Pleasant Grove City Council Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2013
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor:

Bruce W. Call

Council Members:

Cindy Boyd
Lee G. Jensen
Cyd LeMone
Jay Meacham
Kim Robinson

Staff Present:

Scott Darrington, City Administrator
Dean Lundell, Finance Director
Degen Lewis, City Engineer
Tina Petersen, City Attorney
April Harrison, Arts and Culture Director
David Larson, Assistant to the City Administrator
Deon Giles, Parks and Recreation Director
Kathy Kresser, City Recorder
Mike Smith, Police Chief
Marc Sanderson, Fire Chief
Ken Young, Community Development Director
Lynn Walker, Public Works Director
Libby Flegal, NAB Chairperson

The City Council and staff met in the City Council Chambers at 86 East 100 South, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

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1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Call called the meeting to order and noted that Council Members Boyd, Jensen, LeMone, Meacham and Robinson were present.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mary Burgin.

3) OPENING REMARKS

There were no opening remarks.

4) APPROVAL OF MEETING'S AGENDA

5) CONSENT ITEMS

a) City Council and Work Session Minutes:
City Council Work Session Minutes for January 15, 2013;
City Council Work Session Minutes for May 14, 2013;
City Council Minutes for June 18, 2013;
City Council Work Session Minutes for June 25, 2013;
City Council Minutes for July 2, 2013;
City Council Minutes for July 16, 2013.

b) To Consider for Approval Elaine Bonham as the Mud Hole Neighborhood Chair.

c) To Consider for Approval Paid Vouchers for (June 10, 24 and 27, 2013).

Mayor Call asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items,

ACTION: Council Member Jensen moved to approve the consent items. Council Member LeMone seconded. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

6) OPEN SESSION

Mayor Call opened the public session.

Diane Brownley, gave her address as 865 South 1500 East. She requested that the City Council recall when the City went to the Supreme Court to defend their right to have the Ten Commandments posted in the City Park. She hoped the Mayor and the City Council would preserve the residents' rights to feed their families.

John Stevens gave his address as 38 North 600 East. He was present in conjunction with the Utah County Association of Realtors who is working to get the composting moved at TSSD. He requested permission to distribute petitions to residents at the meeting to sign if they choose to. He noted that they also have a website at stopthestench.net.

Mayor Call asked if any of the Council Members objected to Mr. Stevens passing the petition. No Council Members objected. Mayor Call stated that the City's sewage treatment plant has been engaged in the practice of composting on site. They take sludge from Pleasant Grove and nine other cities and mix it with green waste. He reported that no other treatment facility in the State does this kind of processing on site and it has created an awful stench. The City is working to stop this process. Mayor Call invited the meeting attendees to sign the petition if they want the composting process to stop.

There were no further public comments. Mayor Call closed the public session.

7) BUSINESS

A) PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE *PRESENTER: ADMINISTRATOR DARRINGTON.*

Mayor Call thanked the public for attending tonight's meeting and recognized that this was an important issue for many. After speaking with many residents prior to the meeting he found that many have not had a chance to visit the current fire and police station. He felt it was important that before the public comments were heard that everyone take a tour of the City facilities to have a better understanding of what the current facility conditions are. Mayor Call divided the public into two groups to tour the police and fire station. The public voted against taking the tour due to time constraints. The public preferred to hold the public hearing first and then offer a tour at the conclusion of the meeting for those who are interested.

City Administrator, Scott Darrington, stated that as the City has begun the process there have been many questions from residents. They have tried to answer most of the questions by putting an FAQ online. Over the last several years there have been discussions regarding new facilities. The City determined that its greatest need at this time is a new police and fire station.

Administrator Darrington stated that the current police station is 36 years old and was built in 1977. He reported that the building has had problems. The first is that the holding cells are located in a place that requires officers to escort prisoners through a public access area to the courtroom. Most public safety facilities have a back entrance in order to safely transport prisoners. Administrator Darrington explained that there is also a need for storage and work spaces. The current building does not have an emergency operations center. The police dispatch is in the lobby of the facility, which is not the safest location to house this department.

Administrator Darrington stated that the fire station is 64 years old and was built in 1949. The building was originally built as a school. It has seismic issues and is not safe. There is a lack of storage space for vehicles as well as a lack of space for living quarters.

Administrator Darrington stated that a 20-year municipal building authority bond would be the best way to fund the new facilities. The bond payments would be funded through property taxes, which would require an increase to make the payments. In order for the City to increase property taxes, a process called Truth in Taxation must be completed, which involves a public hearing that was to take place tonight. The monthly cost to residents on a $217,000 home would be roughly $12.51. The cost would be slightly higher for homes valued at more than $217,000 and less for those with lower values.

Administrator Darrington stated that each resident should have received a property tax notice from the county a few weeks earlier. The bill states that there is a 52% increase, which is not what the residents will be paying. The 52% increase is the Pleasant Grove City portion of the bill. He indicated that there has been confusion from residents who thought their bill would increase by 52%, which was incorrect. Each bill states the exact amount of the increase for a full year.

Administrator Darrington stated that a 25-year bond was considered, which would decrease the monthly amount to residents to $11.40. In the long run this would cost the City an additional $4,000,000. As a result, the City selected the 20-year bond.

Administrator Darrington stated that they were asked why the City is not putting this to a vote or pursuing a general obligation bond. He explained that a general obligation bond is a mechanism the City uses to fund projects. It requires a vote of the people and if passed, the property tax automatically increases to cover the cost of the bond. After a great deal of research it was discovered that general obligation bonds are difficult to get passed for public safety facilities. He explained that cities generally use this type of bond for recreation centers or libraries. If the vote does not pass the project would be pushed back at least a year and costs would likely increase. He stated that the longer the buildings are delayed, the higher the cost. He stated that current interest rates are very low but are beginning to rise.

Administrator Darrington stated that according to the City's research the last time the City Council raised property taxes was 1982. The bond would be for $19 million, which should cover the cost of the building. He stated that the City used a grant to hire an architect to help determine what the space needs were. This allowed them to calculate the building costs. He stated that they tried to account for a 50-year build out window.

Administrator Darrington stated that the $19 million cost estimate includes construction costs, architect fees, contractor fees, land purchases, and other costs that may arise. The proposed location of the buildings will be at 100 East and Center Street. Administrator Darrington displayed a rough layout of the site plan. He stated that the fire and police stations will be separate buildings but connected through the basements of each. He stated that if the project is funded they will take time to determine how to best use additional space in the buildings that has not yet been specifically designated.

Administrator Darrington stated that many residents asked about the condition of the City's roads and how the City will make progress if the public safety buildings are built. He explained that the City has created a 10-year road plan. He distributed handouts showing the 10-year plan and added that it was also available online. He reported that Pleasant Grove City receives Class C Road Funds from the State each year totaling approximately $950,000. A few years ago the City took out a bond to work on roughly 16 miles of roads. About 83% of the Class C Road money the City receives goes toward paying that bond, which does not leave much for additional road improvements.

Administrator Darrington stated that in February the City Council allocated an additional $250,000 per year toward roads for the foreseeable future. The road plan was set up through an engineering study that rated all of the City's roads. This helped the City determine the order in which to repair roads. He stated that roads that are most frequently traveled will get more attention than residential roads.

Administrator Darrington stated that the road bond will be paid off in five years. After that time, the City will put that money back into more road improvements. He stated that for the time being most of the road improvements will be a surface treatment and not a full overlay or reconstruction. The cost of surface treatments versus full reconstruction is dramatic and the City can extend the life of many roads if they perform surface treatments. Administrator Darrington stated that the City is trying to maximize the money they have in order to do the proper treatments to extend the life of their roads. More than 50% of all City roads will require maintenance in the next 10 years. If more money becomes available, that number will increase and hopefully expedite the plan.

Administrator Darrington encouraged the public to go online and review the information regarding public safety buildings as well as the road plan.

Mayor Call described procedures to be following during the public hearing. Each resident was to be limited to three minutes. The Mayor recommended residents keep their comments concise and do their best to persuade. He reported that the City Council spent months researching the project and tonight's public hearing was to be part of that process. If there are things the Council has forgotten or failed to notice they hoped to have those points brought up. Each resident was asked to first give his name and address before making comments.

Nelson Moak, 1566 East Blackhawk Drive, recognized the need for new public safety facilities but felt that many of the City's roads are worse than in third world countries. He stated that the citizens are already paying the cost to repair their vehicles that are damaged from bad roads. He felt there was no coordination between road construction and development. He noted that the roads that are fixed are not high quality. Mr. Moak stated that the taxpayers have to bear this burden and he was not willing to do that especially because of the poor road conditions.

Wendy Robinson, 286 North 1050 East, stated that of all the infrastructure services that a municipality provides, public safety services is one of the most overlooked. Once something critical happens people have extremely high expectations from emergency responders. She felt that a City the size of Pleasant Grove needs and deserves top quality service and that the current facilities are less than adequate. She stated that they are deplorable and dangerous and present a clear danger to those who occupy the buildings as well as members of the community who may suffer because of potential seismic events. She remarked that waiting will cause building costs and interest rates to rise on a project that is inevitable and critical for the City. She stated that no other need in the City surpasses this at this time.

Scott Lott, 120 North 600 East, expressed thanks to the police and fire departments as well as to the people who work on the City's roads, parks, and water. As a public servant he works at a job that is often thankless. He explained that it is clear that the City needs a new fire station since the existing one is too small and very old. He was concerned; however, that there is no limit to how many $11 or $12 increases can occur. City and State bills are constantly rising and he was concerned that the tax increase will be permanent and not go away when the bond is paid off. He was worried that he will not be able to afford to live in Pleasant Grove in 10 years.

Kay Hunsaker, 1126 North Sage Drive, stated that she toured the facilities and found them to be completely inadequate. For a City the size of Pleasant Grove they should be better. She thought it was clear that the current facilities are not safe for Pleasant Grove's public safety workers. This will not be a problem that will go away and the longer the City puts it off the more it will cost. She stated that Pleasant Grove citizens have elected the City Council to make difficult and important decisions for the City and she supported them. As a senior citizen on a fixed income she felt she could cut one night out to dinner per month in order to pay for this much needed facility update.

Sterling Brereton, 205 North 100 East, stated that he is retired and lives on a fixed income and a tax increase is a big deal. He asked if there were different ways to find the money. He wondered if the City was putting off certain projects until the last minute, which cost more. He asked that the City look for ways to save money, but he understood the importance of new facilities. He felt the City could better prepare for upcoming projects and citizens should be better informed.

Michael Manwaring, 545 North 600 East, reported that he took a tour of the fire and police station and found that the need is great for new facilities. He understood that the City has a bad economy

and to borrow so much is not a good idea. He remarked that cities all over the nation are filing for bankruptcy. He did not want Pleasant Grove to increase its liabilities by 52%.

John Goodman, 864 South 700 East, stated that there are things that people want and things that people need. He has seen things that were said to be needs that may not have been as important as others. He requested that the City think about what is truly a need. He was concerned that the road plan is not going to be sufficient to meet the City's needs. He understood that the City may want a new fire and police station but he was not sure it is a need at this time.

Mary Shirey, 150 East 100 South, was in favor of the new police and fire station but not necessarily the location. She was not comfortable putting people out of their homes to build it. She felt the fire truck was a waste of money especially to drive it to check basic things like carbon monoxide. With the price of water and other things going up, she was concerned about having enough money.

Mike Wisland, 1636 East 400 South, stated that he recently moved to Pleasant Grove and paid $50,000 more for his home than the previous owner. He was happy to pay the taxes. He appreciated the document created and felt it was very informative. He was concerned that the taxes will not be removed once the bond is satisfied.

Jane Robinson, 79 West 200 South, stated that now is not the time to build new facilities. She stated that a petition was sent around with hundreds of signatures from people who do not support the project. She stated that the City needs to be responsible and they do not have the money at this time to start this kind of project. She hoped the Council Members would take the time necessary to review the petition and understand how the citizens feel. She reported that she took a tour of the facility and expressed her thanks to the City's dedicated firemen.

Michael Harper, 1422 West 1440 North, commented on a previous remark about third world countries. He stated that he has been to third world countries and Pleasant Grove is certainly not one. He suggested the citizens be grateful for what they have. He thanked City staff, police, and firefighters for their effort. He shared the concern that once the bond is satisfied the cost will not be eliminated. He stated that public safety workers work for the citizens and the citizens have a responsibility to understand their rights.

Jim Richards, 540 North 900 East, stated that many people have said that this is not the time to build the facility. He did not know if there will ever be a better time and if the City can go without something as important as a fire and police department. He was concerned about the potential for something to happen to their current building that would prevent them from responding to citizens in need. He commended the fire and police department for their diligence and hard work. For the safety of his family he supported the new facility.

Ralph Driggs, 2864 South 5150 East, Bountiful, stated that he grew up in Pleasant Grove and has a family home in the City. He thought the general obligation bond would have been a better option because of the lower interest rate. The City did not want to pursue a GO bond because they did not think it would pass, however, Mr. Driggs felt that the voice of the public should be the decision maker. There is a need for a new facility but he felt that the GO bond was a better option because it would save money and demonstrate the public's support. He felt that the Beck Home, as well as other historical homes, should be saved.

Chase Everton, 656 East 11400 South, Draper, was present representing the Utah Taxpayers Association and was opposed to the proposal. He felt that the cost of the building was high compared to what other cities have spent on similar projects. He also felt the City should pursue a general obligation bond. He stated that one-time expenses such as buildings should be paid for with one-time money, which is what a general obligation bond is. He stated that there is a possibility that the Council could remove the tax at some point in the future, but it is highly unlikely. He asked the Council to continue the education process to consider options to save money.

Joe Garlick, 815 West 1220 North, agreed with nearly everyone who had spoken. He expressed his support for the City's policemen and firemen. He thought there was a need for new facilities but that the City should look for other options to finance the building. He remarked that grants and new business can generate additional money for the City. He questioned why it has been so long since the City raised taxes and thought they had waited until the last minute to get the project done.

Ken Nickell, 965 West 2600 North, stated that he has happily lived in Pleasant Grove for 45 years. He thought the proposed project would put the City too far in debt and that there are other ways to accomplish this need. He stated that Pleasant Grove has never been a pro-business City but should be. Mr. Nickell expressed his appreciation for fire and police workers. He suggested the City reign in their plans and find a better way to accomplish what they want to do.

Eldon Willes, 852 Grove Creek Drive, reported that he has taught in Pleasant Grove since 1961. All people are not created financially equal, and while there are some who can afford a tax increase, others cannot. He stated that he cannot afford the proposed tax increase. He supports Pleasant Grove and the police and fire departments but suggested the City be careful not to overextend itself. He pointed out that schools cannot pass earthquake standards either.

Stan Swim, 1383 Narra Place, reported that he has a background in finance. He was troubled by the fact that the Council did not select the general obligation bond because there is a substantial difference in interest costs. He explained that the overall level of debt the City per household is one of the highest cities in the State. He felt that citizens make decisions about how to be financially smart in their own homes and they expect the City to do the same. He asked that the Council give the citizens another year to debate the issue and pursue the general obligation bond. He thanked the Council for the information posted on the website.

John Geertson, 1864 North Tuscany Way, expressed appreciation to all of the City's public servants. He moved his family from California because they love Utah and have family here but mainly because they could no longer afford to live there. He hoped that does not happen in Pleasant Grove. He stated that in the last 10 years their taxes have nearly doubled. He understood that the City needs to take care of its needs but they also need to be careful about how they spend money. He felt that the public should be able to vote on the issue.

Robert Hart, 189 East 100 South, stated that he lives in a historical home that has been updated and that he and his family love. His home is shown on the master plan as a parking lot for the new facility. He stated that he worked as a police officer for nine years and as a volunteer firefighter. The City has fine EMS and police officers. He saw a proposal for a City campus a few years ago that the City backed away from. To him this felt like a similar plan coming forward again. He thought the needs of a new facility could be met for a lot less money than called for in the proposal.

Carol Hart, 189 East 100 South, felt the City was over reaching and did not want her house to be turned into a parking lot. She stated that the City campus proposed several years ago was slated to take up four square City blocks and use eminent domain over every personal property owner in that area. She was concerned about the issue of eminent domain and thought it should only be used in emergency situations. She loves her home and stated that it has been in her family since 1905.

EiLeen Billings, 1245 North 380 East, stated that the City has made poor decisions in the past and needs more businesses to provide a larger tax base. The population has tripled in the last few years, which results in increased crime. She stated that one thing the City and citizens cannot afford to do is lose or not take care of the fire and police departments. She stated that the service they provide to the citizens is priceless. Ms. Billings stated that she is on a fixed income and worried about how to pay the additional tax, but felt it was necessary for the City to take care of its public servants.

Milt Johnson, 929 West 670 South, asked how much danger the facilities are in in the event of an earthquake. Mayor Call did not know the exact level of danger; however, in 2000 a seismic inspection was conducted. Mr. Johnson stated that if they do not know what level of damage they are concerned about they do not know if the facility really needs to be built. He suggested that perhaps parts of the building be replaced instead of the entire building. He was frustrated by the quality of road construction in the City and stated that the contractors are not required to do a high quality job, which ultimately creates more problems. He did not know how qualified the City Council is and how much money they make but stated that nearly every City in the country is going into default because of their retirement program and the generous benefits they are giving the City workers for retiring after only 20 or 30 years. He is in his 70s and is still working and cannot afford an increase. He was concerned that there is no limit to how many bonds the City can require citizens to pay.

Gary Yeates, 1225 Nathaniel Drive, thanked the Council for the opportunity to discuss this matter and appreciated hearing both sides of the issue. He thought it was necessary for the City to operate in a fiscally responsible way but that the fire and police departments deserve the best. He stated that when tires or brakes go out people usually do not delay fixing them. The City's police officers and firemen are the brakes and tires of the City. The building is terrible and obviously needs to be replaced. He stated that $12 a month equates to one movie ticket and when gas rates go up it has a bigger impact than $15 a month in the form of a tax bond. He requested that the public consider the impact that the public safety building will have on the community and expressed his support.

Douglas Weight, 545 South Fort Drive, stated that Pleasant Grove has a history of seeking input from citizens, which he appreciated. He was disappointed that the matter did not go to an election. He was surprised to hear that two buildings will cost $19 million.

Charles Ray, 35 East Maple Lane, stated that his streets need to be fixed. The building needs to be fixed and if a big windstorm came through, the building would fall down. He stated that it should have been rebuilt 20 years ago. He recommended the buildings be constructed on 100 East and not on 100 South because the street is bigger. He is retired and willing to pay higher taxes to build what needs to be built. He stated that he does not want to wait until prices increase further.

Michael Rae, 371 East 700 North, stated that he has lived in Pleasant Grove for just over a month. He loves Pleasant Grove, but commented that the condition of the roads is terrible. He remarked that the proposed building plan reminded him of his hometown where a large facility was built and the cost was too great. Now the main street of his hometown is dead with no businesses. He felt

there was not enough foresight put into the plan. He requested the City save the money and make better decisions on how to spend it.

David Rhodes, 334 East Grove Creek Drive, did not want to hear any more about bad roads in Pleasant Grove. He thanked the fire and police departments for all they do. He also thanked the Council for what they do for the City and put up with to make the City great. Mr. Rhodes stated that he works at a fire station that was completed just over a year ago. The building was too costly and the amount of money spent was excessive. He stated that he has built many homes and knows what it costs to build them. He felt the City could find a contractor who would be able to build a nice facility for much less than $19 million.

Marilyn Robinson, 1034 North 1010 West, stated that she has lived happily in Pleasant Grove for three years. She had no problem with the roads. As a 78-year-old widow, she has six family members living with her that she cares for. She was concerned about taxes being raised in that she is on a fixed income and cannot afford it. She stated that earthquakes can occur anywhere and any structure can come down. She thanked the firefighters for putting their lives on the line for the citizens, but felt this was not the right time for the new facility.

Jeanette Lasson, 775 North 300 East, stated that three years ago she had three homes, cars, and her parents' estates. She has had to sell off everything because she could not afford the taxes. She felt she had been taxed to death. She was upset by the amount of money spent on the signs for Strawberry Days and remarked that they cannot spend the money just because they want to. She thought it was ridiculous that the City is leasing a fire truck. Ms. Lasson stated that they elected the Council and Mayor because they trusted them to take care of the residents.

Noah Greenwood, 514 Sierra Lane, stated that when he first got his tax valuation he thought the 52% increase was a mistake. He suggested the citizens be allowed to vote on the issue. He was surprised to discover that the City was not taking it to a vote. He remarked that a lot of citizens in the community are on fixed incomes and any increase will be devastating to them. He requested that the City look at other alternatives to a $19 million complex. He contended that the citizens cannot afford it.

Mark Bezzant, 1192 East 200 South, thanked the citizens for attending tonight's meeting. He had never seen a larger crowd at a public hearing. He also thanked the public safety workers and hoped that none of them will take what is said as a lack of support for them as public safety workers. He stated that his concerns have to do with strategic timing. He remarked that this would be the largest tax increase in the history of Pleasant Grove at a time when the country is coming off one of the largest recessions of all time. Mr. Bizzat stated that there are a lot of needs throughout the City and this should be presented as a general obligation bond where people can choose.

Diane Moss, 391 East 200 South, did not think that building a new facility would prevent the public safety workers from doing the great job that they are currently doing. She also felt that now was not the time to begin the project. She also thought the citizens should be able to vote on it. She distributed a petition and gathered 450 names that were submitted to the Council for review. She was concerned about the City budget and reported that the police and fire departments spend over $5 million dollars per year while American Fork spends less than $2 million per year. She did not understand why the City is spending so much.

Aaron Alder, 1131 East Mahogany Lane, stated that he has lived happily in Pleasant Grove for the last seven years. He has five drivers and five cars in his family and feels he has excessive yearly expenses in car repairs because of the poor road conditions. Having to spend time and money fixing his cars affects him much more than a new facility would. He felt that the City's roads need to be fixed before the new facility is built. He also wanted the citizens to have the opportunity to vote on the issue.

Roger Lindley, 788 East 1100 North, reported that he worked as a custodian at Central Elementary for eight years and worked with the firemen and policemen. He remarked that they are gentlemen and worth all of the money they are paid. He stated that the economy is not doing well and it is bad timing to begin this kind of project. He remarked that there are many other things bringing new taxes to citizens on a state and federal level. Mr. Lindley felt that most of those present are concerned about finances and cannot afford a new fire station.

Scott Rogers, 191 Thornberry Way, stated that the City needs a new police and fire station. He felt that people brought up valid concerns regarding the cost of the building and the bond. He had spoken to people who have been in major earthquakes and he did not want to see the City's firemen and equipment buried under rubble from an earthquake. He has lived in places where the roads are much worse than Pleasant Grove and he hoped the City could continue to improve the roads. He was in favor of a new facility but was concerned about the cost and requested that they pursue other options before making a final decision.

Dennis Hullinger, 637 West 4000 North, stated that all agree that the City's police and fire personnel are wonderful. He also thanked the Mayor and City Council for all of the work they do and recognized that it is a difficult job. He was concerned about the recession and inflation. He did not think the timing was good for the new facility. He suggested waiting or expanding the building they already have.

Curt Crosby, 9835 North Meadow Drive, remarked that the City's public safety workers have done an excellent job. He did not understand why a new facility was necessary. He requested that the City continue to suffer under the current situation. He had not heard about the citizenry not being adequately served. He also felt that another funding option would be best. He stated that citizens feel their money is being devoured by the government and that the government should have to trim and lower costs and live within their means just like real people do. He requested that the Council find a way to lower taxes.

Ruth Fugal, 910 East Grove Creek Drive, stated that the public needs more education on this issue. She thought the bond would likely pass if the public knew more about the issue. She stated that Pleasant Grove needs to work on their roads and there is no reason why they should be in such poor condition. The contractors who work on them should be expected to do better work.

Marc Robins, 1129 East Mahogany Lane, agree that new buildings are necessary, however, he did not agree with the $19 million price tag. He stated that when the roads receive an increase of $200,000 and the new buildings are $19 million there is a disconnect. He reviewed the 10-year road plan closely and considered it wholly inadequate. He stated that there are other ways to resurface roads and the City needs to do more than micro-surfacing. He reviewed the building plans and was uncomfortable tearing down beautiful buildings that are full of heritage in order to build new ones. If the City's top two priorities are roads and new public safety buildings, they need to rebalance and reconsider the options. He also felt the citizens should be able to vote on the issue.

Karen Lee, 835 North 500 East, stated that she has lived in Pleasant Grove for 16 years and loves the community. After getting more involved she has found that the government system is more balanced when the elected officials reflect the will of the people. It seemed to her that the City's government is out of balance with the will of the citizens. She stated that there are neighboring cities who are taking advantage of Pleasant Grove's inability to secure businesses. Even with businesses like doTERRA, they are only coming to Pleasant Grove because of other circumstances and not because of the City's business culture. She noted that taxes are skyrocketing. She considered the infrastructure to be inadequate and stated that Pleasant Grove is ranked second in the state in the highest City debt. They ranked second only to Cedar Hills. After interest, the bond would cost the City closer to $30 million. Ms. Lee stated that there is definitely a desire for a new facility, but not necessarily a need. The City cannot afford it. She stated that the City claims there are businesses coming here. If that is the case, they should wait to see what businesses come and then reevaluate. The proposed property tax increase is not the only increase affecting citizens. The Alpine School District will also be raising property taxes, Obamacare will be taking effect, and the economy is volatile and uncertain. She stated that this is not the time to issue a bond.

Bill Lee, 835 North 500 East, stated that the issue is a matter of priorities. There are numerous older homes in the City and if there is an earthquake, 60% of the homes will fall. The fire department cannot rescue those homes in the event of an earthquake, even if they were in a new building. He stated that there is a need for a new facility, but it would be best if the City would focus on creating a business-friendly environment that would help pay for the needs of the City. He stated that this meeting is not likely to go the way of the public because there will be no public vote, but he thanked the Council for the opportunity to get involved. He stated that the residents can issue a referendum if the Council passes the project. He stated that the community needs 1,800 signatures in 45 days to stop the process.

Ben Stanley, 1700 Blackhawk Circle, stated there is a great need for a new facility and the public safety workers are world class. He has spoken with enough residents to know there are true and legitimate needs in the homes and finances of the residents of Pleasant Grove. Increasing utility rates, among other things, are constantly rising. He felt strongly that this should be a vote of the people. A general obligation bond would save residents money and give them a voice. He also considered it important to pursue a general obligation bond because the tax increase will go away once the bond is paid. He requested that the Council Members be courageous and make a motion to pursue a general obligation bond.

Rulon Gammon, 687 East 900 South, agreed with the representatives from the Taxpayers Association regarding the GO bond and felt it should be looked into in more detail. He did not receive any kind of financial report from the City and wanted to know how in debt the City actually is and how much debt they have paid off in the past 10 years. He wanted to know what kind of program the City has in place to repay its debts. He asked if there are funds in a Capital Improvements Fund for the City and what kind of plan the City has in place to take care of its current obligations. Mr. Gammon suggested the City be business minded.

Jocelyn Latourelle, 1047 West 1100 North, stated that she has lived in Pleasant Grove for 17 years. She was disappointed that the City is trying to increase taxes by 52%. She did not understand why there are so few businesses in Pleasant Grove and stated that they are necessary to help carry the tax burden. Ms. Latourelle stated that the City should explore another option.

Robert Schow, 3548 North 900 West, stated that they have served as volunteers and part-time employees for the police and fire departments for 24 years. There has been a downward trend for fire calls in the City since they became a full-time fire department. Last year there were 258 calls and only five necessitated an emergency response. The total property loss last year was $381,000. The City is asking for a $1.3 million per year increase in taxes where the property damage the City is incurring does not come close to the tax and budget proposed. He recommended reducing full-time staffing. He stated that this will still leave adequate response time and allow the current building to continue to function. Mr. Schow stated that the evidence storage for the police department could be housed in a modular unit behind the station. He also suggested working with Lindon City to share court space.

Howard Sandberg, 987 West 2310 North, applauded the public servants, but felt there was a lack of adequate foresight and planning. He stated that the budget accounts for a ladder truck that is very expensive and there is no building in the City that requires that type of truck. He was concerned about the Council's decision making for the future and matching real needs with real expenditures.

Jolene Bowman, 1325 East 300 South, was present representing her father who taught math and history in Pleasant Grove for 25 years. He is on a fixed income and cannot afford the increased property taxes. She asked that the Council listen to the citizens. She also commented on the poor condition of the roads.

Jason Adamson, 1202 East 300 North, stated that the tax burden should not be put on citizens. The City should instead work to find businesses to help carry the load. He reported that he is police officer for Salt Lake County. One thing they have done to save money is to consolidate all of their services by contracting with the Unified Police Department. He suggested Utah County look into the same type of thing. He felt that a $19 million facility was not necessary. He suggested building a smaller facility that they could add onto later. He agreed that the police and fire departments need new facilities but thought there were better ways to accomplish the goal.

Chris Hansen, 330 North 1300 East, stated that recently the City has not shown fiscal wisdom. He did not feel the City had given its residents a reason to trust them. It was clear to him from the number of people in attendance that there is sufficient interest in the matter. He believed that many excellent ideas have been expressed and it was unlikely that the best ideas would come from a group of five people. He asked that the Council consider the ideas expressed. He stated that for the past 13 years the City has known there have been seismic issues and they should have been saving money. He asked that the citizens be allowed to take the matter to a vote.

Steve Whitehouse, 356 East 500 North, thanked the City Council Members for their service. From his perspective as a citizen, he did not see evidence of the Council's due diligence and felt it had brought the Council's credibility into question. He felt the Council was not in touch with the community and suggested providing more transparency through a strategic plan for the City. He also asked for accountability for past decisions of the City Council. He asked why they did not talk about a fire station when they were looking at a recreation center. He wanted the Council to have a dialogue with the community and look at other options. Mr. Whitehouse also felt it was very important to allow the public to vote.

Frank Mills, 466 East 100 South, thanked the Council for the opportunity to voice his concerns. He spoke with Council Member LeMone a few weeks earlier to learn more about the project. His concern was that the public was left out of the discussion. He felt that by including a group of

private citizens in the discussion they would have come to a different conclusion. In most cases where bonds have been used, citizens have been involved in the education process. He did not believe that all possible options were considered and requested that the citizens be allowed to vote.

Bill West, 48 North 1400 East, thanked the Council for the opportunity to address them. He hoped the votes had not already been cast and that the Council was listening to what was being said. He hoped this was a bait and switch deal where they advertise $19 million for the building and then ultimately develop it for $2 or $3 million. He did not believe $19 million was realistic. Mr. West suggested reconfiguring the buildings that already exist in the City such as the library and courthouse. He stated that the firehouse could be retrofitted for seismic issues for a few hundred thousand dollars. He felt that there were good alternatives that would cost a fraction of what the City is proposing to spend. He thought it was very important to put the issue to a vote. He remarked that it is important to never propose a tax increase for something that does not benefit the citizens.

Ryan Allred, 1093 East 30 South, thought the main argument was not about the $12 increase but more about how the City has gone about it. He felt that a permanent tax increase for a one-time cost was not the right way to pay for the facility. He did not think eminent domain was appropriate in this situation. He remarked that the citizens need to have more input in what the City decides to do. Mr. Allred stated that by raising taxes 52%, Pleasant Grove will have the third highest City tax rate in the County. He suggested building a small building on the pipe plant property or developing a property that allows for growth later.

Jennifer Bischoff, 1395 North 390 East, asked how long the eminent domain process will take in order to take ownership of the necessary homes. She stated that this is not usually a quick procedure. She also felt that residents should be able to vote. Ms. Bischoff felt that by working with what the City currently has they can save money and still achieve the needs of the public safety departments. She did not think a block of homes should be torn down. She remarked that the way to make a City more prosperous is not by raising taxes.

Art Brownlee, 865 South 1500 East, stated that the Constitution guarantees citizens the right to own property. He stated that property tax is not in the spirit of owning property because as long as there are property taxes, citizens never really own their property. He stated that taxes always go up and are never reduced. His family moved from California to escape the California mentality. This type of tax increase is exactly what they do in California. The cost of the building is too high. He felt Utah had a history of being creative and innovative and he believed Pleasant Grove could do that in this situation.

Vaughn Mayo, 50 North 1300 East, stated that the need for a new facility did not suddenly present itself. He did not understand why the City has not been saving for this project. He felt that the lack of savings demonstrated poor planning. He recently built a commercial development in another community and based on the City's $19 million proposal, he could build 10 of his developments and still have $4 million left over. One of the structures he built was a state-of-the-art auto repair facility. He would love to be the contractor for the City because their $19 million estimate is ridiculously high. He also felt that Pleasant Grove needs to be more business-friendly and make it easy for businesses to relocate here.

Kristen Shumway, 492 East 100 South, was looking forward to new businesses coming to Pleasant Grove. Her family owns a business in Springville and they are on the verge of having to sell the

building just to pay the taxes. She felt that the City needs to take care of business owners better. She felt that if this project goes to a vote it will not pass. She recommended redoing the project and coming up with a price that the residents will be able to swallow.

Michael Daniels, 857 North 900 East, stated that he is a small business owner and recently resurrected a failing business in Pleasant Grove. Mr. Daniels served previously on the City Council. He thought it was painfully clear that the group that showed up to tonight's meeting does not want the City Council to take a $19 million vote alone. He asked the City Council not to take this on without the public. He also informed the public that the Mayor does not vote on issues unless there is a tie. He commented that the Council does a great deal of research and works with staff closely to make decisions, but he could not understand why the Council would accept the advice to take a $19 million decision and vote on it in private. He stated that of all the Council Members the only person running for reelection is the Mayor, who does not vote. He was upset that there is no money remaining in the Capital Improvements Fund. He felt the City should take a serious look at their elected officials and ask why the City is in the financial position they are.

Doug Bezzant, 376 South Locust Avenue, stated that he is a lifelong resident of Pleasant Grove. He reported that Pleasant Grove City purchased the building that would become the fire station from Alpine School District. They did major reconstruction at that time to make the building seismically safe. The structural nature of the current building is fine. The City wants to rebuild due to space issues and would like newer state-of-the-art finishes. He believed structurally that is not necessarily. He remarked that it is his money the Council is choosing to spend and he felt he deserved a vote. He remarked that he can justify both sides of the argument but tax dollars need to be used wisely, which he believed they were when the fire station was first purchased and rebuilt.

Candace Sibley, 1385 North Murdock Drive, was concerned about the presentation at the beginning of the meeting where it was reported that the City was not considering a general obligation bond because they knew it would not pass. She stated that if the City knows that already they should know that the citizens are not behind it. She stated that utilities have increased recently and in the eight years she has lived in Pleasant Grove her City bill has doubled. She has properties in Lindon and Orem and when she got her Pleasant Grove property tax increase notice she thought there was a mistake. She noted that Lindon and Orem are not proposing any property tax increase. She also felt there must be a more creative way to fix the facilities. She thought the government should not be involved in things the private sector should handle, such as buying a golf course. She asked that the Council be wise stewards of the residents' money and spend it as if it was their own.

Stephen Phelon, 3657 North 1150 West, stated that houses for sale are inexpensive but taxes are very high. Everyone agrees there is a need for the facilities, but he thought the way the City is going about it is the problem. He objected to the type of bond the City selected. He thought it was a bad idea to tell the taxpayers that the City is going to charge an additional $2 million just to avoid a citizen vote. He stated that society today cannot afford some things. He remarked that there is a way to spent less to create a nice facility. He did not want to burden his children and grandchildren with more debt. His opinion was that the proposal is beyond the means of the City.

John Johannesmeyer, 1069 West 810 North, stated that it appears that 99.9% of the citizens are against the proposal. He asked that the Council listen to what was said and acknowledge that the citizens of Pleasant Grove do not want the proposed new facility. Mr. Johannesmeyer wanted the Council to acknowledge the obligation they have as elected officials to do what the residents think

is important. He felt there was no question that the citizens of Pleasant Grove do not want this new facility. If the Council approves it they will have betrayed the residents who put them in office.

Amy Lindstrom, 1160 East 100 North, stated that she conducted research on the proposed 52% increase and called other cities to see what their increases were. She recognized that as a homeowner there are occasional needed upgrades. For example, sometimes floors need to be replaced or walls repainted. Sometimes, however, there are larger problems like a roof falling in. She stated that the police and fire buildings need more than repainted walls. American Fork is paying $30 more in utilities and she thought the citizens should be willing to pay $10 to $15 more a month to take care of their public safety workers. She looked into what other cities are paying in taxes and found that Pleasant Grove is one of the higher paying cities. The last time property taxes were increased was in the 1980s and the fact that the City is trying to operate on a 1982 budget is insane and it should come as no surprise that the City is having financial struggles. She stated that residents demand roads be fixed, but they do not want to pay for it. Residents are demanding miracles. She found it frustrating that this is such a controversial issue. She remarked that everyone wants to see business revenue, but this is not going to increase until the City makes their safety facilities acceptable. Ms. Lindstrom corrected a previous statement from a citizen and reported that American Fork's budget is over $7 million, not under $2 million. She expressed her support for the building proposal.

Renette Goodrich, 521 West 850 North, stated that she raised nine children in a 2,000 square-foot home and understands the feeling of needing more space. In her case they had to be creative. She stated that social security taxes, student loan interest rates, college tuition, medical bills, gas, food and many other things have gone up in the past year. Extra bills have to come out of her grocery budget and she simply does not have money to give the City for this project.

Michael Carter, 2708 North 450 West, thanked the Mayor and Council for listening to the residents on this tough issue and for all of the work they have put into the project. He thought it was time to replace the fire and police buildings and not just fix up the existing structures. He said the fire station is not seismically sound and if there was an earthquake the City may lose the entire fire department. The building is not efficient and does not have adequate space or living quarters. The police station also has space problems with storage and staff. Conferences have to be held in the lobby. He remarked that suspects should not be taken through a public area near children. He felt it was clear that there is a need now. He noted that interest rates are at a historic low and this is the right time to act. The problems are not going to go away, but will get more expensive. He asked the Council to invest now in Pleasant Grove.

Jason Henley, 781 Dalton Drive, identified himself as another over taxed citizen of Pleasant Grove. He stated that City fees have increased over the last two years and he wanted to know how much money the City has saved for the development of the new police and fire buildings. By increasing property taxes the City is impacting the businesses that are here now. More businesses will leave the City and others will not want to locate here. He expressed his support and appreciation for the fire and police departments and hoped they would not misconstrue what has been said as demeaning. Mr. Henley asked if the City has applied for grants and asked the Council if they would encourage their children to take out a loan on a home they cannot afford. He stated that this is the same situation they are putting the residents of the City through. He hoped the Council's votes would be the same in front of the citizens as behind closed doors.

Mark Ryan, 1194 North 850 East, stated that he originally came to the meeting to express that the proposed increase will only cost the residents two trips to McDonalds each month. After listening to the opinions of the residents it made him realize that there are politics involved. He had not changed his opinion that the police and fire departments should have new facilities and he considered it important. He thought preservation of history was very important and that the historical homes in the area should not be destroyed for a parking lot. He asked that the City consider the preservation of these homes, even if they have to move them to a new location. Mr. Ryan stated that at a previous City Council Meeting he heard that the Council would like new buildings to keep the 1800s look in an effort to preserve the historical feel of the community. He requested that be the case with this building as well.

Serenity Post-Jones, 1528 North 1520 West, stated that the $19 million bond will cost the citizens closer to $30 million once it is paid off. The $10 million in interest will not benefit the City in any way. As a business owner in Lehi she wanted to have her business in Pleasant Grove but did not feel there was any place she could be successful. She has seen businesses come and go from Pleasant Grove Boulevard and the medians need to be removed. She stated that her little business would provide the tax revenue to cover the proposed property tax increase for everyone in the room. Businesses are needed in the City because they will eliminate the need to tax residents. She was concerned about how much it would cost to run the proposed facilities once they are built and did not want to take people's homes. She also requested that they find a less costly way to develop the facilities.

Evan Coates, 636 East Center Street, agreed that there is a need for new police and fire stations. He commented that the walls are dripping near where he is sitting and it is evident that the building needs to be fixed. He believed in the City Council and that they will hear what is being said. He thanked them for all they do.

Bob Kirk, 182 East Center Street, identified himself as an owner of one of the homes that the City is proposing to remove to build the new fire station. He expressed his opposition and said he has tried to get the City to focus on another location. Mr. Kirk was concerned that the Council is taking away the citizens' right to vote and charging them $2 million in the process. He felt the best safety comes from quick response times and the City has grown dramatically. He felt that smaller substations would increase response times and be a better alternative to one gigantic building. He felt that the funding, approach, and timing are all terrible.

Stan Smith, 362 North 2000 West, stated that he lives on North County Boulevard and they have the best roads in the City. He encouraged the Council to listen to what has been said and let the public make the decision. He commented that it is easy for the Council to do what they want, but the public should make the decision and be responsible for what comes from it. He stated that when a tax is placed on the public it creates a very large burden. He owns several residences, several businesses, and land and this type of tax is too much. He was concerned that the City is asking for twice as much as anyone else in the State. He remarked that too many businesses have been turned down over the past 30 years. He asked that the Council listen to the concerns expressed.

Cindy Bullock, 1978 North 820 West, stated that a plumber could be hired to fix the plumbing problems in the police station and the City owns buildings that could house evidence. She felt there were other options besides building a new $19 million facility. She suggested converting the theater in the library basement into a courtroom. She felt there were ways to redesign what the City

currently has. She stated that the City has acquired several bonds over the past several years totaling over $56 million before the $19 million bond for the new building.

Randy Kummer, 1613 East 400 South, stated that the roads need to be repaired and the public works record states that there are not funds to repair all of the roads. In the event of a disaster all of the roads will be destroyed. He felt the City needs to step back and listen to what everyone has said, and recognize that the biggest concern is with the roads and not the fire and police departments. He stated that the Council inherited difficult problems, but they need to prioritize.

Ronald Johnston, 349 North 1350 East, was opposed to a 52% tax increase and was appalled that the Council would even suggest it. He thought there were better ways to take care of the problems. He stated that the roads in the City are terrible and the 10-year plan is not going to be enough. He stated that there has been a lot of talk about earthquakes and if there is a major one there will be severed gas and water lines and many homes destroyed. He did not feel that the number one priority for citizens is a new police and fire station. He also felt it would be terrible to tear down historic buildings to build City buildings.

Darold McDade, 671 South 1500 East, stated that there are many people in the community who could help educate each other as well as the Council. He did not think the Council had done a good enough job of educating the public. He stated that the public often chooses to not be involved and then get angry when things do not go the way they want them to. He stated that there are a lot of small minded people who already have made up their minds. He was not opposed to a new police and fire station, but thought the City should let the people vote.

Matt Strong, 1463 West 2100 North, stated that they do not want a 1982 budget because the City has grown. He commented that he drives a car he paid cash for. He would like a newer nicer car, but he makes due because it is what he can afford. When the brakes in his car went out he took money he had saved out of the bank to fix the brakes. This is what the Council should be doing. Saving money and then using that money for the things that need to be fixed. His opinion was that if the City cannot pay for it, they cannot afford it.

Carole Dumas, 423 East 190 South, stated that $19 million is way out of line. She suggested starting over with a new plan and a new budget. She stated that she does not have luxury items in her life because she cannot afford them. She does not go to the movies because she cannot afford to go to the doctor. For her and many others this increase is way too high. She asked that the Council find a contractor who will develop the building at a lower cost. She was also upset about tearing down historic homes and asked that the City preserve its history.

Henry DeJel, 390 North 300 East, stated that his car is 26-years-old and his truck is 9-years-old. He remarked that the police and fire departments do an excellent job. He did not, however, think that the police and fire departments need the best of the best. The City cannot afford a Rolls Royce and there is nothing wrong with not having the top of the line. He did not think the City was using the money they have wisely. He was frustrated by the expensive ladder truck that the City rented.

Mitch Weight, 798 South 1300 East, identified himself as a small business owner in Pleasant Grove who runs a PR and marketing firm. He felt that the core of the problem had not been defined well in the meeting. The police and fire staff operate under great challenges and constraints but it would be a mistake to bring forth a $19 million proposal. He stated that the proposal is forcing the hand of the residents to object, which will not allow the public safety departments to get the additional

resources they need. Even if the public voted and the proposal passed, a referendum would be filed and the proposal would be stopped for at least another year. He stated that there are obviously better ways to go about what is desired from a cost stand point. Mr. Weight stated that if the Council passes this their political careers will end. He would like to see more solutions brought to the table so they can determine which one works best.

Terrance Williams, 50 East Maple Lane, a veteran, stated that the government dropped the atomic bomb without consulting the people and this is much the same. The Council is dropping an atomic bomb and they have no idea what the consequences will be. He felt that the government does not consider the rights of the people and they do what they want. He stated that the people who do the work for the City do not live here and have no vested interest. As a result, they do not do a good job. He was concerned that the $19 million building will be ordinary and not worth the money spent on it. He commented that the proposed fire station is to be located too far away from many of the homes the City is trying to protect.

Diane Brownlee, 865 South 1500 East, stated that public wisdom is to "use it up, wear it out, make it work, or do without." She stated that the City and the nation is in economic crisis. There has been a lot of public wisdom expressed and she asked that the Council listen to the citizens. She felt there were other options that need to be explored before going further into debt. She requested that a seismic review be conducted on the existing building so that the City knows exactly where it stands. She commented that there are many more things impacting budgets than just this proposed property tax.

Sandi Carter, 2708 North 450 East, stated that after living abroad, she appreciates living in the United States. She thought the biggest problem expressed tonight was the process that the City has taken. She firmly believed that the City needs a new public safety building and stated that the City is living on property taxes from 1982. She questioned how many households are operating on a budget from an income from that time. She stated that there are police officers working two or three jobs because they cannot support their families on their police income. The residents demand top service and in return they should give the public safety workers what they need. It seemed to her that the City and residents should be able to work together to reach a good solution. She felt, however, that a new facility was necessary. She stated that there is nothing more important to a City than public safety and that proper infrastructure is absolutely necessary.

Jeanne Holdaway, 690 North 300 East, stated that there are more options than what has been presented by the Council and she would like the City to take the time to do it right. She stated that the City needs to preserve their history. She thought that contractors and developers should be used that are from Pleasant Grove who have a vested interest in the City and its vision. She stated that they do not need the biggest and best but they do need to preserve the history of Pleasant Grove.

There were no further public comments. The public hearing was closed.

Mayor Call thanked the public for coming and staying throughout the meeting. He closed the public hearing. He stated that each Council Member will get a chance to speak but he did not expect the Council Members to state where they stand on the issue. Mayor Call wanted to address the concerns about the large fire truck being rented by the City. He commented that if citizens are upset they should blame him and not the fire department. He indicated that the fire department has orders from the Mayor to know every inch of the 117 miles of road they have in the City. He

requested that any citizen with a problem in this regard come and speak directly to him. He thought it was important that the firemen know how to get to each citizen's house.

Council Member, Kim Robinson, thanked the citizens for attending the meeting and stated that this is the way the government is supposed to work. She encouraged the residents to return to the meeting to be held the following week when the vote is actually on the agenda. Council Member Robinson stated that there is a need for a new fire station and police station but the way they have gone about this has not been ideal. The project and process needs to reflect the citizens' input and views. She encouraged the public to continue to attend meetings and hold their elected officials accountable. She was not prepared to serve in this capacity but came into the Council responsibility with good intent.

Council Member Robinson stated she had learned a great deal about the fabric of Pleasant Grove during tonight's meeting. She remarked that Police Chief, Mike Smith, and Fire Chief, Marc Sanderson, are wonderful and the City made the correct choice when they selected them. She believed public safety was key to the success of a City. She voted for the new infrastructure and it was tiered into the utility bill to make the increases more palatable. She understood fixed income and knows that the economy is struggling. She lost investments along with everyone else. Council Member Robinson stated that the City needs to attract new business and she encouraged the public to ask government officials what exactly they plan to do to attract that business.

Council Member Robinson did not understand why there was not more discussion regarding the general obligation bond between the City Council and staff. She felt the City must reflect the views of its citizens and was pleased to see that the conversation began about other options and how to best correct the needs of the City. It was important to her that the Chiefs continue the tours of their facilities and educate the public about the needs of the public safety departments.

Council Member Robinson stated that City Council Members, staff, and citizens need to come together for these types of discussions before the process gets as far as it has. Everyone should be able to share their views and opinions in the beginning.

Council Member, Cindy Boyd, stressed that the voices of citizens count. She had come away with two main points from this meeting. The first was that the Council needs to go back to the drawing board. The second was that it will be important to let the citizens vote. She asked that the citizens trust her that when the vote comes next week that they realize she has done everything in her power to gain the knowledge she needs to make the best possible decision. She stated that the Council has done a great deal of research and has trust in their staff as well as their citizens.

Council Member, Jay Meacham, appreciated so many citizens attending the meeting and staying until the end. He learned a great deal from tonight's meeting and hoped the residents did as well. Council Member Meacham planned to go back and review things that have been discussed and what should be changed in the proposal. He hoped the citizens would continue to educate themselves as well. He stated that there is definitely a need. His biggest fear was that they are going to lose their fire and police staff to other cities with better facilities and pay. He reiterated that he would review the proposed plan and hoped that together with the residents they can come up with a plan.

Council Member, Cyd LeMone, requested that everyone give the policemen and firemen on staff a round of applause. She stated that every single member of the City Council, staff, police, and fire want the best for the City. She stated that she ran for City Council in order to make the best

possible decisions for her family and the community. She promised to do everything in her power to inform herself before making any important decisions.

Council Member LeMone stated that she has lost a lot of sleep over this issue and knows that she signed up for a difficult yet important job. She requested that the residents take more time getting involved and learning about the process the Council and City goes through before they make any decisions. She stated that residents should get involved in the beginning of any process instead of just at the end. Out of 32,000 people in Pleasant Grove only a handful run for City Council. She suggested that if people want to make a difference that more run for public office. She acknowledged that the Council has a tough decision ahead of them. She requested that everyone come to the next meeting and contact staff and Council Members with questions in the meantime.

Council Member LeMone reported that she sent an email to 1,500 residents and only 10 responded. She thought this was a sad sign that the general public does not want to be educated. Council Member LeMone wanted to hear from the public and asked that they reach out to her.

Council Member, Lee Jensen, stated that as he looked out across the room he could not count more than 10 people who have ever attended a City Council Meeting in the last eight years he has been in office. He stated that they only attend when they want to change the representative government. He remarked that it is the right of the people to elect who they want, but they need to be involved.

Council Member Jensen stated that the decisions they make as a Council affect their families just as much as residents. He explained that the Council Members do not always agree and that is the form of government that the people have selected for the City. He has heard a lot at this meeting including myths and inaccuracies. He wondered how members of the public can come to this meeting and tell the City Council how they run the City when they have never even been to a Council Meeting. He thought the fact that there is diversity of lifestyle, age, ideas, experience, and opinions on the Council is exactly what the City wants.

Council Member Jensen stated that the Council is doing exactly what the public elected them to do. They represent the citizens as best they can with the information they are given. They are not afraid of residents coming to Council Meetings to address concerns. There have been many work sessions when not a single member of the public has shown up. Council Member Jensen stated that he always tries to be honest with himself and with the people he talks to. He believes that the staff and the Council do the same. The residents are well represented and he was proud that he has been able to serve the citizenry to the best of his ability for the last eight years. He recognized that everyone cannot agree on every issue. He thanked the citizens who took the time to attend tonight's meeting and thanked them for their comments. Council Member Jensen said the citizens can trust the Council to make the best decision, whatever that decision might be.

Mayor Call thanked those who served the hearing impaired community at the meeting. He recognized that it is not always easy to express emotion at a meeting conducted in this way and thanked them for their excellent work. Mayor Call also thanked the residents for attending. He commented that the Council does everything they can to publicize every important issue. He stated that the Council will take a vote next Wednesday and he believed it was very important that as a community they all see each other as human beings.

ACTION: Council Member Meacham moved to continue the City Council Meeting past 11:00 p.m. Council Member LeMone seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

B) TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL OF A PERMIT TO STAKER PARSONS COMPANY TO EXCEED THE NIGHTTIME NOISE RESTRICTIONS FOR A ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT KNOWN AS THE US 89/GENEVA ROAD PROJECT (STATE STREET PROJECT). SAID REQUEST IS TO ALLOW NIGHT TIME WORK TO DO ROTOMILLING AND PAVING WORK FOR SOFT PATCH REPAIR IN AN AREA IN PLEASANT GROVE CITY FROM 1000 SOUTH TO 100 EAST ON STATE STREET FOR AUGUST 11TH THROUGH AUGUST 15TH 2013.

City Attorney, Tina Petersen, stated that Staker Parsons will be doing some nighttime work between August 11 and August 15 and will be rotomilling and paving. The affected area in Pleasant Grove will be 1000 South to 100 East on State Street. There will be requirements imposed on Staker Parsons to ensure that they do not make noise above a certain decibel and that they make an effort to reduce noise where possible. They will be notifying any residents in the area that may be affected by the late night work.

Council Member Meacham asked if there were many residents that would be affected or if the area was commercial only. Attorney Petersen stated that it is mainly commercial but there are some condos and duplexes that may be affected. She said there are also some residences near 100 East. Council Member Meacham asked what type of notification will be given to those residents. Attorney Petersen stated that they have a public relations firm that takes care of informing the residents.

ACTION: Council Member Boyd moved to approve a permit to Staker Parsons Company to exceed the nighttime noise restrictions for a roadway construction project in Pleasant Grove City from 1000 South to 100 East on State Street for August 11 through August 15, 2013. Council Member LeMone seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

8) NEIGHBORHOOD AND STAFF BUSINESS

Police Chief, Mike Smith, stated that they have had a busy month and have served several warrants including cracking a drug house and taking down a very dangerous sexual predator. He commended the officers for their excellent work.
Assistant to the City Administrator, David Larson, asked residents to come to the promenade for UVU day on Thursday.

9) MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS

Council Member Jensen stated he would be slightly late to the next meeting.

Mayor Call reminded the Council that due to City elections the next Council Meeting would be held on Wednesday instead of Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

10) SIGNING OF PLATS

No Plats were signed at this time.

11) ADJOURN

ACTION: Council Member LeMone moved to adjourn. Council Member Jensen seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Council.

The City Council Meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

This certifies that the City Council
Minutes of August 7, 2013 are a true,
full and correct copy as approved by
the City Council on September 17, 2013.

_____
Kathy T. Kresser, CMC, City Recorder

(Exhibits are in the City Council Minutes binders in the Recorder's office.