

Salt Lake County Council

Committee of the Whole

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

[2:03:03 PM](#)

Committee Members

Present:

Jennifer Wilson
Jim Bradley
Arlyn Bradshaw
Michael Jensen
Aimee Winder Newton
Sam Granato
Max Burdick
Richard Snelgrove, Vice Chair

Excused:

Steven DeBry, Chair

Citizen Public Input ([2:03:03 PM](#))

No one appeared for Citizen Public Input.

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Review of New Hires ([2:03:06 PM](#))

Mr. Brad Kendrick, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the following proposed hires:

Agency

Position

Salt Lake County Health Department

Public Health Nurse 16
Office Specialist 10

Sheriff's Office

Cash Accounting Specialist 10
Laundry Services Specialist 11

Parks & Recreation Division

Recreation Program Coordinator 13

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Budget Adjustments ([2:03:34 PM](#))

Mr. Brad Kendrick, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the following budget adjustment requests:

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Mayor's Office

Interim budget adjustments relating to the reorganization of the Mayor's Office to the four Deputy Mayor format.

Interim budget adjustment to shift 2017 TRCC Bond Debt Service of \$1,910,000 to 2018.

Salt Lake Palace Convention Center

Interim budget adjustment of \$30,000 to repair and add refrigerant to the chiller at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Interim budget adjustment of \$44,348 to repair the escalator at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Council Member Granato, seconded by Council Member Jensen, moved to approve the interim budget adjustment requests and forward them to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously. Council Member Burdick was absent for the vote.

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Behavioral Health Area Plan ([2:05:38 PM](#))

Ms. Karen Crompton, Director, Human Services Department, stated this is the annual review of the Behavioral Health Area Plan. As the County mental health authority, the Council is responsible for signing off on this plan.

Mr. Tim Whalen, Director, Behavioral Health Services Division, delivered a PowerPoint presentation relating to the 2018 Behavioral Health Area Plan. He reviewed the process by which funding is distributed throughout the behavioral health system, and new and notable achievements.

Council Member Newton stated some people have complained to her that there is a long waiting list to get into a mental health provider. She asked how long the waiting list was to see one of the County's providers.

Mr. Whalen stated there should be no waiting for Medicaid patients because the County has accessibility standards to meet. The County has \$5 million set aside for uninsured mental health care. Anyone in the public system not on Medicaid is considered uninsured. That is much of the population from the Rio Grande area and in the jail. That group has the longest wait time to get care.

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Council Member Burdick asked why Salt Lake County only got 30 percent of state funding for behavioral health.

Mr. Whalen stated funding is distributed by a state formula. The County's Substance Use Disorder (SUD) formula puts it closer to 40 percent. Mental health is less than that. The formula was adjusted this year, and the County should be getting a little bit more money.

Council Member Burdick asked why other counties have greater needs than Salt Lake County.

Mr. Whalen stated that is one of the reasons why the new round of funding should be done by competitive bid. The state formula should be removed because Salt Lake County has been the leader in many of these new programs. The County has six of 10 hot spots designated by the State, and new money will be available to treat the opioid epidemic. The state is asking that opioid treatment be directed toward these hot spots with Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). MAT patients must participate in learning life skills, talk therapy, and getting vocational help. Vivitrol is one drug that could be used in this process. It diminishes opioid cravings and is considered a miracle drug. However, it is very expensive to administer by injection. Oral administration is cheaper, but does not work as well.

Council Member Wilson asked what population was served by the \$250,000 allocated by the Council to continue treatment following Operation Diversion.

Mr. Whalen stated the County's money was used to keep patients engaged in services. New money is expected on July 1, 2017, and the County is considering opening new clinics in Midvale and West Jordan, which are two of the County's hot spots.

Council Member Wilson asked how the proposed new federal budget would affect these services.

Mr. Whalen stated it should not have an immediate affect because contract providers are willing to take a risk and provide services, especially on a one year basis. As for a possible government shutdown, Medicaid would not be affected. Other block grants are in the pipeline for the next two or three years.

Council Member Burdick asked if Vivitrol was available through the medical system.

Mr. Whalen stated yes. Any licensed physician could prescribe it. However, Methadone is different. It is a very dangerous drug and physicians must be accredited by the Drug Enforcement Agency. The problem with Vivitrol is that it is very expensive.

Council Member Jensen asked what was considered a hot spot.

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Ms. Jeannie Edens, Health Policy Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services Division, stated hot spots are graded on the number of opioid deaths and emergency room visits.

Mr. Gary Edwards, Director, Salt Lake County Health Department, stated hot spots are based on small areas that are established throughout the state. There are 64 small areas statewide, the majority in Salt Lake County. He continued the PowerPoint presentation reviewing prevention measures. A few years ago the prevention part of SUD was moved from Behavioral Health to the Health Department in order to connect with existing programs dealing in prevention. This has been very successful. Although SUD will never be completely prevented, lives are being saved.

Council Member Snelgrove asked what happens to the plan after it is sent to the State.

Mr. Whalen stated the State carefully reviews the plan and will call his office with any questions. It reviews the budget very thoroughly. Getting the State's approval of the plan has never been a problem.

Council Member Jensen, seconded by **Council Member Newton**, moved to adopt the FY2018 Behavioral Health Area Plan and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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Legislative Intent ([2:34:53 PM](#))

Mr. David Delquadro, Chief Financial Manager, Council Office, stated during the March 21, 2017, closed session of the Committee of the Whole meeting, the Council approved legislative intent relating to the homeless resource centers. He submitted the following versions of that legislative intent for the Council's consideration:

A-1. Jordan River Considerations Regarding Homelessness and the New Homeless Resource Centers

It is the intent of the Council that the County take any and all appropriate steps to mitigate adverse impacts that the homeless population and the new Homeless Resource Centers may have on the Jordan River; and that the Council does not support using the South Salt Lake Resource Center for high-risk homeless populations because of the Center's proximity to the Jordan River.

A-2. Considerations Regarding Homelessness and the New Homeless Resource Centers

It is the intent of the Council to pursue legislation that would compensate cities that host the County's new Homeless Resource Centers with state revenues; that

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the County take any and all appropriate steps to mitigate adverse impacts that the homeless population and the new Homeless Resource Centers may have on the Jordan River; and that the Council does not support using the South Salt Lake Resource Center for high-risk homeless populations because of the Center's proximity to the Jordan River.

Council Member Newton stated the first version (A-1) summarizes the legislative intent adopted by the Council during its previous meeting.

Council Member Newton, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, moved to adopt version A-1 as submitted.

Council Member Bradshaw asked if the Jordan River Commission had the opportunity to weigh in on this issue. He stated it would make sense to involve it in the conversation.

Council Member Newton stated the Jordan River Commission asked Mayor McAdams or a member of his staff to attend its next meeting to discuss any mitigating efforts. The Commission compiled a list of recommendations to help with this effort.

Council Member Bradshaw stated this is an existing problem and he thought it would be a good idea for the Jordan River Commission to look into it and come up with a list of recommendations for all the local governments.

Council Member Newton stated the Commission is working on a list.

Council Member Newton, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, moved to adopt version A-1 as submitted and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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Letter of Support to United States Postal Service to Maintain its Downtown Passport Office (2:39:10 PM)

Council Member Wilson stated it has come to her attention that the United States Post Office is considering discontinuing passport services at its Main Post Office, located at 230 West 200 South. She asked for the Council's support to send the following letter expressing the County's opposition to this closure based on the grounds that this is a vital resource to people in that area and it will have a negative impact on operations for the County Clerk's Office. The County Mayor and County Clerk are in support of sending this letter:

To Whom It May Concern:

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As members of the County Council, Mayor, and Clerk of Salt Lake County, we respectfully ask you to reconsider the potential closing of the Salt Lake City main post office passport office, located at 230 West 200 South.

Our concerns are related to both the utilization by the public as well as the impact its closure would create on County passport operations.

Due to its location, the downtown office is a vital resource to people who rely on public transportation services. That location is the most serviced by rail and bus and closure would place a significant hardship on those looking to obtain passports without personal transportation options.

Additionally, closure of this office would have a negative impact on the operations at Salt Lake County as we would absorb the higher demand into a system that is already at capacity, thus providing a lower level of service countywide to passport customers. It is our understanding that our passport office already takes overflow from the downtown office indicating to us that the demand for service at that location is already high.

As representative of the residents of Salt Lake County and the administrators of passport services, we ask that you reconsider any potential closure of the downtown Salt Lake City main post office passport office.

Council Member Burdick asked how many passports were process through the downtown office.

Council Member Wilson stated she did not have that information.

Council Member Bradshaw stated every time he uses this post office, there is a line of people needing passports. It is an important service to have in the downtown area. It makes a lot of sense to encourage the postal service to maintain passport services in that area.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Jensen, moved to support sending a letter to the United States Postal Service and forward this issue to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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CONSENT AGENDA: ([2:42:55 PM](#))

Tax Matters

The Council reviewed the tax matters, which have been placed on the Council agenda for final approval and execution.

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Council Member Jensen, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, moved to approve the tax matters and forward them to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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The meeting adjourned at [2:43:07 PM](#).

Vice Chair, Committee of the Whole

Deputy Clerk

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