

KAYSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

August 22, 2019

Minutes of a special Kaysville City Council meeting held August 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Kaysville City Municipal Center.

Council Members present: Mayor Katie Witt, Council Member Larry Page, Council Member Jake Garn, Council Member Michelle Barber, and Council Member Stroh DeCaire

Absent: Council Member Dave Adams

Others Present: City Manager Shayne Scott, City Recorder Annemarie Plaizier, City Attorney Nic Mills, Parks and Recreation Director Cole Stephens, Ramona Porter, Elizabeth Heath, Judy Rigby, John Swan Adams, Brian Bell

OPENING

An opening prayer was given by Council Member DeCaire. Council Member Barber led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CANVASS RESULTS OF THE MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2019

City Attorney Nic Mills explained that the City Council acts as the Board of Canvassers and therefore must approve the results of the 2019 Municipal Primary Election as provided by the Davis County Elections office.

Council Member DeCaire made a motion to approve the Canvass Results of the Municipal Primary Election held of August 13, 2019 as provided, seconded by Council Member Barber.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Council Member Page, yea
Council Member Garn, yea
Council Member Barber, yea
Council Member DeCaire, yea

The motion passed unanimously.

A RESOLUTION TO NOTIFY THE DAVIS COUNTY COMMISSION OF KAYSVILLE CITY'S INTENT TO SUBMIT AN OPINION QUESTION TO KAYSVILLE CITY RESIDENTS, PROVIDING EACH RESIDENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS AN OPINION OF THE IMPOSITION OF A LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX OF 0.1% TO FINANCE RECREATION, ARTS, MUSEUMS, AND PARK FACILITIES, AND THE

OPERATING EXPENSES OF THESE PROPOSED FACILITIES WITHIN KAYSVILLE CITY

City Manager Shayne Scott explained that the City Council discussed the implementation of a RAMP tax in their meeting on August 15, 2019 and asked for this item to be on tonight's agenda for further discussion and possible approval. Parks and Recreation Director Cole Stephens has since contacted cities within our area and is here tonight to discuss his findings.

Parks and Recreation Director Cole Stephens commented that he had reached out to Farmington City and Layton City, who both have implemented the RAMP tax, to see what process they followed to get it onto the ballot and how the funds are being spent. Mr. Stephens said that he felt that Layton had followed the best process and had a good plan in place before it was sent to vote. They had established a committee to decide the best way to move this forward, as well as how the money would be spent. Not only can entities within the city benefit from the RAMP funding, but outside entities could also apply for funding. Farmington took a different approach and didn't do any advocacy as Staff. Residents were the ones to move this tax forward to the ballot. Farmington City is the sole beneficiary of the funds and they have the ability to define where the funds are spent. Both cities spent much time reviewing this idea before moving forward to the ballot. It was studied in great depth internally. Each city must decide how we want to proceed forward and then define it.

Mayor Witt stated that she had received many emails both residents who were excited the city was considering a RAMP tax, and those who were not. It is great that citizens get to vote on this. However, it seems that there isn't enough clarity about it yet. There is a lot of confusion about what a RAMP tax is and what it would go towards. Some think that all of the funds would go to one specific project, not spread out among many things. An advisory board needs to be formed to create a master plan for our community. We need to put in the research and time to get this right, and it would be best if we waited a year before putting it on the ballot.

Council Member DeCaire commented that he is an ardent supporter of the arts, humanities and culture and would like to see the RAMP tax implemented. However, we don't have a lot of information at this point and would like to see some civic engagement from our residents about this. We need to do this with the proper vetting so that it does not fail. The RAMP tax is a good idea, but expediting this right now is not the right choice.

Council Member Page said that he had spoken with many residents of the city on the phone about the RAMP tax and only one of them knew what it was about. Council Member Page said that he liked the format Layton followed to implement their RAMP tax. It would be best if this waited until next year to be voted on so that there is a better chance of it passing.

Council Member Garn commented that because next year is a presidential election we will likely have more of a voter turnout. Council Member Garn added that whatever is decided for where this money to go towards, it should be towards something that does not have a high maintenance cost.

Council Member Barber stated that she is a huge supporter of the parks and recreation of the city, and a RAMP tax will be a good revenue source. Sometimes things need to be put on a ballot in order to raise awareness to the public that it's even being considered. It doesn't always pass, and when it doesn't you have a better chance of getting more residents advocating for it if it's on the next ballot. Council Member Barber commented that while she respects due process, sometimes we should not be so cautious and move forward to see what happens.

Mayor Witt asked for public comment.

Elizabeth Heath said that she agrees that the community needs more education regarding the RAMP tax and as a city we need to pull together to find ways to better support our parks, arts, and history. We need to have a strategic plan for the city. There's a lot we can do towards this and a lot we can do together.

Judy Rigby stated that she is a member of the Kaysville and Fruit Heights Museum Board as well as the Historic Preservation Commission and is excited the city is considering a RAMP tax. This type of tax is different than property tax in that this money is coming out of money already spent on things. The amount taxed is very small and isn't a lot to ask of people. The way you approach people with this idea will make a difference.

Brian Bell said that there is not many who have been informed about this topic and we need to have a plan in place for what this money would be going towards before putting it on the ballot.

There was no motion made for this item.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Garn made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:16 p.m., seconded by Council Member Page and passed unanimously.