

MINUTES OF THE MIDWAY CITY COUNCIL

(Work Meeting)

Tuesday, 19 July 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Midway Community Center, City Council Chambers
160 West Main Street, Midway, Utah

Note: Notices/agendas were posted at 7-Eleven, Ridley's Express, the United States Post Office, the Midway City Office Building, and the Midway Community Center. Notices/agendas were provided to the City Council, City Engineer, City Attorney, Planning Director, and The Wasatch Wave. The public notice/agenda was published on the Utah State Public Notice Website and the City's website. A copy of the public notice/agenda is contained in the supplemental file.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Members Present:

Celeste Johnson, Mayor
Steve Dougherty, Council Member
Jeff Drury, Council Member
Lisa Orme, Council Member
Kevin Payne, Council Member
JC Simonsen, Council Member

Staff Present:

Corbin Gordon, Attorney
Wes Johnson, Engineer
Brad Wilson, Recorder

Note: A copy of the meeting roll is contained in the supplemental file.

2. Heber Valley Corridor Environmental Impact Statement (Craig Hancock and Geoff Dupaix (UDOT – Approximately 40 minutes) – Approximately 60 minutes) – Receive an update from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) regarding the Heber Valley Corridor Environmental Impact Statement.

Craig Hancock, project manager, gave a presentation regarding the Impact Statement and reviewed the following items:

- Project purpose
- Development of alternatives
- Alternative concept themes
- Screening process and criteria
- Alternatives carried forward to the draft environmental impact statement

Mr. Hancock also made the following comments:

- Was seeking comments on the process used to reduce the number of alternatives or routes.
- Comment would be sought on a draft statement in the middle of 2023.
- 50% of the traffic on Heber Main Street was through traffic.
- A proposed railroad spur would not reduce the number of semi-trucks on Heber Main Street.
- Cost was only a factor in eliminating an alternative if it was orders of magnitude greater than the other routes. The cost was out of the realm of anything that would be funded.
- A cost benefit analysis was not done for each route.
- All impacts were evaluated.
- The alternative that included a tunnel was eliminate because of cost, technical challenges, ground water, and federal restrictions for trucks hauling flammable materials.
- Comments had been received opposing and supporting the alternatives through the north fields.
- The process was an informed decision and not a vote.
- Feedback would be used in analyzing the alternatives.
- The alternatives could change slightly going forward.

Note: A copy of Mr. Hancock's presentation is contained in the supplemental file.

The Council, staff, and meeting attendees discussed the following items:

- Did the Council want to support a resolution, passed by the Wasatch County Council, regarding the proposed routes and the screening process? Comments on the process needed to be submitted on or before July 22nd.
- The purpose of the corridor was beyond protecting Heber Main Street.
- The biggest problem on Heber Main Street was semi-trucks.
- One of the remaining routes being considered was what a previous Wasatch County council supported.
- Norway had an extension tunnel system.
- The alternatives that went through the north fields received the most pushback.
- The alternatives that went to River Road would most encourage development of the north fields.
- The selection criteria were questionable. The only routes chosen were on the west side of Heber City and went through the north fields.
- Should Heber Main Street be the most significant driver for the decision?
- The remaining alternatives were basically the same.

3. Midway Irrigation Company / Enforcing Water Restrictions (Mike Kohler – Approximately 20 minutes) – Discuss assisting the Midway Irrigation Company in the enforcement of water restrictions.

Mike Kohler made the following comments:

- It had been a tough year because of the limited amount of water.
- The canyons and springs were only producing 40% of the normal amount of water.
- Some springs had gone dry and there was no water in the irrigation pond at the Wasatch Mountain Golf Course.

- Residents were complying less with water restrictions than they did the previous year.
- Needed help to encourage compliance.
- Needed to at least get through the next three weeks of water usage.
- There were property owners that watered every day.

The Council, staff, and meeting attendees discussed the following items:

- There was not enough water pressure at night. There was more pressure during the day, but water was lost to evaporation at that time. Mr. Kohler responded that residents should water during the day if needed.
- Information about water restrictions needed to be provided earlier and to everyone.
- Could the City include a message on its water bills regarding the restrictions? Alternatives to the billing cards should be considered to allow for better noticing.
- Could valves be added to the pressurized irrigation system to turn off water during restricted periods? Mr. Kohler responded that each area included groups that needed to water at different times.
- The restrictions were more generous than is some other areas of Utah.

4. Adjournment

Motion: Council Member Drury moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Orme seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.


Celeste Johnson, Mayor


Brad Wilson, Recorder