

**SANTA CLARA CITY COUNCIL WORK MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3RD, 2015
MINUTES**

THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH, met for a Work Meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 2603 Santa Clara Drive, Santa Clara, Utah.

Notice of the time, place and agenda of the meeting was provided to the Spectrum and to each member of the governing body by emailing a copy of the Notice and Agenda to the Spectrum and also, along with any packet information, to the mayor and each council member, at least two days before the meeting.

Present: Mayor pro tem Mary Jo (Tode) Hafen
Council Members: Dave Whitehead, Jerry Amundsen, Ken Sizemore, Herb Basso
City Manager: Ed Dickie
Admin Director: Brock Jacobsen
Recorder: Lisa Bundy

Others Present: Jack Taylor, Public Works Director; Brad Hays, Parks Director; Corey Bundy, Building Official; Dan Nelson, Fire Chief; Bob Flowers, Police Chief, Charles Clayton.

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor pro tem, Tode Hafen, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and excused Mayor Rosenberg.

2. **Working Agenda:**

A. General Business:

1. Discussion regarding possible Shooting Sites. Presented by Ed Dickie.

- Ed Dickie, City Manager, picked up where Council left off, with a site visit of several sites, which he pointed out on a map. Ed pointed out that the city is looking for a designated shooting site, rather than an actual shooting range, which means the city has to post signs where shooting is **not** allowed, but not where it is allowed, according to BLM officials who were present.

- Herb Basso, from experience in planning for the Hurricane City site, said it is important to have terrain protection. He had a concern that the site is a little close to the road.

- Ed said that both sites have hills behind them, and both are good spots.

- Mayor pro tem Hafen asked if the size was good.

- Ed said the size should be fine. Ed remembered that Council liked the first designated spot better, because of poor accessibility in getting to the second site.

- Herb asked about the site scale.

- Brad Hayes, Park Director, said according to the map, the scale shows 958' foot per inch. Shooting distance left to right, he estimated to be 100'--200' for the lower one.

- Herb directed a question to BLM regarding ability to improve the site safety, etc. He wondered if earth could be moved to berm it up a little.
- Dave Kiel, Recreational Planner for the BLM St. George Field Office, stated that this meeting is the aftermath of a meeting held in his office, where this issue and an R&PP was discussed. He had with him Teresa Burke, Lands and Realty Specialist who deals with the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. When it comes to target shooting, BLM managed lands are either open or closed. They are considered open for target shooting unless they are signed closed. That being said, the BLM is not allowed to designate shooting areas. However, the BLM can make land available to the city under the R&PP Act for a shooting range, which the city has said it doesn't want. With the R&PP Act, there has to be a certain level of infrastructure, because the City would be responsible for that. There would need to be signage there and some infrastructure developed for shooting, and it would be managed by the city's Parks and Recreation Department. It doesn't necessarily have to be a supervised range; it could operate just like a city park, but BLM's policy does not allow them to name a designated shooting area.
- Herb clarified that currently the public can shoot anywhere except where it is posted not to.
- Dave stated that actually going through a shooting closure typically takes 18 months to 2 years. It is different inside a municipality. The BLM can't say an area is closed; however, the city can. The BLM rangers would then enforce that.
- Brad understood from the Mayor during the tour, that the city can't designate a shooting range, but the city can restrict shooting areas within the city limits. They reviewed a city trails map that Dave provided from the BLM. Brady has added the shooting areas that were looked at to the map, so it is a combined map of everything that is out there. Per Dave at the BLM, a lot of the tan trails are actually roads that are out there; they are not designated trails.
- Dave said that in working with a number of shooting organizations and target shooters, two of the purple areas would work only for handguns. A lot more room is needed for a rifle range, and there would be lots of hunters sitting in their rifles up there for deer season.
- Herb asked how much of that area is designated off-limits shooting?
- Dave stated that no area that BLM has is closed to shooting. He assumed that the signs that are on the road that goes up to the water tank were the city's.
- Herb said they could be the city's, because they are in close proximity to the city limits.
- Dave clarified a green polygon on the map indicating a fence that is protecting the Holmgren Milk Thatch which was put on the Endangered Species Act in 2011. The sign there says "Closed to Motorized Vehicles." It is not a no-shooting sign.
- Tode asked if the city has identified an area that is suitable for both rifles and pistols.
- Bob Flower, Police Chief, looked at the site further out, but is still concerned about the amount of bicycling in that area. He felt the city would need to move further out the south end for any rifle shooting. He felt the further out for rifles, the better.
- Dave stated that if they were to do an R&PP, the BLM is not limited with the R&PP to the city's municipal boundaries. He felt the only downside to moving that far out is the condition of the Stucki Springs Road. It would require some upgrading.
- Dave said the BLM would love to see a shooting range on this side of the county.

- Ed said the county is also very interested in the prospect of a shooting site. Commissioner Renstrom had wanted to attend this meeting.
- Dave said that there are groups like the National Shooting Sports Federation and the NRA that will put up a 50% match for the development of a range.
- Herb said if that is the case, and it is on county land, that sounds like a better way to go, costwise.
- Ed said that what the city would then need to do is put no shooting signs within the city boundaries and that would then direct everyone to the range.
- Dave said they have had countless phone calls from mountain bikers and hikers up there, where they say they've had bullets whizzing over them. Dave pointed out a spot that he felt would be a good spot. Whether it was in the city boundaries or not would not matter with an R&PP.
- Herb summarized that the BLM and both the city and the county have shown interest in the project, and private organizations would help with funding. If it was outside the city boundaries, liability would be better for the city. Perhaps there could be some type of interlocal agreement for policing the area. The city could be a good neighbor in spending some money to improve the road going out to it.
- Bob said that he would prefer Santa Clara to police the area jointly with the county. He mentioned that he had the idea that the word "range" was taboo, in that he had environmental concerns.
- Dave said that if the BLM handed land over to the city under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, it would still be Federal land, but the city would be responsible for what happens there. The city would have to have a plan of development, construct proper backstops, signs with range rules, signs designating shooting areas when someone is downrange, and other applicable safety requirements.
- Bob thought it would be doable.
- Tode asked if it would be too time-consuming.
- Bob didn't think so, if there is some money and organizational movement behind it.
- Herb felt the R&PP was very favorable, because then the city would have the cooperation and the expertise of the agencies involved. He reminded Council that the St. George city pool was an R&PP project years ago.
- Dave said that half the schools in the county utilized an R&PP.
- Tode asked Bob if he was familiar with the spot they are talking about.
- Bob would like to go out and look at it.
- Tode asked if the next course of action might be another field trip out there as the simplest way to move forward.
- Bob said he would be happy to put that together.
- Tode said shooting is going on out there, so the sooner the better, to prevent an accident happening out there.
- Ed stated that Commissioner Renstrom was very interested in the project. It will help with tourism once people hear there is no more shooting out there. Bikers and hikers would start using the south hills more. The city could then just put "No Shooting Allowed" signs up everywhere in the city boundaries.
- Tode thought a newsletter would be good, since many of the shooters are from the Santa Clara area. She asked if Bob could coordinate with Brad and get the parties together that are needed, so that the process could get rolling.
- Teresa brought the R&PP information booklet with her.

- Brad asked how long the process takes from the time the R&PP is started to completion.
- Teresa said that they have to do two Federal Register Notices that each take 3-6 months to get through, and they have to do an EA that would take 6 months-- so around 18 months to 2 years.
- Brad asked if doing the R&PP for the shooting range would be a good time to add additional land for other park areas that they would like an R&PP for.
- Teresa replied that it depends on the city's time frame. If those other lands were included, it would just take longer, and the shooting range is probably a priority.
- Brad said the answer, then, is "no."
- Teresa said a good place to start is with a good site plan, and a good plan of development, putting together a proposal that states why this is needed, to include in the application.
- Dave referred Council to a website, range.nra.org, where they city could obtain a source book for \$60 that has every conceivable type of range, and all the details that go into the development thereof.
- Ed still feels the county might be the one to spearhead the project. Santa Clara will just support them and possibly upgrade the road. Ed suggests getting together with Commissioner Zac Renstrom, Teresa and Dave to look at the site so that Council can move forward as soon as possible.
- Teresa reiterated the R&PP would take 18 months to 2 years. They are short-handed now, but will be hiring another person. The city could get everything lined up in the meantime. She said the priorities would be up to her management, as far as what projects the BLM has already authorized R&PP's for.
- Ken asked if the city could still stick with the 18 month timeline.
- Teresa felt they could, but she couldn't make any promises.
- Tode asked Teresa for suggestions for making it safer while people are shooting out there while this process is being completed.
- Dave suggested that activity in the area is mostly seasonal, so the city could limit target shooting between certain dates.
- Herb asked if the city could put up no shooting signs in the area.
- Dave said yes, the city could close areas, but can't designate areas.
- Herb felt like a solution should be geared towards all the different types of uses.
- Tode said that needs to be figured out on a city level.
- Dave said that if they closed areas, it would push the shooters further out to the area they are talking about.
- Tode asked if the road could be improved now.
- Dave said that is a county road, so they would need to talk with the County Commissioners.
- Tode said that could be a solution. They could get the word out by word of mouth to start people going out there. She asked Bob, in his meeting with Commissioner Renstrom, to discuss how they could work on getting the road improvement.
- Ken Sizemore cautioned that he will not support going up there and posting no shooting signs until the city has a plan.
- Dave noted that once there is a plan in place and work begins on the project, word of mouth publicity will do a lot.
- Tode thanked Dave and Teresa and said the city looks forward to working with the

BLM.

- Ken said he thinks the group that Herb worked with in preparing the Purgatory site is still chartered, and he wondered if the city could piggyback on that shooters advisory group rather than set up a whole new organization. If the city could form a subcommittee of that group, it would save a lot of organizational time and effort.

- Herb liked that idea. He said it could be problem if that group would want everyone to go to the Purgatory site so it would help pay for their infrastructure; but he felt they could get a lot of supporters from that group, since there are a lot of responsible shooters in it. Also, Herb thought it would be good if some Santa Clara residents are on the committee.

-Brad asked if Tode could tell staff what Council wants staff to do so they are on the same page.

- Tode stated that Bob or Bob and Brad would arrange a field trip as soon as possible, including the BLM people and any interested county commissioners--whatever parties they feel would be advantageous, to go identify a site and at the same time to have conversations with the county about improving the road to the site, either the county or Santa Clara partnering with the county, and encourage shooters to go out there to make it safer.

- Brad asked if they are looking at 2 years out in working towards getting the land and the R&PP.

- Ed said the site they want to look at is in the county, so the city is hoping that the county will spearhead the R&PP with Santa Clara's support and help. The BLM could R&PP it to Santa Clara, but it would be better if done with the county.

- Tode said the city would want to decide how developed it wants it--as just a shooting range or more. Her concern is something as soon as possible, for safety reasons.

- Ed feels the county is really wanting to do something and he felt they just wanted to come to this meeting to see where they city stands. He feels they will step up and take over the project.

- Brad asked if Council could come up with some controlled shooting or restrictions where the bicycling is.

- Herb is opposed to that.

- Tode doesn't think a 2-year wait is feasible. That's where the road improvement would encourage the shooters to go out a little further.

- Bob is in agreement with the idea, but doesn't want to wait 2 years. He likes the seasonal idea--just something to start pushing folks out that way. The city just needs to come up with a plan. He said they would be willing to enforce it aggressively. They would go out every weekend and enforce it in a nice and educational way, but Council needs to come up with a plan that works in that direction.

- Tode thinks it needs to be as soon as possible, simultaneous with getting the real plan in place.

- Dave said if the road is improved, people will travel out there, but it is very difficult now.

- Bob said that part of this is should be a community clean-up, taking photos, putting it in the newspaper and making it an educational matter. He's had calls from people wanting to help clean it up and then mark it no shooting. He has officers that are very interested in getting involved.

- Tode asked Bob to head this up and get something going.

- Ed said Bob needs to get with Commissioner Renstrom first thing. Once we know everyone's on board, we can start getting a plan.
- Ken Sizemore, said short-term there needs to be a plan for improving that road. Jack and Ron Whitehead need to meet and figure that out and he thinks it can be done in a very short timeframe.
- There was a brief discussion about road classifications and funding.
- Herb recalled the two Santa Clara members of the Purgatory group are Jeff Feltwell and Dallas Mangum that could help the city when they get to that point.

3. Staff Reports:

Corey Bundy, Building Official

- He would like to create a Board of Adjustments for the Building Department. They have never before had a request for one. They have always used St. George City's Board of Adjustment. In talking to Joel Schaffer, some of his members have dropped off, so Corey would like to create Santa Clara's own board. He read the requirements from the Building Code Board of Appeals. He has a list of recommended engineers and contractors. He needs five members. The purpose of the board is that if there is a conflict with a contractor, the board would provide a remedy. It would go board, he would cite a code, and they would request a judgment/opinion. Dave has an ISO rating that is requesting it.
 - Ed asked if it could just be the city council that acts as the board.
 - Herb said that isn't good, because Council is the final appeal entity.
 - Tode asked if the city needs to write an ordinance to create it first or can Corey just get his people.
 - Corey stated he just needs Council to appoint 5 people that would be called if there was an issue. They wouldn't have authority to waive the building code. They would have authority to look at issues and render decisions.
 - Tode asked if it would need to be done in a regular meeting.
 - Corey replied that it would.
 - Ed asked again if they could appoint a planning commission or a board that is already in place.
 - Corey said they board members need to meet the Building Code Board requirements.
 - Herb asked what the pros and cons are to such a board and how it has worked in the past.
 - Corey said the city has never had one in the past, but we now have a request because of the ISO rating due to Santa Clara being a higher rated city now.
 - Ed said it will be put on an agenda with the recommended names. Council can appoint them, if Corey would like.
 - Dave asked Corey to send that information out in an email that Council could research and study it.
 - Corey agreed.

Brock Jacobsen, Administrative Director

- Administration is working on a budget amendment which they will bring to

Council at the end of the month.

- Utah League of Cities and Towns Conference is September 15th -18th. It is on the calendar.

Brad Hays

- Parks is working with missionaries at the cemetery. They are reworking the monuments in the center section that have sunk. They are doing about 4 a week. The missionaries will come out on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m.-12:00. They started last Friday and it went really well.
- He still has some Eagle projects lined up. He needs to update his list online.

Dan Nelson, Fire Chief

- Burn season is over, so there will be no more burn permits issued.
- Dan got warning via email of a hot, dry summer in California, so they are expecting to go there again this year. Last year they spent two months there.
- Dan and Ty went up to the Incident Commander Coordination Training/meeting in Cedar, with the BLM and Forest Service, which went well. The department has a lot of resources available to them this summer if the city starts having fires before anyone else does. There is no more Eastern & Western Great Basin. It is now just Great Basin, which is good for us. It opens more potential for us to go out within Nevada and up into Idaho.
- The Department still has the training tower. Everyone really likes it and is having a lot of fun with it. They will have it for another few months. It came from Beaver Fire District #1. It's a regional training prop. St. George will borrow it next week for a firefighter challenge. Dan is going to see if he can get a few of his guys into that.
- They are getting ready for Hazmat classes in September, so they need to get those organized.
- The Recruit academy will follow after that.
- Swiss Days dinner is coming up.
- The Fire Department just received a matching wildland grant of \$5,000.

Bob Flowers, Police Chief

- Scott Bannon left. A new officer was offered the job. Bob will bring him before Council once he gets through his background and training. He will also bring in and introduce 2 new reserve officers.
- Some changes have been made in the front office. Terry Fabio has been moved back to the office, because she is doing the ambulance billing. They will be looking to hire someone for the front desk after July. He has also put in for two more officers on a grant; however, it doesn't look good, because the crime stats are good, which Bob noted is a blessing he will take any time. He will know whether he will get the officers later on in the fall.
- The Police Department is getting lots of animal calls, which Bob will be coming to Council to discuss down the road.
- The ambulance is doing well. The department gets a report on the calls. He will try to be better about reporting that to Council.

- Herb has noticed more sheriffs or highway patrol around. He asked if they are helping with patrol.
- Bob replied that they are working jointly on a project.
- Dave asked if the police office is open.
- Bob said the office is always open during business hours.
- Bob said they are getting lots of questions about cameras. Delivery dates are about a year out, so fortunately, the Police Department has cameras already. They have the platform completed. The cameras are proving to be very valuable. Every officer has one and they have backup on them. Their policies are in place. The county attorney loves them. They are used for training purposes, for DUI's and for report writing. Bob may bring them into a work meeting and demonstrate how they work. He thanked Council for the funding they provided for the cameras.
- Ken asked where the data is stored.
- Bob said it is an upstairs computer. They are talking about using metatape, which stores the data for 50 years, but it has to be moved from the electronic backup. The data is treated like any government document.

Ed Dickie, City Manager

- Harmons' groundbreaking is June 22nd at 9:30 a.m. Council has invited Ivins City Manager, Ivins City Mayor, St. George City Mayor and St. George City Manager. Everyone in the room will be there other than Corey and the Mayor. Tode will be representing as Mayor pro tem, and they will be asking both Tode and Herb to say a few words. They have invited Ed to emcee. Mr. and Mrs. Harmon will be there. They are already talking to the media. Ed will invite the city employees to the ceremony and close the offices for a half hour,, with Council's approval. He invited Curtis Jensen, Michael Day and Todd Jacobsen from Planning Commission.
- Tode feels bad the Mayor won't be there.
- Ed asked Staff to watch their budgets. They have three weeks left in the fiscal year. Staff will meet tomorrow morning.

4. Adjournment:

Meeting Adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Chris Shelley – City Recorder

Date Approved: _____