



## NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2025

The North Ogden City Council convened on June 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the North Ogden City Public Safety Building at 515 East 2600 North.

Notice of time, place, and agenda of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah Public Notice Website on June 19, 2025.

Notice of the annual meeting schedule was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah Public Notice Website on December 11, 2024.

**Note: The timestamps indicated in blue correspond with the recording of this meeting, which can be located on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCriqbEPBxTucXEzRr6fc1hQ/videos> or by requesting a copy of the audio file from the North Ogden City Recorder.**

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

S. Neal Berube	Mayor
Ryan Barker	Council Member
Blake Cevering	Council Member
Jay D Dalpias	Council Member
Chris Pulver	Council Member
Christina Watson	Council Member

arrived at 6:48 p.m.  
excused

### STAFF PRESENT:

Jon Call	City Manager/Attorney
Joyce Pierson	Deputy City Recorder
Scott Hess	Community and Economic Development Director
Peter Brown	Finance Director
Casey Hunsaker	City Treasurer
Brian Eynon	Chief of Police

### VISITORS:

Phillip Swanson	Reed Miller	Mike Sjoblom
Kevin Burns	Mona Wald	Mike Mabey
Sandra Cochran	Susan Kilborn	Zella Richards
Brenda Ashdown	Shane Child	

**0:00:22** Mayor Berube called the meeting to order and excused Council Member Watson and noted that Council Member Cevering will be arriving late. Council Member Dalpias offered an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

**0:02:46** No conflict of interest was disclosed.

### **2. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 27, 2025, AND JUNE 3, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**0:03:45** Council Member Dalpias motioned to approve the May 27, 2025, and June 3, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes. Council Member Pulver seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Barker	aye
Council Member Cevering	excused
Council Member Dalpias	aye
Council Member Pulver	aye
Council Member Watson	excused

The motion passed unanimously.

## **ACTIVE AGENDA**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**0:04:44** Shane Child, a North Ogden resident and truck driver who has long participated in the City's Cherry Days parade, expressed concern about being told he could no longer park his truck in front of his home to decorate it the day before the parade.

He explained that he has done so without issue for over 15 years, but last year, law enforcement intervened, possibly due to a neighbor's complaint related to a sidewalk boutique. He requested consideration for a temporary allowance or pardon for parking his truck around the parade (specifically July 3rd and 4th) so he could continue to contribute. Mayor Berube acknowledged that the City ordinance likely prohibits parking large trucks on City streets, but stated he was willing to issue a Mayoral Pardon in this specific case. The Mayor encouraged minimizing the time the truck is parked and reassured Shane that if a ticket were issued, he would work to resolve it. The discussion ended with mutual appreciation and a reminder to be mindful of public safety.

0:08:40 Mike Sjoblom, a North Ogden resident, addressed the Council regarding a recent denial of his Business License Application. He and his business partner operate a small, two-person company currently based in Riverdale, where they manufacture aftermarket Humvee accessories. They hope to relocate their operation to a warehouse space in North Ogden, behind Brilliant Lighting. Mike explained that their work involves light assembly and prototyping with small tools like 3D printers and occasional use of an angle grinder, activities he described as lighter than what previous tenants in that space had done. Despite this, the license was denied due to the classification of their work as "light manufacturing," which is not currently defined or permitted in the zone. Mike asked if the Council would consider sponsoring a zoning text amendment to allow such use. Mayor Berube and the Council discussed the issue, noting the inconsistency with past uses in the space and a need to clearly define "light manufacturing" to amend the ordinance properly. Council Member Dalpias asked about potential noise concerns, and Mike responded that any equipment used is comparable to what a homeowner might have in a garage.

The Council agreed to have Staff work on a definition and pursue the ordinance amendment, with Mayor Berube noting the process would take about six weeks. Mike emphasized the urgency due to his uncertain lease situation in Riverdale but expressed appreciation for the Council's willingness to help.

0:15:01 Susan Kilborn, a North Ogden resident, expressed her appreciation for City Recorder Rian Santoro, specifically commending the accuracy and timeliness of the City Council meeting minutes. She noted that Rian's work is exceptional and valuable to residents who follow City matters, and wished more people paid attention to the minutes. Susan concluded by thanking Rian for her dedication.

In response, Mayor Berube thanked Susan for her comment and added that the City is fortunate to have strong Department Heads overall. While there is always room for improvement, he expressed satisfaction with Staff performance and their ongoing efforts.

**4. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE THE CONTINUATION OF AUDITING SERVICES WITH GILBERT & STEWART CPA'S THROUGH THE END OF THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR**

**0:16:54** Finance Director Peter Brown informed the Council that the City's auditing firm, Gilbert and Stewart, has been under contract for several years and that their agreement was set to expire after fiscal year 2024–2025. He explained that the City has opted to renew the contract for one additional year, covering fiscal year 2025–2026, with no change in cost. This renewal allows the firm to continue providing audit services for the upcoming year.

**Mayor Berube motioned to approve the continuation of auditing services with Gilbert & Stewart CPA's through the end of the third quarter of the 2026 fiscal year. All those in attendance voted aye.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**5. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2025-15  
ADOPTING THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET  
AMENDMENT**

**0:18:31** Finance Director Peter Brown presented an overview of the proposed amendment to the City's 2024–2025 budget, providing a more accurate financial plan as the fiscal year closes. He emphasized the use of conservative estimates, under-projecting revenues, and including uncertain expenditures to remain cautious. Notable changes include a budget adjustment to reallocate an HR position from the finance budget, accounting adjustments for Cherry Days revenue, and the infusion of approximately \$49,000 from fund balance to cover a shortfall in the General Fund. Aquatic Center revenue is projected to come in higher than expected, and instead of transferring funds from the General Fund, a proposal was made to use the existing fund balance which was previously supplemented by a \$175,000 RDA transfer. The capital budget was revised to reflect delays in project timelines, with plans to reintroduce deferred projects in the next budget year.

Peter distributed a new adjustment sheet (dated 6/25), highlighting a flat sales tax projection of \$4.8 million due to lower-than-expected April figures and a double-counting correction in investment revenue. Expenditures in the streets budget was increased based on updated information. Council Member Pulver confirmed the changes result in a nearly net-zero adjustment, with Peter noting the changes mainly help individual departments remain within budget for audit purposes.

Council Member Dalpias asked about the impact of April's sales tax decline, to which Peter confirmed it prompted the sales tax revision. Mayor Berube and Peter acknowledged that the biggest remaining uncertainties are Aquatic Center revenues and final sales tax figures.

**0:32:06 Public Hearing was opened.**

**0:32:49** Reed Miller, a North Ogden City resident, asked how much of the sales tax the City receives. Mayor Berube and City Manager/Attorney Jon Call explained that of the 7.85% total sales tax, the City receives 1%, split between local point-of-sale and a State population-based pool. It was noted that as other cities grow faster, North Ogden's share of the pool could decrease.

**0:35:05** Kevin Burns, a North Ogden City resident, asked for clarification on what was meant by "double dipping" revenues. Mayor Berube explained that it was an accounting miscalculation where interest income from the same investment was accidentally recorded twice. Specifically, the City has funds invested both in the State PTIF and in long-term investments managed by a group called Meeder through US Bank. Due to unfamiliarity with the structure, the Finance Director mistakenly believed Meeder and US Bank represented separate investments and counted the interest from both, resulting in duplicated revenue entries. Mayor Berube noted that while such errors occasionally occur, it was caught and corrected.

**0:36:37 Council Member Pulver motioned to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Barker seconded the motion. All in attendance voted aye.**

**Council Member Barker motioned to approve Ordinance 2025-15 adopting the proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Amendment to include the adjustments as discussed. Council Member Dalpias seconded the motion.**

**Voting on the motion:**

<b>Council Member Barker</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Cevering</b>	<b>excused</b>
<b>Council Member Dalpias</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Pulver</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Watson</b>	<b>excused</b>

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**0:39:13 Council Member Dalpias motioned to recess the City Council meeting and convene in the Redevelopment Agency (RDA). Council Member Pulver seconded the motion. All in attendance voted aye.**

**6. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE 2025-16, ADOPTING THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (RDA) BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**0:40:09** Finance Director Peter Brown provided an overview of the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) budget amendments, explaining that RDA funds are restricted for certain capital projects and no longer receive new revenue. The City is working to spend down the remaining balance. Initially, the budget included approximately \$1.5 million for the Aquatic Center upgrades, but much of that work will not be completed by fiscal year-end, so only about \$300,000 is expected to be used, and the remainder has been pulled from this year's budget.

In response to questions, Peter noted that interest earnings in the budget appear significantly higher due to outdated figures, but when properly updated, the variance will not be substantial. Council Member Dalpias asked whether interest earnings would require additional allocation in the RDA budget. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call responded that this will be addressed in next year's budget amendment and clarified that the state requires accurate RDA reporting.

Council Member Dalpias also inquired about whether any RDA funds were used for the Waterworks project. Jon confirmed that no RDA funds were allocated to that. Jon further detailed that the \$300,000 currently included in the budget is for SCADA upgrades and pump work at the Aquatic Center, which remain unfinished due to vendor delays. Other RDA projects, such as the Bicentennial Park and the McDonald's turn lane, will begin shortly after the fiscal year ends and will be included in the next year's budget.

Peter concluded by noting a correction in the amendment: a \$222,000 transfer was mistakenly listed as going to the General Fund but should instead be directed to the Capital Improvement Fund. He stated the correction would be made before adoption.

**0:46:49 Public Hearing was opened.**

**0:47:02 Board Member Pulver motioned to close the Public Hearing. Board Member Barker seconded the motion. All in attendance voted aye.**

**0:47:48** Board Member Dalpias motioned to approve Ordinance 2025-16, Adopting The Proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Budget Amendment. Board Member Pulver seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Board Member Barker	aye
Board Member Cevering	abstained
Board Member Dalpias	aye
Board Member Pulver	aye
Board Member Watson	excused

The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Barker motioned to adjourn the RDA meeting and convene in the regular City Council meeting. Board Member Pulver seconded the motion.

7. **DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 11-2025, ADOPTING THE FINAL CERTIFIED TAX RATE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PROCEED WITH THE TRUTH IN TAXATION PROCESS**

**0:49:56** City Manager/Attorney Jon Call provided an update and explanation regarding the proposed property tax increase, sales tax adjustments, and the implementation of a Transportation Utility Fee as part of the City's overall budget strategy. He explained that the Council had previously discussed a 5.5% increase in sales tax and a 15.5% increase in property tax, which would generate approximately \$381,000 - \$279,000 of which would be allocated to Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). He emphasized that the key decision for the evening was determining the maximum property tax increase to be advertised for the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing scheduled for August 19, noting that the final adopted rate could be lower but not higher than what is advertised.

Mayor Berube confirmed the goal of eliminating reliance on fund balance and expressed concerns about the optimism of a 5.5% sales tax increase. He urged the Council to set conservative revenue projections and establish contingency plans if revenues fall short. Council Member Dalpias clarified figures and expressed skepticism about the sales tax projections, suggesting a more modest increase. Council Member Barker raised concerns about the overall financial burden on residents when combining utility fee increases with other tax hikes and proposed a reduced property tax increase of around 7.88%, halving the CIP contribution for this year.

The Council debated the risks of over or underestimating sales tax revenues, with some members preferring to keep higher advertised rates to preserve flexibility, while others opposed the optics of advertising a higher rate than intended. There was discussion on the implications of underfunding CIP and the potential for unspent funds from this fiscal year to supplement future capital needs. Finance Director Peter Brown shared concerns about revenue volatility and advised caution regarding sales tax projections.

Ultimately, the Council leaned toward advertising the maximum 15.5% property tax increase to preserve options, with the understanding that the final rate could be lowered based on incoming sales tax data. There was also a request to establish clearer criteria for when the Rainy Day Fund should be used, suggesting a future discussion to define qualifying emergency events.

**Council Member Pulver motioned to approve Resolution 11-2025, adopting The Final Certified Tax Rate And Authorizing The City To advertise the tax rate of 15.5% for the Truth In Taxation Process. Council Member Dalpias seconded the motion.**

**Voting on the motion:**

<b>Council Member Barker</b>	<b>nay</b>
<b>Council Member Cevering</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Dalpias</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Pulver</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Watson</b>	<b>excused</b>

**The motion passed on a 3 to 1 vote.**

**8. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2025-17  
ADOPTING THE FIREWORKS BOUNDARY MAP**

1:21:10 Council Member Barker explained that the City's fireworks restriction map, originally adopted about three years ago, needs to be re-adopted as the official boundary map for restricted fireworks use. The map has already been submitted to the State Fire Marshal and is posted on public websites.

Although it has been in place for several years, it was clarified that it is not a permanent ordinance and must be formally adopted again.

Council Member Barker noted that a new House Bill (HB48) regarding the wildland-urban interface will eventually require updates to the map to align it more closely with data-driven boundaries. He explained that the map includes an area that jogs at the south end of the City to align with Ogden City's boundary along Monroe Blvd for continuity. Some new areas have been added to the east in recent years, including parts near Fruitland Drive and 2600 North.

Discussion followed about the difficulty of enforcing fireworks violations, as violators must be caught in the act to be fined. The City plans to publish the map again on social media and the website for public awareness. The Council confirmed the boundaries have remained consistent for the past three years, including the area from Mountain Road to Monroe Blvd.

**Council Member Pulver motioned to approve Ordinance 2025-17, Adopting the Fireworks Boundary Map. Council Member Dalpias seconded the motion.**

**Voting on the motion:**

<b>Council Member Barker</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Cevering</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Dalpias</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Pulver</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Watson</b>	<b>excused</b>

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**9. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE THE TWO-YEAR CITY MANAGER/ATTORNEY CONTRACT**

1:25:12 Mayor Berube introduced the proposed two-year contract renewal for City Manager/Attorney Jon Call, noting that the contract has remained largely the same since its original adoption, with significant revisions made about four years ago. The only change this year is the updated salary figure, which aligns with the City's salary survey and represents the 50th percentile among comparable positions. This adjustment ensures that if Jon's salary were reduced below that amount, it would trigger a contractual protection equivalent to a termination clause.

The contract also allows Jon to engage in limited outside activities, such as assisting with the Land Use Institute and a golf simulator venture, as long as these do not interfere with his City responsibilities.

Mayor Berube clarified that the contract is based solely on City Manager salary standards and is consistent with compensation practices for other City Managers. He explained that the contract provides reasonable protections for a politically appointed role, especially since the authority to terminate the City Manager now rests with the full Council rather than the Mayor alone. Council Member Dalpias commented that due to inflation, today's salaries have less purchasing power, using a 2020 salary comparison to illustrate the point. Mayor Berube added that the salary for this position is lower than those in neighboring cities with smaller populations and reaffirmed that the decision is backed by proper market research and policy compliance.

**Council Member Pulver motioned to approve the two-year City Manager/Attorney Contract. Council Member Dalpias seconded the motion.**

**Voting on the motion:**

<b>Council Member Barker</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Cevering</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Dalpias</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Pulver</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Council Member Watson</b>	<b>excused</b>

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **10. COUNCIL DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **a. Mayor Berube – Finance Department**

1:32:00 Mayor Berube provided the Finance Department report, noting that he, along with City Manager/Attorney Jon Call and Finance Director Peter Brown, had recently spent several hours reviewing all line items in the budget. He reported that no expenses appeared out of line, and interdepartmental allocations such as vehicle repairs were noted but expected. Based on the review of 11 months of data, Mayor Berube expressed confidence that expenses would come in under budget, with the main uncertainty remaining in the sales tax revenue.

He noted the Aquatic Center is projected to end the fiscal year with a deficit of approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000, improved from a previously estimated \$134,000 shortfall, largely due to a strong June performance.

Regarding sales tax, the City budgeted \$417,000 for the recent period but only received \$345,000, marking a 17.45% decline. Mayor Berube remarked on the unusual nature of this drop and the trend of alternating months of increases and decreases, which justifies a conservative outlook.

City Manager/Attorney Jon Call added that 40% of April's sales tax revenue came directly from within the City, compared to the typical 30–33%, indicating increased local spending. Mayor Berube concluded that overall, the budget appears to be one of the most accurate in recent years, with no significant excess but a likely \$100,000 in surplus revenue.

City Manager/Attorney Jon Call followed up with a brief update about the Aquatic Center, noting that June typically averages 400-500 in attendance, but this year had reached around 700 on average during the early part of the month, despite a colder recent week. Mayor Berube also mentioned that revenues in the Recreation Department appeared lower than expected but are anticipated to increase as youth football registration, a significant revenue source, ramps up in June ahead of practices starting in July and games in September.

b. Council Member Pulver – Public Works Department

**1:37:24** Council Member Pulver reported on Public Works' projects, highlighting visible activity, especially around 1700 North, and noting that Pineview's work has also contributed to significant disruption in the area. He mentioned ongoing road improvements and construction efforts, including the 1700 North project, which is expected to bring long-term benefits to that part of the City, including improved sidewalks, an important concern for residents.

Mayor Berube added that some residents have asked about the City's pothole repair schedule, especially in areas like 2600 North, sometimes referred to by residents as a "racetrack" due to speeding issues. He suggested that it would be helpful to provide the public with a clearer timeline or outline for when pothole and road repairs will be completed, particularly when third-party contractors are involved.

c. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call – Capital Projects

**1:40:19** City Manager/Attorney Jon Call reported that the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Waterworks Experience would take place the following morning at 10 a.m. He addressed a common question regarding the lack of restrooms at the site, explaining that due to a nearby well, sewer lines cannot be installed within a certain proximity.

However, he noted that restrooms are available in nearby commercial areas and encouraged residents to support those businesses if using their facilities. He emphasized the event would be a fun community celebration and invited Council members to attend and possibly speak. He clarified that the Waterworks Experience is not a traditional splash pad but rather a hands-on water feature where children can manipulate water flow using pumps and an Archimedes screw, offering both play and physical activity.

Jon also reported that construction on the turn lane project near McDonald's will begin July 7, and many of the City's previously tracked capital projects are now completed or nearing completion. The upcoming fiscal year will see the installation of the Mountain View Park playground, followed by Oaklawn and then Barker Park, which will bring the City up to date after previously being 10 playgrounds behind schedule.

Jon also shared that the City has submitted information for a potential \$3 million federal earmark, including the necessary SAM (System for Award Management) number for federal grant tracking, and that a decision is expected by October when the national budget is finalized.

Mayor Berube added that a future discussion is needed regarding transportation impact fees, as North Ogden's fees are believed to be among the highest in the State, which could hinder development in key areas such as along a UDOT Road.

Mayor Berube also confirmed that \$200,000 was allocated for a study to design a relocated detention basin, allowing the City to move quickly on redevelopment if signed leases from major retailers are presented. Jon stated that the project could be ready to move within eight to nine months, aligning with typical development lead times.

## **11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1:45:37 Reed Miller, a North Ogden resident, expressed concern that many citizens are unaware of the City's budget process and only react to the announcement of a 15% property tax increase without understanding the reasons behind it. He warned that such a significant increase would upset residents, who often compare it to their financial situations, where they must cut expenses when funds are low. He emphasized that any tax increase feels like money being taken directly from citizens' pockets and reminded the Council that they are stewards of the public's money. Reed urged the Council to keep tax increases as low as possible, noting that frequent increases under Truth in Taxation make residents feel the Council always opts to raise taxes.

He concluded by encouraging caution and sensitivity to public perception, suggesting that a smaller increase would be received more favorably.

1:48:39 Mona Wald, a North Ogden resident, shared concerns about the ongoing increases in taxes and utility fees. She criticized what she perceived as a casual tone in the discussion about raising taxes, specifically directing her comments to Mayor Berube, saying it sounded as if he spoke about tax increases as casually as ordering a side of fries. She emphasized that many residents are struggling financially and called for the City to explore other funding sources instead of consistently increasing taxes. Mona acknowledged appreciation for Council Member Barker's voting no on the property tax increase, but urged the Council to consider the burden on average families.

In response, Mayor Berube expressed that he was offended by Mona's remarks, stating that if she regularly attended Council meetings, she would know he takes tax matters seriously and did not intend to make light of the issue. He clarified that his earlier comment about "energy" referred to public turnout in response to a proposed 15% increase, not enthusiasm for taxation.

Council Member Pulver voiced disagreement with Mona's characterization and added that the Budget Committee has spent extensive hours reviewing financial details and encouraged residents to review those meetings to better understand how funds are allocated. Mayor Berube concluded by reiterating that while tax issues are easy to use in campaign rhetoric, the Council has put in considerable effort and thought into the budget process.

1:51:24 Phil Swanson, a North Ogden resident, expressed appreciation for the Council's efforts and acknowledged the challenging position they are in during this year's budgeting process. Having been involved with City budgeting for over a decade, he stated that this is one of the most difficult years he's seen, largely due to rising needs and limited revenues. Phil emphasized the tough balance between maintaining essential City services and avoiding tax increases. He pointed out that cutting services such as snow plowing, park maintenance, or overtime might ease budget pressures, but would likely result in public dissatisfaction when those services fall short.

He reminded those present that during the COVID period, cities experienced higher inflation rates than individuals, with municipal inflation reaching 12–13% while household inflation was closer to 9%. He also commended the City departments for continuing to provide expected services despite unfilled positions and ongoing budget constraints. Phil thanked the Council for their thoughtful discussion and expressed gratitude that they are working to avoid implementing the full 15.51% property tax increase. He said any reduction would be appreciated by residents, who still maintain high expectations for City services.

Mayor Berube followed up by reaffirming his full support for the Police Department, describing public safety as the City's top priority and noting that it accounts for a large portion of the budget.

He clarified that his previous comments about tax increases were not intended to be dismissive and that he had even advised against a large tax hike the previous year. He reiterated his commitment to being thoughtful and respectful of the financial impact on residents.

**1:55:03** Susan Kilborn, a North Ogden resident, emphasized that she consistently attends City meetings either in person or via Zoom. She expressed frustration with people who criticize the Mayor and City Council without attending meetings themselves, and held citizens responsible for complaining about property and sales tax increases if they do not participate in meetings. Susan stressed that North Ogden is not a "money tree" and defended the Council and Mayor against attacks based on misinformation. She also raised concerns about illegal fireworks being set off near her home and requested permission from the Mayor and Police Chief to document and identify those responsible. Mayor Berube responded humorously regarding a pardon for any actions Susan might take. She concluded by reaffirming her position and thanking the council.

## **12. MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS**

**1:58:18** Council Member Pulver expressed appreciation for the Citizens Budget Subcommittee and the extensive time and effort its members dedicated to reviewing the budget. He highlighted that the Subcommittee held numerous meetings, both formal and informal, to carefully analyze budget items line by line and consider creative, outside-the-box ideas, some of which were unconventional, like the notion of cementing over the pool, which was ultimately dismissed. He valued the Subcommittee's open discussions and hoped such efforts would continue in the future.

The Mayor also thanked Council Member Pulver for leading the Subcommittee's work for at least two years, acknowledged the professional and transparent process led by Subcommittee Chair Phil Swanson, and appreciated the valuable input provided to the Council.

**2:00:15** City Manager/Attorney Jon Call outlined upcoming Cherry Days events starting Saturday with the Kit Collins Skate event, continuing through July 5 with a RAMP day at the pool, a pickleball tournament, a concert, and fireworks. Other scheduled events include a luau on Tuesday, a car show on Monday, a rodeo on Thursday, and a vendor market and parade on Friday.

He mentioned that confirmation of a flyover by Hill Air Force Base at the parade depends on the federal budget and encouraged the community to come out and support the events. He also thanked volunteers for their efforts in helping with the festivities and cleanup. Mayor Berube added information about the Fourth of July sunrise service begins at 7:00 a.m., featuring a patriotic message from Representative Ryan Wilcox, a children's choir concert, and the Kiwanis Club breakfast fundraiser, encouraging residents to attend and support these activities.

**2:02:39** Council Member Cevering began by expressing support for City Manager/Attorney Jon Call, stating that his salary is lower than what he deserves given his strong work ethic. He shared feedback from citizens regarding delays at local baseball games, noting that while games often start late, they are promptly cut off, and residents would like to see them start on time. In response, Council Member Dalpias questioned whether the concern was specific to North Ogden or possibly Pleasant View, given shared facilities. Council Member Cevering also encouraged Citizen Reed Miller to take the lead on promoting local spending and emphasized that no Council member wants to raise taxes, but also does not want to reduce services. He pointed out the frequent citizen complaints requesting higher service levels, such as quicker snow removal, and explained that maintaining quality services requires fair compensation for employees. He highlighted the extensive effort the Council puts into the budget process over six to seven months annually. Lastly, he inquired about previous discussions regarding HOA management and associated costs, asking for an update. Jon Call responded that the City is compiling information and working to inform HOAs about the rising cost of asphalt so they can plan accordingly for long-term maintenance.

**2:05:20** Council Member Barker addressed concerns raised earlier by Susan Kilborn regarding fireworks, stating that signage has been ordered and will be installed soon. The City will return to using banners instead of digital billboards this year. He clarified that fireworks may only be legally discharged from July 2 through July 5, and any use before then is illegal, despite sales beginning earlier. He noted that fireworks are allowed until 11:00 p.m., except on July 4, when the cutoff is midnight.

**2:05:53** Mayor Berube then shifted the discussion to the proposed Transportation Utility Fee, requesting that Staff establish clear waiver criteria for residents who may not be able to afford it, suggesting it be tied to a specific percentage above the poverty level. He emphasized the importance of ensuring these considerations are in place before the fee is implemented. City Manager/Attorney Jon Call confirmed that a study and public hearing would be conducted per State requirements and that those waiver options would be included in the Council's review.

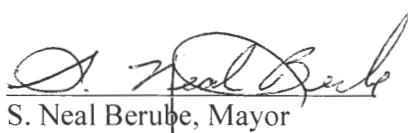
**2:07:22** Council Member Barker added that, in his professional capacity as Fire Marshal, he wanted to share exciting news: starting July 1, paramedic services will officially launch in North Ogden. He explained the significance of this expanded service and invited the public to a "push-in" ceremony at 5:00 p.m., noting the new paramedic truck would also appear in the parade.

Mayor Berube praised the Fire District for making this advancement possible, pointing out that previously, EMTs in North Ogden were unable to perform certain life-saving functions until outside support arrived, which is no longer the case. He thanked the Fire District and Council Member Barker for their efforts in improving emergency medical services for residents.

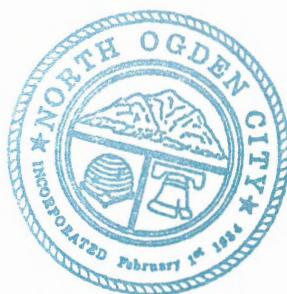
**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Dalpias motioned to adjourn the meeting.

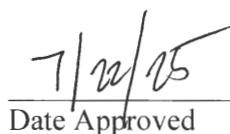
The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.



S. Neal Berube, Mayor



Rian Santoro  
City Recorder



7/21/25

Date Approved