

*Click for Audio Recording of Meeting*

**City of Taylorsville**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
*Minutes*

**Wednesday, September 18, 2024**  
**Council Chambers, Room No. 140**  
**2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.**  
**Taylorsville, Utah 84129**

**BRIEFING SESSION**

**Attendance:**

Mayor Kristie Overson

**Council Members:**

Chair Curt Cochran  
Vice Chair Meredith Harker  
Council Member Anna Barbieri  
Council Member Ernest Burgess  
Council Member Robert Knudsen

**City Staff:**

John Taylor, City Administrator  
Scott Harrington, CFO/Asst. City Administrator  
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder  
Brady Cottam, Police Chief  
Kris Heineman, Council Coordinator  
Richard Rich, Unified Fire Captain  
Ben White, City Engineer

**Excused:** Tracy Cowdell, Wayne Harper and Scott Harrington

**Others:** Brooke Larsen and Aimee Winder-Newton

**1. Review Agenda**

Chair Curt Cochran conducted the briefing session which convened at 6:02 p.m. A roll call was taken, wherein all council members were present.

Mayor Overson mentioned that after her report, she would turn the time over to Salt Lake County Mayor Jenny Wilson who would make a presentation.

Chair Cochran addressed the meeting schedule for the coming holiday season. After some discussion, it was determined that the meeting schedule in November need not be amended in any way and the only meeting in December would take place on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Since the first Wednesday of January fell on a holiday, the January meetings would take place on January 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. A “Let’s Talk Taylorsville” meeting could still be held on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **2. Adjourn**

Chair Cochran declared the briefing session adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

---

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **Attendance:**

Mayor Kristie Overson

### **Council Members:**

Council Chair Curt Cochran  
Council Vice Chair Meredith Harker  
Council Member Anna Barbieri  
Council Member Ernest Burgess  
Council Member Robert Knudsen

### **City Staff:**

John Taylor, City Administrator  
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder  
Brady Cottam, Police Chief  
Kris Heineman, Council Coordinator  
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Director  
Richard Rich, UFA Captain

**Excused:** Tracy Cowdell, Wayne Harper and Scott Harrington

**Others:** Jarrod Barben, Rachel Broadbent, John E. Gidney, Lynn Handy, Ben James, Jody James, Scott James, Brooke Larsen, Merrill LeBaron, Marvin Mackey, Dean Paynter, Jared Smith, Jenny Wilson, Aimee Winder Newton, and Scott Zeidler

## **1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Chair Cochran called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

### **1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge/Reverence – *Council Member Barbieri* (Opening Ceremonies for October 2, 2024 to be arranged by the Mayor Overson)**

Council Member Barbieri directed the Pledge of Allegiance and led a recitation from the U.S. Constitution in honor of Constitution Day which had taken place the day before.

## **1.2 Mayor's Report**

Mayor Kristie Overson reported that thanks to Taylorsville resident Ben James, the name Constitution Boulevard was being added to 2700 West. She explained that the addition of the name would draw additional focus to prominent areas of the city such as city hall, the Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center, the Taylorsville Temple and Valley Regional Park. She expressed her gratitude for the enduring principals outlined in the U.S. Constitution.

The Mayor had attended a ribbon-cutting at Plum and Pine, a new reception center on Redwood Road. She thanked those council members who attended with her as well as staffer Brittany Kempff and ChamberWest's Barbara Riddle.

Council Members Harker and Burgess joined her the previous week as the Granite School Board presented their budget for the coming year. She appreciated the opportunity to listen and ask questions.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation picnic had been held the previous week. This was an opportunity to recognize the many people who gave of their time to help make Taylorsville great. She wished to thank Kris Heineman, Jay Ziolkowski and the Youth Council for all their hard work towards making this a lovely event.

Mayor Overson recently had the opportunity to watch numerous community members become naturalized U.S. citizens. She found it to be very moving, and she was grateful to represent Taylorsville at this event which was held at West Valley's Cultural Celebration Center.

The TVPD K-9 team recently participated in a K-9 competition along with fourteen other agencies. As usual, they did very well. Among other awards, they took the 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy for Top Agency. Officer CJ Moore and his dog took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Patrol Area Search, 1<sup>st</sup> place in Patrol Tracking, 1<sup>st</sup> place in Decoys Choice, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Obedience, and 4<sup>th</sup> place in Patrol Building Search. Officer Hayden Hoffman and his dog were awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place Top Dog, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Obedience, 5<sup>th</sup> place Criminal Apprehension, and 5<sup>th</sup> place Patrol Area Search. The mayor pointed out that TVPD consistently had one of the best K-9 units in the Rocky Mountain region.

Mayor Overson wrapped up her comments by describing the police work done following a recent bank robbery. All six suspects were apprehended, and those arrests resulted in what appeared to be one of the largest cash recoveries from a bank robbery in Utah.



**1.2.1 November Public Safety Bond Presentation – Salt Lake County Mayor  
Jenny Wilson and Council Member Aimee Winder Newton**

Mayor Overson then turned the time over to Salt Lake County Mayor Wilson and Salt Lake County Council Member Winder Newton who presented information on a public safety bond that would be on the ballot in November. Council Member Winder Newton explained that the bond was for \$507 million, and that it had been 23 years since any beds were added to the Salt Lake County Jail, even though the county's population had grown by over 300,000 people. The goal was to not only increase the number of available jail beds, but to also build a Justice and Accountability Center (JAC). This was a bipartisan effort of both the Council and the Mayor and was critical to Salt Lake County's future.

Mayor Wilson outlined some of the goals of the new center. They included:

- Balancing public safety and human services needs
- Realigning and setting the Salt Lake County Jail and Human Services systems up for success
- Creating structured and secure environments to reduce repeat offenses and put people on a path towards self-reliance.
- Funding a critical missing element of the broader system
- Replacing outdated infrastructure and treatment programs

Mayor Wilson explained that approximately 1,000 beds were needed for the homeless. Three hundred in an "intensive" setting, 300 with "moderate" intervention, and 400 with "light" intervention. She indicated there were many system gaps and barriers in the criminal justice system related to employment needs, wellness care, mental health services and the lack of an integrated data system. Some proposed solutions that required the bond funding were:

- Expand housing unit availability
- Need for enforcement and criminal justice reform
- Address Systemic Gaps
- Build Justice and Accountability Center
- Expand and Improve County Jail Mental Health Access
- Support Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force

The public safety bond sought to address vital parts of the action plan by creating the JAC for those convicted of minor offenses. The JAC would have 300 beds and be cheaper and more effective than traditional jail, putting offenders on a path to success. The aging Oxbow Jail would be sold, and the main jail would undergo an extensive remodel.

Maintenance/Improvements at the main jail would cost \$90 million  
Expansion/Improvements at the main jail - \$427,000  
Creation of JAC - \$100,000,000

Oxbow Demolition – \$10,000,000

Mayor Wilson pointed out that these costs would be offset by \$10,000,000 in revenue from the sale of Oxbow and \$100,000,000 in funds that Salt Lake County had previously set aside for this project. If approved, the average homeowner would pay an additional \$58.94 per year under this bond, while the average business paying an additional \$107.16 annually.

Mayor Wilson and Council Member Winder Newton responded to various questions posed by the Council and Mayor Overson.

### **1.3 Citizen Comments**

Chair Cochran invited any member of the audience who wished to address the City Council to step forward and do so.

Jody James had previously submitted a form indicating she wished to comment. However, when called upon, she declined to speak.

No one expressed a desire to speak, so Chair Cochran closed the citizen comment period.

## **2. APPOINTMENTS**

There were no appointments.

## **3. REPORTS**

### **3.1 Prosecutors/Indigent Defense Report – Brooke Larsen & Jarrod Barben**

City Prosecutor Brooke Larsen said there continued to be a high volume of cases in the justice court, although it appeared there was a slight decrease in the number of domestic violence cases being filed. Conversely, it appeared that DUI arrests were increasing. She pointed out that meant that the officers were well-trained on how to identify and investigate intoxicated drivers.

A new, very experienced prosecutor had been hired who was doing an amazing job. Ms. Larsen then turned the time over to Jarrod Barben of Stowell & Crayk, PLLC.

Mr. Barben's firm provided defense work for indigent defendants. He agreed there was a high volume of cases in the Taylorsville Justice Court. During the first quarter of the 2024 calendar year, they had represented clients in 763 separate cases. Total cases for the second quarter reached 729—roughly about 100 cases per day on which his office appeared.



### **3.2 Tree Inventory Report – *Merrill LeBaron***

Merrill LeBaron was a student at Utah State University majoring in horticulture and had recently conducted a tree inventory in Taylorsville as part of his internship. He spent over 250 volunteer hours on this project, resulting in a value of more than \$50,000 in savings to the city. Mr. LeBaron explained that trees provided a huge number of benefits, including reducing heat, noise pollution, and soil erosion while increasing property values, visual appeal and economic stability.

Mr. LeBaron presented information regarding the number and type of trees located at each of ten parks within city limits. He described the life cycle of a variety of different species and discussed the challenges of weed barrier fabric and rock mulch. He also discussed trees' vascular systems.

According to Mr. LeBaron's research, there were 337 trees in Taylorsville parks that had been damaged by lawn mowers. He did not expect them to recover and indicated that replacing them would cost the city \$168,500.

### **3.3 Parks and Recreation Report – *Jared Smith***

Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Jared Smith updated the City Council regarding some of the committee's more recent activities. Unfortunately, they had to cancel the *Ride, Roll & Stroll* event earlier in the year due to inclement weather. As always, the 5k run during Taylorsville Dayzz was very successful. The committee sponsored six movies in the park during the Starry Nights events, and the owners of Taffy Town had donated candy to coincide with the *Wonka* showing. Plans were underway to provide pickleball lessons at the new courts near the Senior Center.

Committee members would host some games and line dancing lessons at the upcoming Fall Festival. However, there would not be a Halloween event this year, although they were considering hosting a Halloween Fun Run the following year. Finally, they anticipated providing games and crafts at the *Saturday with Santa* event which was scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Harker pointed out that the committee was looking into being designated as a Healthy City by the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

## **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **4.1 Minutes – August 21 and September 4, 2024 City Council Meetings**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Harker moved to approve the minutes for the August 21<sup>st</sup> and September 4, 2024 meetings as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barbieri.

<b>Council Member Barbieri</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Knudsen</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Chair Cochran</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Harker</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Burgess</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion passed 5-0**

**5. PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning matters on the agenda.

**6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

There were no financial matters on the agenda.

**7. OTHER MATTERS**

There were no “other” matters on the agenda.

**8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)**

- 8.1 Council Member Burgess** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.2 Council Member Knudsen** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.3 Council Member Barbieri** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.4 Council Member Harker** – nothing for subsequent consideration.
- 8.5 Council Chair Cochran** – nothing for subsequent consideration.

**9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING)**

- 9.1 ~~Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.~~ CANCELLED**
- 9.2 ~~Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.~~**
- 9.3 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.4 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**
- 9.5 Planning Commission Work Session – Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.6 Planning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**

- 9.7 City Council Briefing Session – Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**
- 9.8 City Council Meeting – Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**

Chair Cochran pointed out that there would be two regular council meetings in November, one on the first Wednesday of December, and in January the meetings would be moved to January 8<sup>th</sup> and January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**10. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

*(For Details on Events, Visit the City's Website)*

- 10.1 “Fall Festival”** Sponsored by the Historic Preservation and Parks & Recreation Committees – Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 10am to 1pm at the Taylorsville-Bennion Historic Museum
- 10.2 Farmer’s Market** on Tuesday Evenings from 5pm to 9pm on Centennial Plaza at City Hall through September 24, 2024
- 10.3 Plaza + Art Unveiling** Friday, September 27, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. on Centennial Plaza
- 10.4 Taylorsville Art Show** Sponsored by the Taylorsville Arts Council; October 11-12, 2024 at the Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center

**11. CLOSED SESSION (*Conference Room 202*)**

*- For the Purpose(s) Described in Statute U.C.A. 52-4-205*

**MOTION:** Councilmember Knudsen moved to recess the public meeting, convene a closed session to discuss the purchase or sale of real property, and adjourn from there. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Burgess.

<b>Council Member Burgess</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Harker</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Chair Cochran</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Knudsen</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Council Member Barbieri</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion passed 5-0**

The public meeting recessed at 8:00 p.m.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**



Taylorsville City Council Minutes  
September 18, 2024  
Page 9



The meeting adjourned from Room No. 202 at 8:22 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

*Minutes Prepared by: Jamie Brooks, City Recorder*

Approved 10/2/2024

2000-2001