

SALT LAKE COUNTY

*2001 So. State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
(385) 468-7500 TTY 711*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2022

4:00 PM

Council Chambers, N1-110

County Council

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Chair Laurie Stringham
Council Member Richard Snelgrove
Council Member Dave Alvord
Council Member Dea Theodore

Call In: Council Member Jim Bradley
Council Member Arlyn Bradshaw
Council Member Aimee Winder Newton
Council Member Ann Granato
Council Member Steve DeBry

Order of the Salt Lake County Council Calling a Special meeting of the Salt Lake County Council on January 13, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.

Consistent with Utah Code Ann. § 17-53-205, Section 2.09 of the Optional Plan for Salt Lake County Government, and Section 2.04.090 of Salt Lake County Ordinance, a special meeting of the Salt Lake County Council has been ordered by a majority of the Council. The meeting has been ordered by to be held on January 13, 2022, at -4:00 P.M. in Room N1-100 of the Salt Lake County Government Center.

The purpose of the proposed meeting will be for the Salt Lake County Council to consider exercising its authority under Utah Code Ann. §26A-1-114(7)(d) to terminate an order of constraint issued by the Salt Lake County Health Department on or about January 7, 2022. A copy of the proposed agenda for this special meeting is attached to this order.

Council staff shall provide notice of this special meeting to the Salt Lake County Council and Salt Lake County Mayor, and shall also provide notice to the public and media as required by the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, Utah Code Ann. § 52-4-101 et seq., and Salt Lake County Ordinance. A copy of this order shall be included in the minutes of the special meeting.

By: /s/LAURIE STRINGHAM
Chair

By: /s/ RICHARD SNELGROVE
Council Member

By: /s/DAVID ALVORD
Council Member

By: /s/ STEVE DEBRY
Council Member

By: /s/ DEA THEODORE

Council Member

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2.1 A Resolution of the Salt Lake County Council Terminating an Order of Constraint Issued by the Salt Lake County Health Department On or About January 7, 2022 in Response to a Declared Public Health Emergency [21-1496](#)

Attachments: [Resolution Terminating an Order of Constraint January 2022 \(AATF\)](#)
[Public Health Order of Constraint](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Alvord, seconded by Council Member Theodore, that this agenda item be approved.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Theodore that should the Council vote to repeal the order, it adopt a resolution strongly encouraging the Health Department to convert the order and publish it as a health advisory.

Council Member Stringham stated this should be bifurcated so the Council can vote on one and then the other.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, cautioned the Council that under Senate Bill 195, County legislative bodies do not have the ability to modify or amend public health orders; they can only be overturned.

A motion was made by Council Member Alvord, seconded by Council Member Theodore, that this agenda item be approved. The motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: Council Member Snelgrove, Council Member Alvord, Council Member DeBry, and Council Member Theodore

Nay: Chair Stringham, Council Member Bradley, Council Member Bradshaw, Council Member Winder Newton, and Council Member Granato

Council Member Stringham asked if there were any comments Council Members

wished to make regarding their vote.

Council Member Alvord asked that everyone show respect to the elected officials regardless of their vote. His constituency is well informed and has made their wishes clear to him.

Council Member Newton stated she appreciates all the feedback she has received. She understands masks are heavily politicized and nobody likes to wear them. People often bristle when government tells them what to do, but our community is in an unprecedented crisis and everybody needs to work together. The virus has resulted in supply issues and schools are threatening to close and many businesses are experiencing staffing shortages, including the hospitals and emergency responders. Health care workers are exhausted and feel abandoned. Even if masks do just a little to stop the spread, it will be worth it. Data from other states shows that the virus hits hard for a few weeks and then subsides. She feels there are better times ahead and encouraged Utahns to work together and help each other.

Council Member Granato stated her position is based on research that has been very extensive as well as overwhelming input from her district.

Council Member DeBry stated he has already commented and those comments stand.

Council Member Theodore stated some of the input from the public has been very aggressive, and she asked the public for kindness and respect;. Her position has been the same all along. Most of her constituents do not want a mask mandate. She believes in science, but feels the science on this issue has been skewed - people are still getting sick and hospitalized and this mandate will not stop that.

Council Member Stringham stated she serves all of Salt Lake County, which is very divided on the issue of masks. Some areas are very red, and others very blue. She worries about schools being able to stay open and businesses and restaurants who cannot operate due to staffing issues. First responders and hospitals are having staffing issues. A mandate is not the best option, but her choices are limited. Salt Lake County has ample masks sitting in warehouses and as Chair, she cannot order that those masks be distributed to those who want them without a mandate. She plans to meet with State leaders on Monday to devise a plan that will allow for choice. If they can come up with a plan, she will call another meeting and overturn the mandate.

3. ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM until Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 4:00 PM.

SHERRIE SWENSEN, COUNTY CLERK

By _____
DEPUTY CLERK

By _____
CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL