



**MINUTES OF THE SPRINGDALE TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023
AT THE CANYON COMMUNITY CENTER, 126 LION BOULEVARD, SPRINGDALE, UTAH**

The Special Meeting convened at 10:04 am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Bruno, Council members Randy Aton, Lisa Zumpft, Suzanne Elger, and Jack Burns

ALSO PRESENT: Town Manager Rick Wixom participated remotely via Zoom, Director of Community Development Tom Dansie, Police Chief Garen Brecke, Treasurer Dawn Brecke, Public Works Superintendent Rob Totten, Parks & Recreation Director Ryan Gubler, Streets Superintendent Robert George, Deputy Clerk Aren Emerson, and Town Clerk Darci Carlson recording.

Approval of the agenda

Motion made by Lisa Zumpft to approve the Special Meeting agenda for April 27, 2023. Seconded by Suzanne Elger.

Aton: Aye

Zumpft: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Elger: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

A. Announcements/Information

1. General announcements: Ms. Zumpft attended the chalk art demonstration last night and encouraged everyone to look at the artwork in the back Community Center parking lot.

B. Administrative Action Items

1. Approval of revisions to the Town of Springdale Personnel Policy: In general, the revisions to the policy were viewed as an attraction tool rather than a retention tool. They allowed Springdale to keep up with changes adopted by other municipalities.

Motion made by Lisa Zumpft to approve revisions to the Town of Springdale Personnel Policy. Seconded by Randy Aton.

Aton: Aye

Zumpft: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Elger: Abstain Ms. Elger qualified her vote by stating she did not have enough time to read through the entire document.

Burns: Aye

The motion passed 4:1.

C. Administrative Non-Action Items

1. Budget work session to discuss FY 2023-24 budget: The management team collaborated and put together a tentative budget for the Council's consideration. As presented, all funds had a positive

balance. Mr. Wixom reviewed the budget summary sheet and encouraged Council members to ask questions to start.

Ms. Zumpft commended staff for their work on the budget, given the adjusted revenue estimates.

- Mr. Wixom said it was important to pay attention to inflationary forces that could affect people's spending tendencies. Small changes could have an impact on the Town.

Ms. Elger asked how revenues compared to those before Covid.

- Mr. Wixom shared the revenue sheet from 2018-2019. It showed that revenues had increased significantly since 2019. Resort tax was the biggest piece of the revenue budget, yet despite fluctuations in Zion National Park visitation, Springdale's revenues were trending up. However, for the coming year, Mr. Wixom was being conservative and mindful of economic conditions.

Typically, Mr. Wixom's budget projections were conservative. His philosophy was to be mindful of expenditures in order to set money aside for the future.

- Assuming revenues in the current fiscal year came in short, projects were deferred, and the staff was more cautious about expenses.

Ms. Elger asked why Mr. Wixom felt comfortable slightly increasing resort tax revenues for the next fiscal year rather than keeping them flat.

- Mr. Wixom said his opinion was that the economy would grow next year. Although inflation was high, the consumer price index was going down.
- Mayor Bruno commented that Washington County was aggressively going after events that would bring visitors to the area and the Park. She believed revenues would stay the same or increase.

The Council proceeded to review the budget sheets by department:

Legislative-

- A slight increase in training money was added for the Council and Commission to attend the Utah League of Cities Conference.
- Based on the approval of recent applications, RAP Tax funds were adjusted.

Administrative-

- The town photo shoot and funds for the public affairs consultant were taken out of the budget.

Mayor Bruno asked about vehicle purchase and replacement.

- Chief Brecke said the replacement of police vehicles was on a three-year rotation. Given how these vehicles were used, it was important to keep them in top shape. The Town received a good return when the vehicles were traded in.
- Public Works vehicles were more mileage-driven. Generally, one truck per year was replaced.
- Streets Department trucks lasted about 10-11 years.

Mr. Wixom explained that the money to purchase vehicles was allocated from the appropriate fund. Then the amortized cost of the vehicle was budgeted back into the General Fund, whereby the Town repaid itself back with interest over five years.

Non-Departmental-

Ms. Zumpft reiterated her opposition to fireworks and appreciated the staff working to find a replacement. She preferred the Town pay more for an alternative, such as a drone show, to avoid fire concerns.

- Mr. Aton echoed Ms. Zumpft's sentiments.
- Mr. Burns wanted a further discussion on the item in the future because of his concerns with noise and impacts to wildlife.

Professional and technical services included consultation.

- Mr. Burns supported money for a professional consultant to analyze the Jolley-Gifford Cemetery and make recommendations for what should be done.

Per previous direction from the Council, Mr. Wixom said the Town was moving forward with purchasing Red Hawk lot 7 and starting the process to identify a qualified person. The purchase would occur in the current fiscal year, and the sale was anticipated to occur in the next fiscal year. The purchase price was set as a percentage of AML as determined by the Town's housing consultant.

Buildings-

- Town Hall was currently in the process of a remodel for the Community Development Department. Costs for this project were anticipated to spill over into the next fiscal year.

Public Safety-

- No new officers would be added.
- Chief Brecke informed the Council he cut \$18,000 from the budget for an in-car camera system for all the police vehicles. A police canine also was omitted. He indicated that budget requests were similar to previous years.
- Equipment from old vehicles transferred into new vehicles.

In order to improve cell service for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, Mayor Bruno asked Verizon and AT&T to provide mobile equipment. They committed to bringing in a virtual private network (VPN) for the police department.

Streets Department-

Mayor Bruno asked if the prisoner work crews had been utilized recently.

- Robert George said the Town had not used these services since the flood.

Costs for pruning were down. Funds were included for sidewalk maintenance. No new personnel member was added.

Parks Department-

Mr. Burns commented that facilities in view of the public needed to be in good condition. He encouraged an assessment of Town buildings to identify maintenance concerns and funds allocated to correct those issues. It may be necessary to contract work out.

Mr. Burns also raised concerns about the condition of the cemetery and issues related to rodent infestation. He recommended that professional help be used to determine what should be done. There were also problems with headstone stabilization, the sprinkler system, and lawn care. Mr. Burns wanted a placeholder in the budget to start addressing these issues.

- The Council briefly discussed the concept of zero-scaping the cemetery since water draws the rodents and damages the headstones.

Mr. Wixom appreciated the conversation and suggested more discussion take place outside the budget meeting with the Town Manager and the department head.

Ms. Elger asked about the shade structure for the playground.

- Due to cost, the shade structure was not being constructed at this time. The shade structure was important but not required from a compliance standpoint.
- Since this project was considered a recreational facility, it was possible to use RAP Tax funds for the expenditure if the Council chose to do so in the future.

Community Development-

The lion's share of this budget fell under professional/technical services. To balance the budget, several studies and plans were proposed to be funded out of fund balance.

- As staff prioritized, the erosion hazard analysis for side washes and open space plan implementation were pulled out of the budget.

Mayor Bruno said the Planning Commission prioritized open space implementation. Since nothing had been recommended to the Council about this, it was likely appropriate to wait.

- Relative to the erosion hazard analysis of side washes, it was suggested that the Town continue to work with FEMA, the state, and the county, before spending money on consultants.

Community Center-

There were no significant changes or questions related to this fund.

Historic Preservation-

This budget contained some matching funds for CLG projects and money for granary rehabilitation and interpretation.

The Council took a brief break at 11:02 am. The meeting resumed at 11:08 am.

Transfers-

A transfer of \$70,000 from the General Fund would be made into the Irrigation Fund, which was a reduction from the current year. There was also a small transfer made into the Streets Capital Project Fund for the streambank protection project.

Parks Capital Project Fund-

Money into this account came primarily from park impact fees. The only expense of note was the consultant fee for the River Park expansion. There was also a committee looking at the downtown plaza/gathering space to determine next steps. Both would require RFPs to identify costs that would flow into a budget amendment.

- Public engagement events would be scheduled to collect public input on the River Park expansion.
- Feedback from the public on the proposed recreation building was anticipated in May.

Streets Capital Projects Fund-

In recent years, this fund has been used more aggressively to manage large street reconstruction projects.

- Projects for FY23/24 included: the reconstruction of Foothill Lane, the Balanced Rock Road/Hummingbird Road project, Lion Boulevard curb, gutter, and sidewalk project, the Montclair/LaFave sidewalk project, the river armoring/streambank protection project, maintenance work on a stretch of road from the church to Quail Ridge Road, and project design engineering on Canyon View Drive.

Irrigation Fund Revenue-

Earlier in the year, the Council approved increases in the irrigation base and usage rates. Irrigation expenses were similar to the previous year.

Water Fund:

There was a small change in water fund rates this year. Expenditures from the fund balance included pond dredging on the round tank up Lion Boulevard and repair of the Anasazi Plateau water tank.

Mr. Aton asked about the \$50,000 for water share acquisition. He questioned whether the money would be spent this year.

- The Town has tried to encourage shareholders to sell their water shares to the Town. This was a topic the Planning Commission was discussing as it related to land use issues and water conservation. Although money had been allocated in the budget, it had not been spent for several years.

Ms. Elger asked how often the GAC filters were changed in the water system.

- Rob Totten answered that they had not been replaced since the initial installation. Staff tested for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) to monitor.

Sewer Fund-

Focus was on the lagoon project and getting the design finished in order to proceed with construction. Sludge treatment continued.

Municipal Building Authority-

This was for the CCC lease payment with an appropriation from the fund balance. In moving forward with future buildings, Mr. Wixom said this fund might be a good option to use.

Transportation Fund-

This fund was primarily driven by meter revenue and spending money to keep the parking program moving forward. By next year, the Town will have repaid itself back for the cost of the meters.

- Mr. Wixom pointed out that a transfer of \$300,000 from this fund to the General Fund was made to offset the costs of the sidewalk project from Montclair to LaFave.

Mr. Wixom reviewed the next steps in the budget process. According to law, the tentative budget was presented by the first regular meeting in May. At this meeting, the Council would set a public hearing date for the meeting in June to adopt the budget.

Ms. Elger asked what numbers were used for COLA and merit, and how many people received their longevity bonus.

- Mr. Wixom said the COLA proposed for next year was 8.7% which matched the Social Security COLA. The merit increase was 2% which was the standard increase. There would be three or four employees who qualified for their longevity bonus in the coming year.

D. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 11:44 pm by Lisa Zumpft. Seconded by Randy Aton.

Aton: Aye

Zumpft: Aye

Bruno: Aye

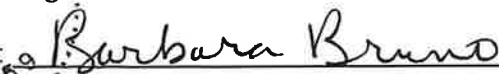
Elger: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.


 Darci Carlson, Town Clerk



APPROVAL:  DATE: 6-14-23

A recording of the public meeting is available by contacting the Town Clerk's Office. Please call 435-772-3434 or email springdale@springdale.utah.gov for more information.



PO Box 187 118 Lion Blvd Springdale UT 84767

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Please print your name below

Meeting TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING Date 4/27/23

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES:

Name (please print)

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REMOTE ATTENDEES:

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no public attendees