# Riverton City, Utah CITY COUNCIL MEETING Minutes June 17, 2025

# Riverton City Hall 12830 South 1700 West Riverton, Utah 84065

#### Attendance:

Mayor Trent Staggs - excused

#### Councilmembers:

Councilmember Tish Buroker
Councilmember Spencer Haymond
Councilmember Tawnee McCay
Councilmember Troy McDougal
Councilmember Andy Pierucci

# **City Staff:**

Kevin Hicks, City Manager - excused Ryan Carter, City Attorney Cary Necaise, Public Works Director Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director Jamie Larsen, City Recorder Chief Shane Taylor, Riverton Police Department Josh Lee, Communications Director Sheril Garn, Events and Operations Director Stacie Olson, Assistant Public Works Director Fire Marshal Wade Watkins, Unified Fire Authority

# Mayor and Council Informal Meeting - 6:00 PM

#### **COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 PM**

#### Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called the Riverton City Council Meeting to order at 7:02 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Buroker, Haymond, McCay, McDougal and Pierucci were present. Mayor Staggs was excused.

# Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember McCay offered the invocation and Chief Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Citizen Comment**

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for public comments; there being none, she closed the Citizen Comment period.

### **Mayor and Council Reports**

Councilmember McCay provided an update on recent TRCC County meetings, noting that discussions included projects currently underway in Riverton. She expressed enthusiasm about learning more about various City initiatives, particularly the design of a new 10-acre park planned just west of South Hills Middle School.

Councilmember Pierucci reported attending the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District Board of Trustees meeting, where the final budget for the upcoming year was adopted. He was the lone dissenting vote due to an included 11% property tax increase, which he consider significant. He reiterated his belief that more internal budget cuts should be made before asking residents to pay more and encouraged public participation in the upcoming Truth in Taxation hearing in August. He also expressed appreciation for engaging with residents about Riverton City's proposed budget, noting he hosted a few small town halls and received valuable feedback through emails, texts, and phone calls.

Councilmember McDougal thanked the South Valley Chamber for their continued efforts and support of local businesses and expressed enthusiasm about welcoming a new educational provider to Riverton.

Councilmember Haymond provided an update on the sewer project along 11800 South, noting that much of the road has been repaved, and he expressed appreciation for the City's street department, whose efforts have significantly reduced complaints about uneven surfaces.

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker reported that she attended the Historical Commission meeting and encouraged anyone interested to join, noting that the Commission launched a "Riverton Historic Home Listing" program for homes over 50 years old. Eligible homeowners can receive a medallion recognizing their home's significance without affecting property rights. She shared that Unified Fire Authority is already planning for emergency response during the 2034 Olympics, and the UFA budget was approved without issue. On mosquito abatement, she reported that a proposed property tax increase of \$0.99 per household—the first since 2000—will fund drones and rising pesticide costs.

#### **Presentations**

# **South Valley Chamber Presentation**

Jay Francis, President and CEO of the South Valley Chamber presented to the Council regarding events and programs that are currently being offered by the Chamber. His presentation is included in the packet.

# **Riverton Police Department Presentation**

Chief Shane Taylor expressed enthusiasm in announcing the return of Officer Tony Wolfgramm to the Riverton Police Department. Officer Wolfgramm recognized two fellow officers, Sergeant Ruch and Officer Westover, for their heroic actions in saving a man's life involved in a drowning. Officer Wolfgram praised the two officers for their professionalism, bravery, and dedication, highlighting how they embodied the department's values of compassion, integrity, and efficiency. Sergeant Ruch and Officer Westover were then awarded certificates and lifesaving medals in recognition of their heroic efforts.

Following the life-saving recognition, Officer Mike Ashley provided the Council with an overview of the outreach programs he leads. A copy of his presentation is included with the packet.

### **Manager Reports**

Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director, provided an update to the Council on two

key planning efforts underway: the General Plan update and the Transportation Master Plan. The transportation plan, which is more technical in nature, is being supported by a consulting team and funded in part by grants. At the July 15 work session, the consulting team will present preliminary data, including findings from an origin-destination study that tracks not just traffic volumes, but travel patterns—where vehicles are coming from, going to, and their routes in between. This data will help inform infrastructure decisions. The consultants will also outline the schedule and discuss upcoming public open houses, which will be coordinated with the general plan outreach to avoid overwhelming residents with multiple meetings. Many of the areas being studied, such as 13400 South, 12600 South, and Redwood Road, are key transportation corridors.

Mr. Lethbridge also reported that the new "Don't Block the Box" intersection markings on 12600 South have been installed, and monitoring is underway using cameras to evaluate traffic flow. Data gathered will help assess the program's effectiveness and its potential use in other locations.

Cary Necaise, Public Works Director, provided an update on Google Fiber's progress in Riverton. The project is now 96% complete, with approximately 166 miles of fiber installed throughout the City. Of the 12,565 homes and businesses that are eligible for access, around 12,000 are fully connected, leaving about 550–600 still pending.

Kevin Hicks, City Manager, updated the Council on several key operational items. The animal control facility construction is progressing well—although it won't be completed by the end of June as originally hoped, it is expected to be finished by the end of July. Across the street from City Hall, underground work on the new development is nearly complete, and footings are expected to be poured within the next week, marking the beginning of vertical construction.

Mr. Hicks also noted that the City will be conducting a case study with a demo autonomous lawn mower, the first step in evaluating whether to expand the technology into parks citywide. Additionally, the federal COPS Hiring Grant is now open. The City plans to apply for funding to hire two new officers with an emphasis on community-oriented policing.

#### **Consent Items**

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker presented the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Minute Approval: June 3, 2025;
- b. **Resolution No. 25-34** Approving an Amendment to the Riverton City Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual; and
- c. **Resolution No. 25-39** Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a First Amended and Restated Agreement of the Utah Risk Management Agency.

Councilmember McCay MOVED that the City Council approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of adding a fraud reporting hotline to the amendment in the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. Councilmember Pierucci SECONDED the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes, and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

# Public Hearing(s)/Action Items

# Resolution No. 25-35 – Adopting the Final Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for public comments; there being none, she closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember McDougal MOVED to approve Resolution No. 25-35 – Adopting the Final Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Councilmember Haymond SECONDED the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

# Resolution No. 25-36 – Approving the Non-Reciprocal Utilities Transactions for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Nick Geer, Administrative Services Director, explained that the item on the agenda was a routine, state-required approval for a non-reciprocal transfer involving the City's Enterprise Fund, specifically the water fund. While this action shows activity between City funds, no actual money changes hands. It simply reflects that the City has chosen not to charge itself for internal water use—such as watering parks or other municipal properties. Because of that decision, the state requires public notice and Council approval.

Mr. Geer clarified for residents that even though no money is being transferred, water use is still being tracked, monitored, and reported. The City maintains oversight of consumption through regular reports and system checks to ensure responsible use and conservation efforts are upheld. This accounting step is not a loophole or a way to avoid tracking—it's a technical compliance matter to satisfy state reporting rules.

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for public comments;

Jill Bateman emailed the Council expressing concern over the City not billing its own departments for culinary water and said this might reduce the incentive to conserve.

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for additional public comments; there being none, she closed the Public Hearing

Councilmember McCay MOVED to approve Resolution No. 25-36 – Approving the Non-Reciprocal Utilities Transactons for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Councilmember Pierucci SECONDED the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

# Resolution No. 25-37 – Adopting the Final Budgets for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for public comments; there being none, she closed the Public Hearing.

Councilmember McDougal MOVED to approve Resolution No. 25-37 – Adopting the Final

**Budgets for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.** Councilmember Pierucci **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-yes, McDougal-yes and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

# **Discussion/Action Items**

# Resolution No. 25-38 – Adopting the Tax Rate for 2025 Tax

Mr. Geer provided an update regarding finalized property tax rates for the upcoming fiscal year. The county recently provided the certified rates, which are slightly better than the estimates previously included in the tentative budget. This resulted in a modest increase in projected revenues, reducing the need to draw from fund balance reserves. He presented updated figures for both the Riverton Law Enforcement Service Area (rate: 0.001058) and the Riverton Fire Service Area (rate: 0.001140), along with estimated revenues based on current property values. He reminded the Council that the City itself does not levy a property tax—its rate remains at 0%—but it must still officially certify that rate.

Councilmember Haymond **MOVED** to approve Resolution No. 25-38 – Adopting the Tax Rate for 2025 Tax. Councilmember Pierucci SECONDED the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-recuse, McDougal-yes and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

## **TransJordan Landfill Discussion**

Councilmember McDougal briefed the Council on the resolution to approve Herriman City as a full member of the Trans-Jordan Landfill. Currently, there are seven member cities, including Riverton, and all must approve the same interlocal agreement for Herriman's inclusion. Herriman is presently using the landfill but paying the higher commercial (gate) rate of \$41 per ton, compared to the \$26 per ton that member cities pay. As part of the proposed agreement, Herriman will continue paying the \$41 rate, with the \$15 per ton difference credited toward their membership buy-in over 15 years. Additionally, Herriman will pay \$400,000 annually for the next four years toward their \$44 million share of the landfill's estimated value. Allowing Herriman to join now would not only secure a growing revenue source but also help strengthen the long-term fiscal health of the landfill. He emphasized that other landfill options exist, and losing Herriman could significantly impact Trans-Jordan financially.

Resolution No. 25-40 – Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Second Amended and Restated TransJordan Cities Interlocal Cooperation Agreement

Councilmember McDougal MOVED to approve Resolution No. 25-40 – Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Second Amended and Restated TransJordan Cities Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Councilmember Pierucci SECONDED the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for discussion on the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Buroker called for a roll-call vote. The vote was as follows: Buroker-yes, Haymond-yes, McCay-recuse, McDougal-yes and Pierucci-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

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# **Upcoming Meetings**

- a. July 15, 2025 Work Session & City Council Meeting
- b. August 5, 2025 Work Session & City Council Meeting
- c. August 19, 2025 Work Session & City Council Meeting
- d. September 2, 2025 Work Session & City Council Meeting

# **Adjournment**

Councilmember McCay **MOVED** to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Haymond **SECONDED** the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Approved: CCM 7.15.25