

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 20, 2025
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC 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, Marlene Stowe, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman arrived at 6:01 p.m. Council member Lenza Wilson was excused.

Also present were Bill Weppner, Fred Spencer, Jaxen Cottam, Xander Griffin, Artorius Griffin, Coach Scott Dean, Adam Griffin, Victory Crawford, Jen Rasmussen, Landon Carter 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 Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Orme and Porter voting aye.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2025 MEETING

Council member Orme moved to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2025 meeting as written. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Stowe and Porter voting aye.

Council member Lyman arrived at this time.

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

ESCALANTE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM – DONATION

XANDER GRIFFIN, ARTORIUS GRIFFIN AND JAXEN COTTAM

Mayor Torgersen explained that the Council asked the Football Program to go look for other donations and come back with a list of needs. Jackson Cottam presented a breakdown of the program's needs to the Council. Mr. Cottam explained they received donations from the Garfield County Commissioners, the Garfield County School District and other businesses in the amount

of around \$45,000.00. Council member Orme expressed a preference for items that benefit the broader community, such as bleachers and a sound system. Mr. Adam Griffin and Coach Scott Dean the football program representatives agree to prioritize their needs within the allocated budget. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Lyman moved to donate \$20,000.00 to the football program, with the stipulation that some of the money be used for bleachers. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Lyman, Stowe, Porter and Orme voting aye.**

Coach Scott Dean introduced himself as the new head football coach with 42 years of experience. Coach Dean expresses his enthusiasm for working with the boys at the school, emphasizing that his role is to help them and work hard to produce a good team that will make the community proud. Mr. Dean said the first day of required practice is set for July 29th, with the first game scheduled two to three weeks later.

LONDON CARTER & JEN RASMUSSEN – COUNTY WATER METER FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE AND SHOP

Council member Porter explained the City will not put a meter on private property. Council member Porter said if approved the meter will be placed at the road, and Mr. Carter will be responsible for the line from the meter to his property. Mr. Carter said he will run the line and get the permits that are needed. **Council member Porter moved to approve the new Water Meter for Mr. Carter and Ms. Rasmussen with the condition that they obtain a building permit within 60 days. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council member Orme, Stowe, Porter and Lyman voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Administrative Department had nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT **BILL WEPPNER**

Mr. Weppner said since the last meeting the Fire Department reported on a structure fire involving lithium batteries in a solar field outside of town, which took twenty-four man-hours to handle.

Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department is still having problems with radios and pagers.

COUNCIL REPORTS **MAYOR MELANI TORGENSEN**

Mayor Torgersen said the fitness equipment for the new wellness center will be here this week. Mayor Torgersen said she is not sure when the dental will be moving into the new building, but she would like to look at scheduling an open house after they move in.

Mayor Torgersen said the Annual Splashpad Day is the first Friday in June with hot dogs, snow cones and music.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman said the county and city employees are chip-sealing the roads on the south side of town. Council member Lyman said he appreciates the county and city public works employees.

Council member Lyman said he was approached by Flint Chynoweth about using water at the Rodeo Grounds for events. Council member Porter said it is not an issue unless the water tanks are low.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson was not present at said meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said the scrappers have cleaned up the landfill and it looks good. Council member Orme said she contacted Kelly Shaw at the State about accepting refrigerators at the landfill. Council member Orme explained the City can accept and store refrigerators if we document them properly and suggested hiring someone certified to remove them.

UNPAID BILLS

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

**Council member Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m.
Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.**

Stephanie Steed, MMC, UCC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 06/17/2025