

Minutes of the Centerville **City Council Work Session** held Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., with participants present at City Hall, 250 North Main Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Clark Wilkinson

Council Members Cheylynn Hayman
Gina Hirst
Robyn Mecham
Brian Plummer

MEMBER ABSENT Spencer Summerhays

STAFF PRESENT

Brant Hanson, City Manager
Lisa Romney, City Attorney
Jennifer Robison, City Recorder
Nate Plaizier, Finance Director
Mike Carlson, Public Works Director
Mike Eggett, Community Development Director
Whittney Black, Assistant Planner
Dave Walker, Deputy Public Works Director
Bryce King, Administrative Services Director
Paul Child, Centerville Police Chief

VISITORS

Lorene Kamalu, Davis County Commissioner
Ashleigh Young, Animal Care Director

Mayor Wilkinson called the work session to order at 5:47 p.m.

DAVIS COUNTY COMMISSION

Davis County Commissioner Lorene Kamalu introduced herself and introduced Davis County Animal Care Director Ashleigh Young. Ms. Young provided an update on Davis County Animal Care, said the Davis County Animal Care facility had been operating at capacity for several years, and reported ground would be broken for a new facility in Fruit Heights in fall or winter of 2024. Ms. Young explained a small property tax increase (estimated at \$10 per year for an average household) was proposed for FY2025 to fund operating expenses. The cost of the new facility would be covered by the County. Ms. Young answered questions from the Council about services provided by Davis County Animal Care.

Councilmember Mecham said she suspected Centerville citizens would be supportive of a bigger rate increase if Animal Care began taking care of racoon problems. Ms. Young said Animal Care had not been able to respond to wildlife calls in almost three years because of the small number of staff. She said Animal Care would respond if wildlife were reported as showing rabies symptoms, and added the Department of Wildlife would also respond if an animal were ill. Councilmembers asked Ms. Young to send them additional information about the pet foster and adoption programs.

Commissioner Kamalu answered questions from the Mayor and Council about the Davis County budget and planned building projects, planned changes to the South Davis Recreation Board, and homeless issues.

CHIEF OF POLICE RECRUITMENT DISCUSSION

Police Chief Paul Child said his retirement date was set for July 15, 2024. He spoke of the importance of the police chief position in setting policy and tone for a police department. Chief Child described recent hiring processes for new chiefs of police for Woods Cross (9-month process), Brigham City, and Farmington, and spoke of benefits of having a succession plan within a department. City Manager Brant Hanson said he generally believed external recruitment could provide an organization with a measurement of what was available, and often helped bolster the position of an internal candidate.

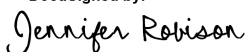
Mr. Hanson commented that opening a position and interviewing internally, and then choosing to open the position externally would send a definite message to current staff. Councilmembers Mecham and Hirst expressed agreement, and said they would prefer to open the position internally and externally from the beginning. Councilmembers Mecham and Hirst said they believed the Police Department currently had some very qualified candidates. Chief Child pointed out that no internal advancement would occur within the department from hiring a police chief externally, and said he believed the department currently employed multiple qualified candidates. Mr. Hanson said he agreed the department currently employed three qualified candidates. Councilmember Hayman said it would be unlikely that an external hiring process would be completed in the three months before Chief Child retired. Chief Child responded that an interim chief would be appointed.

Councilmember Hirst said she liked the idea of inviting a police chief from another agency to be involved in the interviewing process. Mr. Hanson said he agreed such a perspective could be valuable.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m., Councilmember Hirst **moved** to adjourn the work session. Councilmember Hayman seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (4-0).

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Jennifer Robison, City Recorder

5/7/2024 | 10:46 PM MDT

Date Approved

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