

1 **PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

2 Tuesday December 5th, 2023, 6:00 PM

3 Providence City Office Building, 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT

4
5 To view the monthly financial statements of the city please click [HERE](#).

6
7 To view the video recording of the minutes please visit the City's YouTube Channel found [HERE](#).

8
9 **HR. MIN. SEC.** in green above agenda items are timestamps of the YouTube recording.

10
11 **Opening Ceremony:**

12 Call to Order: Mayor Alder

13 Roll Call of City Council Members: Mayor Alder, Council Members Paulsen (via zoom), Kirk, Sealy, Speth &
14 Nebeker.

15 Staff in Attendance: Ryan Snow (City Manager), Rob Stapley (Public Works Director), Skarlet Bankhead
16 (Community Development Director), Ty Cameron (City Recorder).

17 Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Nebeker.

18 Opening Remarks/Prayer: Council Member Speth.

19
20 **3 MIN. 40 SEC.**

21 **Council Reports:** Items presented by the City Council Members will be presented as informational only; no
22 formal action will be taken.

23
24 Council Member Kirk:

- 25
- 26 • Attended the Cache Valley Housing Crisis Collaboration Luncheon. At the Cache Valley Housing Crisis
27 Collaboration Lunch, they discussed the housing crisis and its impact on the community. They noted that
28 Cache County needs 1100 homes built annually to meet current demand, with 800 permits being pulled
29 annually. Also noted the need for an increase in tradesman to help create a better competitive market.
30 During the luncheon Jeff Jackson from Visionary Homes announced they have a partnership with Cache
31 County School District to provide scholarships and recruitment for tradesmen to hopefully help the
32 housing market.
 - 33 • Has plans to meet with Chris Wilson and Casey Snyder to discuss some of the issues that the city and
34 county are dealing with and how best to address them.
 - 35 • Informed everyone of the Tree Lighting Celebration that will be taking place this Thursday at 5:30 pm.
36 Noted that the tree will be lit at 7 pm and that Santa should be there around 5:30.
 - 37 • Reported that a few citizens have come to her about neighbors who have Christmas lights that strobe.
38 Commented that the lights could be seen as a safety concern for people who are prone to seizures.
39 Volunteered to investigate the issue.
- 40

41 Council Member Sealy:

- 42
- 43 • The school board will be ratifying a vote on a bond tonight, that had 60% approval, allowing Spring Creek
44 Middle School to be turned into an elementary school here in Providence. The new middle schools, which
45 were proposed in the bond, need to be built before the conversion of the middle school to an elementary

46 school can take place and for the moment, they are still working on acquiring land to build the new middle
47 schools.

- 48 • Working with Utah State University on a wellbeing survey, which will be a citywide survey for wellness
49 research. Hoping the city and staff will help promote participation so that they can have more data gathered
50 and used.
- 51 • Thanked Josh Paulsen for his time and service on the Council and wished him luck in his future endeavors.

52
53 Council Member Paulsen:

- 54
55 • Had nothing to report but commented that he has enjoyed his time serving on the council.

56
57 Council Member Speth:

- 58
59 • He attended a Red Cross Boot Camp in November, where they trained people on setting up shelters. Noted
60 that the Red Cross is well-staffed but is always seeking volunteers to help.
- 61 • Commented that as winter approaches residents should do what they can to make sure their carbon
62 monoxide and smoke detectors are updated and working. The Red Cross is working to install free smoke
63 and carbon monoxide detectors in homes where people qualify for them.
- 64 • Discussed the future of the city and the need to get an emergency power source to provide emergency
65 power to pump water in case of power failure.

66
67 Council Member Nebeker:

- 68
69 • Talked about work, family life and city service and finding a balance between them. Thanked Josh for his
70 years of service and the input he has shared over the years regarding city issues and needs.

71
72 Mayor Alder:

- 73
74 • Thanked Josh Paulsen for his service saying that she appreciated his ability to think out of the box.
- 75 • Continues to serve on the Conservation Board, which is working to secure funding from the legislature to
76 conserve land. They are awaiting the governor's budget and plan to consult with the director to determine
77 if they will be included in the budget this year.
- 78 • Also represents the mayors on the Chamber of Commerce Board, which allows them to meet with
79 community members and secure support for their cause and discuss issues that are arising that need to be
80 addressed.

81
82 **18 MIN. 10 SEC.**

83 Approval of the minutes:

84
85 The Providence City Council will consider for approval the minutes of November 15th, 2023. ([MINUTES](#))

- 86
87 • Mayor Alder called for a motion to approve the minutes of November 15th, 2023.
- 88 • Parties noted that no corrections were needed.

- 89 • Council Member Speth commented that he would abstain from voting as he was not present for the
90 meeting.

91
92 **Motion to approve the minutes of November 15th, 2023 – Council Member Nebeker. 2nd – Council Member**
93 **Sealy.**

94 **Vote:**

95 **Yea-Council Members Paulsen, Kirk, Sealy and Nebeker.**

96 **Nay-**

97 **Abstained- Council Member Speth.**

98 **Absent-**

99
100 **Motion passes, minutes approved.**

101
102
103 **Election/ Canvass Report:**

104
105 **19 MIN. 15 SEC.**

- 106 ➤ **Item No. 1 Elections Report/Canvass:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss, and
107 will consider for approval the City’s 2023 General Election Canvass report from Cache County which
108 includes the nomination of three council members; and will declare those persons with the highest number
109 of votes per the report as the newly elected officials for Providence City come January 1st, 2024.

110 **(OFFICAL ELECTION RESULTS) & (GENERAL CANVASS)**

- 111
112 • Mayor Alder called item 1, gave a brief introduction.
113 • Parties reviewed and discussed the official results and numbers.
114 • Mayor Alder announced the three council members who won the election with the number of votes
115 they received.

116
117 **Motion to accept or ratify the 2023 official general election canvass report or election results**
118 **approving the vote of the citizens nominating three council members. – Council Member Sealy. 2nd**
119 **– Council Member Speth.**

120 **Vote:**

121 **Yea- Council Members Paulsen, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker**

122 **Nay-**

123 **Abstained-**

124 **Absent-**

125
126 **Motion passes, election results are certified. Council Members Speth and Kirk retain their seats and**
127 **David Kunz will replace Council Member Josh Paulsen starting in January.**

132 **Plans & Other Business:**

133
134 **21 MIN. 20 SEC.**

135 ➤ **Item No. 2 Cache Valley Transit District Board Representative:** The Providence City Council
136 will review, discuss, and may move forward with the appointment of a representative to the Cache Valley
137 Transit District (CVTD) board. Jeff Turley is being nominated to represent the city.

- 138
- 139 • Mayor Alder called item 2, gave a brief introduction and remarked that Jeff Turley is present here
- 140 tonight for the meeting.
- 141 • Mayor Alder commented that Jeff Turley, a long-time board representative for the Cache Valley
- 142 Transit District, has expressed his willingness to serve Providence City and River Heights City on
- 143 the board. He has been serving on the board for many years.
- 144 • He commented that it has been a pleasure to serve the city. Remarked that the recent cut of board
- 145 members from 19 to 9 has reduced the board and caused the need to appoint representatives to
- 146 represent multiple towns to help focus on the issues and future plans of the transit district.
- 147 • Parties discussed the new ‘pool’ service, which allows riders to schedule rides to and from the
- 148 transit center. The ‘pool’ is a shared ride that picks up passengers at locations closer to their homes
- 149 and takes them to the transit center, where they can catch other buses to go anywhere they want.
- 150 To schedule a ride back, riders must call the transit center or schedule a ride from the transit center
- 151 or app back to their desired stop in the city.
- 152 • Mr. Turley commented that he is excited to continue serving on the board and share his experiences
- 153 with the group.
- 154 • Parties discussed how to access or request the ‘pool’ service.
- 155 • The parties talked about future reporting presentations from Mr. Turley. Mr. Turley responded that
- 156 he would be happy to present on what’s going on with the transit district whenever possible.
- 157

158 **Motion to appoint Jeff Turley to represent Providence City on the Cache Valley Transit District**
159 **Board. – Council Member Kirk. 2nd- Council Member Speth.**

160 **Vote:**

161 **Yea- Council Members Paulsen, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker**

162 **Nay-**

163 **Abstained-**

164 **Absent-**

165

166 **Motion passes. Jeff Turley will represent the city on the board.**

167

168 ➤ **Item No. 3 Fiber Amendments:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take
169 action on proposed amendments to the Fiber Optic Cable License and Network Operation Agreement.

170 **(AMENDMENT 1) (AMENDMENT 2)**

- 171
- 172 • Mayor Alder called item 3, gave a brief introduction and asked Ryan Snow to give an overview of
- 173 the amendments.
- 174 • Ryan Snow reported that the Council has adopted a pricing model that includes network service
- 175 fees for two gigs and ten gigs, which are \$30 and \$50 respectively as shown in the graph. This

176 does not change pricing but is incorporated into the contract that the city already has with Strata.
177 Strata also has the ability to update labor rates, maintenance etc. annually, for installations after
178 construction is complete and for future repairs. This does not affect the monthly rate of residents.
179 If someone hasn't connected before the contract ends in April, than they can connect under these
180 rates and guidelines. These amendments are more detailed and detailed by the type of work and
181 service. The new fiber drop pricing system is more specific and relates to the actual cost of the
182 drop, rather than the length of the drop. The old drop pricing was more general.

- 183 • Mr. Snow reiterated that the new pricing system is based on trenching and backfilling, rather than
184 just a drop. After April, after the contract for new construction is finished, there will be a fee related
185 to the drop pricing. Strata will come back and make the connection, and there will be a fee for the
186 connection, blowing, placing, and installing the fiber.
- 187 • Parties discussed pricing and who would be responsible for the payments. Mr. Snow indicated that
188 Strata would bill the city and then the city or Council would decide if it is passed along to the
189 owner of if the city will pay it.
- 190 • Ryan confirmed that the amendment is between Strata and the city not between the city and its
191 residents. Parties commented on fee schedule. Ryan indicated that the fee schedule is not part of
192 this amendment and is something the Council will need to discuss in the future.
- 193 • The parties discussed the process for residents to connect if they don't connect now while Strata
194 is completing the project.
- 195 • The Council raises questions about the fairness of the Strata pricing to the city and whether
196 inflation plays a role in the pricing. Mr. Snow responded that he believes that the pricing is fair
197 and not an inflated one. Acknowledges that the operator agreement takes care of repairs and other
198 costs, and that these amendments are not due to Strata trying to recover lost fees.
- 199 • The parties discussion revolves around the proposed amendment and the potential impact on the
200 pricing and service provision between Strata and the city.
- 201 • Parties talk about the utility fee and residents connecting to fiber in the future and more on what
202 that will look like.

203
204 **Motion to accept amendment 1 & 2 of the Fiber Optic Cable License and Network Operation**
205 **Agreement with the correction of the year change from 2022, as currently reads, to 2023 which it is. –**
206 **Council Member Sealy. 2nd- Council Member Speth.**

207 **Vote:**

208 **Yea- Council Members Paulsen, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker**

209 **Nay-**

210 **Abstained-**

211 **Absent-**

212
213 **Motion passes, amendments approved.**

- 214
215 • Mayor Alder noted that David Kunz, who won a seat on the Council and who would be replacing Josh
216 Paulsen, was here tonight and asked if he would like to introduce himself.
- 217 • David Kunz introduced himself and stated that he was excited to have been elected and is looking forward
218 to working with everyone. Discussed his educational and work background.
- 219 • Council congratulated him on his win and welcomed him to the Council.

220
221
222 ➤ **Item No. 4 City Manager Performance Review (to be held during closed session):** The Providence
223 City Council will move to a closed session to do their annual review of the City Manager. Council may
224 discuss and take action on the City Managers compensation and merit bonuses.
225

226 **Executive Session Notice:** The Providence City Council may enter into a closed session to discuss
227 pending or reasonably imminent litigation as allowed by Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(c). The Providence
228 City Council may enter into a closed session to discuss professional competence or other factors
229 allowed by Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(a). The Providence City Council may enter into a closed session
230 to discuss land acquisition or the sale of real property Utah Code 52-4-205(1) (d) and (e).
231

- 232 • Mayor Alder called item 4 and indicated that this item will be handled in a closed session. Called
233 for a motion.

234
235 **Motion to enter closed session. – Council Member Speth. 2nd- Council Member Sealy.**

236 **Vote:**

237 **Yea- Council Members Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker**

238 **Nay-**

239 **Abstained-**

240 **Absent- Council Member Paulsen.**

241
242 **Motion passes, council enter closed session.**

- 243
244 • During closed session the Council discussed a bonus for the city manager and made the following
245 motion.

246
247 **Motion to award a \$2000 bonus to the City Manager. – Council Member Kirk. 2nd Council Member**
248 **Sealy.**

249 **Vote:**

250 **Yea- Council Members Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker**

251 **Nay-**

252 **Abstained-**

253 **Absent- Council Member Paulsen.**

254
255 **Motion passes, City manager will be awarded a \$2000 bonus.**

256
257 **46 MIN. 55 SEC.**

258 **Staff Reports:** Items presented by Providence City Staff (including but not limited to: City Recorder, Public 209
259 Works Director, Community Services Director, and City Manager) will be presented as information only.

260
261 Ty Cameron (City Recorder)

- 263 • Parties discussed the election statistics and the meaning of undervotes and mailed letters. Parties talked
264 about the 6th precinct which accounts for County residents since there was on bond to be voted on.
265

266 Skarlet Bankhead (Community Development Director)
267

- 268 • Thanked Josh Paulsen for his service on the Council and commented that it was a joy to work with him.
269 • Thanked Nicole and Ashley for their work on the Christmas Tree Lighting celebration that is scheduled
270 for this Thursday and commented that staff are always looking to improve the lighting every year. The
271 weather is expected to be good, and the parking plan is still in place. Part of the roundabout will be closed.
272 • Reported that the city is doing the holiday lighting contest again this year but have changed the format so
273 that anyone can nominate their neighbor or a house. Indicated that they have only received 2 submissions
274 and noted that the city may stop the contest as there has not been much participation.
275 • Parties discussed if anyone could nominate any house and how to get more involvement.
276 • Colton, who does code compliance for the city, is putting notices on vehicles to remind them about winter
277 parking hours, and he believes people are paying more attention to the hours. He is also focusing on
278 stationary things like dirt piles and making calls to keep them out of the right way.
279 • Attended a lunch sponsored by Cache Valley Home Builders and was disappointed by the lack of
280 representation from other communities or cities. The County, Logan City, Providence, and North Logan
281 were in attendance. While there they heard the perspective of home builders, who have different
282 perspectives than developers a found it very informative.
283 • Commented that there is a misconception that cities have more power than they do. It is important to
284 understand that the issue is not at the administrative level, such as submitting development or building
285 permit applications. Cities should have ordinances in place that allow the process to be passed relatively
286 smoothly, but at the legislative level, and with zoning, where the fight is more difficult and harder to
287 understand is where there are issues. The public must be willing to accept zoning changes.
288 • Commented on the different rules and legislation that govern cities based on their size. Noted that it was
289 stated by a builder that around 250 people are directly involved in the building of home, from real-estate
290 agents, subcontractors, and other stakeholders like banks.
291 • Commented that she would like to see more cities involved in events like these as well as city engineers
292 who also play a big role in developments.
293 • The Council asked if the Tree Lighting celebration could be held earlier than the current first Thursday of
294 December. Mrs. Bankhead responded that she would bring it to staff and saw no issues with doing it in
295 the last week of November.
296

297 Rob Stapley (Public Works Director)
298

- 299 • Thanked Josh Paulsen for his time on the Council and what he has contributed to the city.
300 • Commented that as the snow had arrived a little late this year, they were able to pick up more leaves and
301 hopes that will help keep things clear.
302 • Reported that water levels or usage are down, as is expected, as we head into the winter months.
303 • Noted that the department is working with 3-5 new snowplow drivers and asked the Council and residents
304 to be patient as there is a learning curve to plowing snow.

- Informed that there was a water leak over the weekend on 2nd west, but that staff were able to get that fixed.
- The parties discussed the well drilling and Mr. Stapley commented that the group had to demobilize but would be back in the spring to continue drilling. Indicated that the well has been filled.

Motion to adjourn meeting. -Council Member Speth. 2nd- Council Member Kirk

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Nebeker

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent- Council Member Paulsen.

Motion passes, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be held on January 17th, 2024.

Minutes approved by Council on ___ day of _____ 2024.

Kathleen W. Alder, Mayor

Ty Cameron, City Recorder