

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

The regular meeting of the Richmond City Council was held at the Park Community Center located at 90 South 100 West, Richmond, Utah, on Tuesday, September 18, 2018. The meeting began at 7:00 P.M.; Mayor Jeffrey Young was in the Chair. The opening remarks were made by Kelly Crafts.

The following Council members were in attendance: Paul Erickson, Tucker Thatcher, Cheryl Peck, Lyle Bair and Kelly Crafts.

City Administrator Jeremy Kimpton, City Recorder Justin Lewis, Librarian Lora Smith, and City Treasurer Christine Purser were also in attendance.

VISITORS: Annette Hepworth, Theo Hepworth, Cless Alvey, Paul White, Allen Lundgreen, Marie Lundgreen, Cache Christensen, Michele Olsen, Lance Jenkins, Jeff Jenkins, Karen Jenkins, Katie Wallentine, TrinaDee Abel, Jean DeGasser, Kathy Hoth, Becky Berger, Denise Ashby, Terri White, Aaron Taylor, Terrie Wierenga, Kristie Hawes, Zac Covington, Dustin Mayhew, Courtney Bair, Dell Keck, Jarom Manning, Jay Bair, Shawn Nye, Sara Gilbert, Brian Webb, Stony Tanner, Jessica Dunyon, Chris Apedaile, John Apedaile, Chris Ross, Debbie Grindy, Sandy Hamby, Charri Hugo, Candace Ivory, Ashlee Bair, Robert Poyner, Brent Webb, Derk Gilbert, Amy Macarinla

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 14, 2018

KELLY: I will abstain from the vote since I was not in attendance.

A motion to approve the August 14, 2018, City Council meeting minutes was made by Paul, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair

No Vote: None

Abstain: Crafts

DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF CAPSA SUPPORTING OCTOBER 2018 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.

COURTNEY BAIR: I am from Richmond. My parents are Lynn and Janet Bair. I am a student at Utah State University, and I work with CAPSA. October is domestic violence awareness month. One in three women and one in seven men experience domestic violence. These are only the cases which are reported, so the actual number would be higher. We are located in the valley and offer free and confidential services. We offer sheltering services for up to 30 days. We also offer counseling, and we work with local schools. We want to work with local communities as well. We want to get your youth council involved and will invite them to an activity on December 8th. Feel free to follow us on social media and advertise our events. We also offer youth training as well as helping avoid sexual harassment in the workplace.

ANA LIQUIN: I work with the middle schools in the valley. I attended North Cache when I was in school. We need this city. You are part of the valley. Local businesses are a benefit to the community. Black & White Days is a special time for the city. There are a lot of upstanding residents in the city. October is domestic violence awareness month. Domestic violence happens. Last year we helped 919 people and 438 of them were adults. We taught programs to 15,000 students in the valley. We want to raise awareness. Our goal is to end domestic violence. We are asking the council to pass our proclamation. We are asking you to proclaim October as domestic violence awareness month in the city. Call us if you know someone who needs help. Our services are free and confidential.

Mayor Young read the Proclamation in recognition and support of domestic violence awareness month.

ANA: Thank you for supporting our program. Thank you for helping us to raise awareness.

DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED TRAIL ON 300 EAST FROM APPROXIMATELY 350 SOUTH TO 300 NORTH.

MAYOR: We have been discussing installing a trail on 300 East from the White Pine Subdivision going south to the horse arena. We have been talking about this for over a year and probably closer to two years. I have talked to many residents about this project. The 300 East road is a concern. The road is narrow, and it is hard to have people walking on the road and driving on it at the same time. There is nowhere else to walk. The only place to walk is down the road. It is very complicated when there are vehicles and people on the road. We have been looking at options of what to do. Zac Covington and BRAG (Bear River Association of Governments) have helped the city receive two grants. The two grants total \$120,500 in funding. We already have the start of the trail on 300 East from 300 North to 500 North. The sidewalk is eight feet wide. The council needs to decide how to proceed on the project. Sidewalk is expensive. We don't have enough funds to do the entire project in cement. We could use volunteer labor. We have considered cement from Main Street to 300 North and something like crushed asphalt from Main Street to 350 South.

PAUL: Does the entire project have to be paved?

MAYOR: Crushed asphalt will work. The trail cannot be dirt. Cement is expensive. It is easy to spend \$100,000 on this project. We could get volunteers to help with the labor. Crushed asphalt would have to be sealed.

ZAC COVINGTON: We have discussed this project for a long time. This project is part of the trail master plan which was created in 2012. This trail could actually loop long term. The intent would be to tie it into the canal trail long term. Many people call this area stroller alley. People are walking on the road daily. There are safety issues on this road. Traffic has increased substantially with the new White Pine Subdivision being built. Those going back and forth to the Cherry Peak Ski Resort also increase traffic significantly. We need to review the rules and costs associated with the grant tonight. This is an expensive project to do. The grant will allow for in-kind labor.

MAYOR: Are these matching grants?

ZAC: Yes, they will match each other. One issue we have is to receive the funding the entire project must be completed. The grants require a paved surface pathway. I talked to the grant manager and a double chip seal which is rolled will work. Crushed asphalt and road base will not be allowed. We have come up with five cost estimates for this project and they are as follows:

The entire project in concrete: \$238,676

The entire project in asphalt: \$202,900

The entire project in double chip seal: \$176,900

From Main Street to 300 North in concrete and from Main Street to 350 South in asphalt: \$218,666

From Main Street to 300 North in concrete and from Main Street to 350 South in double chip seal: \$204,166

Richmond would be responsible for \$78,666 if the entire project is done in concrete. In-kind labor completed could be deducted from this amount. The type of surface needs to be determined soon, so the grant manager can be notified, and the project can get started. The intent would be to sign the grant documents this fall.

MAYOR: We will have an open house for everyone on 300 East effected by this project. The location of the trail and what will be done will be discussed. The intent would be to start the project in the spring.

TUCKER: You need a firm direction on the surface now?

ZAC: Yes, we need to finalize our project, so I can get with the grant manager and finalize the grant documents.

MAYOR: This is when it is hard being a small town with a small budget. We don't have enough funding in our budget for cement. We have volunteers who I think would help. This is a main corridor in the city. I think we can get some volunteer help to keep the cost down. I would like to find a way to cut the cost to the city in half by using volunteer labor. We do not dictate the terms of the grants. We hoped to only do Phase 1, Main Street to 300 North, at this time, but the grants were approved based on the entire project being completed now. We have the option to do nothing and not accept the funding, or we come up with the funding for our portion of the project and proceed.

PAUL: We can help fund it. We have people willing to help. Do we have to snow plow this trail when complete?

MAYOR: We are required to plow 100 North from 100 West to 300 East as part of the safe routes to school program.

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ZAC: The project costs also include retaining walls for some properties as well as nice driveway crossings. The city received a great estimate on the concrete work as normally cement for this project would be \$60 per linear foot but the bid came in at \$28 per linear foot. Concrete will save the city money long term, as it is maintenance free.

MAYOR: We have to decide if we want to spend funds from the Capital Projects Fund to pay for this project. Things are hard to maintain. Look at the park strips on the highway. UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation) dictated what was allowed. We wanted to fill in the park strips with cement, and they would not allow it, and now it is just a weedy mess. I think concrete would be money well spent long term. Long term this trail could tie into the canal trail as well. It could be a nice looping trail system. To do this project in cement would cost \$30,000 more than other options.

AARON TAYLOR: You could consider a track surface like at the high school. It is durable. Scooters can go on it. It won't last as long as concrete.

ZAC: That is not something we have considered at this point.

PAUL: Let's meet with the residents of the area first and then come up with a plan.

MAYOR: That is a good idea. We can meet in October and finalize the plan. I think long term concrete is the best option. We can consider other options.

ZAC: I can ask the grant manager if a track surface is allowed. For the open house we will have pictures and other information on the project. I can be ready for the October council meeting to present this information. I think we can take 30 to 45 minutes to explain the project and answer questions.

MAYOR: We will hold an open house on this project at 6:00 P.M. before the October 16th city council meeting.

LYLE: Would it be possible to obtain a third grant to help out with this project?

ZAC: We applied for RAPZ tax funding and were denied. I am not aware of any other grant funding options at this time.

MAYOR: We could apply for RAPZ tax funding again.

LYLE: I think that is a good idea.

MAYOR: We have received \$50,000 to \$70,000 for projects in the past.

ZAC: I would only submit one RAPZ tax application. You don't want to compete against yourself with other projects.

PAUL: We need to get this project started where there is an expiration date on the grants.

MAYOR: I will work with Jeremy, and we will apply for RAPZ tax funding in 2019.

PAUL: We need to make a plan as you can apply for RAPZ tax, but it could be denied again.

MAYOR: We need to notify everyone on 300 East about the open house next month.

PAUL: On both sides of the road.

TUCKER: The entire community is invited, but we need to make special invitations to those effected by the project.

MAYOR: I want to thank Zac for his help on this project, as he has spent countless hours trying to make this project a reality.

PUBLIC HEARING, NO SOONER THAN 7:15 P.M., FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE REZONE REQUEST BY BRIAN WEBB, AGENT FOR WEBB PROPERTIES, LLC, TO REZONE A PORTION OF PARCEL NUMBER 09-067-0053, 2.0569 ACRES, FROM MLI (MANUFACTURING/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL) TO RLD (RESIDENTIAL LOW DENSITY). THE PARCEL IS LOCATED WEST OF APPROXIMATELY 50 SOUTH 400 WEST AND SOUTH OF APPROXIMATELY 450 WEST MAIN STREET. THE ORIGINAL APPROVAL OF THIS REQUEST WAS RESCINDED DUE TO ISSUES WITH THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION, ACREAGE INCLUDED IN THE REZONE REQUEST AND THE SURVEY PLAT.

MAYOR: This request was previously approved, but there were some technical issues and a discrepancy which was found. We talked to legal counsel about how to resolve the issue, and they suggested we rescind the previous approval and start over, and so that is what happened.

JUSTIN: We received the correct plat which correctly identifies the land as 2.0569 acres not 1.90 acres. The legal description is now correct as well as the plat map.

A motion to close the regular council meeting and open the public hearing was made by Lyle, seconded by Cheryl, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts

No Vote: None

The public hearing opened at 7:35 P.M.

There were not any comments or questions.

A motion to close the public hearing and reopen the regular council meeting was made by Tucker, seconded by Paul, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts

No Vote: None

The public hearing closed at 7:36 P.M.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE REZONE REQUEST BY BRIAN WEBB FOR A PORTION OF PARCEL NUMBER 09-067-0053.

A motion to approve the rezone request for 2.0569 acres of Parcel Number 09-067-0053 from MLI (Manufacturing/Light Industrial) to RLD (Residential Low Density) was made by Tucker, seconded by Paul, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts

No Vote: None

DISCUSSION ON FIRE DEPARTMENT COVERAGE.

MAYOR: There is a lot of misinformation and responses on Facebook about this subject. I am not sure how to respond to some of the online misinformation as sometimes in trying to clarify something, it will create more confusion. I hope everyone who has attended tonight can understand what is being proposed. The council is not getting rid of the fire department. A couple of council members and myself met with members of the fire department last night. We wanted them to be aware of what we were discussing tonight as well as some of the challenges we are facing. Our department and many other departments don't have enough volunteers. The number of volunteers is decreasing. It is getting harder and harder to keep volunteers.

DUSTIN MAYHEW: What is the volunteer rate per capita?

MAYOR: Rod Hammer of Cache County Fire did a study recently, and local cities under 7,000 in population do not have an adequate amount of volunteers.

DUSTIN: What is the recommended number for our department?

MAYOR: I don't have the report with me. I talked to Rod many times on this subject to understand his report. I want to clarify comments I have read about a misleading agenda item on the agenda for tonight. I keep getting told it is not detailed enough about what is being proposed. We don't have any details at this time to present to the residents. We notified the fire department members last night that we are looking at some options and contracting with Smithfield City is one option. We are considering contracting with Smithfield City for 24 hour fire coverage. I am going before the Smithfield city council on September 26th to ask them to consider working with us more than our current agreement states. We are struggling with how to deal with a lack of volunteers. We don't have any details to present tonight. We want to start the dialogue tonight. This is not the end of the process. I have not made a formal request to Smithfield to consider modifying our current agreement. We want to start the conversation tonight. We have a problem, and people need to know about it. It is the reality of what we are working with. We had a long conversation last night with several department members and gave them the specifics about our concerns and issues. We are considering many different dynamics. We don't have a specific plan right now.

BECKY BERGER: I don't recall you ever asking for volunteers.

MAYOR: This is not a new problem. Four years ago there was an article on KSL about our city and lack of volunteers in our department. This is not a new problem.

BECKY: Have you actively tried to get new members?

CHERYL: Yes.

MAYOR: We are not mad at anyone. It is hard to have volunteers. It is a reality we are facing. We don't have to abolish the department. I want to have an open dialogue with Smithfield about what we need. We are going to have an open house at a future date to discuss this subject. We have to have something to present the residents before we

can have a discussion. We don't have anything right now to show you. No small town in this valley wants to have the conversation we are having right now. Other cities know they have this same problem, but they continue to strain their current volunteers to the max. We are doing the same thing. We need to discuss this. We want to have this discussion and will have an open house to do so. I need to see if Smithfield has an interest in helping us and what exactly that would entail. I support volunteers, but we have to consider all options. We can stay doing what we are currently doing. We are on the highway and need to be able to help outlying areas around the city. We have to address working with other communities and how people/volunteers can work together. We mentioned last night to the department members we could have Smithfield take over immediately, if needed. I have talked to the council, and we are open to keep doing what we are currently doing while we look at other options. We want all of the residents to attend when we talk about this at a future meeting. We welcome input and dialogue. We need to have information to provide to you. We all want what is best for the city. There are some valid concerns posted online by some residents. People want to be protected. There was a talk about insurance coverage. We have to have a department that supplies fire coverage. It can be a local department or a contracted department. The county contracts with cities for fire protection. The unincorporated areas of the valley must be covered. We don't have a date set yet for a future meeting on this subject. We need to gather options first.

ALLEN LUNDGREEN: Will members of our department have to go to Smithfield to pick up their gear and then come back to Richmond to respond to a call?

MAYOR: No. That makes no sense to do that, and we need to work together. We cannot cripple the town.

PAUL: We have a lot of equipment and a good nucleus. We are not abandoning our resources. What is the best long-term option? I don't know. Smithfield has a professional force, and maybe we team up with them. We have a major problem keeping our fire chief long term. We have had at least three or four chiefs in the last ten years. Derk Gilbert has been on the department for 15 years, and Katie Wallentine for 21 years. We have dedicated people. We are not a city that has the resources to provide good coverage to our city. We should consider an agreement if it makes sense.

DUSTIN: Where do we stack up with other departments? What is the benchmark for volunteers?

MAYOR: You would have to look at the county report. It has some detailed information in it. I know it took a year for the report to be put together.

DUSTIN: How many volunteers are needed for our department?

MAYOR: It doesn't list a specific number. Lewiston has around 20 members and three of those are city employees. The city employees cover during the day. They are getting by with what they are doing. It is hard to discipline and control volunteers in a small department. Imagine only having three volunteers, and one of them gets disciplined, so you just lost 1/3 of your volunteer force. We are always concerned about personnel issues.

DUSTIN: Fire chiefs are good to serve for about five years.

PAUL: This is not a new problem. When my wife, Leslie, served on the city council there was the same problem at that time. I have not served on the department. As council members, we have to consider what is the best option for the city.

DENISE ASHBY: Where is the funding coming from if we switch to Smithfield?

MAYOR: Good question. I think it is pretty obvious all local departments are not properly funded. We have increased our budget over time, but we are not the highest. Those are details we need to discuss. If we combine, the budget is a big factor. We also have to discuss if we join forces, do we turn everything over to them, or do we still want some control? We need to protect the city. The biggest issue I keep hearing is we don't want to lose our department's identity. This is a hard topic. The department has been around for 70 years. We might have to make some tweaks, or we might have to completely change what we are doing. We are willing to consider all options. We are not covering anything up; we want to have an open dialogue. Some people thought the decision was already made and the department members were being asked to turn in their equipment and keys, and that is not the case. We met with them so they could understand what we are considering. We want to consider everything. We need to find the best path for the city.

SARA GILBERT: Are you voting on anything tonight? Why are you only considering Smithfield, why not the county as well?

MAYOR: The county cannot fill our needs. I asked the fire department members last night how the daytime coverage agreement is working out with Smithfield, and there was not one negative comment. The only comments were that it is working. Strategically where they are located makes it work. We want to make sure our volunteers have a place to volunteer if we make a change. We don't want them serving all over the valley; we want them here in town. We want to have control of where they go. We must make some changes and move forward. We cannot do what we are currently doing. One or two generations ago, it was a different dynamic, and it worked. I am glad people are concerned and here tonight.

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PAUL: Our discussion tonight is to state we want to approach Smithfield to see if we can make arrangements for better coverage. We could possibly join forces. There is also a chance there could be major changes to the department. As a council, we want to approach another city which offers similar services and see if we can work something out. We had to have a plan that if our department members got mad and refused to respond to calls that we could still offer coverage.

MAYOR: We need to protect the city. The agenda is correct. We are not hiding anything. We will have a future public meeting when we have something to present to the residents. I will resign before I continue to replace the fire chief every two years. That cycle cannot continue. I don't care who is involved; that cycle will not work. Our department members are trying to make it work. It is hard. I talked to Lance Jenkins. Having to change all the time is hard. It is not a healthy dynamic. It does not work. I won't continue with this cycle. I can go to all of the previous fire chiefs in the city, and they all tell me the same thing. We want to tackle and address this issue. It will be advertised. We need the residents to give us time to get some options together. I will get options from Smithfield and see if the county has any options as well. We need time to get options put together, so we can have a good conversation on this topic.

CHRIS ROSS: Can we see what is going to be presented by the council before the public meeting?

MAYOR: I am not opposed to that.

TERRIE: Will the public meeting be an open house or part of the regular council meeting?

JUSTIN: It will most likely be an open house in the gym where we can fit more people.

TERRIE: All of the information can be posted in advance of the meeting.

MAYOR: That is a good idea. I go before the Smithfield City council on September 26th. This has not been preplanned. The Smithfield City council is waiting to hear my request, as I have not talked to them. We have to fulfill our obligations for coverage with either volunteers or by other means.

CHRIS APEDAILE: I have received text messages about the city party and Black & White Days. Send out information that way on this subject as well.

MAYOR: That is certainly something we can do.

AARON TAYLOR: I need some clarification on what our current problem is. I am hearing discipline, dynamics, the number of volunteers, and finances.

MAYOR: Finances will always be a dynamic. We have to be fiscally responsible. Every city has a different budget they deal with.

AARON: What are the other problems?

MAYOR: Daytime coverage was a problem, so we contracted with Smithfield for that service. We don't have people in town to respond during the day.

KATIE WALLENTINE: I don't agree with that. I am here 24/7. I have donated my time on the department for 21 years. Lance Jenkins works in town as well.

DUSTIN: It is easy to pull the log book and see who has responded and when.

KATIE: I am aware of only two calls in the last year that Smithfield responded to where there were not any Richmond fire department members on scene as well. Our response to calls has been better the last ten years, and the last year and a half has been the best we have had. Chief Troy Hooley has an open door policy. Troy has done the best to support us and keep us going. I would have left the department a long time ago if not for Troy. I have been an assistant chief twice and removed twice since I am a woman. I am not going anywhere. We were told our years of service would not be grandfathered in and that hurt us.

PAUL: If we were to contract with Smithfield, they would dictate how people apply and are members. We are aware of all of the department member's certifications and when they expire.

MAYOR: I appreciate Katie's drive and passion.

KATIE: This council has done more for the department than councils have for the last 20 years. We have never had support from the council. I am in charge of public relations for the department. We had some carbon monoxide training and not one person attended. We advertised it heavily. The youth council met before; we did and not one of them stay to our presentation. We have a morale problem. We know we have a problem. Some things have changed, and some things haven't.

MAYOR: This is a dynamic we have to address. I cannot keep our current chief. He won't stay because of the existing dynamic. I will be honest and real with all of you. We have the best chief around, and he cannot trust certain members of the department. That is a very harsh truth. We tried not to address this dynamic last night. Let's be honest; we cannot keep good chiefs. We have had some really good chiefs. Bob Hugo and others were good chiefs.

CHARRI HUGO: This is deja vu all over again. Rumors start flying. This is the same thing that happened with Bob. It is a vicious cycle.

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TUCKER: I have talked to those who have left the department. I appreciate volunteers. Many reasons have been given such as family and time away from home. Many have also said they could not handle the internal politics. I am not sure of how to fix that.

PAUL WHITE: Katie you said you were discriminated against. Was that by the department or the council?

KATIE: My peers.

PAUL WHITE: Lyle was a chief for many years, and I heard nothing but good things about him. I think we were all blindsided when he resigned. I would like to know why you resigned.

LYLE: Some of it was personal, and some of it was department dynamics. The back biting of the department hurt.

CHARRI: Department members would call special meetings to talk about ways to get rid of the chief.

LYLE: Not everyone will agree with the decisions of the chief. I had certain fire department members wanting to do things a certain way. I would agree to their request. When their request was not completed, they would complain behind closed doors about me. Over time it became a real issue.

PAUL WHITE: Are your hands tied, and you cannot get rid of the department members?

MAYOR: It goes back to the numbers scenario. It is hard to get rid of people when very few serve to begin with.

PAUL WHITE: I understand sometimes people will quit. How do you solve this problem? Can the chief fire a volunteer?

MAYOR: I don't know of a more veteran chief than our chief. It is what he has done his entire life. I have been to 14 fire-related meetings over the last two years. I knew this day was coming at some point. We want to control our future. I have not been to one meeting where Chief Hooley is not mentioned, commended for what he is doing, or more respected. He is ready to resign but has not yet done so. The only reason he has not resigned is because I personally asked him to stay on. Troy is the backbone of the department. He knows the system. He knows how things work. He is an asset to the department. I have seen the information passed back and forth between members of the department, and it is not right. I won't go into details of what has been said. Volunteers can be fired, but it is hard to fire someone when the numbers are low.

CHARRI: Try firing a volunteer in a city of this size. It does not work.

LYLE: The chief knows there is a problem. The department needs members even if they don't respect the chief. The chief need bodies on scene when the time comes.

CHARRI: You need to be able to trust every department member with your life. Then the department members have meetings about the chief. How can you trust people when they are meeting secretly behind your back?

The chief is not perfect. If one person becomes unhappy, they work to get rid of the chief.

DELL KECK: I have lived in the city for almost ten years. I am usually aware of what is happening around me. I was not aware of this crisis. We need to raise public awareness.

TERRIE: It is mentioned quarterly in the newsletter.

PAUL WHITE: None of the residents realized we are at the point of losing the department.

MAYOR: We were not going to have this discussion tonight about internal issues and personnel. It was not going to be part of this meeting. People want to serve and cannot. It is an impossible scenario, and we want to be respectful. Volunteer issues are hard. I told the council before the meeting I was not sure how to address this specific issue. I appreciate the passion of everyone here this evening. I talked to Chief Hooley about joining the department for three years before he joined when he was working for the Logan City Fire Department. Volunteering is hard, and Troy has said that from day one. Troy was concerned about the dynamic of the department from day one. We needed a good chief. I have talked to him multiple times today. I am the one who asked him to serve. Troy and his family are being attacked. Some of the current department members are being attacked. I don't know of any other city or town willing to have this conversation.

STONY TANNER: Are all options still on the table?

MAYOR: All reasonable options will be considered.

STONY: I served on the department for 11 years. The culture changes itself. We have to change the culture. It is hard to serve as a volunteer. If a volunteer is not valued, they will not serve. We have lost the spirit of what it means to be a volunteer. Nothing will change until the culture changes.

MAYOR: This has been a good discussion. We respect those who have come tonight. We understand you want what is best for the community. There are many smart people in the audience. We need to put something together that is good. Chief Hooley had a family emergency tonight, and my comments were in no way to disrespect him. Right now, the proposal is I am going to ask Smithfield to consider additional coverage. I will talk to the county and see if there is anything they can offer. After information is gathered we will have another city meeting. We will sit down and talk about this and come up with a plan. We need to have an open dialogue. We need to address these problems and not pretend they do not exist. I propose we become a town of action. I don't have a date yet of when the future public meeting will be held. We will make sure notice is given well in advance.

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KATIE: We have had members of the department in the past working for local businesses, and they were allowed to respond to calls. I hope that can happen again.

MAYOR: It is difficult when a person is a volunteer. Chris Ross did a great job when he was allowed to respond while at work. Changes were made at his work, and he is no longer allowed to respond. It is hard to make demands on volunteers. We have a limited amount of volunteers. Right now, we don't know what the best option is for the city.

SARA GILBERT: Is there a response time problem?

MAYOR: No.

PAUL: We pulled the numbers, and the difference between when Richmond responds and when Smithfield responds in the city is about one minute. Smithfield has a smaller fluctuation in response times overall, but Richmond is typically a minute quicker to respond.

TRINADEE ABEL: I have been on the department for 18 years. I live in Smithfield. I love this town. The department members are like my family. My biggest fear is we will lose our current members. We have all been on the department for ten or more years. We have history. Many of our family members have served. I hate the discussion about the dynamic of the department. It is not completely true. Yes, it does happen sometimes. I hope we can find a way to discuss issues in the future and not behind someone's back. It has been a problem forever. I have seen it happen for 18 years. We are not jerks, and we do get along. I trust my life to all of the members in the department. I have four young kids, and I still participate. We are not jerks. After this meeting, everyone thinks we are jerks. Yes, there is backbiting. We are just passionate about what we do.

PAUL: It might be too late to resolve the backbiting issue.

MAYOR: Everyone needs to be represented, so thank you for your comments.

JOHN APEDAILE: I think you should set a date now for the future public meeting.

MAYOR: I don't know if Smithfield will even have an interest, and I cannot put a timeline on something at this point. We are looking at doing something that has never been done before. We were the first to admit we could not handle daytime coverage, and we addressed it. We will look and see if we can plan something in conjunction with the November or December council meeting. We won't be able to put something together in one month. We have a building and assets to consider. Some other cities have nothing. Hyde Park and Providence don't have anything; they just pay a fee for service. We have to discuss everything. I can throw out a date, but that is not respectful to Smithfield. We have not approached them. I am going to ask them to consider expanding our current agreement. I will have a date to propose at the next council meeting. We will give ample notice.

DUSTIN: Are the only options: Smithfield or the county?

MAYOR: The county is not really an option.

AARON: How many more volunteers are needed?

MAYOR: Right now we have about five to seven who participate regularly. Lewiston has 20 to 25, and they have a smaller population.

DUSTIN: It sounds like our benchmark is around 20.

PAUL: We cannot bring in new volunteers until we resolve our internal problems.

MAYOR: It is hard to volunteer time. It takes 150 hours to obtain the first EMT certification. This requires training three nights per week, four hours per night for a couple of months. Plus the department member needs to attend at least 70% of the regular training drills. It is hard to do. You cannot just show up, throw on a fire hat, and think you are good to go.

BECKY: What is the cost analysis of having our own department with full-time employees?

MAYOR: We would need at least four full-time employees as well as eight active volunteers. The county estimated the cost of the four employees would be a minimum of \$200,000 per year.

JUSTIN: Right now we are paying \$5,422 for daytime coverage per fiscal year to Smithfield City.

MAYOR: What we are currently doing is not sustainable long term. Full-time coverage is much different than part-time or daytime coverage. I don't know that we will save money by making an agreement with Smithfield. We need to do what is best for the city, and we already know what our current budget is. I think we have underfunded the department in the past. I appreciate everyone attending this evening. The hardest thing I have to do when it comes to city issues is dealing with my wife, Breanne, after she sees all the things that are posted online. This is real. I was frustrated today. We cannot lose who we are as a community. If you see something that is happening in the community that is wrong, let us know. Contact us with questions. We want to make informed decisions. Let us know how we can communicate better with the residents. Council members and mayors will come and go. Those of you in attendance will fill our seats. I will be sitting out there to critique what you are doing in behalf of the city. You need to understand this council is committed to doing what is right. Every council member I have served with for 10 years

has been committed. Mayor Hall was committed. We are trying to understand the problems and do the best we can to resolve them.

KATIE: Tomorrow, are we operating the department like normal?

MAYOR: Yes.

****The council meeting was temporarily adjourned at 8:47 P.M for a short break.****

****The council meeting was reconvened at 9:01 P.M.****

CITY MANAGER REPORT

JEREMY: Two culinary water leaks have been repaired. Both of the leaks were the same type of problem. The asphalt had to be cut at the 470 South leak.

PAUL: Which home was this in front of?

JEREMY: I don't know the name but it was 470 South 65 West. The city found the leak, not the homeowner.

PAUL: We have made three repairs in two years in that area at different locations.

JEREMY: We replaced the entire service line. The old line was galvanized pipe, and the new line is poly.

PAUL: The infrastructure in that area was installed around 1965.

JEREMY: Almost all of the service lines in that area have been replaced.

PAUL: Have you had a chance to review the storm drain box on 300 East?

JEREMY: Not yet, but I will.

MAYOR: What about the fire hydrant issue at Lower's Foods?

JEREMY: I am working with Brian Webb and Lower's on that issue. We don't know if the leak is a city issue or a Lower's issue. We are going to make a joint effort to dig up the area and make the repair. I have talked with Mr. Lower, and we agreed to do this as a joint project since there are some unknowns about the leak.

PAUL: Jeremy, what were your thoughts on the Utah League of Cities and Towns meetings?

JEREMY: It was good training. Utah and Idaho do some things differently, so it is nice to have training on what is allowed and not allowed in Utah.

PAUL: Accessory dwelling units was my favorite topic. The cost of living is rising everywhere. Accessory dwelling units have typically been frowned upon in this state. They use existing connections and are either attached to an existing home or placed behind an existing home. It creates a higher density in the area. There is a growing demand. People are already doing it in other areas of the state. City councils in other areas are considering ordinances of how to deal with this issue. There is a demand right now. They are typically 700 to 1,000 square feet. They usually don't have a garage or additional parking than the existing parking area. They provide life cycle housing. This is something we will have to discuss in the future. We need to consider high density in a few areas in the city.

JEREMY: I think you already started this process when the five acre minimum rezone requirement was removed.

CHRIS: We had one recent inquiry.

JEREMY: People will build a garage and then add a loft and then convert the loft into an apartment, and the city does not know about it.

PAUL: We have two options. Control it or turn our back on it. It is a way to provide additional housing with minimal impact to the city. I can see it would be a can of worms to deal with, but it was a fascinating discussion.

MAYOR: Growth is coming to our city where we have a highway running through the city. There is not as much growth in other local cities that are not on the main highway.

TUCKER: In our planning commission meeting this month, we talked about flag lots. They would help with blight and intrablock development. I still need to be convinced they are a good idea. The commission also talked about adding a more dense zoning classification.

PAUL: We need to review setbacks on sheds as well.

JEREMY: The city staff is finally getting some time to work on the little projects which have been accumulating this summer.

PAUL: We are going to chip seal the back of the fire station and do some road work to the parking lot at the MBR plant this year as well.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW WITH DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS AS NECESSARY

JUSTIN: The audit was originally scheduled to start next week, but they called and asked if they could move it up a week, so we started yesterday. The audit will be presented to the council at the November council meeting. The fire department received revenue of \$3,106. This is from the fire department helping out at the Cherry Peak Ski Resort summer concerts. This was for two concerts the department helped with. I have started to track separately the fees we pay for allowing people to use credit and debit cards to pay for utility bills, court citations, and other items. For the first two months of the fiscal year, we paid \$2,463 in fees for this service. Jeremy is working with the software provider on getting the new online bill pay system set up. I hope to introduce it to the residents in December. Some council members and a couple of residents have agreed to test the system for a month before we introduce it to the entire city. The Black & White Days committee and the city received a RAPZ tax grant last year for repairs to the Black & White Days building. The roof portion of the project has been completed in the amount of \$28,900 and I will submit a reimbursement request for those funds. The county has been paid for the fiscal year for animal control and police protection. We pay \$9,600 for animal control and \$30,060 for police protection for the year. This is the best contract we have. We could not even purchase a car for what we pay them for the entire year. The mini excavator arrived in July. We trade it in for a new one every other year just like the backhoe. The replacement cost was \$7,000. So far this fiscal year, we have spent \$80,411 in Class "C" Road funds. We finished up last year with a surplus in this fund, and I am working with Paul and Jeremy on some additional projects for this year which we can complete. The city made the annual payment of \$10,000 to the Cub River Sports fund. Lewiston City has also paid their \$10,000 amount as well. Last year was the first year in a long time we have not had to put in additional funds at the end of the year. Normally, we each contribute \$10,000 at the start of the fiscal year and then finalize the amount at yearend, but this year we were to the good in that we spent less than we contributed.

PAUL: Don't we have some RAPZ tax funding for the parking lot at Cub River? We could chip seal the entire parking lot.

JUSTIN: Mayor Young has been working with Mayor Field from Lewiston and Casper's Ice Cream on this project.

MAYOR: There will be some changes to the entrance of the parking lot when this project is completed. We also have to figure out a way to keep people from parking on the main road. There are no parking signs, but they are not obeyed.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

PAUL: How did the city party go? I was not able to attend as I was out of town.

MAYOR: I thought it was great. I want to thank everyone who was involved.

CHERYL: The Family Place will be doing a presentation this Thursday at the library.

MAYOR: It was mentioned during the property tax public hearing that the city should get rid of the city party and Black & White Days and save the money. I disagree with those wanting to get rid of it. We get together as a community. This is who we are and what we do. Lower Food's is amazing in what they donate for the city party.

CHERYL: The corn was really good this year as well.

MAYOR: It was purchased locally and worked out well. It was nice to have the large dumpsters moved down to the park as that worked out well when we were cleaning up after the party was over.

MAYOR'S REPORT

MAYOR: Our next council meeting will be on October 16th.

TUCKER: I hope to be able to attend that meeting, but I might be out of town that night.

A motion to adjourn and pay bills was made by Paul, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts

No Vote: None

Adjournment at 9:29 P.M.

RICHMOND CITY CORPORATION

Jeffrey D. Young, Mayor

ATTEST:

Justin B. Lewis, City Recorder