

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 15, 2019

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, January 15, 2019. The meeting began at 7:00 P.M.; Mayor Jeffrey Young was in the Chair. The opening remarks were made by Lyle Bair.

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

City Administrator Jeremy Kimpton, City Engineer Darek Kimball, City Recorder Justin Lewis, and City Treasurer Christine Purser were also in attendance.

VISITORS: Katie Wallentine, Marie Lundgreen, Allen Lundgreen, TrinaDee Abel, Loren Jones, Terri White, Marvin White, Terrie Wierenga, Lora Smith, Jeff Jenkins, Karen Jenkins, Shiloh Peck, Robert Poyner, Cache Christensen, Shawn Nye, Garrett Mortensen, Sara Gilbert, Derk Gilbert, Cache County Fire Chief Rod Hammer, Smithfield Fire Chief Jay Downs, Robert Pitcher, Amy Jensen, Ron Natali, Coltin Larsen, Troy Hooley, Chris Ross, Lance Jenkins, Lance Kingston

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 18, 2018

PAUL: I will abstain from voting since I was not at the meeting.

A motion to approve the December 18, 2018, City Council meeting minutes was made by Lyle, seconded by Kelly, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts

No Vote: None

Abstain: Erickson

BUSINESS LICENSE REQUESTS

PRETTY INK, LLC

CACHE CHRISTENSEN: This is my spouse's business. We do marketing, photography, and graphic design. We mainly work for commercial clients.

KELLY: They did the billboards for Black & White Days last year.

CACHE: Lower Foods and Camp Chef are our two biggest clients. We do some family photos as well.

PAUL: Any noise-related issues with this business?

CACHE: No.

PAUL: Any foot traffic coming to your house?

CACHE: On occasion we might have someone come for a consultation.

A motion to approve the business license request for Pretty Ink, LLC was made by Paul, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

ILLUME INTEGRATION & WELLNESS, LLC

CACHE CHRISTENSEN: This business does crossinology brain integration. We help clients with ADHD, dyslexia, and other learning disorders. I used to be a counselor for the State of Utah in Ogden. I received good results for myself with this technique. I have done this for a few years. I did my training in 2014 and 2015. I work with one or two clients a week. I had an office in Logan. We are remodeling the basement of our home for an office

and to have an outside entrance doorway to the basement. This would be a secondary access on the side of the house to get to the office.

TUCKER: Do you work with one person at a time or a group?

CACHE: Just one at a time. I usually work with a client for eight to twelve hours. Usually, the time is split over two or three sessions.

A motion to approve the business license request for Illume Integration & Wellness, LLC was made by Tucker, seconded by Lyle, and the vote was unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

MAGPIE METAL SALES

SHILOH PECK: We do metal work for both interior and exterior projects. Over the course of the next year, we are going to build a new building in Logan. Right now, this license is needed, so we can operate until we build our new building.

LYLE: You are storing your materials in Smithfield?

SHILOH: The materials are either on the jobsite or where we do the fabrication work in Smithfield. There would be nothing evasive happening in Richmond. Long-term, we will move our equipment from Smithfield to Logan. All of our work is construction-related.

CHERYL: I need to disclose Shiloh is a family member.

PAUL: Any trucks or materials being stored in Richmond?

SHILOH: No, everything will go directly to Smithfield or the jobsite. We won't have any traffic at the house for this business.

A motion to approve the business license request for Magpie Metal Sales was made by Lyle, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

ALP TOOLS

LOREN JONES: I am here this evening representing Aaron Page. Aaron has purchased a Matco franchise. The area of operation will be Logan to Tremonton. Aaron lives in town. We are currently looking for a place to park the tool truck in the Brigham City area. Aaron lives here but will mainly be working in that area.

PAUL: What is your relationship to the applicant?

LOREN: He lives in the same house, and I am training him for this job.

MAYOR: When will the business open?

LOREN: In about eleven days when Aaron gets back from Ohio.

PAUL: Is the tool truck at your house?

LOREN: Yes, right now, it is at the house.

MAYOR: Is it parked in the driveway or in the city right-of-way?

LOREN: In the driveway.

LYLE: Will there be deliveries to the house?

LOREN: We did have one large shipment already. There might be a toolbox on occasion. Items are mainly picked up from the shipping terminal in Logan or in Ogden at the outlet.

A motion to approve the business license request for ALP Tools was made by Paul, seconded by Kelly, and the vote is unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON APPOINTING RON NATALI AS TRUSTEE REPRESENTING RICHMOND CITY ON THE CACHE VALLEY TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

RON NATALI: My responsibility on the board is I am the Chairman of Public Engagement and Policy. The board works on interfacing with the public, as well as holding the general manager accountable for running the operation. We are in the process of implementing some new policies. We will be working on how the board will manage itself in the future. In 2019, we are working to interface with communities on special events such as Black & White Days. We want to figure out how to get people to the city for a citywide event. We have to review how the bus route will change during the event. We are considering doing a dedicated bus or bus route for the city celebration. Hyrum asked for our help last year, but we did not have enough time to prepare. This year, we want to work with all local communities. Hyrum wanted help getting people to their Live Nativity activity. We cannot compete with private industry. Our goal is to figure out how to get people from Point "A" to Point "B". An additional evening stop is going to be added to the service in Richmond. Those working later in the day will now have an additional time they can use. Ridership is down. I attended a meeting where CVTD and representatives from Saint George, Cedar City, Park City, Uintah Basin, and UTA (Utah Transit Authority) were in attendance. Each area is having the same problem with ridership going down. Ridership is declining everywhere. We need to figure out what we can do better. We are starting to look at transit in a different way: Not only how do we get people from Point "A" to Point "B", but maybe we can help get them to the bus stop with a bicycle. How can we provide what is best for the community? The goal is to get people from cars into the buses. Elderly and others need assistance. Air quality will improve with fewer cars on the road. The para-transit system is done according to ADA policy. The policy states the person must be within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile diameter of the bus stop. If the person is at 0.8 miles, we cannot help them. With some changes, we are now able to service complete city limits. There is an application process a person must go through. Overall, we are doing well but want to improve. Residents are always making requests for us to review and look at different things. A recent concern was a bus driver was arriving at a stop too early and departing before the designated departure time. We will check into it. Please call me with questions or problems anytime.

TUCKER: What is the largest age group or demographic who use the bus system?

RON: Utah State University students are the biggest users of the system. In fact, the university puts it in their literature information on the system. It is fare free, and the students can use it. This is a big selling point to some students. There was a recent public hearing about the system being fare free. Some students attended and said one of the reasons they are here is because of the fare free transit system. We work hand in hand with the Aggie Shuttle. We are asked why we don't take over the Aggie Shuttle service. Right now, it is best we work together because of regulatory issues. Aggie Shuttle abides by Utah State University rules, and CVTD abides by FDA and public transit requirements.

PAUL: Thoughts on why ridership is going down?

RON: When gasoline goes to \$3.50 or above per gallon, ridership increases. When the price of gasoline is down, ridership is low. We would like to see a public transit system from here to Salt Lake City. Right now, there is not anything from Logan City to Brigham City. The timeframe to get there also must be considered. Right now, a car can get there in two hours. A bus connection would take much longer. UTA is considering in the next few years expanding to Brigham City.

MAYOR: Ron, thank you for being involved in behalf of the city.

CHERYL: Especially where it is a volunteer position.

MAYOR: Remind us of how the board functions.

RON: My vote is worth $\frac{1}{4}$ of a vote. Richmond, Lewiston, Smithfield, and Hyde Park are one total vote. The votes are based on the number of service miles in the system in each city. Logan City has eight votes. There are 19 board members. We have some very frank discussions even though we are a large board. The service miles are updated about every 10 years, and the votes adjusted at that time if needed. There are 16 trips to Richmond per day or very close to it.

MAYOR: I have met with Ron several times to better understand how CVTD works. The city is quite spread out. I am glad they review how the transit system can help the city. Thank you for being involved. You have helped the city. We are glad we have someone engaged on the board. We are better off as a city when our board member is engaged and participating. We will be voting tonight to appoint you to another four-year term.

TUCKER: Are you willing and wanting to serve another term?

RON: Yes.

PAUL: We are grateful to have you serve.

RON: So you are aware, we are paid \$50 per month less payroll tax.

A motion to appoint Ron Natali as a Trustee representing Richmond City Corporation on the Cache Valley Transit District Board of Trustees was made by Paul, seconded by Tucker, and the vote was unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN RICHMOND CITY CORPORATION AND SMITHFIELD CITY CORPORATION FOR CONTINUOUS FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES.

MAYOR: This is a continuation of the discussion we had a few months ago. This is going to be an open discussion about where we are at with the Richmond Fire Department. I had mixed feelings after our initial meeting a few months ago. It was a hard discussion. It is hard to discuss where we are at and where we are going. The discussion for tonight is where do we go with the fire department now. I have been involved as a council member or mayor for 12 years. This issue has been discussed for 12 years. The situation has been survivable in the past. The council has recognized we have a small number of volunteers. Most of us in the community take for granted those who are serving. Some people have not been able to go on vacation because of our lack of numbers to respond. It is very stressful for those involved. After the meeting in September, a committee was appointed to oversee the department. The committee consists of Lyle, Troy Hooley, and myself. We have been working with the fire department. Let's talk about where we are at and some options. I would ask all of the fire department members in attendance to please stand. I believe there are eight of you in attendance. After the last meeting there was a lot of emotion. There was a big discussion about not having enough volunteers in the department. We met with the members of the fire department the following Thursday after the council meeting. At the council meeting, there were around 40 people in attendance who were concerned. How many people attended the fire meeting after there was a call for more volunteers? Just those who are attending this evening. I appreciate every one of them after working through the emotion and reality of what is being considered. We need to get more volunteers. The same group of volunteers has been doing this job for years and some even for decades. The firm reality of where we are at was set after the council meeting. There were no new volunteers. I was not mad people are not willing to volunteer. The council has recognized we need to be very respectful for those who are volunteering for our department. It is a disservice to them for us not getting any better. At our fire department meetings, we laid out where we are at and where we are going. An assignment was given to come up with options. Everyone participated in that discussion. The discussion led us to consider working with Smithfield. I want to be very clear on something. I went to the Smithfield City council and asked for permission to explore options for fire coverage with their fire chief. All of the issues posted online were discussed and addressed with our group. One of the main comments was: What happens to our department? It was discussed. I point blank asked members of our department at our last meeting if they were okay proceeding to work out an agreement with Smithfield. Not one person in that meeting said to stay where we are at and keep doing what we are doing. We need to do something. I have invited Smithfield City Fire Chief Jay Downs to attend this evening. We are considering a short-term agreement. How his department would act with our department was considered. We don't have to take questions tonight from the public, as it is not a public hearing, but it is very important to discuss this, and we will be taking questions. Jay is Smithfield's Fire Chief and Smithfield would oversee our department. Our department would fall under their direction. Our department is not closing. The volunteers and the equipment are not going away. We keep all of our assets and the building. This agreement is for additional assistance and support. Those who want to volunteer in the city can still do it. There will be greater latitude to participate as much or as little as someone wants because we will have additional coverage from Smithfield. Jay is going to provide an overview of the agreement.

FIRE CHIEF JAY DOWNS: I need to address some of the ramifications of the contract. There are two laws. There is fire law and there is EMS law. They are different. EMS law is from the State of Utah. Fire law states a city must provide adequate fire protection to the community. There are two ways to provide fire protection. Do it yourself, or contract with another agency. Your city code addresses how the fire department works in Section 3-000. Fire code is administered as adopted by the State of Utah. The operation of the department falls under your ordinance. There are specific fire rules for investigations, maintenance, and code enforcement. Most cities have similar ordinances. The fire chief is responsible to determine the cause and origin of any fire. If arson is suspected, law enforcement becomes involved. EMS is different. Certain criteria must be met. EMS designation comes from the State Bureau of EMS. There are first responders in town. They operate as a designated unit. The contract requires volunteers to be trained and certified. Administrative items for both fire and EMS are part of the contract. This is not a new contract

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for Smithfield. Smithfield provides coverage to Hyde Park and Amalga. The difference being you have a fire department, and neither of those two cities do. We will utilize your volunteers and equipment. We will work together. If the contract is approved, you will get response from Smithfield as well as from your Richmond volunteers. It will be an integrated system. We would do all of the training for your volunteers with our officers. Training would happen here in the city. On occasion, we would all get together and train at the same time as one group. The equipment will be standardized. Meaning the equipment will be in the same place on both fire engines for consistency purposes. We will utilize your brush truck, engine, and tender. We will work with your staff, so we all know what is needed and where it is located. Richmond will maintain and own the existing equipment.

PAUL: Richmond City will own the equipment and pay maintenance and repair costs? Who pays for the calls, drills, and training?

JAY: Richmond will pay for maintenance and repair of your equipment. Pay for calls, drills, and training will be paid by Smithfield. We will work on grants for Richmond City as well.

TUCKER: How does it work for new volunteers from the city in the future?

JAY: There is a recruitment and testing process. Basically, we have to make sure the person can handle the physical capabilities of the job. The test is just general knowledge. After new volunteer orientation, we work on getting the volunteer certified. We currently have volunteers stationed in different cities outside of Smithfield. Richmond will still be the home base for your volunteers.

MAYOR: This agreement can be changed or modified if needed. I would like to read the entire agreement so everyone in attendance knows what we are discussing.

Mayor Young read the entire proposed Agreement for Fire Protection Services.

MAYOR: Smithfield has their own pay scale for their volunteers. They are all paid the same no matter which city they serve from. Certifications of our volunteers will transfer across to the Smithfield department. Jay will be the chief over our department. Our volunteers will train here and be here in the city. Smithfield has video equipment they use for training purposes. I would propose we install the same setup in our fire station, so our volunteers can train from here with their department.

KATIE WALLENTE: If members of our city submit applications, will they be forwarded to Jay?

MAYOR: Yes.

KATIE: Richmond is still in charge of the maintenance and repair of the equipment. You haven't mentioned anything in regards to the council involvement moving forward.

MAYOR: The council can cancel the contract. The city is turning over the administrative portion of the department to Smithfield.

KATIE: Will the current department members still have access to our buildings and records?

MAYOR: Yes.

KATIE: Right now we do not have access to our equipment in the quonset building.

MAYOR: The locks in the city buildings were changed after the break-in, and that building was missed. We need to replace the lock, so they all match, and you have access. With a fob system, we can limit access or grant access where needed. You will still have access to the building.

KATIE: You mentioned there is no other option at this point. Our hands have been tied as a department. We were not allowed to do recruiting or drills. You stopped it.

MAYOR: I agree with some of what you have said but not all of it.

KATIE: I made you aware in November of someone moving into the city who was willing to serve.

MAYOR: I was very open with the department no new members would be accepted until we figured out what we were doing. We have an application which has been submitted. They will be considered once we decide what we are doing. We do not want to stop anyone from volunteering.

KATIE: We could not have drills as well.

MAYOR: So, is the consensus of the entire department we blocked recruiting?

KATIE: Yes.

MAYOR: From a leadership standpoint, have we now addressed your concerns?

KATIE: I am not saying this discussion would be different if we had done some recruiting or drills to show people what we do.

MAYOR: How long does it take to get certified?

KATIE: Three months for an EMT.

MAYOR: There is some upcoming training for those who want to serve.

JAY: The next session starts next week and then again in the fall.

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KATIE: Without us being able to do drills, we could not show people what we do.

MAYOR: I am aware of only two people who submitted applications. Is that correct?

KATIE: I am not aware of how many applications were actually submitted, but I have talked to a lot of people.

MAYOR: It sounds like we have two applications, and one other person willing to submit an application.

TERRIE WIERENGA: Will there still be a city council member over fire who answers questions and deals with complaints?

MAYOR: Yes. Lyle will still be over the fire department and work with Jay.

PAUL: We will no longer have a fire chief in Richmond.

TERRIE: Will there still be a quarterly report to the city council from the fire department?

MAYOR: Jay and his staff will do what we request.

JAY: I can meet as needed.

SARA GILBERT: Is Smithfield a volunteer fire department?

JAY: It is a combination of full-time and part-time employees, as well as volunteers.

SARA: Why such a large department?

JAY: The Cache County Ambulance system for the north end of the valley is based out of the Smithfield Fire Station. We have full-time staff which man the station round the clock. Right now, there are 11 full-time employees, 23 part-time employees, and 36 volunteers. We also staff two department members in Hyrum to oversee ambulance service for the south end of the valley. Our department also oversees transfers for the local hospitals.

SARA: So, your department has full-time employees working every day?

JAY: Yes.

SARA: How can one department cover such a big area, be efficient, and offer lifesaving service? Why not work with the county instead? It seems like something universal is needed. I am aware of volunteer issues across the country.

JAY: Each city is responsible for their own fire coverage. Each city would have to contract with the county for universal coverage.

MAYOR: The State of Utah requires us to be city-based at this time.

ROD HAMMER: The city could contract with the county.

JAY: For ambulance service, the county contracted with Smithfield for services for both the north and south end of the valley. County funds are used to help pay for ambulance service. County fire is separate from the county ambulance service. The EMS system is set up where the call volume is. Approximately 90% of the calls in our area are in the Smithfield and Hyde Park area. In the south end of the valley, around 60-70% of the calls are in Hyrum, then Wellsville and Millville. The ambulances are placed where the call volume is. North of Smithfield including Richmond is about 3-4% of the calls. About 6% of the calls are the rest of the north end of the valley. Only about 9% of the north end calls are north of Smithfield.

SARA: In the contract it says "when possible" and "when they can". If there is an accident in Smithfield, will you still respond here if there is a call?

JAY: The system is built for depth. Right now, we can handle two to three calls at the same time, and then the mutual aid contract kicks in. There are two ambulances based out of Smithfield. Our backup comes from North Logan and Logan.

PAUL: Please tell everyone what CCEMS stands for.

JAY: Cache County Emergency Medical Services.

SARA: With both departments working together, how are you going to deal with communication?

JAY: There are two ways: by pager and by a text message system. New technology tells us who is responding. There will be a battalion chief in charge of your department and city. Bob Pitcher would be assigned to Richmond. He will answer questions, work with your staff and council, as well as myself.

SARA: Will our volunteers be required to go to Smithfield or elsewhere?

JAY: When people are on-call, they need to physically be in the city they are on-call for. They do not have to be at the fire station. In Smithfield, we have volunteers who will come and stay at the station if they live out of town, but that is their choice. They can stay at home or at the station if they choose to.

LYLE: If none of our staff is available during an on-call period, would you station someone here?

JAY: That would be our goal.

SARA: The contract is based on population. How is it economical to go from a \$15,000 budget to a \$60,000 budget?

LYLE: Our current fire department budget is around \$72,000.

PAUL: Based on our current population, the contract would cost the city approximately \$51,000 per fiscal year.

SARA: The money Richmond pays, will it strictly be used to pay for our coverage and training, or does it go into a giant pool?

JAY: The budgetary funds we have go into the entire system for staffing, response, and training.

MAYOR: They would train our current applicants as part of the contract.

JAY: We can expand our staff now we are serving a bigger area.

MAYOR: Remember one of the reasons we are at this point. We have a leadership issue. We have not been able to keep a chief. The last four fire chiefs have quit or resigned, at least the last four. We are not naïve about the leadership structure of bringing in a different city to take over. We understand the concern. There will be some nervousness. The question will be are we at the bottom of the food chain, and how do we fit in? Lance Jenkins, I want you to come to the podium. You are working for Smithfield on a part-time basis. How is it? This is a tough dynamic, and we want you to give us your take where you work for both departments.

LANCE JENKINS: I think overall this agreement works well. We all know Bobby Pitcher. We have spent time with him on calls. We have a job we want to do. The transition to working in their department was good for me. I work on the ambulance. I knew people in their department. They also knew what I was capable of. It is easy to tell who is good and who is not. I think the transition will flow seamlessly.

LYLE: When I was a member of our department, I also worked for CCEMS for three years. I feel the same way Lance does. I do not think this will be a difficult transition.

JAY: I want everyone to know my leadership style. Volunteers can progress as far as they want if they put in the time. We will support them as much as we can. If they want to go all the way up to working on the ambulance, I will support them as much as I can. I am a believer in if you don't do your job, I won't help you. You get what you put into it. I have been a fire chief since 1995. I have worked on the EMS side since 1987. People's lives change. Families grow and change which is to the detriment of volunteerism. A person's time commitment changes over time. We all need to recognize that. This needs to be promoted to the staff. I treat volunteers the same way I treat full-time employees. I do give more responsibility to full-time employees. Volunteers will do equipment maintenance, so they know where items are located on the equipment. I try and give them easier tasks, so they can learn to respond to calls and train.

SARA: Is the council thinking this is a long- or short-term contract? What is the desire of the council? Is this contract temporary? Is this contract the best choice for the city?

PAUL: We can change, update, or cancel the contract at any time.

JAY: There is a 90-day opt-out clause for both cities. If something is not working, then let's change it.

LYLE: The Wasatch Front has changed from individual fire departments to large districts over several decades. This could lead to a district or something else long term.

MAYOR: A volunteer system works if you have enough volunteers in the system. If we get enough volunteers in the system, then we will have options we currently do not have. It will take some convincing for me to think volunteerism will not continue to decrease. I have talked to our department about this. We are facing lower volunteerism yearly. We recognize the history of our department as well. We are not trying to throw something away. That is not the case at all. We will not sit here knowing we have a problem. We are harming our volunteers by not giving them what they need. We cannot stand by because of what we had in the past. You can agree or disagree, but we have to address this situation. We need to move on something rather than sit pat. This is a really hard decision for the community. Is the agreement temporary? Only if it leads to something better. We are located on the highway and growing as a community. We need to be better moving forward.

KAREN JENKINS: I was on the department for a long time over a decade ago. I am a mother and wife of members of this department. This group has helped carry this department. This agreement keeps them safer. This problem has been going on for a long time. When I was on the department, I remember going to an EMT call all by myself. I have been off the department for about 17 years. I agree with the mayor this is a problem. This agreement makes me feel better. I want to see them going back to drills.

ROBERT PITCHER: I am a battalion chief. I have been a firefighter for 15 years. I am a third generation firefighter. I understand the tradition and emotion involved with the department. I have worked for five different fire chiefs and three different fire departments. They are all the same and have full-time employees as well as volunteers. The chief supports us. I work for Salt Lake County. There are 26 fire stations and over 400 firefighters. We do things the same way there we will do here. This is still your department. We want to provide service with the proper attitude and respect to your staff. First responders will be on the trucks when they go out. There will be secondary response from Smithfield. We need each other. We need one system to work together. We don't want you to be afraid of losing your identity. We want people to be proud of your department.

PAUL: In Item 7, the word "proceeding" needs to be replaced with "preceding".

KELLY: On Item 6 it should start "And" not "As and".

CHERYL: What other options do we have if we do not approve this contract?

TRINADEE ABEL: Nothing. I just want to go back to work and do the job I have been trained to do.

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CHERYL: And, we want you to be able to do it.

TRINADEE: Please get us back to work.

A motion to approve the Agreement for Fire Protection Service between Richmond City Corporation and Smithfield City Corporation was made by Paul, seconded by Tucker and the vote was unanimous.

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

No Vote: None

MAYOR: I want to thank everyone for participating. As we continue to face changes, I hope we can circle the wagon and continue to work together. I appreciate all of us being respectful. Thank you for being involved.

JAY: The Smithfield City Council still has to review and approve the contract. Until approved, the old contract will still be followed. The Smithfield City Council will review the new agreement in February. If it is okay with the city council, I would like to start working with your staff.

MAYOR: Yes, that would be great.

JAY: Your fire committee stays in place until the contract is approved by Smithfield City.

SARA: When will drills start?

JAY: We will set up a night where Bobby can meet with your staff and all of those details can be worked out.

PUBLIC HEARING, NO SOONER THAN 7:30 P.M., FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING ORDINANCE 2019-1, AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING AND UPDATING TITLE 12-000, CHAPTER 12-602 (PARKING SPACE FOR BUILDINGS OR USES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS), SECTION (E).

MAYOR: The council has previously discussed the proposed ordinance. The planning commission has reviewed as well.

TUCKER: The planning commission reviewed the ordinance earlier this month and recommended approval of the ordinance. The concerns of the commissioners were the same as the council. A lot of what-if scenarios were presented. After discussion, they felt the ordinance is appropriate at one parking stall for 100 square feet of restaurant space and one parking stall for 200 square feet of larger building space.

PAUL: Is this ordinance similar to other local cities?

MAYOR: If it is approved. Right now, our current ordinance is not close to what other cities are doing.

PAUL: Which cities did we review and compare?

JEREMY: Smithfield, Tremonton, Preston, and Logan. The intent of the staff was to find a happy medium of the surrounding communities. Some are more restrictive and some are less restrictive than the proposed ordinance. Aerials and maps of other cities were reviewed. The planning commission did not recommend any changes to the proposed ordinance.

MAYOR: As written, it would require one parking stall per 100 square feet for restaurants and one parking stall per 200 square feet of floor space for larger buildings.

CHERYL: Is this just addressing restaurants or all retail stores?

MAYOR: This is specific and does not include all types of businesses.

CHERYL: Where are the other types of buildings listed?

MAYOR: In a different section of LUDMO (Land Use, Development & Management).

PAUL: Only this small section of code would be changed.

MAYOR: Other LUDMO issues will be addressed as they are brought to our attention or we notice something that needs to be reviewed. This section of code was reviewed because we were told it was extreme compared to other communities.

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

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

No Vote: None

The public hearing opened at 8:37 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 Cheryl, seconded by Lyle, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts
No Vote: None

The public hearing closed at 8:38 P.M.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON ORDINANCE 2019-1.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-1, an Ordinance modifying and updating Title 12-000, Chapter 12-602 (Parking Space for Buildings or uses other than Dwellings), Section (E) was made by Paul, seconded by Lyle, and the vote was unanimous.

Yes Vote: Erickson, Thatcher, Peck, Bair, Crafts
No Vote: None

DISCUSSION WITH CACHE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF ROD HAMMER.

MAYOR: Chief Hammer from the county has come in this evening. I think after our previous discussion, the next logical step is what is next? I want to provide some background before Chief Hammer speaks. We have now put a plan in place. I will be meeting with the Cache County Fire Board on January 22nd. We will be talking about how we can interact with the county. It is easy to say we all can just work together. I have been working on understanding this dynamic for two years. I met with Rod several times to get clarification on how the fire system works in the valley. It is complicated. We need to look at long-term options. There are opportunities for us and other local communities. Currently, there is not a place or system for us to turn to, and that started the discussion. I have met with Chief Hammer multiple times. Chief Hammer did a study about a year ago. It basically took information from every community in the valley but Logan City and looked at callouts and budgets. It is the first report I am aware of with this information. I appreciate Chief Hammer starting this discussion. Help is needed. Volunteerism is decreasing.

CACHE COUNTY FIRE CHIEF ROD HAMMER: The mission of the fire district is to support volunteer fire departments in the valley. We specifically provide fire coverage for the unincorporated areas of the county. The county has supported the city for at least the last 30 to 40 years with support and equipment. I volunteered for Lewiston City for eleven years and have worked for Cache County for ten years. I don't want to get in the middle of the Richmond and Smithfield contract. The cities can do what they want between each other. I have worked with some of your staff members for 20 years. Your department has done coverage for concerts at the Cherry Peak Ski Resort and for wildfires. We work together well with Smithfield and other local departments. When the study was done a year ago, the genesis of it was because the Richmond Fire Department was being taken out of operation during the day. About 15% of local volunteer firefighters are available during the day. Some cities will do well, and then it decreases, and then it increases over time. As people move in and out, it tends to go up and down. There used to be five or six department members responding to calls during the day. Now, there is just a couple at most. How can we support your department? The county recently approved the hiring of four new firefighters. Smithfield already has great coverage. We would like to place two of them in the Richmond Fire Station. They would work during the daytime hours and be based out of your station. There is no guarantee they would be in your station, as they could be working elsewhere. The response time on calls would be fast if they are here. The new fire engine will be delivered in February to this station. Your current engine will go to another community. We would bring in a brush truck as well. The engine will cost around \$300,000, the brush truck \$80,000, and the two employees will all be paid by the county but still coming to your building. The main concern is the integration of the volunteers and the new full-time staff members. This project has not been promoted, as it was just recently funded. One question is if the two new employees are here, do they immediately respond to a call, or do they wait for the volunteers to arrive. What do we do? We do offer training for volunteers. We don't want to take over your department. We want to promote and train the volunteers as much as possible. So you are aware, my staff will not accept an incident command role. We will assist and help and do what is asked. We won't take over control of a fire. We cannot meet OSHA requirements on this. The two firefighters cannot enter a structure fire until more staff arrives. These two

firefighter positions have been funded by the county, and they can be here in your station. We will need to integrate how this works into your contract. We will be responding countywide with the engine, as well as the brush truck. There is no cost to the city for what we are doing. There would not be a cost to Smithfield as well. We cannot charge the city for the firefighters being here, as they might not be in town. These two firefighters would add to the coverage you already have.

TUCKER: Would we have to make changes to fire station where people will be here during the day?

ROD: We would only be here during daytime hours. Smithfield is different where they have full-time coverage. We just need a place to have lunch.

TUCKER: So we would not have to remodel our building?

ROD: Correct.

MAYOR: I appreciate your coming here and discussing this. I attended the county budget public hearing. The county originally approved four new firefighters. Then, cut it down to two which eliminated the two from the north. Then, went back to four. I have talked to representatives of Hyde Park, Smithfield, Amalga, Richmond, and Trenton. I have told all of them we need to put additional funds into the system to make it work. At the public hearing, I asked the county council to include the two firefighters they cut out from the north. All of the cities in the north end of the valley need to put in additional funding. The community has to decide how much to be involved. We have a unique opportunity to see if we can work together. It is possible to create round the clock coverage in the north end of the valley. I asked Jay to run some numbers for me which included having full-time, part-time, and on-call employees. Based on the numbers I saw: if Richmond included an additional \$15,000 per year and other cities increased their budgets as well, we could make this work. This is a long-term possibility. I will be presenting some information to the county next week. Richmond, Smithfield, Hyde Park, Trenton, and Amalga could consider creating a metro. Where it gets complicated is how the county fire department would fit into this. Jay is over countywide EMS. In Smithfield, EMS is paid 70% by the county and 30% by Smithfield. Rod is 100% Cache County Fire. The State of Utah will not recognize the county overseeing the fire operations of a city. The EMS side is different. CCEMS is licensed. Most people I have talked to want to combine into a countywide fire group. The catch is Rod, Jay, local mayors, and city councils all have to work together. It would be good to take the best we all offer and combine into one. I think it is time to discuss this subject. All of the independent cities need to work together. The county is putting in so much funding it has to work for them and be done right. Most people think we are crazy to even consider this. I have met with Rod and Jay many times to discuss this. I believe these two men are the best at what they do. I don't know all of the answers about combining at this point. We are meeting next Tuesday to discuss how the cities and county can work together. I talked to Jake Johnson and Mayor Field of Lewiston. They do not support having a fire chief over their city that does not live in the city. Rod is trying to help everyone understand what is happening and why. The residents of all of these cities are finally starting to pay attention. We can make something positive out of this. I think the key is in how it is presented. I support trying to work something out.

PAUL: I think the group concept will take some time, and I don't think we are there, yet.

MAYOR: I hope we can do something long-term. The concept will be discussed more on Tuesday with the county.

PAUL: Rod, if the two new firefighters are based out of our fire station, what would they be doing?

ROD: It would be their home base. They would be doing fire prevention and responding to calls. If they are not doing other stuff, they will be at the station.

TUCKER: Will they respond to medical calls?

ROD: I don't expect the two firefighters to be involved in EMS. I think they will only be involved with fire.

PAUL: I am not sure if you are aware, but we are going to provide additional office space to the Cache County Sheriff's Office in this building.

ROD: We could stage out of this building, but we would want them by the equipment, so the fire station is better.

LYLE: Jay, from what you have heard, will we have a crossover problem?

JAY DOWNS: No. We work with county fire and have an agreement in place. There would be an understanding regarding first responders. We had a problem in the south end where volunteers felt they were not needed once full-time staff was put in place, so they didn't go to any more calls. We cannot kill the program by having volunteers leave. We all want to promote the department and have the volunteers responding to all the calls they can. In Hyrum, it became hard to maintain volunteers when the ambulance became staffed with full-time employees.

LYLE: Rod, what hours do you plan the firefighters would be at the station?

ROD: I will be meeting with the fire chiefs in two weeks, and we will discuss Friday coverage. The thought would be either four ten-hour shifts or five eight-hour shifts.

KAREN JENKINS: What happens when volunteers arrive to go on a call and the engine is already gone to the call?

ROD: If the engine is already headed to the scene, they would bring the tender or brush truck.

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KAREN: You mentioned you were hiring two firefighters. Doesn't an engine need three to go on a call?

ROD: Five is best, four is good, three will work, two can get the engine to the scene and the process started. I wanted to hire three, but it was denied.

KAREN: So, you could be leaving four volunteers behind, just so two full-time employees could go.

ROD: Response time is the key.

TUCKER: Is there enough work to keep them busy?

ROD: The balance is between call volume and will volunteers show up for a call. We are not at the call volume threshold. We are having daytime coverage issues. If there is a fire in Trenton, there are always three or four volunteers who respond. Having the two full-time firefighters would provide additional resources earlier for the call as well as additional support. I am ready to make the hires if you approve of my request.

SHAWN NYE: I sell insurance. Will this help our rating?

ROD: I don't think it will because 24-hour fire full-time fire protection is not being offered. The ISO rating won't improve.

JAY: There have been some recent minor changes to the ISO training as well.

LYLE: It would be nice to make the system work correctly for all involved.

MAYOR: We will want you to come back before the council in the future as more information is gathered. We appreciate you bringing us options.

KAREN: Why was the Richmond Fire Station selected for these two firefighters?

ROD: From Richmond, there is direct flow of traffic to Trenton and Lewiston. Going from Lewiston to Smithfield would take longer. Richmond is a more central area north of Smithfield.

KAREN: Have the new firefighters been hired?

ROD: I have reviewed the requirements of the position. I am writing the announcement this week. One requirement will be the new employees will have had to have been volunteer firefighters in the past at a minimum.

KAREN: I have a concern about them all working together.

JAY: We can address all of these questions as this process moves forward.

MAYOR: I am happy we started the discussion tonight.

KATIE WALLENTINE: I am working on the history of the department. I will need to get with city staff members to get a list of volunteers from the past.

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

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

No Vote: None

Adjournment at 9:14 P.M.

RICHMOND CITY CORPORATION

Jeffrey D. Young, Mayor

ATTEST:

Justin B. Lewis, City Recorder