

Salt Lake County Council

Committee of the Whole

~MINUTES~

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

[2:34:40 PM](#)

Committee Members

Present:

Richard Snelgrove
Jim Bradley
Arlyn Bradshaw
Michael Jensen¹
Aimee Winder Newton
Max Burdick
Steven DeBry, Chair

Committee Members

Excused:

Jennifer Wilson
Sam Granato

Citizen Public Input ([2:34:40 PM](#))

Mr. George Chapman spoke under "Citizen Public Input" stating Utah Transit Authority and the Legislature are pushing for Stadler Rail to locate its factory in Clearfield, Utah. However, Salt Lake County would be a better site for it. People on the west side of Salt Lake County have the ability and talent Stadler Rail is looking for, and there are already rail facilities in the County. He asked the Council to work with the County's Office of Business and Economic Development to see if Salt Lake County would be a realistic option.



Review of New Hires ([2:35:08 PM](#))

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

Agency

Position

Facilities Services Division

Electrician 13

Salt Lake County Health Department

Help Desk Technician 12
Environmental Health Scientist 14/15

Library Services Division

2 Librarians 14
Customer Service Specialist 10

¹ Participated Electronically

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Parks and Recreation Division

Irrigation Specialist and Plumber 12
Communications and Public Relations Manager 16

Solid Waste Management Division

Compost Coordinator 24

Treasurer's Office

Tax Services Specialist 11
Taxpayer Care Specialist 11 (part-time)

Youth Services Division

Family Therapist 14/15



Budget Adjustments ([2:39:02 PM](#))

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

Solid Waste Management Division

Interim budget adjustment of \$67,000 for increased costs to repair asphalt at the landfill.

Information Services Division

Interim budget adjustment to reclassify two business analysts and two administrative positions.

Library Services Division

Interim budget adjustment to reclassify the following positions:

- Part-time Library Shelver 7 (0.50) to a part-time Library Shelver 7 (0.25); the remaining part-time Library Shelver (0.25) and a part-time Librarian 14 (0.75) to a full-time Librarian 14
- Full-time Librarian 14 to a full-time Assistant Library Manager 15
- Part-time Customer Service Specialist 10 (0.25) and a part-time Library Assistant 12 (.075) to a full-time Library Assistant 12
- Part-time Customer Service Specialist 10 (0.50), part-time Senior Librarian 15 (0.25), and a part-time Library Shelver 7 (0.25) to a full-time Acquisition Librarian 15.

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Council Member Snelgrove, seconded by Council Member Bradshaw, 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 Jensen was absent for the vote.



Utah Transit Authority Quarterly Update ([2:40:36 PM](#))

Mr. Jerry Benson, President/CEO, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), updated the Council on recent occurrences with UTA. UTA has been implementing reforms as a result of issues that occurred between 2008-2014. A month ago, it reached a non-prosecution agreement with the U.S. attorney for Utah because of those reforms, although there is still an ongoing investigation. In 2013, UTA completed the 2015 program resulting in about 140 miles of rail network. Now, it will be focusing on service and stewardship of the resources it has. That includes maintaining the system in a state of good repair, replacing vehicles according to its replacement schedule, and focusing on managing debt and improving service. UTA will implement measures for each of the service standards identified and will report to the public to see how it is doing on reliability, safety, the state of the equipment, etc.

Some strategies UTA has implemented to improve service, include increasing ski service up the canyons, and adding service in Weber, Davis, and Tooele Counties. UTA also partnered with Utah County's Mountainland Association of Governments and the United Way to start a new volunteer driver van pool program, whereby volunteer drivers using recycled vans provide low cost transportation service for people outside of the transit network. Additionally, it started a voucher reimbursement program in Weber County where people can get reimbursed for using their own vehicle to provide transportation, provided they meet the requirements of the program. A year ago, UTA completed the first part of the downtown depot district service center, which was the compressed natural gas fueling component. The Legislature allocated ongoing funding for that. Next year, UTA will be able to apply for a federal bus facilities grant. UTA hopes to break ground soon on the rest of the facility, which will allow it to expand its fleet of compressed natural gas vehicles and manage growth. Lastly, it is working with Salt Lake City to identify resources to relocate the Airport Trax Station to the second level, adjacent to the terminal location.

Mr. Charles Henderson, member, UTA Board of Trustees, stated a Utah State legislative audit found that UTA's internal accountability systems were insufficient resulting in poor documentation of federal funds, inadequate oversight of real estate transactions, non-compliance with ethical standards, and improper approval of executive bonuses, which were later canceled and never paid. Since 2014, the UTA Board of Trustees put in place dozens of reforms, as well as strengthened checks and balances, adjusted compensation practices, tightened travel policies, worked to improve transparency, and enacted strict ethical standards. One of the efforts it focused on was transparency. All board meetings and subcommittee meetings are now open and will remain open. Information about the board meetings are published and posted on UTA's website ahead of its meeting. Public comment is taken online and in the meeting. UTA will also be livestreaming its meetings. Additionally, the U.S.

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attorney's announcement and debriefing is posted on the website (www.rideuta.com). UTA has a long way to go to gain the public's trust and support, and will have to make sure it is meeting expectations of its stakeholders, which includes the County. Its intent is to be the best steward of public resources, conduct business in clear view of the public, adhere to the strictest ethical standards, and honor and support employees.

On June 2nd and 3rd, UTA will hold a retreat for its board members to develop a strategic plan and long-term vision for the agency. Each board member will also be reaching out to other entities to talk about their insights on the future of transit, and will go to all the sites and locations, and get to know customers. Lastly, it will be hosting its UTA Transit Academy on May 31, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., which is something it does every year to make stakeholders and individuals aware of UTA's operations.

Council Member Bradley asked if there was a need to extend hours for people staying out later than 10:30 and 11:00 p.m., and enhance weekend services.

Mr. Benson stated UTA hears all the time that people are restricted from using mass transit because of the hours or infrequency of service.

Council Member Bradley asked if that would be happening then. He thought that should be a priority since it would be less costly than capital expansions.

Mr. Benson stated it is on UTA's list of priorities that it would like to make happen. In counties where UTA does not have new resources, it is entering into partnerships with others who can help. UTA does not have resources to further expand at this time

Council Member Snelgrove stated bus service in the neighborhoods is not what it used to be, and with that decline, there has been an inadequate feeder system into light rail and FrontRunner. He asked if UTA was working with Uber or Lyft, transit providers, to ensure the needs of the neighborhood are met and to fill Trax and FrontRunner. UTA might want to consider promoting the use of those providers, since they are not competitors. It could be a win-win for both UTA and the providers.

Mr. Henderson stated UTA has not worked directly with those providers, but has had conversations with other organizations about complimenting each other. A discussion needs to take place on how to integrate that as part of the future so individuals can make their connections. Currently, there is an app called "Transit Now" that does show every mode of transportation available.

Mr. Matt Sibul, Director of Government Relations, UTA, stated Uber did share with UTA how many people connect with the Trax system via Uber, and UTA does view Uber as a collaborator. In fact, it tried to do a promotional program with Uber last year, but the program fell apart at the last minute.

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Council Member Snelgrove suggested using the model of the major airlines to connect people from remote locations, i.e. Elko, Rock Springs, Grand Junction, etc., using subsidiary carriers. UTA could outsource services to lower cost carriers to feed its system.

Mr. Henderson stated he has been in the airline industry for years, and has seen a number of those carriers pull back because they could not service those markets. They are not low cost providers either. He believed opportunities were out there, and perhaps UTA could talk with some providers to help them understand that this was an opportunity they might want to pursue, since UTA is not able to fill those needs due to resource constraints.

Mr. Benson stated UTA has implemented innovative services. It contracts out for paratransit and flex routes. It also provides a van pool program called RideVan Plus, whereby it partners with employers to transport their employees from a transit station to their place of employment. Those are the kinds of things UTA needs to expand in its portfolio. In

terms of operating, they are very efficient programs, but they take a lot of administrative effort to get going. One of the challenges is UTA is a public transit agency, and has a lot of federal requirements.

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Central Utah Water Conservancy Board Appointment ([3:15:47 PM](#))

The Council reviewed a list of names to be submitted to Governor Gary Herbert for his consideration in filling a vacancy on the Central Utah Water Conservancy District Board of Directors to represent the geographical area of Salt Lake County.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Newton, moved to submit the names of Max Burdick, Kristie Overson, and Tricia Webster to be considered as Salt Lake County's representative on the Central Utah Water Conservancy District Board of Directors, and forward this list to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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Legislative Contracted Jail Bed Initiative and Associated Budget Adjustment ([3:16:46 PM](#))

Sheriff Jim Winder stated during the 2017 Legislative session, the Legislature approved funding for additional jail beds for Salt Lake County. This funding will not be available until July. Today, he is seeking an interim budget adjustment of \$475,800, to be used to fund contracts for additional jail beds at various County jails throughout Utah, at a core rate of \$52.50 per person per day. This will potentially fund 150 beds.

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Associated with this request is the need to hire four additional FTEs at a cost of \$229,060. One FTE would be hired as a sergeant to assist in the managerial function of contract coordination. The individual would monitor and manage the communications between the respective jails to ensure that the logistics are all in place. In addition, two clerks would be needed to help keep track of all necessary papers and documents relating to the 150 beds. The fourth employee would be a transportation officer. In July, another interim budget adjustment will be necessary to fully fund the 50 percent match with the State for this program for an entire year.

Council Member Newton stated at some point, the Council needs to compare the cost of sending its prisoners to other County jails with the possibility of opening another pod at the Oxbow jail. This is the first request she has seen from the Sheriff to open more beds.

Sheriff Winder stated the rate \$52.50 was negotiated through Representative Michael Noel with the respective jails. It is the contracted rate that will be used by all jails. Multiple times throughout the last decade he has indicated there is a need for additional beds. The mere fact that the jail releases inmates due to overcrowding indicates there is a need.

Council Member Newton stated this is the first time the Council has received a proposal on how to handle the need for additional jail beds.

Council Member Bradshaw stated the Council needed to be better educated on why the proposal is to contract with other jails instead of opening Oxbow Jail.

Sheriff Winder stated there are many issues relating to opening a facility after it has been closed for so many years. It would be a major undertaking. This proposal can be scaled to exactly what is needed without wasting money. If the County only needs 100 beds, that is what it pays for. It would only pay for what is needed. If Oxbow Jail was reopened, the County taxpayers would have to pay ongoing operational expenses whether it was needed or not.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Newton, moved to approve this request and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. Council Member Bradshaw amended the motion to include the following legislative intent: It is the intent of the Council that fiscal staff implement measures to carefully track the allocations for these beds, so the mixture of State and County funds can be segregated in a way that ensures that should there be an under expend going forward, the under expend would only be used to procure additional jail beds, and not moved into any other area.

Council Member Snelgrove stated the Council needs to determine what the best option is between opening Oxbow Jail or outsourcing inmates.

Mayor Ben McAdams stated this adjustment will be budget neutral with reconciliation during the June budget sessions.

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Council Member DeBry asked if the Sheriff could use a vehicle already within his fleet or if an additional vehicle was needed.

Sheriff Winder stated he would need a new vehicle to transport these prisoners. A van has proven to be most efficient as it relates to shuttling prisoners.

Council Member DeBry asked if the Sheriff could use empty FTE allocations within his office instead of requesting four additional ones. The funds received from the State for this purpose will end in two years, so he suggested the FTE allocations be time-limited.

Sheriff Winder stated he would concur with the four allocations being time-limited. The Legislature has no interest in funding this program for more than two years. The additional allocations are needed because his office uses funds from unfilled allocations to fund overtime. It is more efficient to pay individuals overtime, rather than burdening the County with the total compensation piece.

Council Member DeBry asked if the Council wanted to include in the motion that the four FTEs would be time-limited.

Council Member Bradshaw stated his legislative intent anticipates that all funds are time-limited, and that once the program runs its course, as prescribed by the legislative funding, then the Council would have to make a decision at that time.

Council Member Burdick stated at some point, the Council needs to receive clarification on what the term "capacity" really means. The jail is never at full capacity in terms of all beds being used.

Sheriff Winder stated a jail with multi-classification is never fully used. There needs to be the ability to place prisoners in a location that is appropriate for their offense type. A maximum security prisoner would never be placed in a minimum security area. Prisoners are placed according to their offense, behavioral needs, or medical needs. Beds need to be available at all times to ensure prisoners are placed appropriately.

Council Member Burdick asked how quickly this proposal would be implemented.

Sheriff Winder stated it is his hope that the County could start placing these prisoners within the next couple of weeks.

Council Member Burdick asked that the Council be updated as appropriate.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Newton, moved to approve this request and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. Council Member Bradshaw amended the motion to include the following legislative intent: It is the intent of the Council that fiscal staff implement measures to carefully track the allocations for these beds, so the mixture of State and County funds

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can be segregated in a way that ensures that should there be an under expend going forward, the under expend would only be used to procure additional jail beds, and not moved into any other area. The motion passed unanimously.

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CONSENT AGENDA ([3:55:43 PM](#))

Board Appointments

Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council's advice and consent to the appointment of **Maren Slaugh** as a member of the Zoo, Arts, and Parks (ZAP) Tier II Advisory Board to serve a one-year term to replace Erica Doty who resigned. Her partial term will begin immediately and will end December 31, 2017.

Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council's advice and consent to the reappointment of **Don Despain** as a member of the Mountainous Planning District Planning Commission to serve out the unexpired term of Bryan O'Meara. His term will end December 8, 2019.

Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council's advice and consent to the reappointment of **Libby Ellis** as a member of the Mountainous Planning District Planning Commission to serve a three-year term. Her term will end December 15, 2019.

Mayor Ben McAdams submitted a letter requesting the Council's advice and consent to the reappointment of **Christie Hutchings** as a member of the Mountainous Planning District Planning Commission to serve a three-year term. Her term will end February 23, 2020.

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

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Resolution

The Council reviewed the following resolution authorizing execution of an agreement, which has been placed on the Council agenda for final approval and execution:

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Visit Salt Lake regarding Clark Planetarium's participation in the 2017 Visit Salt Lake Connect Pass Program.

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Snelgrove, moved to approve the resolution and forward it to the 4:00 p.m. Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion passed unanimously.

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Tax Matters

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

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by Council Member Snelgrove, 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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Other Business

Announcement ([2:37:48 PM](#))

Council Member Snelgrove announced his Senior Policy Advisor, Bart Barker, has accepted another opportunity. He has been selected by Mayor Ben McAdams as the new General Manager of the Municipal Services District.

Mr. Bart Barker, Senior Policy Advisor, stated his appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Municipal Services District Board of Trustees.

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Special Report ([3:55:43 PM](#))

Council Member Bradley stated he received a copy of a special report from the Auditor pertaining to the \$9.4 million continuation of funds. He asked if the Council asked for this audit.

Council Member DeBry stated no. A month ago, the Council had the organizations that got a piece of the \$9.4 million to come before it and explain where they spent the money.

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Council Member Bradley stated he would like to have a discussion about how these audits were generated. He did not know if this “special report” was a financial or performance audit, but it did have some errors in it. It should have been presented as a draft to the Council and the organizations involved, so misinformation could have been flushed out.

Council Member DeBry stated he would put it on a future agenda for discussion.

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Approval of Minutes ([3:55:43 PM](#))

Council Member Bradshaw, seconded by **Council Member Snelgrove**, moved to approve the **Committee of the Whole** minutes for Tuesday, April 18, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

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The meeting adjourned at [3:57:25 PM](#).

Chair, Committee of the Whole

Deputy Clerk

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