

Willard City Council Meeting
March 14, 2024
Willard City Council Chambers

The City Council of Willard City met on March 14, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers of the Willard City offices, located at 80 W 50 S, Willard UT 84340.

Council Present: Travis Mote, Mayor
Mike Braegger, Council Member
Jordan Hulsey, Council Member
Rex Christensen, Council Member

Excused: Rod Mund-Council Member
Jacob Bodily-Council Member

Staff Present: Colt Mund, City Attorney
Jeremy Kimpton, City Manager
Bryce Wheelwright, City Planner
Susan K. Obray, City Recorder

Others present: Diana Baker
Larry Holmes
Fred Ward
Ken & Ruth Ormond
Rew Wiley
Chad Braegger
Lynn & Mark Murphy
Chelsea Davis
Bob Davis
Doug & Mary Younger

1. Call to Order

- a. Mayor Travis Mote called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- b. Invocation offered by Council Member Christensen.
- c. Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Mund.
- d. Conflict of Interest Declaration.
 - i. None.

2. Open Comment Period

Fred Ward, 235 S Main, Willard

"In the January 25, 2024, Council Meeting, you were presented with some requests from the Willard Canyon Access Coalition. Their mission is threefold: They want the fence taken down, they want the trail and trailhead improved, and they want a recorded easement for access to the canyon. They hope to achieve this by collaborating with the city and those with property rights

on the land of issue.

This statement leads me to believe that the coalition thinks the city are landowners in this issue.

My response to that is on the Box Elder County website, it indicates that the city owns none of the land in the canyon the coalition is talking about. In my view, the coalition is talking to the wrong people. The city should not have any involvement in this issue. The coalition also mentioned they are “reviewing which proposals they would like to put in front of the city, and they will engage with city officials to help them be clear on how you, the city, would like to see our proposals brought before you, the city.” Once again, I would like to mention, this is not a city issue. As a taxpayer, I really don’t expect the city to venture and spend the taxpayer’s money on something the city has no responsibility for. This is an issue with the property owner.

My suggestion is the coalition should get with the property owners and stop this attempt to drag the city into picking sides and becoming the financial support for the coalition. Property owners have the right to protect and defend their rights. We as citizens, and all people, should honor and protect those rights too. In closing my statement to the Council is, I hope you take what I have to say seriously. As for my right to share my feelings, I hope that none of you have the same objective as the coalition. Thank you.”

Mark Murphy, 180 W 100 S, Willard

“I would like to address the Council and the mayor and everyone else that’s here regarding some comments which have recently been made. I am the co-chairman of the Willard Canyon Access Coalition, along with my wife. We are being supported by the International Outdoor Recreation Asset Alliance. We are working with them.

I’d like to clarify one thing, the reason that our coalition has brought so many in here recently to speak for access to the coalition’s goals. That being, we know that the city holds the key to the property owned by the person in question, their land being mined. Without the city’s cooperation, that’s not going to happen. We are trying to get the city to move in that direction to pressure the property owner and help them to see that this is the way we need to go moving forward.

The second issue is the trails, which have been established up there for many years. They are in fact a legal prescriptive easement. We are attempting right now to get the easement recorded by the county. We are coordinating with the county recorder and the county surveyor and the county sheriff to have this done. We do not want to litigate. However, we do have the resources to do so. That’s the last thing we want to do.

We would like to talk with the owner of the property. He has not answered any of our attempts to speak with him. He refuses to speak with us. That’s why we are doing what we are doing.

As eloquently stated, we have a threefold mission: all we want is to get that fence removed, to have the property easement and the trail recorded, and to have the trail improved and the damage that was done to the trail repaired. Thank you.”

3. Planning Commission Report

Diana Baker gave the update. Ruth Beebe was sworn in as an alternate on the Planning Commission. There was discussion on the lot line adjustment for Marc Anderson's property on Tam's Road. It was passed. There was discussion on the rezone application from Marc Anderson as well. The rezone from A5 to R-½ was approved by the PC and moved up to the City Council.

There was a Conditional Use Permit reviewed for Matt Francom's welding business at 432 N Main. There was concern about it so they are drawing up more plans and will later present them to the PC.

There was a discussion about annexing South Willard and the Willard Annexation Police Declaration. The mayor has asked the PC to start doing a land use plan for South Willard if and when it is annexed in. An open house was discussed and is being organized through the county. There was discussion about the public works and police department adjustments that may be necessary as well.

Jeremy Kimpton verified that the city ordinances have been posted online.

4. Presentations and New Business

a. Presentation by Family Support Center

This item will be removed from the agenda until a representative from the Family Support Center contacts the city recorder.

b. Approve Resolution 2024-02 declaring vehicles listed as surplus property and allow to be sold by the bidding process.

- i. 1995 GMC K3500 tractor/bus
- ii. 1999 International dump truck
- iii. 2001 International-Model 4900

There has been discussion about trading item 1 with a vendor for lights and installation on other fire department vehicles. It was discussed that this resolution needed to be amended to change item 1 to be traded as in-kind and the others to be listed for sale via bidding.

Motion: Council Member Mund motioned to approve Resolution 2024-02 with the amendment to list item 1 as being traded in-kind and the other two items being listed for sale via bidding. Council Member Bodily seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Council Member Bodily: Yes

Council Member Mund: Yes

Council Member Braegger: Yes

Council Member Christensen: Yes

Council Member Hulsey: Yes

Motion carries.

c. Resolution 2024-03 adopting the Willard City General Plan Update 2024.

The changes that were discussed in the previous meeting were briefly reviewed. The correct map has not been put into the plan at the time of this meeting.

Motion: Council Member Mund motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-03 contingent on having the correct map formatted into the document when it is ready. Council Member Braegger seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Council Member Bodily: Yes

Council Member Mund: Yes

Council Member Braegger: Yes

Council Member Christensen: Yes

Council Member Hulseley: Yes

Motion carries.

- d. **Discussion/Approval or denial of the petition for Annexation for Bob Davis. Approx 45 acres located at approx 7700 S 100 W (Parcel Nos. 01-041-0043 and 01-041-0044).**

Bob Davis was present to answer questions. Bryce Wheelwright explained that Bob Davis has applied for his land to be annexed into Willard City to preserve some of the land for a park to honor his family. There will be a small subdivision and space for a potential retention pond. Bob Davis has agreed to do the maintenance on the land until it is incorporated into the city. He gave some more details about the plans for the land, including the park being preserved as a nature reserve.

There was discussion about Flood Control's interest in part of the land as well. More details will be worked out in the future. Bryce Wheelwright said he didn't see any potential issues with the application.

Motion: Council Member Mund motioned to approve the application. Council Member Hulseley seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- e. **Discussion on vacating the sewer easement on properties east of 100 West.**

There is an easement that cuts through several properties that needs to be vacated. A resolution needs to be created to move forward on this issue.

- f. **Progress on amending subdivision Ordinance to include new water allocation.**

Previous discussion has taken place regarding the Water Plan. The city engineers are working on putting together a new plan to present to the city manager and eventually the City Council.

5. Minutes & Information

- a. Approval of the January 25, 2024, City Council minutes.

Motion: Council Member Braegger motioned to approve the January 25, 2024 meeting minutes. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

- b. Approval of the February 8, 2024, City Council minutes.

To be approved at the next meeting.

6. Financial

- a. Warrants, Vouchers, Reports

7. Department Reports

a. Public Works

The sewer pumping station has been resealed. The resealing came in \$500 under budget. There is a switch in the sewer plant that will be replaced by the end of the fiscal year.

The Mayor brought up that there have been complaints about stop signs in the Orchards subdivision. Temporary stop signs have been acquired and installed. Payden is working on the other stop signs on 200 W at 200 S and 100 N intersections. Council Member Braegger suggested adding this information to the newsletter to inform residents.

b. Police Department

The council reviewed the January report provided by Chief Fielding. Todd Christensen has been updating the police officers' laptops and new body cams are going to be ordered.

c. Fire Department

Council Member Mund said they are looking at purchasing the items listed below. As of this meeting, these items haven't been purchased. Van attended the budget meeting and requested these items. They have the money in the budget to purchase these items.

- i. Purchase of structure fire fighter boots
- ii. Jackets
- iii. Gift Cards

8. Council Member Reports

- a. Jacob Bodily

No comment

- b. **Rod Mund**

Council Member Mund asked about the signs to be installed at the fishing pond. The signs have been ordered.

He also inquired about the Native American plaque. Mayor Mote said the plaque was redesigned and the new price was around \$4,000. He is waiting for a response from the Native American tribe to confirm the design.

c. Mike Braegger

Curtis Archibald has been in contact with Council Member Braegger. There is a large pile of debris on the property behind his home and he would like to see it cleaned up. Bryce reported that John Newhall and Scott Priest are aware of it. Gary Householder is also in the loop and they are working together on cleaning it up. Council Member Braegger said he will respond to Mr. Archibald.

d. Rex Christensen

Council Member Christensen asked for an update about finding the missing water meters. Jeremy said he is working on it and will have a resolution ready by the next City Council. Stacey Younger and Chad Braegger have volunteered to assist Public Works in finding these 25 or so meters.

e. Jordan Hulse

Council Member Hulse has met with Chief Fielding and the principal at Willard Elementary. They have come up with a plan for an easier school pick-up and drop-off system. She mentioned a couple of signs will be needed as well as painting some new lines on the road. The school is going to inform parents about the new system that will start next year.

Discussion took place about moving the blue truck that's been declared as surplus.

9. Next agenda items (March 14, 2024)

- a. Marc Anderson property
- b. Vacating sewer easement
- c. Subdivision ordinance review
- d. Water meter follow up

10. Mayor's General Correspondence and Information

11. City Manager's Report

There are some building improvements happening in the city office. IT improvements are also happening. The city ordinances have been put online. The phone system is also going to be updated in the next few months. Jeremy has also been reviewing the budget and is meeting with the City Treasurer to confirm budget details.

Bryce Wheelwright said Beehive Fiber Optics has approached him about installing fiber in the city. Mayor Mote said Connex has also said they are heading to Willard to install. Connex has a franchise agreement with Willard City. Mayor Mote asked that agreement be reviewed and presented to the Council.

12. Consideration of Motion to Enter a Closed Session (if necessary)

Motion: Council Member Braegger motioned to enter into a closed session to discuss litigation and personnel items. Council Member Christensen seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Council Member Bodily: Yes

Council Member Mund: Yes

Council Member Braegger: Yes

Council Member Christensen: Yes

Council Member Hulseley: Yes

13. Adjourn