

1 **MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**  
2 **HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY**  
3 **COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED AT 2277 EAST BENGAL BOULEVARD,**  
4 **COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS, UTAH**

5  
6 **Members Present:** Mayor Mike Peterson, Council Member Mike Shelton, Council Member Scott  
7 Bracken, Council Member Tali C. Bruce, Council Member Christine Mikell

8  
9 **Staff Present:** City Manager John Park, Assistant City Manager Bryce Haderlie, City Attorney  
10 W. Shane Topham

11  
12 **Others:** City Recorder Paula Melgar

13  
14 **1.0 WELCOME**

15  
16 1.1 Mayor Mike Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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18 1.2 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bracken.

19  
20 **2.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS**

21  
22 2.1 Robert Jacobs stated in reviewing his property tax statement, he realized that Cottonwood  
23 Heights City directly impacts his life more than the other line items listed and the City's portion  
24 of the budget is relatively small. He expressed his support for the proposed tax increase. He  
25 suggested the City support Salt Lake City with regard to the inland port and was opposed to the  
26 State having confiscated 25% of the City for their own use.

27  
28 2.2 Eric Kraan reported that on September 26, 2017, Brian Berndt presented a PDD idea suggested  
29 by a developer for the expansion of a specific map. The response was favorable, the matter went  
30 through the planning process, and the land use map was expanded. He reported that in January  
31 2018, the same developers requested an amendment to the PDD to change the boundaries. He  
32 stated that the City is responsible for protecting R-1-8 and open space. The guiding principal  
33 suggests looking for funding to purchase properties to maintain the open space. He expressed  
34 his disappointment in the budget and the proposed increase, which is more than originally  
35 proposed. He recommended taking the \$27,000 pickleball budget and using it for snow removal.

36  
37 2.3 Kelley Bollinger, a Mill Hollow resident, reported that she served on the Holladay Cottonwood  
38 Community Council prior to the City's incorporation. The Police Department at that time would  
39 not respond when called as opposed to the current average response time, which is less than five  
40 minutes. She commended the Cottonwood Heights Police Department and felt that Chief Russo  
41 was being thrown under the bus, which creates a hostile environment in the department and  
42 among staff. She suggested the budget be further reviewed.

43  
44 2.4 Val Martin concurred with Ms. Bollinger's statements.

45  
46 2.5 Ed Schwartz felt that the City had lost sight of who they are and commented that with regard to  
47 taxes, the Council could have made modifications slowly over the course of several years. He  
48 was concerned by the sudden dramatic increase. Mr. Schwartz was opposed to paying a City  
49 Attorney as a consultant rather than hiring a full-time City Attorney. He suggested the Council

1 consider what is being proposed in terms of actual budget cuts and what has changed from past  
2 leadership to the present day.

3  
4 2.6 Val Martin reported that he has served as a Chief Fiscal Officer within the Federal Government  
5 for the past 30 years. He believed the City is having difficulty with the budget because they do  
6 not have a CFO. He hoped the City was looking for someone to fill that position.

7  
8 **3.0 ACTION ITEMS**

9  
10 **3.1 Consideration of Ordinance 300 Granting a Telecommunications System Franchise to**  
11 **MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp. dba Verizon Access Transmission**  
12 **Services.**

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14 3.1.1 Mayor Peterson reported that the above Ordinance grants telecommunications systems to  
15 MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corporation for the installation of cable fiber.

16  
17 3.1.2 City Attorney, Shane Topham, reported that the company is an affiliate of Verizon Wireless  
18 and wishes to install a fiber cable line in the City's public right-of-way. They are a public utility  
19 provider for the State and, therefore, the City must allow them to use the right-of-way on the  
20 same basis as other providers. He confirmed that it is for fiber, not antennas, and will service  
21 antennas already installed by other providers.

22  
23 **3.1.3 MOTION:** Council Member Shelton moved to approve Ordinance 300. Council Member  
24 Bruce seconded the motion. Vote on motion: Council Member Shelton–Aye, Council Member  
25 Bracken–Aye, Council Member Mikell–Aye, Council Member Bruce–Aye, Mayor Peterson–  
26 Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

27  
28 **3.2 Consideration of Ordinance 301 Adopting a Proposed Budget for the Period of 1 July**  
29 **2018 through 30 June 2019; Making Appropriations for the Support of Cottonwood**  
30 **Heights for such Period; and Determining the Rate of Tax and Levying Taxes Upon All**  
31 **Real and Personal Property Within the City of Cottonwood Heights, Subject to**  
32 **Subsequent Adoption of a Final Budget and Rate of Tax in Compliance with Truth in**  
33 **Taxation Requirements.**

34  
35 3.2.1 Mayor Peterson reported that the above Ordinance has been a difficult issue the Council has  
36 been working on for several weeks. The previous week the Council commented that they have  
37 a greater responsibility to be more transparent and timely. He explained that there are  
38 extenuating circumstances and they have discussed adopting new ideas and protocols to ensure  
39 more involvement from the Council and more information going out on an annual basis rather  
40 than just during the budget process.

41  
42 3.2.2 Assistant City Manager, Bryce Haderlie, understood the concern constituents have with regard  
43 to the professional nature in which staff prepares the budget. He was willing to take full  
44 responsibility for his actions and not making the budget information more available. The City's  
45 CFO accepted employment elsewhere and in February the City went through the process of  
46 hiring someone new. Unfortunately, the individual who was hired chose to leave after three  
47 weeks. Mr. Haderlie noted that at that point, he was given the responsibility of preparing the  
48 budget. He has eight years' experience as a Budget Officer in another community and he spent  
49 two additional years as a Finance Department Director. While the City's current budget is

1 larger than the one he managed, he felt qualified to handle the demands. He noted that he had  
2 only four weeks to revamp the entire budget. He learned a lot in the process and recognized  
3 that next year they need to begin much earlier and establish expectations early on. Dean  
4 Lundell, the City's prior CFO, continues to counsel staff while they put a team.  
5

6 3.2.3 With regard to the proposed \$1.5 million increase, he reported that two public surveys were  
7 conducted in 2016 and 2017 in an effort to determine where citizens would like to see more  
8 money spent. Mr. Haderlie commented that roads were identified a top priority. Projects were  
9 identified in the budget and a portion of the increase included projects that total just over \$1  
10 million. He pointed out that the Council proposed a 21.9% increase for a total of \$1.5 million.  
11 The previous afternoon, the Council determined that those figures should be modified. After a  
12 lengthy discussion, a decision was made to make a change recognizing that the total amount  
13 remains the same. The Council has the discretion to modify them if so desired the present time.  
14 He explained that adoption of the proposed budget only begins the Truth in Taxation process.  
15 Property tax revenue was reviewed. In 2017-2018, it was reported that the budget included  
16 \$6,899,090 to be collected. This year, the proposed tax increase estimate is \$8,493,000. Mr.  
17 Haderlie confirmed that the budget is available for the public to review and noted that the  
18 Council will need to set a tax rate. They will then work with the State to establish the Truth in  
19 Taxation process.  
20

21 3.2.4 Mayor Peterson felt it was important to note that throughout the process, they have created or  
22 identified deficiencies in the operational budgets and overall, they have reduced the Police  
23 Department budget by over \$300,000. Because the UFA has redefined how the City is charged  
24 through the Interlocal Agreement, the decision was made to reduce the Station 116 four-man  
25 crew to a three-man crew with Station 110 maintaining a four-man crew. He confirmed that  
26 adjustments will continue to be made.  
27

28 3.2.5 Council Member Bracken stated that the citizens' concern about service cuts have been heard.  
29 He explained that there have been personnel reductions throughout the City and in both the  
30 Fire and Police Departments. While he has a difficult time with the reductions, he has relied  
31 on statements by Chiefs Russo and Watson who have indicated that they can still provide the  
32 needed services with the proposed numbers. He believed this was a workable budget and he  
33 hoped the residents will understand the time and effort that has gone into it.  
34

35 3.2.6 Council Member Bruce remarked that she has been criticized for nit picking the City's  
36 spending. She believed that the majority of the citizens want full transparency and  
37 accountability on the part of the Council. As a City, they can and should be held to the same  
38 standard as private industry.  
39

40 3.2.7 Council Member Mikell thanked Mr. Haderlie for stepping in and for his patience. She  
41 commented that going through the budget process has been challenging as there are competing  
42 interests. The Council is committed to meeting monthly to review the budget and spend the  
43 time necessary to ensure that Police and Fire protection services remain a top priority.  
44

45 3.2.8 Mayor Peterson commented that after being in municipal government for 45 years, the most  
46 difficult thing he has experienced is the Truth and Taxation process. He assured those present  
47 that the proposed increase was not a unanimous decision on the part of the Council.  
48

1 **3.2.9 MOTION:** Council Member Bracken moved to approve Ordinance 301. The motion was  
2 seconded by Council Member Shelton. Vote on motion: Council Member Shelton-Aye,  
3 Council Member Bracken-Aye, Council Member Bruce-Aye, Council Member Mikell-Aye,  
4 Mayor Peterson-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.  
5

6 **3.3 Consideration of Resolution 2018-34 Approving an Interlocal Agreement with Salt Lake**  
7 **County for TRCC Funding (Lighting for Butler Middle School Auditorium).**  
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9 3.3.1 Mayor Peterson reported that the above Resolution approves an Interlocal Agreement with Salt  
10 Lake County for TRCC funding, which involves a 50% match for the lighting of the Butlerville  
11 Middle School Auditorium.  
12

13 **3.3.2 MOTION:** Council Member Shelton moved to approve Resolution 2018-34. The motion was  
14 seconded by Council Member Bruce. Vote on motion: Council Member Shelton-Aye, Council  
15 Member Bracken-Aye, Council Member Bruce-Aye, Council Member Mikell-Aye, Mayor  
16 Peterson-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.  
17

18 **3.4 Consideration of Resolution 2018-38 Approving an Interlocal Agreement with Salt Lake**  
19 **County for a Grant of \$3,380 in Corridor Preservation Funding (Highland Drive and Fort**  
20 **Union Blvd. Intersection Project).**  
21

22 3.4.1 Mayor Peterson reported that the above Resolution approves an Interlocal Agreement with Salt  
23 Lake County for a grant in the amount of \$3,380 for Corridor Preservation Funding.  
24

25 **3.4.2 MOTION:** Council Member Bracken moved to approve Resolution 2018-38. The motion was  
26 seconded by Council Member Bruce. Vote on motion: Council Member Shelton-Aye, Council  
27 Member Bracken-Aye, Council Member Bruce-Aye, Council Member Mikell-Aye, Mayor  
28 Peterson-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.  
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30 **4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**  
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32 4.1 Approval of the City Council Business Meeting minutes of January 2 and April 10, 2018 and  
33 the City Council Work Session minutes of May 5 and 12, 2018.  
34

35 **4.2 MOTION:** Council Member Bruce moved to approve the City Council Business Meeting  
36 minutes of January 2 and April 10, 2018 and the City Council Work Session minutes of May 5  
37 and 12, 2018. The motion was seconded by Council Member Shelton. The motion passed with  
38 the unanimous consent of the Council.  
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40 **5.0 ADJOURN BUSINESS MEETING AND RECONVENE WORK SESSION.**  
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42 **5.1 MOTION:** Council Member Shelton moved to adjourn the Business Meeting. The motion  
43 was seconded by Council Member Bruce. The motion passed unanimously.  
44

45 5.2 The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

1 *I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate and complete record of the Cottonwood*  
2 *Heights City Council Business Meeting held Tuesday, June 19, 2018.*

3  
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5

6 Teri Forbes

7 Teri Forbes  
8 T Forbes Group  
9 Minutes Secretary

10  
11 Minutes Approved: November 13, 2018