



ROY CITY
Roy City Council Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2024– 5:30 p.m.
Roy City Council
5051 S 1900 W Roy, UT 84067

Minutes of the Roy City Council Meeting held in person in the Roy City Council Chambers and streamed on YouTube on May 7, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the Utah Public Notice Website at least 24 hours in advance. A copy of the agenda was also posted on the Roy City website.

The following members were in attendance:

Mayor Dandoy
Councilmember Jackson
Councilmember Joe Paul
Councilmember Scadden
Councilmember Saxton
Councilmember Sophie Paul

City Manager, Matt Andrews
City Attorney, Matt Wilson
City Recorder, Brittany Fowers

Excused:

Also present were: Assistant City Manager, Brody Flint; Police Chief, Matthew Gwynn; Fire Chief, Theron Williams; Public Works Director, Brandon Edwards; Multiple Employees from Roy City Public Works Dept, Kevin Homer, Glenda Moore, Nicole Williams, Joseph Keough, Loryn Merrill, Cathie Fisher, Natalie Pierce, Elmer Acevedo, Ramiro Mars, Trudy, Richard Jensen, Cassie Joiner, Rylee Keisel, Kiersten Mitchell, Danny Hammond, Maggie Roberto, David Young, Diane Wilson, and Kambree Martin.

A. Welcome & Roll Call

Mayor Dandoy welcomed those in attendance and noted Councilmembers Jackson, Wilson, Sophie Paul, Scadden, and Joe Paul were present.

B. Moment of Silence

Councilmember Joe Paul invited the audience to observe a moment of silence.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Joe Paul lead the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Consent Items

1. Surplus Vehicles (see attached list)
2. March 19, 2024, Roy City Council Meeting Minutes, April 2, 2024 Roy City Council Meeting Minutes, April 11, 2024, Roy City Council Work Session Minutes.
3. March Financial Statements

Mayor Dandoy noted he had some questions about the formatting of the March Financial Statements, which he had already sent to Management Services Director Kelley. Management Services Director Kelley clarified Mayor Dandoy's questions. Mayor Dandoy also asked how they had used 70% of the budget for Roy Days in that fiscal year, and Management Services Director Kelley clarified that figure referred to the budget of Roy Days 2023, and the remaining portion of the budget which had not been used had gone back into the General Fund.

Councilmember Joe Paul asked why they were over in the Miscellaneous Revenue fund and Management Services Director Kelley replied it was due to the sale of surplus vehicles.

Councilmember Jackson motioned to approve the consent items as listed above. Councilmember Joe Paul seconded the motion. All Councilmembers voted “Aye” and the motion passed.

E. Public Comments

Mayor Dandoy opened the floor for public comments.

Danny Hammond clarified he was not there that evening as a representative of his police department; he wanted to explain some aspects of the budget to the citizens of Roy. He spoke about how he had been very grateful to work for Roy City since they had not cut funding to their police department during the anti-police movement of 2020, although the proposed budget for this year cut funding to the police department. He opined that the proposed cuts to the police department would put great pressure on the police chiefs and make it harder for the department to run effectively. Mr. Hammond discussed how the Roy City police department was losing staff because they could not pay competitively, although he acknowledged that Roy was taking steps to address payscale issues. Still, he emphasized that it was difficult to replace police staff with good candidates when staff left Roy City for other police departments.

Mr. Hammond explained how the police department was being unreasonably affected by the proposed cuts. Mr. Hammond said it was nearly impossible to cut overtime in the police department since they had no control over crime in the City, and sometimes overtime was unavoidable. He also noted the training budget had been cut which he found dangerous since it was so important that police were adequately trained. He expressed cuts to the training budget caused more problems than it would solve. Mr. Hammond also explained they needed to stockpile ammunition because of world-wide shortages, so it was not wise to cut spending for equipment either. He said the department had also been forced to give up the Safety Fair and Traffic School which were valuable to the community.

Mr. Hammond emphasized the defunding of the police department created more problems for the City and urged them to reconsider the police department. He thought COLA increases should be funded, as should merit increases. He thought the City should raise property taxes to avoid the need to cut funding. He also proposed all departments maintain the same funding level that they had last year. Mr. Hammond also noted they should listen to the advice of the City Finance Director. Mr. Hammond listed some ways he thought the City should increase property and sales tax revenue, and said the City should use that revenue to maintain the current level of service in the police and other City departments. Mr. Hammond addressed each of the Councilmembers personally and asked each of them how they could be comfortable cutting funding to the police department.

Kevin Homer, 5398 S 4000 W Roy, spoke about an upcoming agenda item about home businesses. He identified some problems with the wording in the ordinance and urged the Council to reconsider how the ordinance was phrased. He worried the language was too restrictive and thought they should widen the definition in order to encourage more businesses in Roy City, which would in turn alleviate some of their budget issues.

David Young, 4870 S 2575 W Roy, stated he had invited the Roy City firetruck to join the car show at Roy Days. He also anticipated that the Complex could be open as early as June first and asked the Councilmembers to clarify that not all of the funding was coming from taxpayer's money. Councilmember Joe Paul interjected to clarify that Roy City actually did fund it with taxpayer money, although it was also

funded in part by RAMP funds. Mr. Young lastly spoke about 2400 and 4800 and said the road was in a state of disrepair. He asked if the City could bring the asphalt roller to those roads before asphalt potholes formed. Mayor Dandoy said Public Works would look into it.

Teri McCullough said she lived in Weber County and was the president of the League of Women Voters. She said they had recently held an event to celebrate women in politics and she expressed her appreciation for the female Councilmembers of Roy City since they had been unable to attend the event.

Maggie Robertson said she lived in Roy City and she appreciated the monthly magazine that Roy sent out. She asked what the 'community cares' program referred to, as it had been written about in the last edition of the magazine. Councilmember Sophie Paul explained the program and specified it was funded by DFC and other federal grants, not City money. Councilmember Sophie Paul elaborated it was a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club that was geared towards drug prevention in youth. Councilmember Sophie Paul also noted they had recently traveled to Washington DC to ask that federal funding not be cut for the program.

Mayor Dandoy commented that he thought the program served an important need for youth in the community based off of data he had seen. However, he explained it was difficult because he was not allowed to share that data, only the school district could do so, and so he understood there was a need to have more transparency about what the Community Cares program did. Councilmember Joe Paul added that the program dealt with students at risk for drug abuse, delinquency, and other issues and echoed that it was very important.

Cassie Joiner said she was a Future Farmers of America officer who lived in Plain City. She introduced a group of students who were involved with FFA and the Junior Livestock Association. The students shared how organizations such as FFA, JLA, 4H, and other similar programs had been very impactful to them and what skills they had learned through their involvement. Ms. Joiner expressed hope that Roy City would continue to be able to support the students and these organizations. She outlined several ways that the City could sponsor the students. She emphasized how important agriculture was to Utah's economy and said it was important to encourage students to get involved.

Scott Bradford, 4281 W 5250 S Roy, expressed how much his family loved Roy City. He said that his family raised chickens and rabbits, and said they had recently received a complaint about the chickens on his property. He said his 1.3 acre property was only permitted to have a certain number of animals for its size and so he had put in an application to get his property rezoned.

Ray Morris, 5200 South Roy, said his two daughters went to Roy High. He expressed concerns about safety at the high school. He noted recently there had been an issue with firearms being brought to the school and asked what could be done. He said he would be in favor of raising property taxes if it meant they did not have to defund the police department.

Mayor Dandoy closed the floor for public comments.

F. Action Items

1. Oath of Office – Public Works Director

City Manager Andrews nominated Brandon Edwards for the position of Public Works Director. He spoke about Mr. Edward's many contributions to the Public Works department.

The Councilmembers agreed Mr. Edwards was a great asset to Public Works. Councilmember Joe Paul

made a motion to approve Mr. Edwards as the Public Works Director. The Councilmembers unanimously voted aye and the motion passed. Public Works Director Edwards introduced his family that was in attendance that evening and expressed excitement to begin the position.

City Recorder Fowers administered the Oath of Office to Public Works Director Edwards. Mayor Dandoy and the Councilmembers offered their congratulations.

G. Presentations

1. UDOT update

Omar Garcia from UDOT shared some updates on the 5600 South project. He reported they were finishing Phase II and moving into Phase III over the summer, and said there would be traffic disruptions. He also stated the split on the I-15 on-ramp was being shifted on the 18th of that month. He also reported some roads were being closed throughout the City as utility companies did maintenance on utility lines. Mr. Garcia 2700 North would be closed the 13th-20th of the month. He urged everyone to sign up for traffic and closure updates from UDOT, and also invited them to look at UDOT's social media if they wanted to get updates about their ongoing projects. He lastly noted that UDOT had visited with some local schools to teach the children about street safety during construction season.

2. Miss Roy

Loryn Merrill introduced herself as Miss Roy 2023-24. She reported she graduated from Roy High in 2019 and had left to serve in the military as a medic for five years, but was now back in Roy City to go to college at Weber State. She stated her project as Miss Roy was Legacy of Compassion which assisted the elderly in the community, particularly those who had limited mobility, and shared some updates about the project. She presented a slideshow of pictures that showed the Miss Roy event where she had been crowned, last year's Roy Days, and many other events that she had attended over the course of the last year during her tenure as Miss Roy. Miss Merrill commented on some of her favorite events and noted that she had gotten to meet many Councilmembers, City staff, and former Miss Roes during her tenure.

Councilmember Jackson thanked Miss Merrill for how she had served Roy City and wished her luck at the Miss Utah competition.

3. Public View Fields Calendar

Parks and Recreation Director Howard recalled there had been public input at a previous Council meeting about the City's field use policy, which had sparked a conversation amongst the Councilmembers about an open-view calendar that residents could view to see when fields were available to be reserved. Parks and Recreation Director Howard reminded the Council of the department's policy for rentals and reservations of the fields. She announced they had an option for a calendar that should work in accordance with their policy and make it possible for members of the public to see when they could rent it for their own events.

Parks and Recreation Director Howard turned the time over to the employee who had worked on this project. The employee did not introduce herself. The employee explained that people could visit Royrecreation.com, which included the field calendar that showed what could be reserved for games or practice. She also stated the website included a map with all of their parks, and each park had their specific policies outline and a list of amenities offered at the park. She shared the view of what the calendar looked like on the website, and highlighted that the calendar reflected things like closures or cancellations due to inclement weather. She said the fields were still first come, first serve, and once a group arrived on a field they could stay as long as they wanted as long as there was no scheduled programming. She lastly commented there was a large demand for the fields, especially now that there was warmer weather.

4. FY2025 Budget

Management Services Director Kelley went over the 2025 fiscal year budget. She explained after her presentation that evening, there would be a work session to discuss any questions the Councilmembers had. She reported the total General Fund budget for FY 2025 was \$28,433,067, which was a 9.5% decrease from the previous year. She said their largest source of revenue was taxes and she broke down the various categories. She highlighted their largest streams of revenue over the last ten years were property tax and sales tax, and she showed a graph that indicated fluctuations in these streams for the last ten years. She also shared a graph which indicated the largest expenditures for that year and the last ten years.

Management Services Director Kelley stated there was a 3% COLA increase as well as merit increases across the board for all departments in the budget, and also increases for employee benefits. She compared this to other state and nation-wide COLA adjustments, and noted the job market was increasingly competitive and thought it was crucial that Roy City offer COLA adjustments as so to not lose City employees. Mayor Dandoy asked why they had lost 24 full time employees in the last year, and Management Services Director Kelley replied they did not conduct formal exit interviews although she assumed relatively low wages were a significant factor. She mentioned they aimed to offer other benefits such as a good work-life balance and health insurance for City employees, and thought offering these things also contributed to employee satisfaction. Mayor Dandoy thought it was important to try to collect data about why they were losing personnel so they could address issues with turnover.

Management Services Director Kelley next discussed there had been decreases in retirement contributions from the City, although the amount employees had to contribute increased. She stated police and fire had to contribute 2.14%, and for the first time regular employees had to contribute .7%.

Management Services Director Kelley reported on requests for new positions, readjustments, and reclassifications. She said the requests were all fairly straightforward and did not have significant costs associated with them.

Management Services Director Kelley summarized that the budget was not balanced, and they would either need to increase property taxes to account for their expenditures or make further budget cuts. She said that so far, departments had been able to cut a total of \$642,000. She explained all departments had to cut 7% of their budget, plus anything additional they had requested.

Management Services Director Kelley continued to discuss the Capital Projects Fund, which was where all unspent funds in the General Fund went at the end of the fiscal year. She pointed out Roy City needed to begin to save for large scale projects planned for the Complex and Aquatic Center, and said the proposed property tax increase could help facilitate that. She noted the suggested increase could also help save for the fire department's expenses. She explained \$185,000 was being saved annually for the fire apparatus, which was not sufficient given the current cost of fire vehicles.

Management Services Director Kelley then discussed the Utility Enterprise Fund and said there were no proposed increases to the Stormwater or Solid Waste Fund, but there would be for the Water Utility Fund. She explained the increase would have an average effect of \$1.18 per four-family household, per month, though it would vary depending on the amount of water use. She discussed that Weber Basin Water planned to increase water costs by 4% over the next three years, so Roy City would need to make adjustments accordingly to account for this. She then stated that the Capital Improvement Fee would also increase to account for a road widening project on 3500. She elaborated a part of that project involved replacing the water line and said they currently did not have funding for this, so they could either bond for the project or temporarily increase the fee. She recommended they choose the latter option since going out for bond would cost the customer more in the long run.

Management Services Director Kelley went over the two internal service funds, Information Technology and Risk Management. She stated IT provided technology services for all departments and Risk

Management offered insurance premiums for liability.

Management Services Director Kelley lastly went over the Cemetary Fund. She explained all plots had been sold, so they were no longer collecting money for that fund. She elaborated that the money raised through the sale of plots went towards the maintenance of the cemetery.

Management Services Director Kelley then outlined the next steps in the process and noted they would need to hold a Truth in Taxation meeting before they could finalize the budget if they did opt to raise property taxes.

Mayor Dandoy echoed Management Services Director Kelley's comment that they could hold a work session to discuss the budget and proposed they hold it on May 21st after their regular Council meeting. He recommended the Councilmembers to read through the budget so they could come prepared with comments and questions. He highlighted certain sections that he thought they should pay close attention to and make sure they understood it.

Councilmember Joe Paul clarified that the proposed tax increase covered the 3% COLA increase but the budget would still be cut 7.5%. He asked how much they would have to raise taxes to avoid the 7.5% cut and Management Services Director Kelley said they would need about \$1.2 Million more if they wanted to avoid the 7.5% cut. She was not sure what that worked out to be for the property tax rate.

Mayor Dandoy made some comments that property tax increases were a general trend around the country and he did not anticipate that changing anytime soon. He also noted if they raised property tax too high, it tended to have an adverse effect on sales tax revenue as people spent less money on goods and services when taxes were high. Mayor Dandoy also noted that they would need to continue to increase salaries for their employees to account for the higher cost of living. Councilmember Joe Paul echoed these sentiments and said this problem was not unique to Roy City. Mayor Dandoy thanked Management Services Director Kelley for her work.

5. Fraud Risk Assessment

Management Services Director Kelley explained they were required by the State Auditor's office to conduct a Fraud Risk Assessment and present it to the Council every year. She reported Roy City had scored 135 points on the assessment, which put them in the low category for risk. She said the City was doing well and was very aware of how to mitigate risks of fraud.

H. Discussion Items

1. Utility Shut-off's

City Attorney Wilson reported on this item. He explained landlords throughout the City had the option to have utility companies send bills directly to the tenants of their properties. He stated City utility companies often opted not to do shut-offs on holidays, but the tenants who paid these bills were not aware of this. He recommended that the City either change the policy of utility companies not doing shut-offs during the holidays, or they update the language on the form to require that landlords let their tenants know of this policy.

Mayor Dandoy noted the City did not manage all utilities, so this would only apply to City-managed utilities. He also clarified the period in question referred to the months of November and December, rather than specific holidays. Public Works Director Edwards commented shut-offs were done several times each month on a regular basis, but they did not do this in November and December. Public Works Director explained people were either received large bills in January, or it became the landlord's responsibility to

cover the costs. Public Works Director Edwards commented that generally, people who were delinquent on their utility bills had also not paid rent.

Mayor Dandoy asked the Councilmembers to give direction, and specifically asked if they wanted to get rid of not doing shut-offs in November and December. City Attorney Wilson clarified that they would update the language to let tenants know that utilities might not be shut-off in November and December. He also noted that landlords were not always aware if their tenants were not paying their utility bill since it was administered separately, though the form did specify that the landlord was ultimately the one responsible for the utility bill. City Attorney Wilson said landlords could always check to see if their tenants were up-to-date on their payments, but most landlords opted out of being informed every month that tenants had made their payments.

Councilmember Joe Paul thought they should get rid of the policy to have a grace period in November and December. Councilmember Jackson asked if the landlords ended up paying for missing utility payments or if the City was losing money by offering this, and City Attorney Wilson said the landlords had to make up missing payments if they wanted to get the water turned back on. Councilmember Jackson asked if there were programs to help people get caught up on payments if they fell behind and there was a short discussion about this. Councilmember Jackson thought it was hard to turn off people's water with the high cost of living, and opted to leave things as they were. Councilmember Joe Paul said he would be willing to leave things as they were, and asked how long the City allowed someone to get utility services without paying. Councilmember Saxton pointed out that shutting off someone's water also had impacts on their sewage. Councilmembers Saxton and Sophie Paul agreed things should be left as they currently were. City Attorney Wilson said in that case, he would update the language and keep their policy as it was.

Mayor Dandoy thought they should have another conversation about how to help people that were unable to make payments on their utilities. He said if the City did not make quick actions when people were delinquent on utility payments, it ultimately put a higher responsibility on the landlord to check up on their tenants.

2. Home Occupations

City Manager Andrews spoke about home occupations for businesses. He said Roy City allowed home-run businesses to account for no more than 25% of the home, and said the business could not be in the garage, lawn, or outside space. He said this ordinance was intended to keep the aesthetics of the neighborhood the same and not make it obvious that a business was being run out of a home. He explained there were a couple issues with this, namely that people were operating businesses out of their homes without a business license. He discussed neighbors also made complaints about noise or increased traffic stemming from people who had home businesses. He also brought up the fact that home mechanics needed to use their garage spaces, although this was not allowed per the ordinance.

Councilmember Joe Paul thought they should send this item to Planning Commission for discussion, particularly in regard to the traffic concerns. He thought this was a land use issue, which went under the Planning Commission's jurisdiction. Councilmember Joe Paul directed the Planning Commission to consider different kinds of businesses, including mechanics who needed to use their garage as part of their business. Councilmember Joe Paul commented that they should consider how much space people had on their properties and pointed out if someone had a feature like an extra garage they should be allowed to use it for business. He thought the main point of the ordinance was not to change or hinder the residential elements of the home.

Mayor Dandoy pointed out they did not want to discourage people from setting up businesses legally and getting licensed by the City. The Councilmembers discussed there should be more flexibility in the ordinance about home business. Mayor Dandoy commented some of the complaints had reached a level to

where home business owners were going to trial, so it was important that they iron out the language their ordinance.

Mayor Dandoy said if they did change the law they would need to consider what happened to the people who were currently facing penalties. City Attorney Wilson pointed out those people would still have violated the law since the changes would not have been made at the time of violation.

Mayor Dandoy summarized that the Councilmembers wanted to send this item to Planning Commission for further review.

City Manager & Council Report

City Manager Andrews reported the dog park in West Roy would be closed until the end of May. He also announced some upcoming road closures for construction.

City Manager Andrews then went over the Complex timeline to completion and said Public Works would be done by June first. He explained they were experiencing some difficulties with hiring at the Aquatic Center and so he anticipated they would be ready to open by August first. He noted this would coincide with Roy Days and he hoped this would help garner interest and ticket sales for Roy Days. City Manager Andrews listed some of the things they had updated in the facility and said it looked like a new place overall. He discussed how they had found many issues with it as construction had gone along, mainly the boiler, though it had been replaced and he thought everything looked promising at the moment. Mayor Dandoy asked when the new boiler would be pressure tested and Public Works Director Edwards replied it should happen later that week. Councilmember Jackson acknowledged a lot of cleanup would need to be done and said she would help coordinate volunteers for this. Mayor Dandoy thought it would be great to get volunteers in there before the official opening to get them involved with the Complex.

City Manager Andrews stated there were many upcoming events that he wanted the Councilmembers to get involved with and said he had sent out an email. He asked the Councilmembers to indicate to him what they wanted to get involved with.

City Manager Andrews reported the City had submitted letters of interest to WACOG for the 3100 West sidewalk project and the 3500 South roundabout. He also noted they had submitted some grants to Representative Moore for another roundabout and a water line.

Councilmember Jackson addressed the member of the public who had commented on safety at Roy High. She said that both she and her daughter worked at Roy High and in her opinion it was one of the safer high schools in the country. She assured him that the school took safety very seriously and said she would not go there or let her daughter go there if she felt it was unsafe. She noted concerns about guns in school was not an issue particular to Roy.

Councilmember Joe Paul expressed gratitude for all City employees, particularly the police. He commemorated Sergeant Bill Hooser who had recently died in the line of duty and said he had been a good friend to him and his family. He expressed how terrible his death was and hoped something like that never happened in Roy City.

Councilmember Sophie Paul thanked Nicole Williams, their Youth Council representative, for joining their Council meeting that evening and congratulated her on her upcoming graduation.

Councilmember Saxton thanked whoever had cleaned up the graffiti in the parks.

Mayor Dandoy reported he and some of the Councilmembers would be attending the Weber Basin workshop later that month and thought it would be helpful in terms of getting their General Plan updated. He also announced there would be a change-of-command the Air Force Base in June and invited the Council to attend. Mayor Dandoy also spoke about the recent issues with students bringing firearms to high school and thought that was a significant problem. He hoped the superintendent and the Police Chief would be able to find a good solution to that issue, and he also acknowledged there was a broader community issue that needed to be addressed if there was a climate in which high school students thought they needed to bring firearms to school for protection.

Mayor Dandoy also thanked Nicole Williams for attending their meeting and encouraged her to stay involved with the City. He congratulated her for her acceptance to Utah State.

I. Adjournment

Councilmember Joe Paul motioned to adjourn, Councilmember Scadden seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Robert Dandoy
Mayor

Attest:

Brittany Fowers
City Recorder

dc: