

Mayor's Report

24 January 2022 – 29 January 2022

Larry Jacobsen

Here is my status report for this week with a summary of what I worked on.

- Prepared with staff and conducted the City Council meeting
- Met with a Nibley citizen and city staff about recreation field scheduling
- Attended the Nibley Parks and Recreation Committee
- Met with a Nibley Citizen about a possible Children's Museum
- Followed up from Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization orientation
- Spoke a person interested in annexing to Nibley

City Council Meeting. Our 27 January City Council was a heavy lift – as least for me as the new guy who is supposed to run the meeting. In addition to the actual Council meeting, there were several meetings to better prepare and understand the agenda items. The heavy work was consideration of two Preliminary Plats: Nibley Meadows and later phases of Ridgeline Park. The Public Information Packet on the Nibley website gives lots of detail on these proposals, along with the Minutes from our meeting. Therefore, I won't repeat that information here. The Council approved one of the proposals and continued the second one to our next meeting.

One of the Mayor's responsibilities is setting the City Council agenda. This job doesn't have loads of authority because we are bound by State Code and Nibley Ordinance to respond to applications submitted to the city. I don't get to ignore items simply because they don't strike my fancy. Nevertheless, I am realizing that the agenda for City Council meetings drive the workload for city staff and Councilmembers. Setting the agenda is like opening projects, along with establishing deliverables and due dates, and there is lots work that goes into preparation for Council meetings. Staff does a great job of getting the information ready for Council's review.

Recreation Field Scheduling. A resident spoke during a Council Public Comment period at a previous meeting about scheduling Nibley recreation fields, and those comments prompted a follow-up with Chad Wright, our Recreation Director, and Kay Sweeten, Councilmember. We had a good discussion, with excellent ideas from all involved. I greatly appreciate Chad's individual attention that maximizes Nibley's recreation resources.

Parks and Recreation Meeting. I attended the Nibley Parks and Rec Committee meeting. This is a volunteer advisory committee to the Planning Commission and City Council. The public is invited to their meetings, with agenda and minutes on the Nibley City website. It is an important and enthusiastic group, and I encourage you to see what they are working on.

Idea for a Children's Museum. A Nibley resident shared ideas with me following their visit to the Children's Museum in Saint George. We talked about how cool this would be for Cache County, along with the some of the realities about getting a museum started.

Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO) Follow Up. I mentioned a CMPO orientation in my last status report, and I have since remembered an important follow-up from that meeting. In 2009, Cache Valley failed to comply with EPA air quality standards. That noncompliance initiated several

actions, including limitations on wood burning and the requirement for vehicle emissions testing. We also encouraged people to change their driving habits during bad-air days. The good news is that in 2021, we turned it around and successfully attained EPA compliance. I asked Jeff Gilbert, CMPO Director, what he attributed to the good news. Specifically, did our actions solve the problem, or did weather patterns keep the valley inversion from building less frequently? Jeff gave lots of credit to the lower emissions from newer cars mandated at the Federal level, along with Tier 3 fuels encouraged at the State level. There is lots of credit to go around – including Mother Nature – and I hope we can continue to enjoy the cleaner air in Cache Valley.

Nibley Annexation. An individual with a commercial interest in land along Hwy 89-91 approached me about annexing into Nibley. From an economic development viewpoint, this would be a welcome addition. The problem is the land in question is currently in Logan. The individual's interest in coming to Nibley results from Nibley already having utilities in the area. We have long discussed with Logan the line that defines the boundary between Nibley and Logan – so far, without the successful completion of an agreement between our two municipalities. I asked the Nibley Council at a recent Council meeting, and Logan's Mayor, Holly Daines, at the Cache Summit if there was interested in taking this up this cause again. Neither said no, and I hope we can make progress in the future. Please stay tuned.

I'm not certain whether these status reports help Nibley's Citizens (my boss) know what I am, and therefore at least part of what Nibley City, is working on. Regardless, it helps me keep track of things.

Thanks for reading. Please call, text, or email anytime.

Larry
435-512-7495
larry@nibleycity.com