Minutes of the Centerville **City Council work session** held Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Centerville City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	Clark Wilkinson
Council Members	Tamilyn Fillmore
	William Ince
	Stephanie Ivie
	George McEwan
	Robyn Mecham
STAFF PRESENT	Brant Hanson, City Manager
	Lisa Romney, City Attorney
	Leah Romero, City Recorder
	Mackenzie Wood, Assistant Planner
	Katie Rust, Recording Secretary
TREE BOARD PRESENT	Joy Chambers, Chair
	Brooke Holman
	Anne Linton
	Gary Smith
	Gary Woodward
	Scott Zeidler
VISITORS	Chris Simonsen, Bountiful City Council
	Rob Vandegrift, Bountiful Veterans Park Board

BOUNTIFUL VETERANS PARK PRESENTATION

Bountiful City Councilmember Chris Simonsen explained the plan to build Bountiful Veterans Park directly north of the Bountiful City offices. Rob Vandegrift, Bountiful Veterans Park Board member and landscape architect, shared a video presentation about the planned park, which he said would be meaningful and top quality. Names of veterans with a connection to Bountiful or neighboring cities can be submitted for inclusion at bountifulveteranspark.org. Councilmember Simonsen and Mr. Vandegrift asked the Centerville City Council to share the information with Centerville citizens.

DISCUSSION WITH CITY TREE BOARD

Gary Woodward, a member of the Centerville Tree Board, presented a revised Approved Tree List for Council review. The Tree Board is in the process of drafting amendments to the entire tree ordinance. The City Council and Tree Board members discussed the tension that exists between trees and City infrastructure in park strips. The proposed Approved Tree List incorporates current City policy regarding trees in park strips, and includes trees with root systems that are less likely to cause problems. Tree Board member Gary Smith commented that, unfortunately, even the more ideal trees can sometimes cause problems with infrastructure. The Tree Board has reviewed and compared tree-related statutes from six other communities while revising the Centerville tree ordinance.

Councilmember Ivie stated that cable and UTOPIA lines run approximately 6 inches below the ground, low-voltage power lines run 12 inches below the ground, gas lines run between 16 and 18 inches below the ground, and high-voltage power lines run 4 feet below the ground in park strips. Brooke Holman, a Tree Board member, commented that it would be helpful for the Tree Board to have any data regarding the impact of trees in park strips to better address the situation. Councilmember McEwan said he believes there is a misconception in the community regarding what is City responsibility and what is property owner responsibility. Councilmember Fillmore suggested the Tree Board continue to help with community education after the ordinance is updated. Scott Zeidler said it helps for a city to have a culture of proper tree care, and suggested tree care training for Public Works Department employees. Gary Smith commented that proper pruning should begin when a tree is young. Scott Zeidler said he views park strips as a kind of undefined battleground; park strips are City real estate with City jurisdiction and liability, but with duty of care assigned to adjacent property owners who likely do not have the needed knowledge, experience, and tools for proper tree care. He explained that park strip trees are generally a cyclical resource that can be expected to last maybe sixty years. Trees planted at least ten feet behind the sidewalk have greater long-term potential. Scott Zeidler stated that park strips are biologically an imperfect zone for trees.

Joy Chambers, Tree Board Chair, expressed the opinion that it would be unrealistic to not allow trees in park strips in Centerville. Brooke Holman commented that wider park strips help improve the appearance of a city and provide more space for trees. Anne Linton, Tree Board member, added that nonlinear sidewalks provide wider park strip space for trees. Councilmember McEwan said he feels information regarding drought tolerant trees will be important as secondary water becomes more scarce.

Councilmember Fillmore suggested the revised tree ordinance include a mission statement for the benefit of future Councils, to help the City be consistent. Councilmember Ivie emphasized that park strips were created for infrastructure. Responding to a question from the Council, Scott Zeidler estimated that a dedicated city forester would be a one-half to three-quarter-time position. Councilmember Fillmore suggested the Council consider requiring a five-foot park strip in new developments.

The Council and Mayor thanked the Tree Board for their time and service.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Fillmore made a **motion** to adjourn the work session at 6:54 p.m. Councilmember Mecham seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

Leah Romero, City Recorder

January 15, 20 TB
January 7, 20 CC
Date Approved

Katie Rust, Recording Secretary

CENTERVILLE CITY, INC. 1848 CORPORATE SEAL