



Minutes of the **Strategic Planning Meeting** of the **Riverdale City Council** held Saturday, **February 26, 2011** at 8:04 a.m. at the Riverdale Community Center, Riverdale Utah.

Members Present: Bruce Burrows, Mayor
David Gibby, Councilor
Don Hunt, Councilor
Shelly Jenkins, Councilor
Alan Arnold, Councilor

Member Excused: Norm Searle, Councilor

Others Present: Larry Hansen, Chief Administrative Officer; Steve Brooks, City Attorney; Randy Daily, Community Development Director; Lynn Moulding, Public Works Director; Doug Illum, Fire Chief; Dave Hansen, Police Chief; Lynn Fortie, Business Administrator; and Ember Herrick, City Recorder

Welcome

Mayor Burrows welcomed all those present and noted that all Council members were present except Norm Searle who was excused.

Session Objectives

Fiscal Review – FYTD 2011:

Chief Administrative Officer Larry Hansen said that budget issues would be addressed throughout the day.

Citizen's Concerns Follow-up:

Mr. Hansen reported that citizen concerns from the 2010 survey would be addressed later on in the meeting.

Consensus Priorities for drafting FY 2012 Budget:

Mr. Hansen said that consensus direction was necessary so that staff can proceed with drafting a budget for fiscal year 2012.

Fiscal Review

FYTD 2011 Financial Review

Business Administrator Lynn Fortie discussed the 2011 financial report and a year to year comparison.

Budget vs. Actual (thru Jan 31, 2011)

Mr. Fortie gave a fiscal review for the year-to-date for the different departments and sources of revenue for the city. He said that on average the city is running a \$60-\$70,000 monthly deficit due to reduced sale tax income revenue that he

expects will be approximately \$300-350,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Fortie stated that under SB 35 the city is expected to receive close to a million dollars in revenue in June to make up that difference. Councilor Gibby asked if the monthly deficit was the result of higher than anticipated expenditures or less than expected revenue. Mr. Fortie said some expenditure had increased but it was primarily decreased sales tax revenue that accounted for the shortfall. Councilor Jenkins asked why the city received only 70% of the total property tax revenue in 2011 and Mr. Fortie said the property tax numbers were inflated in 2010 because of the adjustment in property taxes between the RDA Weber River Project Area, Weber County, and the City.

Yr to Yr Comparative

In a year to year comparison, Mr. Fortie reported that sales tax is down approximately \$215,000 from 2010.

Critical Time line Issues

FY 2012, FY 2013, FY 2016,

Mr. Hansen reported that Human Resources make up a big part of the City's budget and is comprised of retirement, salary/wages, and medical benefits for city employees.

SB 35 Sales Tax Subsidy & HB 172 – Local Option Sales Tax 0.2% (7yrs X 7 yrs)

Mr. Hansen displayed two charts, one showing the city's income from tax revenue after the passage of SB 35 and HB 172. Mr. Hansen said under state law these subsidies will end in 2016, dropping the city's income by \$1.5 million dollars annually.

In 2011, the fiscal recovery has been slower than budgeted leading to a shortfall of tax collection for 2011. Mr. Hansen said the solution is to continue to attract destination businesses while saving to protect against the revenue change anticipated in 2017. Councilor Jenkins asked about the shortfall and Mr. Hansen stated that sales tax revenue has never covered general fund expenditures and he doesn't anticipate that it ever will. He said it is vital that the city lobby for the conditions under HB 172 to continue. Mayor Burrows is optimistic the city can get these conditions renewed. Councilor Gibby asked which politicians would help the city lobby. Mr. Hansen said Representative Brad Dee and Senator Scott Jenkins are expected to support the measure. He stated that Riverdale is careful not to borrow against their expected sales tax revenue like other cities and in putting away 18% into the rainy day fund. Councilor Gibby said that if Riverdale suffers, the state will also be hurt because 40 cents of our city's sales tax revenue dollar is reallocated to benefit other cities with higher populations and lower tax bases. Mr. Hansen said the city does not want to approach the legislature about this sales tax issue while other cities are hurting so that there will be grounds for objections. He feels it is wiser to wait until the state has experienced further recovery in 2013.

Mr. Hansen said some proposals for the action plan are to freeze employee base pay with a surplus sharing option, freezing monthly health insurance allowances,

and offering early retirement. He said that extending vehicle rotations for the city's different departments is also an option that could save Riverdale some money. Mr. Hansen expressed his concern that any cuts to employee pay or benefits could compromise the culture the city has worked hard to create with a qualified staff that regularly receives very positive feedback on the annual citizen survey for their service to the community. He will discuss the results of this meeting and any concerns at an upcoming employee training meeting on March 9th. Mr. Hansen said that capping base pay and compensation plans would be more acceptable to staff if they were offered a percentage of any savings the departments make to their annual budget in 2012.

Mr. Hansen said the cost of capital projects for 2011 as listed on the chart will leave the capital projects fund in the red in the amount of -\$195,000 this year and asked the Council to take that into consideration when approving projects for 2012.

2005 Action Plan Initiatives

Mr. Hansen discussed the Action Plan that has been in place since 2005. He discussed one savings option that would suspend base pay increases with a surplus sharing option up to 2% of employee base pay with a maximum of 4% for the fiscal year. According to Mr. Hansen instead of budgeting for pay increases with each additional 1% costing the city approximately \$40,000, this proposal would encourage staff to beat the budget numbers and save money in their departments with the promise that any savings would be shared through a semi-annual bonus payout. Councilor Jenkins asked how that would affect employees on the lower end of the pay scale. Mr. Hansen said a step increase works out to 2.65% with employees paid according to their job duties, skills and abilities, and years of service. Councilor Gibby said those in higher positions are naturally paid more and compensated better.

Mayor Burrows asked how this new proposal will differ from the current compensation system in place and Mr. Hansen said that the difference is employees are asked to be more careful with the budget money they are entrusted with because they will directly benefit from any savings to the city. Councilor Arnold said Weber County and most state-wide government employees are talking about freezing base pay and he feels that Riverdale employees should be willing to take a cut too and should be careful with city funds despite an incentive program. Councilor Gibby said if the surplus sharing proposal saves the city money it is beneficial and he thinks it is wise as it is human nature to act more responsibly if an individual has a personal interest in a certain outcome. Councilor Jenkins said she also opposes the surplus sharing proposal and feels that any money saved should be put into a rainy day fund for the city not redistributed to employees.

Mr. Hansen said that in reviewing other city's budgets it is clear that they have been giving their city employees some wage increases even if they claim that they aren't paying their employees more. He said that in his opinion if you take care of your employees, they will take care of the city that is why he is proposing surplus sharing, freezing healthcare allowances, and offering early retirement rather than across the board cuts. According to Mr. Hansen, these proposals compromise on compensation and benefits for city employees while addressing the reduced sales tax income the city is anticipating. He asked for department head input.

Police Chief Dave Hansen expressed the concerns of his police officers stating that if there is a pay freeze they will be directly impacted as they can only work an average of 20 years and their retirement is based on their three highest earning years. Chief Hansen said there is a high rate of turnover in the police force after 8 to 10 years because of the physical demands of the job, inherent dangers of being a police officer, and necessity to work holidays and weekends. He said that currently Riverdale's police department has a 90% approval rating and he wants to maintain choice for his officers allowing them to retire after 20 years to the mutual benefit of his officers and the city they protect.

Mr. Hansen said the options the Council will be considering include maintaining the current policy, suspending the policy completely, or replacing the current policy with some of the proposals presented today. He said surplus sharing, sick leave pay out, and early retirement are all options for the Council to consider in place of the current step system. Councilor Jenkins asked what the fiscal impact would be for the city with the sick leave payout option and Mr. Hansen said it would vary depending on the amount of sick leave accrued. He said another early retirement incentive would be to address the Medicare gap years by allowing medical insurance coverage to continue after early retirement. He pointed out that many private companies provide extended health care coverage to their employees and that the federal government employees' insurance program allows individuals to continue their coverage as long as they pay their premiums. Councilor Jenkins said that she supports this proposal so that employees who want to retire don't continue working just to keep their health coverage but would like to see numbers on what it would cost the city. She suggested offering employees basic or cheaper health insurance coverage than they currently enjoy as a cost cutting measure. Mayor Burrows said if the governing body accepts this proposal, it will need to be tailored to the individual needs of the employees. Councilor Gibby asked if it is affordable. Mr. Hansen said it is important to attract and maintain good employees by incentivizing them, but concede that any benefit must be economically feasible too. He pointed out that the city saves \$40,000 a year in health care costs by allowing their employees flexibility in the plans they select. Mr. Hansen said another option for the Council to consider involves a health care allowance freeze where employees would absorb higher premiums in the next fiscal year. Mr. Hansen said that other cities had implemented a higher deductible coverage option along with a wellness program where the city pays the deductible.

In summary, Mr. Hansen told the Council that he believes it is important to cut and be fiscally responsible during tough times but he would like to make it a win-win scenario for the staff and the city to maintain high morale, retention and productivity. He said that he is dedicated to attracting the best employees and working at optimal capacity as a city so that when Riverdale lobbies for the continuation of the 0.2% sales tax in 2013, they can demonstrate to members of the state legislature that the city has a sustainable program in place.

The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:30 am

Strategic Plan Initiatives including organizational considerations

Mr. Hansen moved on to the strategic plan initiatives stating that the primary motivation of staff is to serve the public and ensure that their concerns are addressed by the action plan balanced with the need to keep the city financially stable. He said that Riverdale is a great destination for retailers and that the city's Community Development Director Randy Daily is involved in discussions to attract new businesses to the city. Mr. Hansen said that he is optimistic that the Larry H. Miller development will initiate more development of the West Bench area of the city. He also said that the Class C Roads funding in the amount of \$240,000 a year will be all the funds the city has to use for projects during these lean recession years. According to Mr. Hansen, the addition of benches and picnic tables are areas where improvements can be made at relatively low cost to the city. The addition of a new water tank is in project development stages. Councilor Gibby asked if proposed sports playing field improvements could be made using community or business sponsorship. Mr. Hansen said there is a possibility that businesses would be willing to sponsor these projects with some name recognition.

Mr. Hansen asked Fire Chief Doug Illum to present his plan to the Council to make the fire department sustainable. Chief Illum told the Council that Riverdale has the second largest retail area in the North after Ogden with a daytime population between 40-50,000 people and that number dropping off to approximately 8,000 at night. The 2010 call volume report confirms that the need is highest during the day with significantly fewer calls overnight and Sundays and Mondays being relatively slow days. Chief Illum said that based on the call volume report, it makes sense to only have three fire fighters working overnight. He also pointed out that having a large part-time staff is not only expensive in gear and training costs but also limits the ability of the fire department to respond to large structure fires or emergencies as most of his firefighters have second jobs and often refuse to answer call-backs or to work overtime. Chief Illum said he needs a full-time, dedicated staff willing to meet the needs of the city and better able to respond to catastrophic events like flooding, earthquakes or other large incidents because this is their primary job.

According to Chief Illum, the benefits of a full-time staff include conducting training during normal work hours, the reduced cost of having fewer individuals to undergo annual fitness training, and avoiding paying regular overtime only in the rare event of a heavy rescue call or a large structure fire. From a management standpoint, Chief Illum and the shift commanders will have less responsibility with fewer employees to oversee. He also stated that having fewer people use and maintain the station's equipment regularly will extend the lifetime of the city's trucks an estimated five to seven years. According to Chief Illum, a smaller fire fighting staff will demonstrate fiscal responsibility to the state legislature while still maintaining the necessary personnel to meet the requirements of the city's interlocal agreement. He also said that performing regular building inspections and routine fire hydrant maintenance will be easier with a full-time staff.

Chief Illum reported that currently his full-time employees work an average of 96 hours during a pay period when 91 hours is considered full-time, with that 5 hours

of overtime every pay period costing the city. Under Chief Illum's proposed department changes, the part-time employee wouldn't come in until 1 pm, thereby eliminating overtime and saving the city money. He also said that giving the traditional 2% pay increase to fewer employees will save the city additional money.

Councilor Gibby asked how his department would physically make the transition from a part-time to full-time staff. Chief Illum said that he would be able to make the transition while staying within his current budget and that the feedback he has received indicates that the majority of his department is excited about the change. He said that he has only received one complaint and that all the part-time employees would be eligible to apply for the full-time positions. Chief Illum made it clear that he will not be involved in the selection process with each candidate taking a written test which would be independently graded and a physical test evaluated by two local captains and two independent captains making up the selection board. The results of both exams would be tallied and Chief Illum would be given a list of the most qualified candidates ranked by their test scores. Chief Illum said that he anticipates that some of his staff do not want to work full-time and will quit and those that want to undergo the testing should be through the selection process by July 1st, allowing the full-time staff to be in place and on their new schedule by October. Councilor Gibby stated his support for the plan.

Councilor Hunt asked about training, equipment and certification. Chief Illum said all of his fire fighters are trained, certified, and their equipment is in compliance until 2012.

He told the Council that Mr. Fortie had calculated the proposed annual savings to the city at \$37,000. Chief Illum said that from a management perspective this is the best way to keep the fire department sustainable moving forward. Mr. Hansen concurred that the fire department needs significant restructuring, pointing out that there are currently only two police officers working overnight and four fire fighters to illustrate the imbalance.

Councilor Jenkins asked what the hierarchy is for fire fighters and if they reach benchmarks like the police. Chief Illum said all of his employees need to know how to perform every task but Captains apply for their positions. Mr. Hansen said not having a hierarchy within the fire department makes good sense and recommended that the part-time employees be given preference in filling the full-time jobs instead of opening the positions up to anyone. Chief Illum said he anticipates 10 to 12 of his part-time fire fighters will apply for the job openings with the possibility that some individuals in other departments of Riverdale City could also take the tests.

Chief Illum acknowledged the letter complaining about the proposed restructuring that was sent to the Council from an anonymous staff member. He said that he doesn't mind others disagreeing with the proposal, he asked his staff for their input when he personally presented this plan to them. He did say that he wishes that any concerned individual would speak with him personally so that he could explain the necessity of the restructuring further and answer their specific questions and concerns.

Chief Illum provided copies of the full Ambulance Data Report and the proposed new job description to the Council for their review.

Citizen's Concerns—2010 Survey

Discuss Survey Comments

Mayor Burrows reported that those that rate the city services as “good” or “excellent” are in the majority. Councilor Gibby would like the non-response option removed from future surveys so that those that don't want to voice an opinion are not included. Councilor Jenkins said that in her opinion the survey results are basically the same from year to year. Councilor Gibby said he believes that is a good indication that they are consistently serving Riverdale's citizens well.

Mr. Hansen said he believes the survey is useful because it received the highest response rate ever and includes hundreds of comments and suggestions from the citizens that we serve. He pointed out that doing the survey internally saves money over paying a large consulting firm to conduct one and that in his opinion it is a good reflection of the pulse of the community. Mr. Hansen said he read every comment and personally contacted several people looking for individuals that had had a bad experience with something in regards to the city in an effort to address their concerns and be certain that our proposals and plans address those issues. He said that he had also asked the organizers of Old Glory Days to speak with disgruntled resident to hear their concerns and possibly put them on the committee to assist with next year's event.

Mr. Hansen commented that most residents stated on the survey that they love the parks, trails and Splash Pad, but are frustrated with the noise and additional traffic from Ogden residents. He said that because these additions were funded in part with RAMP money they must be open for everyone to use, and it isn't feasible to fence the Splash Pad and sell tickets. According to Mr. Hansen, some Riverdale Park concerns have inexpensive solutions like adding benches, making additional parking available in the fire department parking lot and putting up signs indicating when a pavilion is reserved. He said that right now sharing a swimming pool with Roy makes good financial sense for the city. Mr. Hansen said that the vacancies in The Crossing are going to be a topic of discussion until the complex is filled with restaurants and other businesses.

Councilor Jenkins complimented Website Manager Chris Stone for the addition links to social media like Facebook and Twitter to the city website as additional ways to keep the public informed about what is happening in the city, events, at meetings and as a way to get feedback from the public. She asked if we could encourage more community involvement with contests or giveaways through the website and newsletter. Mr. Hansen said at a previous job the company would hide certain bank account numbers in the text of the monthly newsletter and offer money to the account holder if they read it and discovered their number.

Mr. Fortie asked if local businesses could offer coupons in the city newsletter or if Mr. Stone could highlight a certain business every month willing to offer residents a special discount. Mr. Hansen said an insert could be added with ad

space available for purchase from local businesses to help recoup the cost of the monthly newsletter.

Consensus Priorities for drafting FY 2012 Budget

Mr. Hansen asked the Council for input on the 2012 budget and how they would like to proceed in the future. Councilor Jenkins said that she would like the city to save money for capital improvement projects for an aging infrastructure. Mr. Hansen said \$700,000 was earmarked last year and again this year to help offset less sales tax revenue.

General Fund

Mr. Hansen said the addition of the popular fast food restaurant In and Out and the large Larry H. Miller car dealership won't generate enough revenue to help Riverdale for a few years because of SB 35. According to Mr. Hansen, the businesses that bring in the most money for the city are not necessarily the ones you would imagine or the busiest ones. Councilor Gibby asked what kind of business additions the city would need to profit beyond the restrictions of SB 35. Mr. Hansen said destination retail is the key to long-term sustainability because it attracts buyers from all over that can only get specific products here in Riverdale. Councilor Gibby asked what businesses are the most profitable for the city. Mr. Hansen said a popular car dealership in the city is ideal because it uses very few city resources and on average proves the highest source of income for the city by selling high-priced ticket items.

Councilor Jenkins asked if the Council should take a second look at rezoning certain areas in the general plan to encouraging certain developers and eliminate some of the unused office park space. Mr. Hansen said it might be a future step. According to Mr. Hansen, the Community Development Report has been included in the Council and Planning Commission packets, in the newsletter, and on the website to keep the public informed about new businesses with their eye on Riverdale. He said that the city does have a strategic scenario but is at a crossroads and is asking the Council for guidance on whether or not to alter its approach, especially considering how happy the majority of the residents appear to be with the present use of public funds as indicated in the survey. He said that if the city doesn't keep the 0.2% sales tax revenue in the future it will become necessary not only to do away with city employee raises, but to cut city positions as well. Mr. Hansen informed the Council that the city is currently saving money to protect against a sales tax revenue loss in 2013, but said that additional cuts will be needed to prepare for another potential revenue loss in 2016.

Councilor Jenkins said that she is concerned about the increases to health insurance costs for the city. According to Mr. Hansen, freezing health insurance with employees absorbing any increased premiums is also a cost-cutting option for the Council to consider. He said that he doesn't believe employee pay needs to be cut at this point and reminds that Council that reorganizing the fire department in 2011 will also save the city money. Mr. Hansen said that it is likely that the retirement matching contributions program will also end in the next few years and asked the Council if they have the political will to cut jobs and pay. He said that based on the guidance they receive from the Council today he and Mr.

Fortie will meet and give guidance to the different departments as to what they can expect for the next fiscal year.

The meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m. for a lunch break

The meeting reconvened at 12:35 pm

New Administration Action Plan Initiatives

Mr. Hansen said he doesn't anticipate sales tax revenue increasing during this fiscal year and asked the Council for feedback on the proposed new administration action plan initiatives. Councilor Gibby said that he thinks a uniform policy is important but believes there should be options with health insurance and stated that he would like to see the estimated cost breakdown of any proposal including early retirement options.

Councilor Hunt said he believes it is wise to plan for budget shortfalls before the city begins running at a deficit and asked Mr. Hansen where his current proposals fall in relation to the 2005 color scale. Mr. Hansen said the city used to be run like a country club with policies in the green but these newest proposals fall in the yellow and orange columns. He said that if SB 35 and HB 172 expire by 2017 the city will be in the red and will need to restructure the organization and cut city services to address the expected loss of sales tax revenue. Mr. Hansen said that currently departments like parks and recreation are budgeted to just use part-time employees to help during their busiest seasons but that eventually full-time staff may be required to take furlough days or cut positions. He asked the Council for their input on whether they want to make staff a priority or do away with benefit programs and compensation. **Mayor Burrows asked for consensus on staff preparing three compensation scenarios for the Council to consider for the 2012 budget. Consensus was reached to prepare a fiscal impact analysis of three HR compensation options: 1) current policy continued, 2) eliminate step increases, and 3) use a surplus sharing incentive arrangement.** Mr. Hansen said that he will aim to have a draft for the Council's review by April.

Capital Improvement Projects Plan (FY 2012—FY 2016)

Mr. Moulding said there was nothing new in 2011 to inform the Council about, all of the existing projects had been approved and started previously or already deferred until the economy improves.

Capital Projects Fund

Councilor Gibby asked about a safety net and Mr. Hansen said the city already sets aside money every year in a rainy day fund.

Mr. Fortie told the Council that the phone system installed in 2004 will eventually need to be updated, stating that he has already purchased some of the system components in anticipation of the update which he plans to pay for out of the IT budget without using money from the General Fund.

Chief Hansen said in response to reduced revenue, the basement construction of the police department is on hold, tasers will only be replaced as they break, and his department's car fleet will be extended to a fifth year to cut costs in his department. He said that he anticipates some additional maintenance expenses to replace transmissions and engines the longer his officers drive their vehicles. Councilor Jenkins asked if there were grants available to the city to increase the energy efficiency of the fire and police department buildings. Chief Hansen said the police building is fine.

Parker Drive Curb Gutter & Sidewalk

Mr. Moulding showed a map of the proposed changes to the Council. Councilor Gibby asked if the sidewalk area could have additional parking spaces and Mr. Moulding said that is an option that could be explored and that he would look into angled parking.

Riverdale Park Parking

Mr. Moulding showed the Council the proposed map to add additional parking to Riverdale Park. Councilor Gibby said he is against additional parking inside the park as it will require paving over the Frisbee field. Mr. Hansen asked if there was a way to provide some reserved parking when the Riverdale Park pavilions are reserved. Mr. Moulding said it could be roped off or a sign could be updated daily. Mayor Burrows said many parks have a plaque that indicates when the area is reserved. Councilor Gibby asked about the possibility of reserving one or two parking spaces for the pavilion renters to unload their food. Councilor Arnold said reserving pavilion parking would be too hard to enforce. Councilor Jenkins asked if there could be a parking permit tag that hangs on car rear-view mirrors that would be given to the pavilion renters when they pay to rent the pavilion. Mr. Hansen informed the Council that new park and trail rules are on the March 15th agenda and said that perhaps language could be included to reserve parking for pavilions. He said that rather than creating more parking specifically for the park that the public could be informed that they could use the fire department, recreation center, and school parking lots during the summer. Councilor Jenkins said currently many people park along Ritter Drive causing congestion and Councilor Gibby suggested created angled parking. Mr. Moulding pointed out that the congestion problem associated with the new Splash Pad could be temporary as other cities build similar facilities.

Park Trail Benches, Picnic Tables, Etc.

Mr. Moulding said a well-made bench could cost the city \$1,000. Wood benches would be cheaper but would require additional maintenance work. Councilor Gibby suggested using fiberglass benches at half the cost and requiring no maintenance. Mr. Moulding said in response to citizen survey comments he proposed setting a few benches around the Splash Pad so parents could watch their children. He also recommended the

Council approve a railing directing children to enter the Splash Pad from the paved side to prevent them from tracking a lot of grass onto the pad and clogging the filters. **Mayor Burrows asked the Council for consensus to add the additional benches, picnic tables, and Splash Pad railing. Consensus was reached.**

Enterprise Funds (Water, Sewer, Storm, Garbage)

Mr. Moulding informed the Council that the balance of the city's sewer projects will be completed in 2011. He said that he would do some spot repairs using a new liner to ensure it works properly before investing a lot of money in the product. Councilor Jenkins asked how long the liners last and Mr. Moulding said it was considered a long-term repair.

Mr. Moulding said that there were also some storm water projects scheduled for next year as his department had saved money on other projects by completing the work under bid. He also addressed the need for a third water tank stating that the city already owns the land where the proposed tank is scheduled to be built and that construction is scheduled to begin in the next six months. Mr. Moulding said that the city still needs permission for any overflow runoff to be returned to the canal. Councilor Gibby asked about the golf course in the area and Mr. Moulding said he is waiting to be sure the land use is set before construction proceeds.

Garbage Recycling Service

Mr. Moulding showed a chart comparing the different costs of waste removal to different cities including Riverdale. He said that when he calculated the cost to the city a year ago it was around two dollars per home if everyone used a bin. Mr. Moulding said that other cities have indicated they experience a large initial signup with a relatively small amount dropping out of the program over time. Councilor Gibby said that many residents who responded to the city survey seem to be demanding the service and that the cost is comparable to ordering a second garbage can. Mr. Moulding said he believes that initially several people will opt out because they are currently out of work and times are tough, but that over time he believes Riverdale will experience a similar response to Farmington who has had more residents add the service over the years than drop out of the program.

Mayor Burrows said whatever the Council decides he believes it is important to be up front with the public by holding an open house forum to get more input so that the public doesn't feel their leaders railroaded recycling. Councilor Arnold recommended approaching the addition by stating that the cost of garbage pickup is increasing by two dollars with the additional service of recycling added, rather than calling it mandatory recycling. Mr. Hansen suggested increasing the cost of the second garbage can and making recycling bins cheaper to incentivize people to recycle. Councilor Gibby recommended Riverdale citizens see the costs clearly listed and have the option to opt in or out of recycling. Mr. Hansen asked the Mayor and Council if they want to hold a town meeting or just

make a decision as a ruling body. Councilor Gibby said the Council has already received the public's input through the surveys and so he feels the best course of action is to make a decision and inform the public. Councilor Arnold said he doesn't feel a public meeting is valuable as they are often not well attended and those that do come often only represent the views of a few residents. He said that even with a two dollar increase, Riverdale is still one of the cheapest cities for waste collection. Councilors Arnold, Jenkins and Gibby all agree there must be criteria for opting out, based on hardship. Mayor Burrows said it will be important to get Riverdale Elementary on board with the recycling effort. Mr. Moulding said it will take 6 to 8 weeks to have the bins made and distributed but there is money to order them already set aside in the current budget. **Mayor Burrows asked for consensus to put recycling on an upcoming Council agenda. Consensus was reached**

Other Funds (General, Internal Service, & RDA)

RDA Project Area and Program Review

Mr. Hansen reported that the Senior Center is running successfully as an example of a city project built on an RDA area. He pointed out other RDA areas in the city and stated that Mr. Daily was working with some land owners and interested developers to facilitate the city's growth. He addressed the vacant buildings in Riverdale including Macy's, the Crossing, and the West Bench Project area and efforts to encourage new destination retail. Mayor Burrows also said that the city has had discussions about moving a regional emergency dispatch center to Riverdale into the TCI building after the dispatch center's current lease ends with Ogden city.

Falcon Hill Master Plans

Mr. Daily presented the Council with an update on the Falcon Hill development proposal discussing the potential impact to the Riverdale area. He pointed out that the MIDA board will determine the land uses and informed the Council that the area will be zoned for many different businesses including general office space, research labs, production and light manufacturing, retail, hotels, restaurants, etc. Councilor Gibby asked about access to the new development and Mr. Daily said on the North end there will be an entry east of the freeway exit at 5600 South and to the South an entrance east of a new proposed freeway off ramp to be created in Sunset.

Mayor Burrows said that the 2030 plan stipulates that the retail in Falcon Hill cannot conflict with the existing retail of the neighboring cities and commented that after the development's infrastructure is paid for, the tax revenue income of those properties on Riverdale land will be distributed back to the city.

Mr. Daily said the project is slated to begin construction on the South end first, then the North end in Riverdale around 5600 S. and finally the middle section will be developed last.

Discretionary Items

Councilor Hunt asked if the Council had reached consensus on implementing the proposed changes to fire department restructuring. **Mayor Burrows asked for consensus on implementation of the proposed changes to the Riverdale Fire Department. Consensus was reached.**

Councilor Arnold asked if Riverdale's after school recreation programs could start 15 minutes later to allow the children that go to school in Washington Terrace to participate. Mr. Fortie said that he would talk to Jeannette Hall about the change.

Councilor Jenkins asked Chief Hansen about Representative Curt Oda's feral cat bill and how it will affect Riverdale. Chief Hansen said that his department will address the change in the law if it passes.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Council at this time the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:13 p.m.

Approved: March 15, 2010

Attest:

Bruce Burrows, Mayor

Ember Herrick, City Recorder