

DATE TUESDAY DECEMBER 19, 2017

THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL, STATE OF UTAH, MET ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017, PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017, AT THE HOUR OF 4:32:35 PM AT THE SALT LAKE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 2001 SOUTH STATE STREET, ROOM N1-110, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT:

JENNIFER WILSON
RICHARD SNELGROVE
JIM BRADLEY
ARLYN BRADSHAW
MICHAEL JENSEN
AIMEE WINDER NEWTON
SAM GRANATO
MAX BURDICK
STEVEN DEBRY, Chair

OTHERS IN

ATTENDANCE:

MAYOR BEN MCADAMS
JASON ROSE, LEGAL COUNSEL, COUNCIL OFFICE
SHERRIE SWENSEN, COUNTY CLERK
By: NICHOLE WATT & LINDA DUFFY, DEPUTY CLERKS

Council Member DeBry, Chair, presided.

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THIS BEING THE TIME heretofore set for a public hearing to consider the 2018 recommended budget for Salt Lake County.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Jensen, moved to open the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously, showing that all Council Members present voted "Aye."

No one appeared in favor of or in opposition to the proposed budget.

Council Member Jensen, seconded by Council Member Bradley, moved to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously, showing that all Council Members present voted "Aye."

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Mayor Ben McAdams thanked the Council for looking at this with a fresh set of eyes, and making sure every penny was justified.

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Council Member Jensen, seconded by Council Member Burdick, moved to approve the resolution, including Attachments A and B, adopting the 2018 budget and approving 2017 budget adjustments.

Council Member Newton asked that the motion be bifurcated so that the 2017 budget adjustments could be voted on separately from the 2018 budget. She wanted to vote against the 2018 budget because it is \$367,000 over the Mayor's original recommended budget. The cuts introduced that did not pass would have put the budget in line with the Mayor's recommendation. If fund balances are kept high, it will be a longer period of time before a tax increase is necessary.

Council Member Newton, seconded by Council Member Snelgrove, moved to bifurcate the votes on the budget. The motion passed 6 to 3, showing that Council Members Bradley, Bradshaw, and Wilson voted “Nay.”

Mr. Jason Rose, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated this is tricky legally. The 2017 budget adjustments and the 2018 budget are combined into a single resolution.

Council Member DeBry asked if it was proper to bifurcate.

Mr. Rose stated it was better not to.

Council Member Jensen stated it would be appropriate that Council Member Newton ask the Clerks to make the notation in the minutes that she opposes the 2018 budget.

Council Member DeBry stated he will be voting in opposition to the budget, and read the following statement:

The Council's budget is \$367,000 larger than the Mayor's proposed budget in 2018. It is also \$496,200 larger in ongoing funds than the proposed budget. I voted during the Council deliberations for \$477,250 worth of one time cuts which I still think are the right decision for the taxpayers of Salt Lake County. The LDA got \$751,000 in the Mayor's proposed budget, and the Council added \$215,000 in ongoing expenses. I am supportive of the Mayor's original proposal of \$751,000, which increases the LDA's budget by 5 percent. I think this limited proposal is appropriate especially weighed against other needs of the entire County. The issues have been pay compression in the County and some County employees underpaid compared to their counterparts. It is the opposite in the LDA. Attorneys make more than their counterparts in the state and region. There are many new mayors on the west side of Salt Lake County who think it is premature to spend \$200,000 on the Oquirrh View Existing Conditions Plan without getting their buy-in. I voted to cut this from the preliminary budget because I thought it was an unnecessary expense for the taxpayers of Salt Lake County. One of the more important things we have as a County is our stellar bond rating. I would never want to jeopardize that rating. I hesitate to dip into a General Fund balance because we might need that for the upcoming year as we saw increases this year due to Operation Rio Grande and I am grateful we had

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sustainable budgets that we could absorb added expenses without impacting our bond rating. Imagine your own budget. You look at your savings account and decide to spend, spend, spend just because you can. That is the reason I'm going to vote no.

He will talk to the mayor personally. He thought the Mayor pulled a rabbit out of a hat with his initial proposed budget. It was a good budget and it took care of County critical needs.

Council Member Snelgrove stated he concurred. There has been a lot of hard work on this budget, but there were areas where efficiencies could have been accomplished. He is uncomfortable voting for this budget because it has too much excess. Hopefully, there will be opportunities in 2018 to achieve greater economies and efficiencies because each additional dollar spent gets the Council closer to the debate about tax increases. He was also troubled during budget deliberations when part of the justification towards spending even more money was that there was a healthy fund balance. That is flawed fiscal management.

Council Member Wilson stated this is the worst of the Council. If the 2018 budget ends at a number different than the Mayor's recommended budget, it does not mean the Council is going down a fiscally irresponsible path. It means that all nine Council Members spent weeks debating priorities and came to a consensus budget. The Republicans are in the majority on the Council. The four Democrats could also vote against this budget, but she wondered what that would do to the process. All nine members are well intentioned and the budget is balanced and structurally sound. It does not jeopardize the County's bond rating. This last minute political statement does nothing other than make noise and degrade the process.

In addition, the Mayor proposes a budget, but the Council is the final budget authority. The budget does not have to end up on the final penny that the Mayor recommended. The amount being added is based on the priorities all nine Council Members agreed upon. This is an interesting lack of courage.

Council Member DeBry stated there was not a consensus on this budget during budget work sessions. The vote was 6-3. To be consistent with his vote in the budget workshops, he will vote no to this resolution. He is not changing his position. He was in favor of the budget changes until the LDA money was added.

Council Member Snelgrove stated Council Member Wilson is being disingenuous. She is being political about this. He voted for cuts and efficiencies. He is justified voting no because he is uncomfortable with some of the efficiencies that were not passed. Council Member Wilson not only voted for the existing budget, but also for a bond to spend above and beyond the Mayor's budget. For her to now position herself as a fiscal conservative when her votes were as a liberal is totally disingenuous.

Council Member Wilson stated she did not know what bond Council Member Snelgrove was referring to.

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Council Member Bradley stated he could appreciate everyone having a position. Positions are not necessarily political. He suggested if the budget was so egregious and disadvantages the citizens, not to vote for it. However, if it is not exactly what a Council Member wants but meets the needs of the community, addresses necessary services and quality of life services, and is structurally sound, then they ought to vote for it. He asked what the plan was if the budget was voted down.

Council Member Bradshaw asked legal counsel what would happen if the Council did not pass a budget.

Mr. Rose stated the statute requires the legislative body to adopt a budget prior to the end of the year. The Council would have to call further budget meetings. All the public hearing requirements have been met, but further meeting would be necessary until the Council adopted a budget.

Council Member Bradshaw asked if there were additional noticing requirements.

Mr. Rose stated no, only the typical 24-hour public meeting notice.

Council Member Wilson stated she would be happy to come back and work on this. There are things in this budget she does not agree with. She asked if the Council was now taking the exact penny the Mayor presents to the Council as the absolute bottom line. She never saw it that way. It is a matter of using the best method and system to prioritize. In years past, there was an understanding that some building had to be done with the LDA budget, which is why she agreed to the increase.

Council Member Burdick stated this is a difficult moment and hard for him to understand. There were times when some of the Council Members voted for an increase.

Council Member Burdick made a substitute motion that as soon as possible the Council reconvene to discuss the budget one more time and see if there are areas where cuts can be made to bring it closer to the Mayor's original amount. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Council Member Newton stated she is looking specifically at things added into the budget or that did not get cut, such as the New American Grant Replacement, Oquirrh View Existing Conditions Plan, and the LDA. She is not being disingenuous. There are things in the budget that she would like to have another way, but it is about the final amount, not so much the give and take of the process.

Council Member Burdick stated he was withdrawing his second on the motion to approve the resolution.

Council Member Bradshaw asked what the County's minimum reserve was in the General Fund and how much over that amount the 2018 budget would be based on current projected revenue.

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Mr. Darrin Casper, Deputy Mayor of Finance & Administration, stated the minimum reserve in the General Fund would be \$34.1 million. The budgeted ending balance is \$40 million. The budget assumes that 100 percent of the expenditures are spent and usually it is about 97 percent. The expected ending balance after under expend is likely to be \$50 to \$54 million. The Council will be roughly \$17 to \$20 million over the minimum reserve at the end of next year.

Council Member Bradshaw stated an extra \$367,000 should not be a big hang up. He will support the motion.

Council Member Jensen, seconded by Council Member Wilson, moved to approve the following resolution, including Attachments A and B, adopting the 2018 budget and approving the 2017 budget adjustments:

**SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
2018 BUDGET AND 2017 YEAR-END BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

RESOLUTION NO. 5302

DATE: DECEMBER 19, 2017

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH, ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGETS REQUIRED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018; APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY TAX REVENUES AND OTHER REVENUES TO FUND THOSE BUDGETS; APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2017 BUDGET; AND RELATED MATTERS.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED THAT:

WHEREAS, the County Council of Salt Lake County, as required by the Uniform Fiscal Procedures Act for Counties, Utah Code Ann., § 17-36-1, *et seq.*, is required to adopt an annual budget for 2018 on or before the 31st day of December 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Mayor and the County Council have caused to be prepared three variants of the 2018 budget, respectively, the tentative, the Mayor's proposed and the 2018 recommended budget, which have been reviewed and discussed in public meetings, and which have met all legal requirements; and

WHEREAS, the County Council provided public notice for adoption of the 2018 budget, and held a public hearing on the proposed final budget on December 5, 2017, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., and again on December 19, 2017 at the hour of 4:00 p.m.; and further provided public notice to consider adjustments to the 2017 Salt Lake County Budget and held a public hearing on the 2017 adjusted budget on December 5, 2017, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., and again on December 19, 2017 at the hour of 4:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the County Council of Salt Lake County has reviewed a financial plan for the expenditure of bond proceeds and funds for capital improvements projects and

related matters, which plan includes reimbursement to the County from bond proceeds for expenditures made or incurred on those projects prior to the issuance of their related bonds; and

WHEREAS, the County Council of Salt Lake County desires to make certain adjustments to the 2017 fiscal year budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Salt Lake County, Utah, that:

2. The County Council of Salt Lake County also hereby adopts as part of the 2018 budget plan, salary compensation adjustments to employees, exempt employees and elected officials, as more specifically provided in the budget documents.

4. The County Council of Salt Lake County hereby approves and adopts fee changes presented and approved during its Council Budget Workshops and as reflected in the revenue totals set forth in Attachment A.

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(County Clerk) for inspection by the public during business hours.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval and adoption by the Council and shall be filed and recorded in the official minutes and records of the Council for this meeting.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 19TH day of December, 2017.

ATTEST (SEAL) SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By /s/ STEVEN DEBRY
Chair

By /s/ GAYELENE GUDMUNDSON
Deputy County Clerk

Roll was called, showing the vote to be: Council Member Burdick "Nay," Council Member Jensen "Aye," Council Member Newton "Nay," Council Member Snelgrove "Nay," Council Member Bradley "Aye," Council Member Bradshaw "Aye," Council Member Wilson "Aye," Council Member Granato "Aye," and Council Member DeBry "Nay." The motion passed 5 to 4, authorizing the Chair to sign the resolution and directing the Deputy County Clerk to attest his signature.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:57:15 PM until Tuesday, January 9, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.

SHERRIE SWENSEN, COUNTY CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk

CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

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