

NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 30, 2010

The North Ogden City Council and Planning Commission convened in regular session on March 30, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Offices. Notice of time, place and agenda of the meeting was delivered to each member of the City Council, posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on March 26, 2010.

PRESENT:	Richard Harris	Mayor
	Martha Harris	Council Member (arrived at 6 pm)
	Wade Bigler	Council Member
	Ron Flamm	Council Member
	Carl Turner	Council Member
	Brent Taylor	Council Member (by phone)
	Jon Bingham	Planning Commission Chair
	Bruce Catanzaro	Planning Commissioner
	Joan Brown	Planning Commissioner
	Ken Kiser	Planning Commissioner
	Steve Quinney	Planning Commissioner
	Allan Dalpias	Planning Commissioner
	Dave Hulme	Planning Commissioner
STAFF PRESENT:	Edward O. Dickie	City Manager
	Annette Spendlove	City Recorder
	Gary Kerr	Building Official
	Polo Afuvai	Police Chief
	Craig Barker	Community Development Director
	Julia LaSeure	Commercial Development Coordinator
VISITORS:	Richard Hendrix	David Gordon
	Wes VanDyke	Taylor Spendlove
	Helen Taylor	Michelle Tait
	Jenice Jones	Chris Bowen
	Julia Bowen	Jo Canfield
	Marilyn Nye	Tinamarie Fowler
	Mike Westbroek	Shawn Maynard
	Dave Meents	Kerry Walker
	Chris Zenger	Ryan Hadley
	Robert Hadley	Mitchell Mosher
	Bryant Mackley	Paul Mackley

WELCOME.

Mayor Harris welcomed the Planning Commission and visitors and thanked them for coming. Council Member Martha Harris will be here later. Council Member Brent Taylor is here by phone.

Council Member Turner gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE MISS NORTH OGDEN PAGEANT.

Edward O. Dickie, City Manager, explained that Harrisville City Manager, Bill Morris, asked if they could participate in our pageant. They are willing to participate. Ed Dickie gave two options; pay according to population or split the cost up evenly depending on how many girls participate from each city. Council Member Flamm liked the first option the best because of budget constraints and you don't know how many girls will participate from each city. Council Member Turner asked about the eight girls. Council Member Bigler stated he would like to see eight North Ogden girls left in it. Ed Dickie asked whether we will allow Harrisville to participate after eight North Ogden girls are signed up. He would like to see it the way we have it. Council Member Taylor stated that he voted not to fund the pageant this year but because it was approved he thinks we should welcome the participation from Harrisville City.

Council Member Flamm moved to accept the Harrisville girls into the pageant and go by population for this year. Council Member Carl Turner seconded.

Mayor Rick Hendricks of Harrisville asked how many girls from Harrisville have participated, over the years. Mayor Harris replied that North Ogden approached Pleasant View and they choose not to participate. Council Member Bigler stated that it doesn't make sense to have someone who isn't from North Ogden participate. He said it is North Ogden taxpayers' money that is paying for this event. It is a North Ogden pageant not a North View pageant. Council Member Taylor agreed with what Council Member Bigler had said, but if there is a way to bring in some money then he would like to see us save some money and allow Harrisville to participate if they pay their share. Council Member Bigler stated that it depends on how you see it. He sees it as spending a lot of money with no benefit.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Flamm	yes
Council Member Bigler	no
Council Member Turner	yes
Council Member Taylor	yes

Motion passed.

2. INTRODUCTION TO THIS MEETING.

Mayor Harris explained the meeting process. He drew attention to item #7 on the agenda. He stated that Council Member Taylor has a suggestion that will be presented later. Mayor Harris said that we are not making any decisions tonight, but discussing how we can get to some resolution.

3. BUSINESS COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS.

Jo Canfield, owner of Yoga Jo's, read from a document (attachment A).

Shawn Maynard of Bullfrog Spas and The Cannery read from a presentation regarding the display of product outside (attachment B).

Council Member Martha Harris arrived at 6pm.

Jenice Jones of Jones Shirts and Signs explained that she prepared her information from a book called “The Value of Signs”. She then read a handout (attachment C) and presented a video titled “Vital Signs – Vibrant Communities” created by the International Sign Association.

She explained to the Council that small signs are great if you are a branded company. If you are a small independent business then no one will notice you. She said the size of letters needs to be 12” to 15” to be readable at 45 to 50 miles per hour. She then presented a video.

Chris Bowen of Utah Air Systems read from a presentation about vehicle signage (attachment D).

Tina Marie Fowler, ITEX (International Trading Exchange) read from a presentation on temporary outdoor signs (attachment E).

Lindee Bess of Besst Realty read from a presentation regarding window signage (attachment F). She stated that she would like to see the 25% window coverage by signs regulation revisited.

Wes VanDyke, Assistant Division Manager for Young Electronic Signs, YESCO, read from a presentation titled “Finding Common Ground” which included information on signs according to the Small Business Administration (attachment G). Recommendations from Mr. Van Dyke’s presentation include staying away from the following:

1. Copying other city’s sign ordinance
2. Avoid subjective regulations
3. Color-based or text only regulations.
4. Fixed square footage regulations

Kerry Walker of Walker Cinemas has taken pictures of standalone signs and showed a slide presentation including signs in Brigham City, Utah. He stated that for a standalone sign you need a larger sign area for people to read. A 32 square foot maximum is pretty small and ridiculous. Businesses rely on advertising.

Shawn Maynard read from a presentation titled “How does North Ogden compare?” on behalf of the business owners (attachment H).

Paul Mackley of North View Dental complemented the Planning Commission and Council for revisiting the sign ordinance. He explained that he is looking at getting a new sign.

Chris Zanger of Great Harvest Bread said that he has a store in Ogden as well as North Ogden. He is trying to get more business in the store here. He stated that he would like to see the mess cleaned up a little as he feels like “less is more” and businesses can do a little better. He thinks we need to look at everything and not make a mess.

Jo Canfield of Yoga Jo’s stated that a new client came into her store because of the sign that says Yoga not because they knew where the Greystone building is. She feels that signage is very important.

Carla Chugg, a North Ogden resident, said she loves North Ogden and has deep roots here. Her heart goes out to these businesses because of the economy. We need to support the businesses in our community.

Marilyn Nye of Jensen Floral stated that she used to put a sign up every day but got in trouble with the City and had to discontinue because of the current rules. She would like the city to reconsider the signs.

4. OTHER COMMENTS.

Taylor Spendlove, 830 E. 3550 N. agrees with the things that have been discussed. He would like to see a committee formed with former Planning Commission Members, members of the business community, Council Members, etc...

Witt Woods, 2796 N. 1275 E., wants to express gratitude for the businesses. We all have good intent with promoting our businesses.

Ryan Hadley, 1922 N. 550 E., is here because of Scouts. He thanked the business community for paying some of his taxes. He would have liked to see Kings stay in business and if it took a lot more lights to keep them in business then he would have liked to see them. He can see the benefit of strong thriving businesses. He stated it keeps us safe and allows my children to have a better life. He liked that they could walk to King's for toilet paper and other items; now they have to get in the car and drive.

5. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS.

Allan Dalpiaz, Planning Commission Member, stated that he can see now that they failed in the beginning and this has been wonderful for him and thanked the business community for this opportunity.

Bruce Catanzaro, Planning Commission Member, stated we have seen tonight the need for a committee to review this. We have the opportunity for neighbor involvement. We need to evolve what we have. He would like to see this go along with the design standards that the City has.

Steve Quinney, Planning Commission Member, said that having been a business owner himself he can see the problems.

Dave Hulme, Planning Commission Member, stated that his primary concern has to do with the government overreaching and overstepping its bounds. He appreciates all the presentations. If there is ever a safety question he will error on the side of safety. He is also concerned with the fact that the current ordinance is not enforced; he feels this leads to popularity or tyranny. He doesn't see a lot of details on how to enforce. This needs to be clearly defined with how to enforce it and fine violators. Planning Commission and City Council Members need to understand when they are voting on the ordinance exactly what they are voting on. When he drives down Washington Blvd he expects to see businesses, not nicely groomed lawns and residential neighborhoods.

Joan Brown, Planning Commission Member, stated that she understands businesses; she understands the problems and wants to work with the business community. She feels that simplicity and taste are important.

Jon Bingham, Planning Commission Member, stated as members of the Planning Commission, we have come with small solutions not understanding the big problem. He doesn't want to say that the sign ordinance shouldn't come without restrictions and that is the feeling he gets from the Business Community. We need to have restrictions and the ordinances we have now do need to be looked at. He is willing to work with the business community to consider changes.

Ken Kiser, Planning Commission Member, is impressed with the business community and is willing to work with them. He is in agreement with the plan to form a group to look at this.

6. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Council Member Taylor made the first comments; He submitted a proposal to form a Business Development Committee. It will bring together all those who have a stake in this to discuss and make recommendations to the Planning Commission and City Council. It would be in an open setting for debate. In the long run this committee would help our City with other business ideas. This is a good way to develop a business development plan. (Attachment I)

Council Member Flamm stated that when I think of North Ogden and signage, my favorites are Kirt's Drive-In and Mrs. Cavanaugh's. He hates the theater sign; if he was driving down the road he can't see what is going on. It is need versus clutter e.g. Big Boys Cycles moves their inventory in and out without crates stacked up; there could be some problems there. Window signs with technology today can be a benefit. There are some things that he likes and doesn't like. He does think the government gets too involved. He likes Council Member Taylor's ideas with the exception that Mayor should be on the committee. He liked the comments from Great Harvest Bread.

Council Member Martha Harris is a firm believer in the process, and the last time North Ogden looked at the sign ordinances about a decade ago. Technology has changed and so have the types of businesses. She is very open to look at new ideas, but we need to stay within the process. She mentioned that the committee is step one then the Planning Commission with a public hearing. The residents back then wanted tree-lined streets. After the Planning Commission's public hearing it comes to the City Council who also has a public hearing. She is willing to get started on this but wants the public to know this is not going to happen overnight. It will be done in a way that gives all the stake holders an opportunity to speak.

Council Member Turner stated that everything will take care of his needs in the committee. He has met with business owners and they don't know where it has been said that North Ogden is not business friendly, because that is just not so.

Council Member Wade Bigler stated that he won't rehash the discussion from last time. He agrees with Council Member Flamm and has talked with Jody Hoffman from the ULCT (Utah League of Cities and Towns). He has read through many minutes and thanked Julia LaSeure and Ed Dickie for getting that information. He would like to serve on the committee but would like to see something get done. He has a concern that with time government tends to create more restrictions but never take any away.

7. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION FOR STAFF DIRECTION TO ADDRESS ISSUES AND COMMENTS PRESENTED.

Mayor Harris will appoint a committee composed as Council Member Taylor suggested. We can only have two City Council Members and two Planning Commission Members.

Council Member Bigler suggested that they met twice a month with all information going to the Council on an ongoing basis.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

Council Member Flamm moved to adjourn. Council Member Martha Harris seconded. All voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Mayor

City Recorder

Date approved

NOT APPROVED