

# Manti City Council Public Hearing & Regular Meeting

## MINUTES

JULY 2, 2025

6:30 PM

MANTI CITY BUILDING  
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET

MEETING CALLED BY	Mayor Alfred C Bigelow
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Council Meeting
ATTENDEES	Councilmembers: AJ Mower, Mary Wintch, Jeff Killian, Jennifer Christiansen and Mary Pipes City Manager: Kent Barton City Recorder: JoAnn Otten
ABSENT	
WELCOME	Mayor Bigelow
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Led by Councilmember Wintch

### Public Hearing

ITEM 1	<b>Public hearing - Invite public comment concerning modification to yard setbacks in the R-2 and R-3 residential zones.</b>
<p>Mayor Bigelow said that the hearing is being held to allow public comment regarding the reduction of the residential yard in setbacks in the R-2 and R-3 zones and read part of the draft ordinance.</p> <p>Mayor Bigelow then invited any who desire to come forward, state their name and make comment.</p> <p><u>Russ Hatch – 511 South 600 West</u></p> <p>Mr. Hatch asked if reducing the yard setback would affect the ability of first responders to get to the emergency. It was noted this would not affect emergency vehicles.</p> <p><u>Heather Weiss – 435 East 100 South</u></p>	

Ms. Weiss expressed her support in reducing the yard setbacks in the R-2 and R-3 residential zones.

As there were no other comments, Mayor Bigelow closed the hearing

### Regular Meeting

ITEM 2	<b>Elliot Anderson, Manti City Fire Chief - Discussion concerning drought conditions and outdoor fire safety, including fireworks.</b>
<p>Fire Chief Anderson reported that due to current weather conditions coupled with the record dry vegetation conditions there is the high possibility of fires. He also said that with the Fourth of July approaching it is important to educate the public of the dangers of fireworks during dry and windy weather conditions.</p> <p>Fire Chief Anderson said that the Utah State Forester has determined that measures must be taken to prevent the ignition of forest and rangeland fires. Because of the danger of forest fires, they have placed Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in specific areas.</p> <p>He reported that the Fire Department continues to educate the public of the dangers of fires and expressed the need for citizens to use common sense.</p>	
CONCLUSION	
<p>Mayor Bigelow thanked Chief Anderson and the entire Manti Fire Department for their volunteerism to the community.</p>	

ITEM 3	<b>Discussion and consideration of Ordinance 2025-4, concerning reduction of yard setbacks in the R-2 and R-3 zones.</b>
<p>Mayor Bigelow asked if there was any discussion regarding the proposed Ordinance 2025-4.</p> <p>Councilmember Wintch said that the ordinance needs to specify that this is for single family homes.</p> <p>Some discussion ensued.</p>	
ACTION	
<p>Councilmember Mary Pipes moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-4, Adjustment to Yard Setbacks in the R2 and R3 Zones, as corrected, seconded by Councilmember AJ</p>	

Mower. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Mary Wintch, Jeff Killian and Jennifer Christiansen. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

ITEM 4

**Discussion concerning compensation for Mayor and City Council.**

Mayor Bigelow said that the Mayor and City Council wages have not been adjusted very much for several years and felt this should be reviewed and possible adjustments be made. He then provided wages from other cities for comparison.

Councilmember Pipes said that Manti City does not have the tax base like other communities in Sanpete County, which makes it hard to adjust the compensation.

Councilmember Killian said that some people think being an elected official should be a volunteer position and others think that it is a paid position. He said that there should be a balance between expenses and time spent as an elected official. He recognized that Mayor Bigelow has given a lot of his time to the position of mayor.

Councilmember Christiansen said that the mayor’s pay needs to be more in line with the compensation of other surrounding mayors. She felt that if an adjustment is not made then Manti gets so far behind it is hard to make it up. She felt the pay rate for the mayor and city council deserve an increase in the compensation.

Councilmember Mower said that he spends a lot of time on the phone and at his home with concerned citizens. He said he also has taken many days off from his work for city meetings and felt the mayor and council’s time is worth something.

Councilmember Wintch said when she signed up to be a councilmember, she thought it was all volunteer. She felt it was inappropriate to be discussing a pay raise at this time since she is running unopposed for the position of mayor and she will not be voting for an increase for herself. She also stated that a public hearing was held regarding the budget and the budget was adopted last month for FY 2025/2026.

Councilmember Mower then questioned the City Manager if there are funds for an increase. He then stated that he felt this should be pursued, as moving forward the mayor and council would be busier.

City Manager Barton said there is a process that is required to follow for executive raises, which includes the mayor and council. A public hearing would need to be scheduled even though there was one at the previous council meeting when the new budget was adopted.

Some discussion ensued.	
CONCLUSION	
It was noted that this item should be held over for further discussion.	

ITEM 5	<b>Audit Report &amp; Financial Review - review of FY 2024 audit and June 2025 statements.</b>
<p>City Manager Barton presented the June 2025 Financial Statement, which is attached to and made part of the minutes.</p> <p>He reported that 100% of the budget year is complete with total budgeted revenues realized at 92.2% and total budgeted expenses coming in at 90.5%. He then reviewed the Enterprise and Special Revenue Funds with water revenue at 110.0% of budget and expenses at 58.7%, sewer department budgeted revenues at 98.4% and expenses at 75.5% and electric fund budgeted revenues at 91.1% and expenses 90.9%.</p> <p>City Manager Barton then reviewed the FY 2024 audit noting that Manti City is in compliance with the applicable state and compliance requirements described in the State Compliance Audit Guide, issued by the Office of the Utah State Auditor.</p> <p>He then reviewed the audit in more detail after which some discussion ensued.</p> <p>Mayor Bigelow thanked City Manager Barton.</p>	

ITEM 6	<b>Continuing Business</b>
<p><b>Request to ease square footage and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor restrictions in "Accessory Dwelling Unit" code (1740.040).</b> Planning Commission reviewing.</p> <p><b>Historic Preservation Commission.</b> None</p> <p><b>Short-term rental ordinance.</b> The draft recommendation is in the packet for review and will be placed on the agenda for the next council meeting.</p> <p><b>Inland Port project.</b> None</p>	

**ITEM 7****Councilmember reports.**Councilmember Pipes

- Jensen's Department Store will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Movie in the Park will be at the Manti City Park on July 18<sup>th</sup> with activities starting at 7:30 p.m.
- The Utah Taiko Experience will have their open-air concert on July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Manti City Park at 7:30 p.m.

Councilmember Christiansen

- Expressed her appreciation to the city crew and staff for all they do during this busy season.

Councilmember Killian

- None

Councilmember Wintch

- Attended the Utah League of Cities and Towns Board Meeting.
- The National League of Cities and Towns has offered a one-day conference deal for \$125.00.
- America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be celebrated on the Fourth of July of 2026. This will be a bigger and better celebration, which may need more volunteers.
- Should begin thinking of individuals to help co-chair the next years 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration as soon as possible.
- Referenced Senator Lee's proposed bill that will sell off public lands.

Councilmember Mower

- None

**ITEM 8****Public Comment – two minutes per each comment.**Russ Hatch – 511 South 600 West

- Proposed that the Fourth of July name be changed to Independence Day celebration.

- Questioned if the electrical billing would change to an “on demand” rate and Mayor Bigelow said Manti City is part of Utah Municipal Power Agency and there will be a very small rate increase but will not be an “on demand” rate.
- Mentioned the progress of the General Dollar Store and questioned if there will be other businesses coming in that area. Mayor Bigelow said that the property owner is working on bringing other businesses to the area.

Mike Weiss – 435 East 100 South

- Is in favor of a pay increase for elected officials. He suggested that if a public hearing is scheduled, that they list the accomplishments at the hearing.

Heather Weiss – 435 East 100 South

- Approved of a compensation increase for elected officials and would be fine with an increase to property tax to help pay for the increase.

**ITEM 9**

**Mayor Bigelow.**

Mayor Bigelow reported on the following items:

- A meeting with Congressman Mike Kennedy and Representative Burgess Owens on August 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Provo City Power. If any councilmembers are interested in attending, rsvp to [sadie@uamps.com](mailto:sadie@uamps.com).
- UMPA has entered into an agreement for a power plant project in Idaho, Wolverine Creek Wind.
- The Manti employee summer party will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Manti City Pool.

**ITEM 10**

**Consideration of approval for minutes of last council meeting (June 18<sup>th</sup> public hearing and council meeting).**

Mayor directed Councilmembers to draft minutes of the regular council meeting of June 18, 2025. After brief discussion, he called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

**ACTION TAKEN**

Councilmember Mary Wintch made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2025, regular council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Jennifer Christiansen.

Councilmembers voting “aye”: Mary Wintch, Jennifer Christiansen, Mary Pipes, Jeff Killian and AJ Mower. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

**ITEM 10**

**City Manager Kent Barton**

City Manager Barton reported on the following items:

- A grant application has been submitted to the FAA for replacement of beacon lights at the Manti/Ephraim Airport.
- A draft Interlocal Agreement for Airport Operations and Management between Manti, Ephraim and Sanpete County is in the packet for review.
- Spoke with Jared Beard of UDOT and he said that UDOT is willing to discuss installation of driver feedback signs on both the north and south entrance to Manti City. This would require the city to pay half of the cost of the signs (\$6,000.00), and any power coverage cost. It was the consensus of the Mayor and Council to pursue the digital speed signs.
- The Forest Service permit for the ATV ride is in the packet for review.
- Reminded the Mayor and Council of the ATV dinner on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- Has one item for closed session dealing with litigation.

**ACTION TAKEN**

Councilmember Mary Pipes moved to adjourn from regular session into closed session to discuss litigation, seconded by Councilmember Jennifer Christiansen. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Mary Pipes, Jennifer Christiansen, Mary Wintch, AJ Mower and Jeff Killian. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

Adjourned from closed session into regular session.

Councilmember Mary Pipes moved to pay the bills and adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Jeff Killian. Councilmembers voting “aye”: Mary Pipes, Jeff Killian, Mary Wintch, AJ Mower and Jennifer Christiansen. Councilmembers voting “nay”: none.

**ADJOURNED**

8:05 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

Regular Council Meeting – July 16, 2025

General Account

Ethan Kirkham	\$ 400.00
Utah Municipal Power Agency	116,721.17
Jennifer Lund	615.00
East Texas Donuts	220.15

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alfred Bigelow, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JoAnn Otten, City Recorder