towards a development- friendly city.

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MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Mark C. Allen
Council Member Jill Christiansen
Council Member Zunayid Z. Zishan
Council Member Cheryl Parkinson
Council Member Jeff West
Council Member Michael Thomas
City Code Enforcement Martin Nish
Recreation Director Carlos Grava
City Recorder Amy Rodriguez
City Manager Tom Hanson
Lt. Garth Cowley

OTHERS PRESENT :

Amy Miiler, Mike Lawrence, Ulis Gardiner

2. ROLL CALL

6:00 P.M.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. WELCOME

5. CONSENT ITEMS

5.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND JANUARY 7, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING

Item 5.1 was approved by general consent.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Amy Miller, Representing the United Methodist Church, showed a “pantry pack” that are being assembled for schools to distribute to children in need. She stated that the goal this year is 1500. She stated that she is moving and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support. She stated that she will miss spending Tuesday nights at the Council Meeting and appreciates the friendships that she has made. Mayor Allen and the Council thanked Miller for her work and wished her well on her move.

Ulis Gardiner stated that he was under the impression that Council may want to do away with the winter parking. He stated that they should consider a few things: when we do get snow, the roads have a lot of snow and people cannot get up or down the roads. He stated that the edges can fill up with the snow from the snowplows and they would freeze over. He stated that plowing is better now. He said it can be very dangerous if there are cars parked on the street. He suggested that if they do change the law, they should put their names in the newsletter so people can call them directly.

Mike Lawrence asked if there is any more progress on the AMI system to receive real time water usage.

137 **7. NEW BUSINESS**

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139 **7.1 PRESENTATION: TERRACE DAYS MERCHANDISE**

140 Grava presented a Terrace Days T-shirt design to the Council, explaining that Terrace Days T-shirts were
141 very popular years ago. He stated that the city was losing money each year because the shirts were pre-
142 ordered and were not selling out, leaving the city with many shirts. He stated that this year he would like
143 to bring back the Terrace Days shirts, using a local vendor who will set up a shop for us. He stated that
144 we will have white t-shirts and black t-shirts with the same design. He stated that the shirts would be
145 \$15.00. He stated that residents can go online and order their shirts through mid-May. The vendor will
146 send them a code and they can pick up the shirts. Grava stated that the city will receive some funds
147 through the shirt sales that will go towards Terrace Days. He stated that the goal is to bring community
148 engagement and awareness to the event. Grava stated that there is not a minimum order that we have to
149 meet.

150
151 Council Member Parkinson suggested that Council or staff should receive the shirts ahead of time to
152 promote the shirts. Grava stated that he will try to receive some shirts ahead of time. He stated that the
153 shirt will be on display in City Hall. Council Member Christiansen suggested a “Scavenger Hunt” with
154 people posting where they see Grava or staff wearing shirts around town. Grava stated that he can
155 research to see if that is an option and welcomed ideas for promotion.

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157 **8. RECURRING BUSINESS**

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159 **8.1 MOTION/ORDINANCE 25-02: ADOPTING CHAPTER 17.86 OF THE MUNICIPAL**
160 **CODE REGULATING URBAN CHICKENS**

161 Nish stated that the ordinance is the final version encompassing all the edits from past discussions. He
162 stated that an application modification was made to allow for an initial set up fee and then renewal fee
163 every two years.

164 He stated that an edit was made to the number of allowed chickens for the 6,000 sq. ft lot, noting that it
165 was recommended to be changed from 2 chickens maximum to 3 chickens maximum.

166
167 Council Member West stated that based on the research discussed by Council over the last ten years
168 regarding lot sizes, and in light of the opposition Council Members have received, he feels that we are
169 setting the bar so low that we are asking for trouble. He stated that there was no clear agreement
170 concerning allowing chickens on a smaller lot and now the ordinance allows for more than two chickens
171 on a small lot. He stated that he feels strongly that research conducted by other cities has guided them to a
172 threshold of a minimum of 8,000 or 10,000 sq. foot lots to allow for backyard chickens. He stated that he
173 doesn't understand why Council thinks that we are different from the other cities on how we can make a
174 lot size smaller than 8,000 sq. ft work.

175
176 Council Member Zishan stated that he doubts that anyone will be able to manage chickens with the setback
177 sizes and doesn't think the small lot sizes will be an issue. He stated that the ordinance is to allow anyone
178 in the city to have chickens if they would like them, stating that Nish will be able to inspect and make sure
179 that they are complying. He stated that the property lines were set up so that all residents can have
180 chickens if they can manage it. Council Member West stated that we have a fiscal responsibility to manage
181 the ordinance so that there is not that much enforcement time spent on enforcing compliance

182

183 Mayor Allen stated that it was concluded that half the city would be under 8,000 sq. feet. Council Member
184 West stated that we have to do what is right for our city, not for other cities.
185 Council Member Zishan stated that three chickens will give more eggs for families. Council Member
186 West stated that he agrees that having three chickens makes sense as they are social animals but does not
187 agree that they belong on a small lot. He stated that he does not believe that Council should allow chickens
188 on a lot below 8,000 square feet, noting that he is seeing a higher percentage of people who do not want
189 chickens. He stated that he believes we can make this work, however, he does not want to go below the
190 minimum threshold.

191
192 Council Member Parkinson stated that she is also concerned about the lot sizes, however, she noted that
193 every run and coop will not be 150 sq. feet. Council Member Christiansen stated that each chicken only
194 needs nine sq. feet of space. Council Member West stated that he must listen to the citizen voices that have
195 reached out to him and Council who stated that they do not want chickens, as well as those citizens who
196 do. Council Member Thomas stated that he has received many comments from citizens that range from
197 wanting chickens to being neutral about it and not wanting chickens.

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200 **Motion by Council Member Christiansen**
201 **Seconded by Council Member Zishan**
202 **Adopting Chapter 17.86 of the Municipal Code**
203 **Regulating Urban Chickens**
204 **Approved (3-2)**
205 **Roll Call Vote**

206 **Council Member Christiansen- Aye**
207 **Council Member Zishan- Aye**
208 **Council Member Parkinson- Nay**
209 **Council Member West- Nay**
210 **Council Member Thomas- Aye**

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212 **8.2 MOTION/RESOLUTION 25-01: RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR**
213 **2025 FEE SCHEDULE**

214

215 The Council discussed a \$75.00 initial licensing fee, with a \$25.00 re-inspection fee every other year.
216 Council Member Parkinson stated that she was concerned about the cost analysis that was presented at the
217 last meeting, stating that she understands the \$75.00 fee, however, wants to make sure that the city is
218 receiving the funds needed to cover the costs. Council Member Zishan stated that the city maintains a dog
219 park, supplies doggie bags in the parks, and has animal control enforcing them and we do not charge
220 anywhere near what it costs the city to manage the dogs. He stated that we do not have any data on the
221 subject and feels that we can make changes in three years when there is historical data. He stated that he
222 feels that we are overstepping government boundaries into people's lives with the \$75.00 fee and re-
223 inspection fee.

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225

226 **Motion by Council Member Christiansen**
227 **Seconded by Council Member Zishan**
228 **To approve Resolution 25-01**

229 **Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Fee Schedule to require a**
230 **\$75.00 initial licensing fee and a \$25.00 relicensing and inspection fee every other year**

231 **Approved (4--1)**

232 **Roll Call Vote**

233 **Council Member Christiansen- Aye**

234 **Council Member Zishan- Aye**

235 **Council Member Parkinson- Nay**

236 **Council Member West- Aye**

237 **Council Member Thomas - Aye**

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240 **8.3 DISCUSSION/MOTION: APPROVAL OF CITY CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT FOR**
241 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATIONS**
242

243 Rodriguez stated that the projects approved from the CIP plan for this year's applications as discussed at
244 the last meeting, are the Victory Park Playground Improvements and the Street Accessibility and Safety
245 Project- North Entrance at Rohmer Park. The City conducted Site Specific Surveys and preliminary results
246 show that both projects are eligible for applications. Rodriguez stated that the applications are due by the
247 end of next week and the rating and ranking process will begin at that time. Rodriguez stated that to
248 maximize our points and ranking, the city would like to commit to a 38.5 percent match on the grant.
249

250 Rodriguez stated that the project amounts are engineer's estimates. She stated that once we receive word
251 that the project(s) will be funded, the city will bid out the project(s) and adjust our numbers if they come in
252 lower than the estimated amount.
253

254 Rodriguez stated that the Victory Park Playground Improvement Project is estimated at \$200,880. The
255 CDBG portion would be \$123,572, and the 38.5 percent match at \$77,308. The full amount of the match
256 this grant will be transferred in from the Capital Project Funds.
257

258 Rodriguez stated that the Street Accessibility and Safety Project at the North end of Rohmer Park is
259 estimated at \$189,930. The CDBG portion would be \$116,807, with a city match of \$73,123.
260 The funding for this project comes from two sources, split between Road Maintenance Fund for \$20,946,
261 and Parks Non-road fund for \$43,957.
262

263 Rodriguez stated that if Council approves, she recommends a motion to approve the projects and commit
264 to the contribution match of 38.5 % of the project.
265

266 Council Member West asked about Van Llewellen park, as it has a playground that has dangerous
267 equipment. Hanson stated that it would be hard to prioritize a park with school district infrastructure.
268 Mayor Allen stated that the school district is participating in RAMP this year for the playground at
269 Washington Terrace Elementary. Mayor Allen stated that the city has written a letter of support for their
270 efforts with RAMP. Council Member Zishan stated that the school has reached their target goal for a
271 fundraiser that will help support the new playground.
272

273 Mayor Allen stated that he strongly agrees to keep the match at 38.5 percent to help our rating and ranking
274 position.

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Council Member Parkinson asked about ongoing costs for the projects and if they are budgeted. Rodriguez stated that the ongoing costs were built into the funding sources. She stated that the only ongoing cost would be the increased maintenance of the soft ground covering the playground. Hanson stated that the maintenance will end up being lower than it currently is.

**Motion by Council Member West
Seconded by Council Member Thomas
To approve to commit to the contribution amounts as discussed for the
CDBG grant for Victory Park Playground Equipment and
Street Accessibility and Safety at the north end of Rohmer Park
Approved unanimously (5-0)**

9. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

Council Member Christiansen stated that she is withdrawing her concerns on the truck size on the transportation ordinance, stating that she had misread the regulations.

Council Member Parkinson expressed appreciation to staff for their great work on the chicken ordinance and Council for their discussions. She stated that the staff time is well appreciated. She stated that there are many bills coming to the legislature this session and the Council needs to be aware of the bills that would affect our city.

Council Member Thomas asked about striping on 300 East starting from 5000 south to the 5350 intersection asked if they will be brought back, as cars are crossing into other lanes. He stated that residents have asked that the spring cleanup messages include a note to residents to keep an eye on dead trees so that we do not end up like California with the fires.

Mayor Allen stated that he has received several calls concerning speeding on 5000 South up the hill on 300 East and asked if Lt. Crowley could look at that area.

Mayor Allen stated that there are two crossing guards on 300 West and 5000 South to help ease confusion. He asked if one of the guards could be moved to 5100 South. Hanson stated that the school changed the routing of the bus to 5200 South from 5100 south during the construction of the school. Hanson stated that there are two crossing guards at the 300 West crossing as it has become much more dangerous in recent months. Mayor Allen stated that he likes the idea of the second guard. He suggested that someone could turn on the lights at 5100 South to let people know that there is a crosswalk.

Mayor Allen suggested that the crossing guards have a stop sign with lights around it to be more visible.

10. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Hanson stated that he appreciates Rodriguez's work on the site-specific surveys.

Hanson stated that a Housing Survey has been completed.

Hanson stated that he met with Weber Basin Water last week. He stated that they are working on coding the access for the customer service portal for the AMI system. Hanson stated that there will

321 be some upcoming testing to see if the program is working before it is available to all the residents.
322 Hanson stated that the coding must link to our accounting program.

323 **11.**

324 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

325 January 30th: Planning Commission Meeting (tentative) 6:00 p.m.
326 February 4th: City Council Work Session (5:00pm) and Council Meeting (6:00pm)
327 February 17th: City Offices closed in Observance of President's Day
328 February 18th: City Council Work Session (5:00pm) and Council Meeting (6:00pm)
329

330 **12. ADJOURN THE MEETING**

331 **Motion by Council Member Thomas**

332 **Seconded by Council Member West**

333 **To adjourn the meeting**

334 **Approved unanimously (5-0)**

335 **Time: 7:10 p.m.**
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338 Date Approved

City Recorder