

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
Tuesday, February 4, 2020 6:00 p.m.  
Community Recreation Center  
10640 N Clubhouse Drive, Cedar Hills, Utah

Present: Jenney Rees, Mayor, Presiding  
Councilmembers: Denise Andersen, Ben Ellsworth, Mike Geddes, Brian Miller,  
Kelly Smith  
Chandler Goodwin, City Manager  
Greg Gordon, Recreation Director  
Jeff Maag, Public Works Director  
Hyrum Bosserman, City Attorney  
Colleen Mulvey, City Recorder  
Others: Lt. Josh Christensen

This work session meeting of the City Council of the City of Cedar Hills, having been properly noticed, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Rees.

1. Timpanogos Special Service District Presentation

Richard Mickelsen, General Manager, Timpanogos Special Service District (TSSD), explained that TSSD would be updating its General Plan this year. He provided updates on the state of the sewer plant and noted that green waste was going away. He presented several samples of water & waste. He then presented a handout and explained that TSSD had been compliant with the State of Utah drinking water levels for the past 10 years, with zero failures. TSSD provided service to the northern 10 cities in Utah County, servicing around a quarter of a million people. He made note of the following data points:

- Personnel costs – 45%
- TSSD – 27%
- Operational costs average in 2016 was \$2261/mg, the national average was \$2500/mg
- Electricity costs average in 2016 was \$162/mg, the national average was \$197/mg
- Chemical costs average in 2016 was \$23.5/mg, national average was \$99/mg

Mr. Mickelsen discussed the state of the lakes, presenting images that compared Utah Lake to lakes like Lake Tahoe and Bear Lake. He explained that chemical compositions based on the varying degrees of water clarity, noting that Utah Lake contained high degrees of phosphorous. He noted that last year TSSD hired a company that specialized in cleaning water bodies to see what they could do to help improve the quality of Utah Lake. He described the process undergone by this company as well as presented images. Utah Lake was now 10 times cleaner than it was previously. He explained that per EPA guidelines Utah Lake was not considered to be toxic. Lastly, Mr. Mickelsen reviewed the areas of the master plan that TSSD would be updating:

- Continued strong growth in the service area
- Loss of on-site composting
- Utah Lake water quality
- Need for ongoing asset management

He asked that everyone complete a survey. The results of the survey were critical to guiding the master plan effort and would help shape the future of TSSD. Link to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TSSD2020>.

C. Andersen asked what would happen to a person if they were exposed to high toxicity levels in lake water. Mr. Michelsen said there were inflammatory reactions; some people were allergic to it and therefore were more susceptible to severe reactions. Dogs had been known to die from eating the algae growing along the shores.

C. Geddes asked if the algae levels were part of the 2019 EPA study previously mentioned. Mr. Michelsen answered affirmatively. He clarified that the term algae were synonymous with cyanobacteria. He said green algae didn't have any toxicity; it was just green and looked bad. He mentioned a different kind of algae that the brine shrimp fed off, noting that the Great Salt Lake was the largest supplier of brine shrimp in the world. All of this was noted in the study. There was further discussion regarding the safety of recreating on Utah Lake, and Mr. Mickelsen noted it was safe to do so.

Mayor Rees asked what interactions the TSSD had with the Utah Lake Commission. Mr. Michelsen said that the TSSD had no seat on that commission. Mr. Mickelsen noted that he sat on the steering committee for the Utah Lake Water Quality Study. He was one of 16 voting members, and there were three municipalities that sat on there as well. TSSD was trying to be one step ahead in saving money and getting clean water. He briefly mentioned a lawsuit that had occurred.

Mayor Rees inquired as to what the plan was. Mr. Mickelsen said his suggestion was to use air scrubbers, construct a building, and do all the air scrubbing inside of the facility. However, he had approached the plaintiff involved in a recent lawsuit on this and they said no. Therefore, for the next couple of years they would instead be hiring contractors to come haul the materials off to the landfills. He stated that they were taking 100 tons of bio solids a day out of their facility. At the years-end they wouldn't be able to do that process on the weekends anymore, which meant it would then be closer to 150 tons a day. They had reached the issue of maxing out landfills. TSSD was currently working with others to explore all options for processing biowaste. He reviewed several of those potential options.

## 2. Review Agenda Items

The agenda items for the regular session were briefly reviewed.

### ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned 6:46 pm on a motion by C. Andersen, seconded by C. Ellsworth, and unanimously approved.

Approved by Council:  
March 3, 2020

/s/ Colleen A. Mulvey, MMC  
City Recorder