

MEETING MINUTES
EPHRAIM CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EPHRAIM CITY HALL
5 SOUTH MAIN, EPHRAIM, UTAH
JUNE 25, 2025
6:00 PM

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Scott, Mayor
Lloyd Stevens, Mayor Pro Tem
Margie Anderson
Anthony Beal
Chad Parry
Dennis Nordfelt

MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

Katie Witt, City Manager
Candice Maudsley, City Recorder
Bryan Kimball, Community Development
Megan Spurling, Planner
Jon Knudsen, Finance Director

Jeff Jensen, Public Works
Cory Daniels, Power Director
Colby Zeeman, Police
Jeff Hermansen, Fire Chief
Jordan Howe, Rec Director

CALL TO ORDER

The Ephraim City Council Meeting, having been properly noticed, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Scott.

AGENDA

The City Recorder Candice Maudsley reviewed the procedure for the meeting. Under Utah state law, tonight's meeting will follow a specific process. Each applicant will have one minute to introduce themselves, followed by a question and answer period with the council. After answering questions, each applicant will have two minutes for closing statements. Once all presentations are complete, only the current council members will vote by secret ballot - the mayor does not participate in voting. The City Recorder will collect and count the private ballots, and the applicant receiving the most votes will be appointed. If there is a tie, state law requires the winner to be determined by coin toss. The selected person will immediately be sworn in and begin serving as the new council member.

INTERVIEWS OF APPLICANTS

Each candidate participated in a structured Q&A session with the current council. The discussion covered a wide range of topics relevant to city governance and planning:

- **Qualifications & Backgrounds:** Candidates brought diverse experience in fields such as law enforcement, business, education, construction, and community service. Each shared their motivation for serving and highlighted skills in communication, leadership, and public service.
- **City Growth & Housing:** Candidates addressed challenges related to population growth and infrastructure, expressing support for affordable housing solutions such as R2 zoning, and ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units). Several emphasized the need for sustainable development while preserving Ephraim's small-town character.
- **Entity Relationships:** Candidates demonstrated awareness of Ephraim's partnerships with Snow College, law enforcement, Sanpete County, and state and federal representatives. Most talked about the importance of collaboration and strong intergovernmental relationships.
- **Budget Prioritization:** Emphasis was placed on responsible budgeting, prioritizing core services (roads, water, public safety) before recreational investments. Candidates discussed keeping property taxes and utility rates competitive with neighboring cities.
- **Economic Development:** The candidates discussed infrastructure needs like a second grocery store and vehicle maintenance services. There was consensus on fostering small businesses, protecting downtown charm, and engaging underrepresented groups.
- **Business Incentives & Property Rights:** Candidates generally favored treating all businesses equitably and expressed concern about incentivizing large corporations at the expense of local businesses. They supported balancing property rights with city code enforcement and proposed flexibility through grandfathering and code reviews.
- **Commitment to Community:** In closing remarks, candidates emphasized values such as fairness, transparency, inclusivity, and a commitment to listening. Many voiced a strong desire to serve and help shape Ephraim's future for young families, longtime residents, and newcomers alike.

Following the candidate presentations and council discussion, the City Recorder initiated the first round of voting by secret ballot. The results were as follows:

- **Troy Birch** – 3 votes
- **Eddie Christensen** – 1 vote

With a majority of votes, **Troy Birch was appointed to the Ephraim City Council**. He was immediately sworn in and began serving in his official capacity.

Councilmember Beal moved to appoint Troy Birch to fill the city council vacancy. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Nordfelt moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:09 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Birch. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council room.

MINUTES APPROVED:



John Scott, Mayor

7-16-25
Date

ATTEST:



Candice Maudsley, City Recorder



7-16-25
Date