

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 1, 2025  
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.  
WORK MEETING – 6:00 P.M.  
ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 56 NORTH 100 WEST**

Mayor Melani Torgersen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Blaine Porter, Sally Orme, Lenza Wilson, Marlene Stowe, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman joined electronically.

Also present were Fred Spencer, Bill Weppner, Lawrence Barnes, Julie Brugger, Victory Crawford, Bailey Griffin and Terence Tontlewicz.

Ashley Coombs joined electronically.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Council member Porter moved to adopt the agenda as written. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Lyman, Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2025 MEETING**

**Council member Orme moved to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2025 meeting as written. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Lyman, Stowe and Porter voting aye.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

**PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS**

**PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES**

There were no Planning and Zoning updates at this time.

**SCHEDULED ITEMS**

**EHS CHEERLEADERS – COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT DONATION**

Bailey Griffin said she is helping coach the EHS Cheerleaders this upcoming 2025-2026 school year. Ms. Griffin said she is asking for a \$500.00 donation to support an Easter egg hunt and future cheerleading activities. Ms. Griffin explains they have twelve people signed up and are hoping to raise about \$2,000 for the upcoming season, potentially including hiring a private choreographer or attending a cheer camp in Orem. **Council member Orme moved to donate \$500.00 to the EHS Cheerleaders for an Easter egg hunt and future activities.**

**Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Stowe, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

**ORDINANCE 10.06 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**

City Recorder Steed explained the Board of Adjustments (BOA) is now known as the Appeal Authority. City Recorder Steed said Escalante City has a BOA of five members but with an Appeal Authority it can be one member. City Recorder Steed said Escalante City charges \$50.00 for an appeal or variance but after researching other communities the fee is from \$100.00 to \$750.00. City Recorder Steed said Garfield County Planner Kaden Figgins is willing to serve as the City's Appeal Authority if the City would like him to. City Recorder Steed said she feels it would be a good idea if the Council appointed Mr. Figgins as the City Appeal Authority due to his neutrality. City Recorder Steed read some of the Apple Valley Ordinance and asked the Council if they would like to move forward with a one-person Appeal Authority like Apple Valley and state the Appeal Authority cannot be a resident or have financial interest in the city. **Council member Wilson moved to move forward with the proposed amendment and work on a one-member basis Appeal Authority. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council member Orme, Stowe, Porter, Wilson and Lyman voting aye.**

**ORDINANCE 5.08.040 ALCOHOL IN CITY OWNED BUILDINGS OR CITY PREMISES**

City Recorder Steed said at this time the City does not allow any alcohol in City owned buildings or on City Premises but has given special permission to events allowing them to serve alcohol. City Recorder Steed said if the Council is interested in giving special permits, she would suggest they add it to the Ordinance. City Attorney Huntington said he feels it is a good idea to add giving special permits and to change the Class B Misdemeanor to an infraction. City Attorney Huntington said he will work on the ordinance amendments if the Council would like him to. **Council member Porter moved to have City Attorney Huntington work on amending the Ordinance as discussed. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Lyman, Porter, Stowe and Orme voting aye.**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS****ADMINISTRATIVE**

City Recorder Steed said the budget and financial reports are available for review.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT****BILL WEPPNER**

Mr. Weppner said since the last meeting there have been no call outs.

Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department has received all the hose from the FEMA grant.

Mr. Weppner said they are going to offer the old hoses to other Fire Departments in the County.

Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department is still raising money for an enclosed trailer to store fireworks. Mr. Weppner explained Citation Oil and gas has donated \$500.00 to the Fire Department for the trailer and he is asking other businesses to donate.

Mayor Torgersen said the Riding Club contacted her asking if the Fire Department would like to help them burn down the stables at the Rodeo Grounds. Mayor Torgersen said the stables are

unsafe and need to be removed. Mr. Weppner said he will talk to Fire Chief Don Porter about burning down the stables as a training for the Fire Department.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

#### **MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN**

Mayor Torgersen had nothing to report at this time.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN**

Council member Lyman thanked City Recorder Steed for her help with purchasing the chips for the city roads from the Utah Department of Transportation.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON**

Council member Wilson said he is working on the airport house electrical problems.

Council member Wilson said dogs are getting through the fence at the east end of the Airport and he will contact the Public Works Department to help get the fence fixed.

Council member Wilson said he will have a draft ordinance for the next city council meeting on the sewer grease traps.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER**

Council member Porter had noting to report at this time.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE**

Council member Stowe thanked the Public Works Department for installing the signs at the Park and Multi-Purpose building.

Council member Stowe said the Public Works Department has started taking out the flower boxes that are falling apart on Main Street. Council member Stowe said she would like to put concrete in place of the flower boxes and put benches on it.

Council member Stowe said the playground cover is back up and looks good.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME**

Council member Orme had noting to report at this time.

### **UNPAID BILLS**

**Council member Wilson moved to pay the unpaid bills. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Orme, Lyman, Wilson and Porter voting aye.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Council member Orme moved to go into an executive session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual at 6:22 p.m. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Stowe, Wilson, Porter and Lyman voting aye.** Present at the executive session were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Stowe, Porter, Orme, Wilson, City Attorney Huntington and City Recorder

Steed. Council member Lyman joined electronically.

**Council member Orme moved to go out of executive session back into regular session at 6:48 p.m. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Porter, Stowe, Wilson and Orme voting aye.**

**Council member Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Mayor Torgersen called the work meeting to order at 6:52 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said work meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Stowe, Wilson, Orme, Porter and City Recorder Steed. Council member Lyman and City Attorney Huntington were excused.

There was no one else present.

The work meeting was to work on the 2025-2026 Budget.

The work meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

---

Stephanie Steed, MMC  
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 04/15/2025