

**MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Members Present:** Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Councilman Scott Bracken, Councilman Mike Shelton, Councilman Mike Peterson, Councilman Tee Tyler

**Staff Present:** City Recorder/Human Resource Manager Linda Dunlavy, Public Works Director Mike Allen, Police Chief Robby Russo, City Manager John Park, Community and Economic Development Director Brian Berndt, Assistant City Manager Bryce Haderlie, City Attorney Shane Topham, Operations Specialist Danny Martinez, Victim Assistance Coordinator April Ensign, Police Support Supervisor Sheila Jennings

**Others present:** Avery Gunnell, Scout Troop 86, Sasha Cassidy, Cassie Majors, Officer Sara Widdman, Officer TJ Harper, Officer Thom Daugherty, Officer Vicki Bagshaw, and Blanche Bills

**1.0 WELCOME/PLEDGE/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

1.1 Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those attending.

1.2 Councilman Bracken introduced Youth City Council Member Avery Gunnell.

1.3 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Zack Brown, Scout Troop 86.

**2.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS**

2.1 Sasha Cassidy expressed concern with traffic calming issues in the area of 6710 South. She noted that the sidewalks are in poor condition and are unmanageable and that there is speeding through the neighborhood. She believes that action should be taken to call attention to those driving through their neighborhood.

2.2 Cassie Majors, a 6710 South resident said that traffic and speeds are a safety concern for children who are crossing the street in this area.

2.3 Police Chief Robby Russo took note of the concerns and indicated they would consider increasing patrols in the area.

**3.0 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS PD INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

3.1 Police Chief Robby Russo introduced new Cottonwood Heights Police Officers Sara Widdman and TJ Harper.

3.2 Chief Russo also introduced Thom Daugherty, who was recently promoted to Sergeant.

Sgt. Daugherty expressed appreciation to the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to work in Cottonwood Heights and to be able to serve under Chief Russo. Sgt. Daugherty previously worked in San Diego and served in the military.

- 3.3 Officer TJ Harper accepted a position as a part-time investigator. He has been in law enforcement for 36 years and previously worked for West Valley City and the Utah Department of Public Safety.
- 3.4 Officer Sara Widdman recently graduated from the police academy. She previously flew Black Hawk helicopters and was a trauma room nurse. She is excited to be a part of Cottonwood Heights' police team.

#### 4.0 **Standing Monthly/Quarterly Reports**

##### 4.1 **Police Report – Police Support Supervisor Sheila Jennings**

- 4.1.1 Police Support Supervisor Sheila Jennings, presented the police statistics for the month of October 2015 and reported that the 911 calls were at 482; phone calls were at 898; and on-view calls were at 429. Of those calls, 497 were Priority 1 calls, 342 were Priority 2 calls, and 250 were Priority 3 calls. Response times for Priority 1 calls averaged less than five minutes.

Ms. Jennings reported that the department has four new officers, including two from other agencies.

Council District 1 had 225 reports taken, District 2 had 106, District 3 had 145, and District 4 had 100. 112 adults and 27 juveniles were arrested.

258 traffic citations were issued and included 7 DUI citations and 24 warnings.

There were 40 crashes reported that had property damage and 10 crashes had both injuries and damage.

##### 4.2 **Presentation of 2011 DUI Case Disposition**

- 4.2.1 Chief Russo reported that a GRAMA request was received by the Holladay Justice Court for the number of DUIs in 2011 in Cottonwood Heights. The courts responded that there were 66 DUIs in that time period. The Police Department hand-searched every DUI arrest in 2011 in order to correct the misinformation provided by the media. After researching the number of DUIs for that time period staff documented that there had been 292 DUI arrests by CHPD. 40 of those had dispositions other than a guilty plea: 28 had other pleas, meaning that the defendant either pled to another charge (such as a felony), pled based on a negotiation through the court, had multiple DUIs in different courts that were combined – so there was a guilty plea in one court and a dismissal in the other court.

Of the 292 cases, 7 were actually dismissed. 1 of the cases had low blood alcohol content; 2 had an issue with the initial stop; 1 was expunged and 3 had current outstanding arrest

warrants and are fugitives. The seven dismissals constitute a 2.7% dismissal rate. Chief Russo emphasized that the City's officers are dedicated to the safety of the citizens.

Mayor Cullimore explained that this issue was reviewed after the City came under criticism in 2014 by a certain publication claiming that the City had a high DUI dismissal rate in 2011. Based on the updated research by staff related to the 2011 arrests, the City's dismissal rates are actually lower than the average of most agencies.

Mayor Cullimore said that the safety of the citizens and of drivers is paramount to the Council and believes there is no more important enforcement action than to take impaired drivers off of the road.

#### 4.3 **Officer Recognition**

- 4.3.1 Chief Russo introduced Officer Vicki Bagshaw, who came to Cottonwood Heights from South Jordan and is the city's first female motor officer.

He also introduced Blanche Bills who was recently in a car accident and wanted to thank Officer Bagshaw for her help.

Ms. Bills expressed appreciation to Officer Bagshaw and the service she provided following her accident on October 19, 2015. Officer Bagshaw arrived several minutes before the medics. She was found unconscious, but after re-positioning her body, her airway was restored. Since that date, Officer Bagshaw has checked on her numerous times. Ms. Bills believed Officer Bagshaw should be recognized for all she has done for their family and the community. She commended all of the City's officers for their valiant efforts. She presented Officer Bagshaw with an award stating "her kids would be without a mother today, if not for Vickie Bagshaw."

- 4.3.2 Chief Russo reported that the morning of August 10, 2015, Officer Bagshaw responded to a welfare call to check on an elderly lady. She found the woman in distress. She stabilized her, contacted her family, and cared for her dog. In the weeks and months that followed, Officer Bagshaw visited the woman and comforted her, usually on her own time. The woman recently passed away and her family notified Chief Russo of the continuous level of concern shown by Officer Bagshaw to their mother.

Chief Russo thanked Officer Bagshaw for her service and going above and beyond the call of duty.

Officer Bagshaw explained that many officers are doing the same and she appreciated the opportunity to serve in Cottonwood Heights.

#### 4.4 **"Victims of Crime Act" Grant Report**

- 4.4.1 Victim Assistance Coordinator April Ensign reviewed the third quarter of the VOCA Grant, which is federally funded and administered through the State. Crime categories and services provided by the grant were detailed. Trainings attended included a Children's Justice Center Symposium, monthly Domestic Violence Coalition Meetings, and Healthy

Relationship Task Force Meetings. The 2015-2016 VOCA Grant was submitted and ultimately approved. Ms. Ensign introduced the volunteers that she works with that were in attendance: Stephanie Harper, Emily Wood, and Jen South.

Jen South is the newest victim advocate volunteer. She introduced herself and stated that she is a student at the University of Utah, is enlisted in the Army National Guard, and works part-time for a small business.

#### 4.5 **Public Works Report**

- 4.5.1 Public Works Director Mike Allen presented the report for the month of October. Currently, asphalt maintenance is ongoing; two new street lights will be installed along 6670 South and 1710 East; the concrete along Bengal Boulevard is progressing; and the majority of the striping is complete.

Mr. Allen said that staff met with property owners along Fort Union and Highland Drive to address questions and concerns regarding the future expansion of the Fort Union/Highland intersection. Terracare plowed snow near Wasatch Blvd., and continues to train their drivers for the snow season. Quicksilver Concrete has completed 20 of the 32 requests for the 50/50 sidewalk replacement program.

A complete copy of the October public works report is available on the City's webpage.

#### 5.0 **ACTION ITEMS**

- 5.1 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-70 Ratifying an Agreement between Cottonwood Heights and Roy and Raila H. Harris for Improvements to Property located at 7520 South 2300 East in Conjunction with the Building of the City's Future Municipal Center.**

- 5.1.1 Mayor Cullimore explained that the proposed Resolution ratifies an agreement between Cottonwood Heights and the Harris Family. The Harris' live immediately north of the new city hall property and get their power from a pole in the middle of the City's property. They have agreed to burying the line and making improvements that will benefit both parties.

- 5.1.2 **MOTION:** Councilman Bracken moved to approve Resolution Number 2015-70. The motion was seconded by Councilman Peterson. Vote on motion: Councilman Shelton-Aye, Councilman Bracken-Aye, Councilman Peterson-Aye, Councilman Tyler-Aye, and Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5.2 **Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-71 Approving an Interlocal Agreement with Canyons School District for Use of the Butler Middle School Marquee.**

- 5.2.1 Mayor Cullimore explained that the proposed Resolution approves an agreement with Canyons School District to share the cost of the marquee sign located at Butler Middle School. The resolution enables the City to advertise City and community events. The total cost to the city was \$6,000.

5.2.2 **MOTION:** Councilman Peterson moved to table Resolution No. 2015-71. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tyler. Vote on motion: Councilman Shelton-Aye, Councilman Bracken-Aye, Councilman Peterson-Aye, Councilman Tyler-Aye, and Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore-Aye. The motion passed unanimously.

6.0 **ADJOURN BUSINESS MEETING AND RECONVENE WORK SESSION IN ROOM 250**

6.1 **MOTION:** Councilman Shelton moved to adjourn the Business Meeting and reconvene the Work Session. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. The Business Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.