

Minutes of the Centerville **City Council** meeting held Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. with participants present at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Clark Wilkinson

Council Members
 Cheylynn Hayman
 Robyn Mecham
 Brian Plummer
 Gina Hirst
 Spencer Summerhays

STAFF PRESENT

Brant Hanson, City Manager
 Lisa Romney, City Attorney
 Jennifer Robison, City Recorder
 Marc Marchant, Streets Supervisor
 Mike Carlson, Public Works Director
 Mike Eggett, Community Development Director
 Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director
 Bryce King, Administrative Services Director
 Nate Plaizier, Finance Director
 Sydney DeWees, Planner
 Lauren Nance, Administrative Assistant

VISITORS

Interested citizens

PRAYER OR THOUGHT

Councilmember Hayman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPEN SESSION

Mark Whitaker, Centerville resident, talked about mechanical biodegradation, and shared his idea of creating a multi-state landfill that would break down large amount of material into dirt.

Tim Heare, Centerville resident, shared concerns and frustrations regarding the Briarwood road project that is currently under construction. He outlined some of the issues and the bad experiences they have had, including broken equipment and waterlines. Mr. Heare provided the Council with written comments from himself and several of his neighbors regarding the project.

Vickie Kilsmeier, Centerville resident, echoed Mr. Heare's complaints about the road project, and added some of her own frustrations.

John West, Centerville resident, also added to the complaints of the Briarwood road project, and recommended that the City not pay the crew until the issues are resolved.

Dave Vincent, Centerville resident, shared that two large trees were removed from his parkstrip, but the crew didn't complete the job and left the stumps. He asked for a solution and for help from the City to resolve the problem.

1 Michael Lambert, Layton resident, introduced himself as an unaffiliated candidate running
2 for Davis County commission, and shared some issues that he cares about.

3
4 **PUBLIC HEARING – CENTERVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENTS –**
5 **PARKSTRIPS, STREET TREES, SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM, AND PUBLIC**
6 **UTILITY EASEMENTS ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – CMC 11.02 (PARKSTRIPS), CMC**
7 **11.05 (SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM), CMC 11.06 (PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS)**
8 **– TABLED FROM AUGUST 6, 2024**
9

10 Streets Supervisor Marc Marchant presented the proposed amendment to the Centerville
11 Municipal Code regarding planting trees in the parkstrips, which includes removing trees within
12 4-foot parkstrips, supported by a tree voucher program encouraging replacements on private
13 property.

14
15 This item was discussed at the August 6, 2024 City Council meeting, where a public
16 hearing was held. The item was tabled and the hearing continued.

17
18 Mayor Wilkinson opened a public hearing for this item.

19
20 Dan Chambers, Centerville resident, shared concerns that the proposed amendment goes
21 to the extreme. He would like to find a middle ground to keep trees that aren't currently an issue.

22
23 Scott Gillespie, Centerville resident, was concerned about losing trees, and would be very
24 mad if the city removed his trees. He asked for leniency in regards to the proposed ordinance.

25
26 Don Olsen, Centerville resident, was concerned about the beautification of the city. He
27 said there is beauty in tree-lined streets, and that removing all trees is too much. He said that
28 there are some smaller trees that do not heave.

29
30 Colton Giants, Centerville resident, participated in Flip-the-Strip, which encouraged to
31 plant trees and drought-intolerant plants. He would also like to see a middle ground where non-
32 issue trees can stay.

33
34 Steve Blackham, Centerville resident, shared that we should be looking into the future,
35 and that we need to protect ourselves from climate change and from the heat, and that to do that
36 we need to keep the trees. He said that the city is overemphasizing the cost aspect, and
37 overlooking the benefits of trees.

38
39 Dave Stolman, Centerville resident, said that he moved to Centerville because of the
40 beautiful trees. He said that the city should be encouraging small trees that don't tear up the
41 sidewalk.

42
43 Dave and Sue Benyon, Centerville resident, shared that they work very hard to keep their
44 trees clean and cared for, and asked the city to please not take their trees.

45
46 Susan Landwater, Centerville resident, shared that they have replaced their big, heaving
47 trees with little trees that provide shade, beauty, and oxygen, and they don't cause problems. She
48 said that she thinks the new policy is overreaching.

49
50 Jennie and Paul Roberts, Centerville residents, shared about their large neighborhood
51 gathering under their large tree. They echoed other sentiments of cooling and beautification.

52

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1 Bill Morty, Centerville resident, listed the benefits of trees, and said that only cities that
2 have removed their trees have experienced climate change. He said that the future is all about
3 maintaining what we have that is good, and that a sidewalk can be replaced in a week, but a good
4 tree takes 40 years.

5
6 Keith Roper, Centerville resident, purchased his home because of the beautiful trees. He
7 said that their trees provide shade and reduce his heating bill. He also stated that sidewalk
8 differentials may be caused by several factors, not just trees. He believed it is a short-sighted
9 policy.

10
11 Chrystal and Keith Wheeler, Centerville residents, said they have several trees from the
12 city's approved list of trees. They have old sidewalks with issues but they are nowhere near the
13 trees.

14
15 Randy Reese, Centerville resident, also shared that his trees cool his home substantially,
16 and if the tree is removed he'll have to pay much more to cool his home.

17
18 Chuck Neil, Centerville resident, said that the trees provide shade to his home and so his
19 kids can play outside. He said that he would be more willing to pay for a sidewalk repair than to
20 remove the trees.

21
22 Nate Stettler, Centerville resident, said that he is considering moving to another city that
23 encourages trees in the parkstrip. He noted that how the Council votes today will affect the city
24 50 years from now. He said he is 100% opposed to banning all trees in the parkstrip.

25
26 Johnny Lower, Centerville resident, said that the damage done to his sidewalk was done
27 by water, not by the tree, and that there needs to be checks and balances in place to make sure
28 the real issue is being resolved, not just a blanket movement to remove all trees.

29
30 Daniel and Grace Tiegen, Centerville residents, shared that they are in favor of keeping
31 the trees.

32
33 Lynn VanTesenbrooke, Centerville resident, said that she fears if there are no shaded
34 sidewalks, people may stop going on walks. She doesn't want to be known as the city that took
35 down all the trees.

36
37 Joy Chambers, Centerville resident, served on the Centerville Tree Board where she was
38 involved in creating the tree voucher program and the suggested tree list for parkstrips. She urged
39 the council to consider the long-term impacts of removing trees.

40
41 Mayor Wilkinson closed the public hearing.

42
43 The Council engaged in significant dialogue over the issue, addressing the pros and cons
44 of maintaining trees in narrow parkstrips. Issues such as the financial burden of sidewalk repairs
45 and the City's responsibility to fiscal prudence were weighed against the aesthetic and
46 environmental value of trees. Several options were proposed, including a proactive tree voucher
47 program, waivers of liability, and only removing problematic trees while prohibiting new ones.

48
49 Councilmember Summerhays **moved** to table the item and direct staff to implement a
50 proactive tree voucher program and retroactive to previous projects, distribution of unused
51 vouchers, and the introduction of a waiver liability release program for current and future tree
52 planting, subject to conditions such as grandfathering existing trees if they were on the approved

tree list or not causing damage. Councilmember Hayman seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENT – INTERNAL ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS – CFS 20.084

Community Development Director Mike Eggett presented the proposal to increase the application fee for Internal Accessory Dwelling Units from \$150 to \$200. The adjustment aimed to reflect recent fee increases from Davis County, and to align with the actual staff time spent processing these applications.

Councilmember Hirst **moved** to approve Resolution No. 2024-20 amending Section 20.084 of the Centerville Fee Schedule to increase the application fee for Internal Accessory Dwelling Units from \$150 to \$200. Councilmember Hayman seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

SUMMARY ACTION CALENDAR

1. Public Works Equipment Purchase – Water Department Backhoe Trade-In in the amount of \$24,300.00

Councilmember Summerhays **moved** to approve all Summary Action items as listed above. Councilmember Hayman seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5- 0).

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Minutes of the August 6, 2024 Work Session and City Council meetings were reviewed. Councilmember Hirst **moved** to approve all sets of minutes. Councilmember Mecham seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

FINANCIAL REPORT

A monthly financial report for July 2024 was included with the agenda for review.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

- Councilmember Summerhays reported on the South Davis recreation center's upcoming budget process and initiatives related to cost code accounting for better financial tracking per program.

MAYOR REPORT

- Mayor Wilkinson shared that the fire chief hiring process is ongoing
- Mayor Wilkinson reminded the council of key upcoming events, including the 9/11 Service Day, and the Preparedness Fair, both scheduled for September 7, 2024.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Mr. Hanson provided updates from the recent LPC meeting in preparation for the upcoming legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSED SESSION

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At 11:47 pm, Councilmember Summerhays **moved** to go into closed session in the Council Chambers to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation and attorney-client matter privileged under Utah Code 78B-1-137, with no intent to return to open meeting. Councilmember Hayman seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0). In attendance at the closed session: Mayor Clark Wilkinson; Councilmembers Spencer Summerhays, Cheylynn Hayman, Robyn Mecham, Gina Hirst, and Brian Plummer; City Manager Brant Hanson; City Attorney Lisa Romney; City Recorder Jennifer Robison; Community Development Director Mike Eggett.

Jennifer Robison
Jennifer Robison, City Recorder

9/18/2024 | 2:51 PM MDT

Date Approved

