



# **EAGLE MOUNTAIN CITY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING WITH SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY AND FAIRFIELD CITY MEETING MINUTES**

April 29, 2024, 6:00 p.m.  
Saratoga Springs Council Chambers  
1307 North Commerce Drive, Suite 200,  
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

## **6:00 P.M. SPECIAL SESSION**

EAGLE MOUNTAIN CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Tom Westmoreland, Councilmembers Donna Burnham, Melissa Clark, Jared Gray, Rich Wood, and Brett Wright.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN CITY STAFF PRESENT: Steve Mumford, Interim City Manager; Fionnuala Kofoed, Assistant City Manager/City Recorder; Cliff Strachan, Director of Legislative Affairs; and Marcus Draper, City Attorney.

SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Jim Miller, Councilmembers Audrey Barton, Chris Carn, Lance Wadman, and Stephen Willden.

SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Michael McOmber.

SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY STAFF PRESENT: Mark Christensen, City Manager; Owen Jackson, Assistant City Manager; Kevin Thurman, City Attorney; AnnElise Harrison, Public Information Officer; and Nicolette Fike, City Recorder.

FAIRFIELD TOWN ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Hollie McKinney, Councilmembers Richard Cameron, R.L. Panek, Tyler Thomas, and Michael Weber.

FAIRFIELD TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Stephanie Shelley, Recorder.

ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS: Julie King and Joilyn Lincoln.

CEDAR FORT TOWN ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Mayor Wyatt Cook.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation

Mayor Tom Westmoreland offered the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember R.L. Panek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 4. Public Comment

*This item occurred following item 5.*

*Mayor Miller opened public comment at 6:16 p.m.*

Colby Curtis, from Eagle Mountain City, expressed his support for the interlocal agreement citing its potential for long-term gain. He encouraged working together to amicably part ways from the other cities and to support teachers.

Heather Lambert, from Saratoga Springs, said as a parent, she is in support of the interlocal agreement to give local residents more of a voice and to meet the individualized needs of students in each area.

Brian King, from Saratoga Springs, voiced support for the interlocal agreement to divide the issues facing the District to be able to better solve them individually. He emphasized guaranteeing employee protections and honoring commitments to teachers during the transition.

Ilene Strong, from Eagle Mountain, supported the interlocal agreement as a former elementary school principal in light of the increased ability to meet the struggles faced by students.

*Mayor Miller closed public comment at 6:23 p.m.*

#### JOINT WORK SESSION

#### 5. DISCUSSION – Alpine School District Split and Education Feasibility Study from MGT Consulting – Julie King

Mayor Jim Miller explained that other cities have been meeting to discuss the creation of a central school district involving Alpine, Highland, Cedar Hills, Lehi, and American Fork, with the intent of servicing the needs of residents more effectively due to the rapid growth of cities to the west. He stated Mayor Johnson expressed the belief that should Lehi be included in the newly formed school district with the cities to the west, the district would likely need to divide again within ten years.

Alpine School District Board Member Julie King provided an overview of the situation, focusing particularly on the proposed Option 4 from the MGT study, which would establish new school district boundaries. The existing Alpine School District would be divided into three areas: an east district consisting of Orem, Vineyard, Lindon, and Pleasant Grove; a west district consisting of Cedar Fort, Fairfield, Eagle Mountain, and Saratoga Springs; and a central district consisting of Lehi, Alpine, Highland, Draper, American Fork, and Cedar Hills. The proposal showcased various metrics, including enrollment figures, revenue, expenses, and potential surpluses or deficits for the west district. The west district is estimated to have a \$27,000,000 surplus. Proper growth planning is imperative, especially in the need for additional high schools due to increasing student enrollment.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Equitable division of assets and liabilities between the newly formed districts;
- Addressing comments and concerns of the public;
- Evaluating the impacts of a potential bond of \$200,000,000;
- Providing reassurances that current surpluses could mitigate any financial concerns;

- Ensuring equitable treatment of employees, with efforts to retain retirement and other benefits; and
- Learning from past school district separations to outline strategies for a smooth transition.

6. RESOLUTION – A Resolution of Eagle Mountain City, Utah, Approving an Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of a School District between Eagle Mountain City, the City of Saratoga Springs, and Fairfield Town.

Mayor Westmoreland thanked friends of the cities at Alpine School District for their efforts to address growth in the west area of the District.

Councilmember Gray thanked and recognized staff members for working on the interlocal agreement.

Mayor McKinney thanked everyone for the work that has been done and their ability to participate.

Mayor Miller commented on the growth in the area over the past few decades. He appreciates the support and the joint effort of the cities including the Mayor from Cedar Fort in attendance remotely to collaborate and cooperate on the agreement.

Mayor Cook voiced the importance of and his support of the agreement.

Discussion clarified the filing process and timeline and verified that the sponsors for the agreement will be listed as Mayor Hollie McKinney, Mayor Jim Miller, Mayor Tom Westmoreland, Councilmember Chris Carn, and Councilmember Jared Gray.

**MOTION:** *Councilmember Carn moved to adopt Resolution R24-28 approving an Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of a School District between Eagle Mountain City, the City of Saratoga Springs, and Fairfield Town dated April 29, 2024, and to support and acknowledge the Interlocal Agreement between Alpine, Highland, Cedar Hills, Lehi, and American Fork creating a central school district. Councilmember Barton seconded the motion.*

Audrey Barton	Yes
Chris Carn	Yes
Michael McOmber	Yes
Lance Wadman	Yes
Stephen Willden	Yes

*The motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**MOTION:** *Councilmember Wood moved to adopt Resolution R17-2024 approving an Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of a School District between Eagle Mountain City, the City of Saratoga Springs, and Fairfield Town dated April 29, 2024, and to support and acknowledge the Interlocal Agreement between Alpine, Highland, Cedar Hills, Lehi, and American Fork creating a central school district. Councilmember Clark seconded the motion.*

Donna Burnham	Yes
Melissa Clark	Yes
Jared Gray	Yes
Rich Wood	Yes
Brett Wright	Yes

*The motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

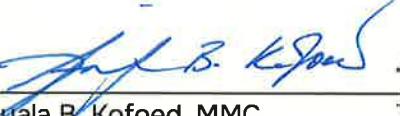
**MOTION:** *Councilmember Thomas moved to adopt Resolution R2024-12 approving an Interlocal Agreement between Eagle Mountain City, the City of Saratoga Springs, and Fairfield Town for the Creation of a School District dated April 29, 2024, and to support and acknowledge the Interlocal Agreement between Alpine, Highland, Cedar Hills, Lehi, and American Fork creating a central school district. Councilmember Panek seconded the motion.*

Richard Cameron Yes  
R.L. Panek Yes  
Tyler Thomas Yes  
Michael Weber Yes

*The motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Approved by the City Council on May 21, 2024.

  
Fionaula B. Kofoed, MMC  
City Recorder

