



Minutes of the Roy City Council Meeting held in person in the Roy City Council Chambers and streamed on YouTube on October 17, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the Utah Public Notice Website at least 24 hours in advance. A copy of the agenda was also posted on the Roy City website.

The following members were in attendance:

Mayor Dandoy	City Manager, Matt Andrews
Councilmember Jackson	City Attorney, Matt Wilson
Councilmember Joe Paul	City Recorder, Brittany Fowers
Councilmember Scadden	
Councilmember Wilson	
Councilmember Sophie Paul	

Excused:

Also present were: Assistant City Manager, Brody Flint; Parks and Recreation Director, Michelle Howard.

A. Welcome & Roll Call

Mayor Dandoy welcomed those in attendance and noted Councilmembers Jackson, Wilson, Sophie Paul, Scadden, and Joe Paul were present.

B. Discussion Items

1. Traffic/Crosswalk Beacons

Mayor Dandoy discussed how often residents brought complaints about traffic, speeding, and congestion to the attention of the Council. He then pointed out the US Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration stated in their manual that all traffic control devices had minimum standards to provide guidelines to ensure uniformity across the nation, which meant that manual set the standard for all traffic control devices on any road open to the public. He added the State law also directed them to follow the guidelines in the manual, so anything Roy City decided to do would have to comply with the manual. Mayor Dandoy told the Council they needed to consider not only traffic control devices, which included things such as lines on pavements, crosswalk beacons, and flashing lights, but they also needed to think about that the law prohibited the installation of yield or stop signs to control traffic. He noted that in the past, the Council had voted to use a four-way intersection to control speeding, which was actually in violation of the manual. He added that it was not required to conduct a traffic study in order to change the speed limit, however, any other change to roads did require that Engineering examine the issue.

Mayor Dandoy asked how many speed indicator units they had, and City Manager Andrews replied the city had one in the city, although had ordered six more. Mayor Dandoy discussed how the speed indicator units actually informed the operator when someone was speeding and said they were effective in slowing down traffic. Mayor Dandoy said those were non-invasive traffic calming devices and could be a good option. City Manager Andrews added they could be moved and were not a permanent installation. Councilmember Jackson commented if people got too used to the presence of a speed indicator, it might lose its effectiveness. City Manager Andrews reported on a study conducted by the University of Utah which had

found speed indicator units were primarily effective for people who intended to obey the law but were being careless or forgot the actual speed of the road. City Manager Andrews noted the units were not effective on people who did not care or did not intend to obey the speed limit anyway.

Mayor Dandoy said the Council needed to consider three issues: the speed limit issues, the possibility of a three or four way stops, and the addition of another traffic beacon on 4300. City Manager Andrews elaborated and discussed the history of this issue, which was that a resident had come to a previous Council meeting to request the installation of a four-way stop sign at 2500 West 5175 South. City Manager Andrews said they currently had an east-west stop sign at that intersection, but it was not a four way. He noted when they had conducted a traffic study, the results had indicated a four way stop sign could be added at the intersection. He discussed the details of the study and reported that the researchers recommended that a four-way stop be added to the intersection. On top of that, City Manager Andrews proposed they add flashing lights at the new stop signs to alert people who might not be used to the stop signs being placed there, and to mitigate issues in the future. Mayor Dandoy reminded the Council this was not a vote; just a discussion and asked what they wanted to consider doing in that intersection.

Councilmember Wilson thought the main issue was the sight triangle and said that was a realistic fix. She asked how many criteria they needed to have in order to qualify for a four way stop, and City Manager Andrews replied there only needed to be one criterion met in order to add a four way stop. Councilmember Wilson pointed out if they could solve for the sight triangle, there would only be one criteria remaining that would justify a four way stop. She thought they could pursue options to address the sight triangle regardless of whatever else they did.

Councilmember Jackson commented that this was close to her house, and said her recommendation was to install a flashing stop sign on the corner of 2500 going west. She expressed concerns that if they put a four way stop sign in, people on 2500 would run the sign. She pointed out most of the accidents on the road occurred on 2500 and thought a four-way stop would only increase issues.

Councilmember Wilson thought that a flashing stop sign along with the sight triangle should address the issue. The Council discussed the sight triangle briefly, and debated if it was just a Code enforcement issue. City Manager Andrews thought it was a bigger issue than just asking the homeowner on the corner to cut back their hedges; the way the road was laid out had inherent visibility issues. City Manager Andrews commented he had driven the road several times and thought the sight triangle was inhibited due to elevation changes and the curvature of the road. City Manager Andrews said the recommendation of the professionals was to install a four way stop sign. Mayor Dandoy agreed and recalled a previous police chief had told him a similar thing about needing the approval of Engineering before the Council made decisions about road safety. Mayor Dandoy said the question for the Council was if they wanted to put a four way stop sign in or find another solution. The Councilmembers agreed that they wanted to take the advice of the engineering experts and take their recommendation.

City Manager Andrews clarified they did not need a resolution to move forward, just a consensus. Mayor Dandoy summarized the Council wished to move forward. Councilmember Jackson asked if there would be a grace period for people in the first couple days after the signs were installed, since people who frequently drove the road would not be used to their presence. The Council discussed they would need to have flashing stop signs in order to alert drivers to their existence.

Mayor Dandoy then asked about beacons. City Manager Andrews said they had received public feedback about the addition of a crosswalk and crosswalk beacon on 4300 by Emma Russel Park, although the researchers of the traffic study had not found evidence to support this and did not recommend a crosswalk. City Manager Andrews explained the safe walking route as identified by the traffic study and noted that the issue was primarily students walking home from school. Mayor Dandoy said this would be a traffic calming

device, and said the manual was very specific as to how calming devices needed to be designed. Mayor Dandoy reiterated that the study did not recommend a calming device and said there was no justification for the crosswalk. He cautioned the Council that if they chose to sidestep this and build a crosswalk anyway, they possibly opened themselves up to litigation or being in violation of the federal manual. Mayor Dandoy added they also could not install a beacon, since there were specific criteria which had to be met for a beacon to be installed, and the area did not meet the criteria. Councilmember Joe Paul commented population was not likely to increase in that area anyway, since the city was not developing anything over there and did not intend to build new homes in the area. Mayor Dandoy agreed with this, and strongly recommended that the Council not attempt to override the engineering data. Councilmember Jackson asked what the length of time was for the study was conducted, and it was discussed that the studies generally took several days to complete.

Councilmember Wilson noted the traffic study did suggest a speed increase and asked if they wanted to raise the speed limit to 30. She noted that a speed increase had also been proposed in the General Plan. Councilmember Joe Paul expressed he was in favor of raising the speed limit to make it more uniform in the corridor but thought if they were going to do that it did not make sense to add a crosswalk there. He said if the speed limit increased, people should walk to the stop sign in order to cross the street. Mayor Dandoy noted a beacon would add awareness for individuals, although they could also add a speed indicator unit to the area, which would bring awareness to drivers that they were speeding.

City Manager Andrews commented that the city was unsure exactly where they wanted to locate their new speed indicator units. Councilmember Sophie Paul suggested that they meet with the nearby elementary school, Freedom Elementary, in order to understand where their safe walking routes were in order to get an idea as to where the speed indicator units might be most useful. Councilmember Joe Paul noted that the school district had recently redefined their boundaries, and wondered if this would increase the amount of people who went to Freedom Elementary. There was a short discussion about how Freedom Elementary was technically in another city although it was funded by Roy City.

Mayor Dandoy asked the Council if they were okay not adding a beacon on 4300, and the Councilmembers agreed to this. Mayor Dandoy noted if this was how they wanted to proceed, they could ask Staff to continue researching other options to control traffic on that road.

Mayor Dandoy noted there were good arguments to raise the speed limit. City Manager Andrews elaborated that when they first collected data for 4400 the speed in the 85% percentile was 38 miles an hour, although when Councilmember Wilson had pulled the data, it showed the speed in the 85% percentile was 33 miles per hour, which suggested the feedback sign was effective. City Manager Andrews thought the speed indicators were good and effective tools, and notably were non-invasive. City Manager Andrews identified several areas throughout town which had been proposed to have a speed indicator unit, but noted this was open for discussion. The Councilmembers proposed several other areas which might warrant a speed indicator unit. Councilmember Joe Paul asked if the flashing light was distracting or noticeable for residents, and City Manager Andrews replied he had never received negative feedback about them, and imagined residents would be appreciative of having a traffic calming measure near their home. City Manager Andrews stated the city had ordered more units than they currently had designed sites for and invited the Council to give him suggestions about high traffic areas in which a unit might be helpful. Mayor Dandoy agreed the units would be very useful when located strategically throughout the town. Mayor Dandoy thought they should first install the units in areas that had been identified by the Traffic Control plan, and then the Council could decide where the remaining units were placed.

Councilmember Wilson commented that the speed hump units were primarily beneficial for people who did not live in the area and did not often use the road, as they were more likely to be unaware of the speed limit. Mayor Dandoy acknowledged this point and thought most people who lived near a unit tended to

appreciate them as it mitigated speeding issues on their street.

2. Transient Room Tax

Assistant City Manager Flint explained the transient road tax, and noted they had received some negative feedback about it when it was first been presented to the Council. He explained this was not a tax on Roy City residents; it was a tax for people who stayed at hotels and motels within Roy City boundaries. He said this tax fed their General Fund directly. Assistant City Manager Flint understood some people were upset about the word “tax” and reiterated this did not impact residents. He stated Weber County had brought in \$255,000 in transient room tax over the course of nine months, although noted the County rate was 4% of the hotel room rate, whereas the City’s would just be 1% of the room rate. He then listed the revenue that other cities near Roy City had collected in transient room tax. He noted Ogden had collected about \$26,000 and said he had tried to find similar sized cities to Roy, such as Logan, which had collected about \$34,000. He said that within Weber County, Roy City and Eden were the only cities who had hotels that had not approved the transient room tax. Assistant City Manager Flint thought this was something which could increase City revenue without changing the budget or putting a burden on residents. He stated he was in favor of this idea and noted that there were some hotel developers who were waiting to see what happened with the Woodbury CRA that would like to see that tax. Assistant City Manager Flint reiterated Roy City was the only municipality that did not have this tax and said the rate of tax was not so great it would be an undue financial constraint on travelers.

Councilmember Joe Paul thought the conversation they had about this previously had been due to misunderstanding and acknowledged at the time he had been put off by the use of the word “tax.” Mayor Dandoy recalled as well that their previous conversation had been somewhat contentious and said if Roy City was to put a hotel downtown, it would likely often be at full capacity since it would hold many conferences, tournaments, and other gatherings. Councilmember Joe Paul commented that people travelling for work would have the cost of the hotel, including the tax, reimbursed by their company, so the extra tax would not matter to them. Mayor Dandoy pointed out that hotels also put more strain on their police force and said this tax could be used to help account for some of those costs. Councilmember Jackson opined she was in favor of the tax, although wanted to ensure the revenue from it was equally distributed throughout the town. It was clarified the money would go into the General Fund.

The Councilmembers agreed they wanted to move forward with the transient room tax.

3. Aquatic Center Rentals

Mayor Dandoy reminded the Council about the proposal of adjusting their rental policy to allow for another municipality to lock down dates for certain large events, since no cities had an aquatic center comparable to Roy’s. Mayor Dandoy noted both Washington Terrace and Riverdale paid for access to Roy City’s aquatic center, and then sold access to their residents at subsidized rates. Councilmember Joe Paul thought they should allow the free market to manage rentals, and whoever could pay the most had priority rentals.

Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Howard reported that last year, the majority of the rentals had filled up within two days. She read the current rental policy, and summarized that based on their conversation in September, it seemed as though the Council wanted to limit the reservations to just municipalities, and not open it up to other organizations or entities. She said the staff had come up with two draft options to allow another municipality to get a booking and explained one option allowed municipalities to book on the first two days of January, and the other option would allow municipalities to make an early reservation in December before anything was technically open. She also went over the stipulations, namely that a \$500 booking charge would be assessed on top of the non-resident fee, only one day could be reserved, and reservations had to be made in person or over the phone, not online. She shared a comprehensive view of

both options.

Councilmember Sophie Paul thought it would be best to make an early booking in December. Councilmember Wilson agreed and thought if the intention was to allow other cities to make early bookings, it would be easier to do so in December rather than January. Parks and Recreation Director Howard noted Riverdale reserved the facility for a few days throughout the year, although their dates were not important, so they just took whatever was left available after Roy residents had taken the dates that they needed. Councilmember Scadden expressed he was in favor of the booking fee but thought if they were going to assess that charge then they should allow them to reserve in December.

Councilmember Scadden asked how many days were available to rent throughout the season and Parks and Recreation Director Howard replied it varied but was in the range of 50-60 days. Councilmember Scadden asked if they could charge businesses the \$500 premium and not just municipalities, and pointed out this would be a lucrative stream of revenue for the city. Councilmember Jackson asked if they were going to reevaluate the rates that they charged businesses. Councilmember Scadden added that if the rentals were almost all taken within two days, this indicated they had something the free market wanted and thought they should charge a flat rate to businesses, since they would be willing to pay it. Councilmember Wilson asked what the maximum number of people were allowed in the aquatic center at one time, and it was discussed the capacity was around 1,500 people.

Mayor Dandoy summarized the Council wanted to charge a flat rate of \$1,500, with an additional \$500 for municipalities that wanted priority booking. Mayor Dandoy directed Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Howard to take the Council's feedback to come up with a final draft to be brought back for Council's approval. The Council concurred they wanted to have a flat fee rather than a tiered system, since people had taken advantage of this in the past. The Councilmembers also agreed they were going to limit the bookings to municipalities and not open it up to businesses or other kinds of entities. The Councilmembers also determined they wanted to limit it to one day of priority booking.

4. 2024 Roy Days Recommendations

Councilmember Sophie Paul reported on the post 2023 Roy Days meetings, in which they had discussed what had and had not gone well and thought about what they wanted to see again in the future. She asked the Councilmembers for feedback on the 2023 Concert in the Park performances, and Councilmember Joe Paul discussed he had not liked that they had moved the dates around to accommodate football games. Councilmember Jackson agreed with Councilmember Joe Paul and commented she had only been able to attend one night of Roy Days, and she expressed how satisfied she had been with the day she had been able to attend. Councilmember Sophie Paul summarized that they would try to rearrange the dates for 2024 so it would fall in football pre-season.

Councilmember Sophie Paul reported that the Arts Council had received their budget and asked the Council for their recommendation about salmon bake tickets. Councilmember Wilson thought they needed to consider who got salmon bake tickets and thought there was currently some confusion about who got to eat for free. Councilmember Wilson added that whatever they decided to do, they needed to remember that the city was subsidizing it. She thought there were many groups, including the Council, the Planning Commission, and the Arts Council, who could arguably get free tickets, although it was a larger issue and they needed to consider it as such. Councilmember Wilson pointed out they could consider changing the price of tickets, or offering discounts as opposed to totally complimentary tickets. She recalled in the past some of the people who had complimentary tickets ended up not attending, which also complicated attendance. Councilmember Joe Paul thought if they were going to give out totally free tickets, it should go to people who were working or volunteering for the event.

Councilmember Sophie Paul commented she was unsure of the total number of complimentary tickets they had given out last year, and said 401 tickets had been sold in 2023, as well as 50 day-of sales. Councilmember Sophie Paul said she mainly wanted there to be clarity about how many free tickets would be given out. She also explained if people donated a certain amount, they received a number of free tickets for them to give to friends and family. She listed some of their main sponsors as Coca-Cola, Parsons, and Larry H. Miller.

Mayor Dandoy acknowledged the salmon bake was a large event and thought it necessitated larger conversation. He said it seemed the Arts Council wanted better advertisement for the contest they held as well as larger involvement in the salmon bake. Councilmember Sophie Paul said they did not have to make any major decisions right now, but she did want to put these issues on their radar, so they did not neglect anything. She said they needed to think about tickets, sponsorship, and the salmon bake primarily. Mayor Dandoy thought they should take Councilmember Sophie Paul's comments and keep them in mind as they had meetings about Roy Days 2024. Mayor Dandoy also thought more Councilmembers should get involved with the planning of Roy Days. Mayor Dandoy agreed there was nothing they could solve for that evening, and acknowledged there were several members of the Arts Council who were disappointed about how the salmon bake had gone that year. He said that both he and City Manager Andrews had been unaware that members of the Arts Council had received free tickets in the past. He noted they had rectified the issue and going forward the members of the Arts Council would get at least two tickets.

C. City Manager & Council Report

N/A

D. Adjournment

Councilmember Joe Paul motioned to adjourn; Councilmember Wilson seconded at the motion carried.

Robert Dandoy
Mayor

Attest:

Brittany Fowers
City Recorder

dc: