

MINUTES OF THE DRAPER CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025, IN THE DRAPER CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1020 EAST PIONEER ROAD, DRAPER, UTAH

PRESENT: Mayor Troy K. Walker, and Councilmembers Mike Green, Bryn Heather Johnson, Tasha Lowery, Fred Lowry, and Marsha Vawdrey

EXCUSED:

STAFF: Mike Barker, City Manager; Kellie Challburg, Assistant City Manager; Spencer DuShane, Assistant City Attorney; Rich Ferguson, Chief of Police; Traci Gundersen, City Attorney; Jennifer Jastremsky, Community Development Director; Robert Markle, Deputy Director of Public Works/Engineering; Rhett Ogden, Parks and Recreation Director; Linda Peterson, Communications Director; Nicole Smedley, City Recorder; Clint Smith, Fire Chief; Pam Stagg, Interim Human Resource Director; Jake Sorensen, Network Manager; John Vuyk, Finance Director; and Todd Taylor, Planner

Study Session

Presentation: Health Department Coordination

Salt Lake County Health Director Dorothy Adams reviewed services provided by the Health Department. Ms. Adams highlighted the importance of protection against mosquito bites due to West Nile virus being detected in the County, and responded to questions regarding immunizations. She emphasized that storm drain water was not treated and that nothing should be discharged into the storm drain system. Ms. Adams stated that connection to the community was vital to the work of the Health Department.

Mayor Walker moved the discussion regarding the proposal to purchase the flock camera system forward.

Discussion: Proposal to Purchase Flock Camera System

Police Chief Rich Ferguson stated that he had discussed the possible purchase of a Flock camera system with the Council in 2023. He reported that license plate readers (LPRs) were in place in all cities from Ogden to Nephi, with the exception of Draper City. Chief Ferguson stated that his department had recently solved multiple cases using LPRs installed by other agencies, and had also encountered cases in which LPRs would have facilitated quicker investigative action. Chief Ferguson asked the Council

to consider placing LPRs at 14 fixed locations throughout the city to support law enforcement and public safety.

Chief Ferguson stated that the first-year cost for a 14-camera contract with Flock, including installation, would be \$45,780, with an annual ongoing cost of \$39,000.

The City Council discussed the proposed purchase. Mayor Walker stated that he believed the purchase would be money well spent. All members of the Council indicated support for moving forward with the proposed purchase. Staff reported that a budget amendment would be presented at a future meeting.

Discussion: Station Area Plan – Rendering Review

Community Development Director Jennifer Jastremsky presented renderings for Kimballs Lane, Crescent View, and Vista Station Area Plans (SAPs). The Council and staff discussed anticipated traffic impacts and long-term UDOT road plans.

Ms. Jastremsky stated that the Kimballs Lane Station Area Plan (SAP) addressed the feasibility of straightening and expanding Kimballs Lane to 700 East. Councilmember T. Lowery requested that the SAP state that the connection of Kimballs Lane to 700 East is highly recommended by the City Council. Ms. Jastremsky stated that implementation plans were included at the end of the SAPs. The Council discussed that because key roads in the station areas were under the jurisdiction of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the city had limited ability to control infrastructure improvements along those roads, which could slow the implementation of the SAPs.

Discussion: Contracting Garbage Services for Private Streets

Deputy Director of Public Works/Engineering Robert Markle reviewed issues related to the safety risks and liability of providing solid waste services on private streets, as previously discussed with the Council. He stated that during the earlier discussion, the Council had directed staff to release a request for proposal (RFP) for contracting solid waste services on all private streets currently serviced by the City. Mr. Markle reported that the city received one response to the RFP, from Ace Recycling & Disposal. He stated that Ace's proposal for basic service was \$22 per month more per account than the City's current rate, with billing to be processed by the city. Mr. Markle noted that many of the private streets were not part of a homeowner's association (HOA) or easement agreement to facilitate and ensure payment.

The Council and staff discussed current solid waste fees. Mr. Markle said his department could add a spotter for collection on private streets to reduce liability,

but he emphasized that turnover in his department was high, and training took time. Mayor Walker expressed the opinion that the liability cost was too high for the City to provide the service. Councilmember Green suggested the higher cost of the service was part of the price of living on a private lane, and stated that he was comfortable with passing the cost on to the private lane residents.

A majority of the Council indicated support for moving forward with a contract with Ace for collection on private streets.

Discussion: Heavy Equipment Operator Training at the Andy Ballard Arena

Deputy Director of Public Works/Engineering Robert Markle reported that the Utah Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), in coordination with Utah State University, provided a two-day heavy equipment operator training and had requested training locations. He suggested the Draper equestrian center as a possible training site in April or May of 2026, which would allow Draper Public Works employees the opportunity to participate. Mr. Markle noted that in exchange for providing the location, the city would receive two free spots in each training session, a \$1,000 value. He stated that the training would take place on weekdays, likely between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., with two or three sessions anticipated in the spring.

Mr. Markle responded to questions regarding potential noise impacts on the neighborhood. City Manager Mike Barker complimented Mr. Markle for pursuing the training opportunity. A majority of the Council indicated support.

Business Session

1. **Call to Order by Mayor Troy K. Walker**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance led by John Vuyk**

3. **Oaths of Office – Draper City Youth Council**

Mayor Walker reported that Draper City had the largest Youth Council program in the state. He recognized the City Council for supporting the opportunity for service and expressed gratitude to the members of the Youth Council. City Recorder Nicole Smedley administered the Oath of Office to the 2025–2026 Youth Council.

Mayor Walker recognized and thanked the Youth Council Executive Committee: Bella Paige, Erin Babcock, Marine Crosby, April Jensen, Taft Derby, Jack Romasanta, Parker Vandegraff, Kennedy Nelson, and Peyton Johnson.

4. **Oaths of Office – Police Department**

Police Chief Rich Ferguson thanked the City Council and residents for their support of the Master Officer program. He introduced Master Officers Dallin Upchurch and Kreyton Kent. City Recorder Nicole Smedley administered the Oath of Office.

5. **Public Comments**

Shelley Goldberg, Draper resident, stated that she purchased her home on Relation Street and Pioneer Road in December 2024. She reported that she had gone to extensive work to remove multiple trees on the property, including two that obstructed driver visibility. Ms. Goldberg stated that three “No Parking” signs were posted on the street in front of her home the previous week without consultation or involvement of her family. She provided photographs and stated that the signs created a safety hazard in addition to being an inconvenience. Ms. Goldberg expressed concern that the decision was made without first speaking with her.

6. **Consent Items**

6.a July 29, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Vawdrey moved to approve the Consent Agenda.
Councilmember Green seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

	Yes	No	Absent
Councilmember Green	X		
Councilmember Johnson	X		
Councilmember T. Lowery	X		
Councilmember F. Lowry	X		
Councilmember Vawdrey	X		

7. **Items for Council Consideration**

7.a **Public Hearing: Ordinance #1667 amending the official Zoning Map of Draper City for approximately 2.84 acres of property from CO2 (Professional Office) to CR (Regional Commercial) located at approximately 14193 S Minuteman Drive, otherwise known as the Indigo Tech Center Map Amendment**

Planning Coordinator Paul Geilman presented a requested rezone from CO2 to CR for three parcels. He reviewed the Zoning Map and noted that the subject property was currently surrounded by the CR Zone. Mr. Geilman reported that the applicant was requesting the CR Zone to allow a Recreation and Entertainment Indoor Use in order to operate an indoor golf simulator lounge. He stated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the request and forwarded a positive recommendation with a vote of 5-0.

Mayor Walker opened the public hearing. Seeing that no one came forward, he closed the public hearing.

Danica Pixton, representing the applicant, stated that the golf simulator would be membership-based and open to individuals on a reservation basis.

Councilmember F. Lowry moved to approve Ordinance #1667. Councilmember T. Lowery seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

	Yes	No	Absent
Councilmember Green	X		
Councilmember Johnson	X		
Councilmember T. Lowery	X		
Councilmember F. Lowry	X		
Councilmember Vawdrey	X		

7.b Public Hearing: Resolution #25-41 adopting the “City of Draper Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026” as proposed and including any changes to final budget items presented and discussed with the Council

Mayor Walker explained that adoption of the budget included approval of the Staffing Document and the Employee Pay Plan for FY2026. He reported the combined equalized certified tax rate for 2025 received from Salt Lake and Utah Counties was 0.001022 for general operations, with no rate for debt service. The City held a Truth in Taxation hearing on August 13, 2025 for a proposed change in property tax rate, holding the rate at the same level as the previous year.

Finance Director John Vuyk explained proposed changes to the budget: addition of an in-house City Prosecutor (no additional funding); replacement of a Parks Maintenance Technician III position with a City Arborist position; addition of \$25,000 to Police Department for assistance with drug enforcement; construction of a new 40-foot trail bridge on the Bonneville Shoreline Trail (BST); and addition of \$15,000 to the GIS Department for licensing and server updates associated with required changes to the ESRI license.

Mayor Walker opened the public hearing. Seeing that no one came forward, he closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Green moved to approve Resolution #25-41. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

	Yes	No	Absent
Councilmember Green	X		
Councilmember Johnson	X		
Councilmember T. Lowery	X		
Councilmember F. Lowry	X		
Councilmember Vawdrey	X		

8. Action Items

8.a Ordinance #1668 or #1669 amending Draper City Municipal Code Title 19 – Ethics

City Attorney Traci Gundersen presented proposed amendments to Title 19 regarding employment of relatives, explaining that two different proposed ordinances were prepared for the Council to choose between based on desired direction. She explained State law regarding nepotism, and current Draper City Code, and pointed out differences in definition of “relative”. Ms. Gundersen said State law avoided supervision conflicts, while City Code imposed a blanket prohibition. She highlighted advantages and disadvantages of current City Code regarding nepotism, and posed options to the Council: (1) make no change; (2) prohibit relatives of elected officers only; (3) give City Manager discretion. Ms. Gundersen mentioned the fourth option of choosing to do something else.

Ms. Gundersen reported how other cities and Salt Lake County addressed nepotism in code, and pointed out current Draper Code was comparatively strict. Councilmembers Green and F. Lowry expressed support for following Sandy City's example by simply referencing State law. Ms. Gundersen said mirroring the Sandy City Code would require re-noticing before adoption, as the action was not included in either of the two prepared ordinances that had been noticed.

Councilmember Green asked if the Council could adopt a combination of Options 2 and 3. Ms. Gundersen said a choice between Option 1, Option 2, or Option 3 was needed for the City to move forward with a current issue. If the Council desired to mirror Sandy City Code, direction could be given to staff to prepare related documents. Councilmember T. Lowery mentioned the need for timeliness, and said she supported Option 3. Councilmember Green said he believed Option 3 would provide inconsistent outcomes, but expressed support.

Councilmember T. Lowery moved to approve Ordinance #1669 (Option 3). Councilmember Vawdrey seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

	Yes	No	Absent
Councilmember Green	X		
Councilmember Johnson	X		
Councilmember T. Lowery	X		
Councilmember F. Lowry	X		
Councilmember Vawdrey	X		

Council/Manager Items

Mayor Walker welcomed additional comment from the Council and staff.

Parks and Recreation Director Rhett Ogden said residents had been calling the City regarding open space and fire risk, asking that the City cut vegetation to reduce fire threat. Mr. Ogden said the city had never taken on maintenance responsibility of such open space, and commented that cutting existing vegetation would invite the presence of noxious weeds and possible fire by spark.

Mr. Ogden explained current irrigation practices and landscaping plans on City Hall property. Mayor Walker suggested using mulch instead of rocks on islands in the parking lot.

City Manager Mike Barker referred to a neighborhood study requested by the Council, and asked if the Council wanted the study to be contracted or conducted in-house. Councilmember Vawdrey asked if the process could be more informal with a neighborhood meeting. Councilmember F. Lowry said he did not feel a time pressure, and expressed support for staff preparing something when they had time. He said he would like to have an open house with the community for resident buy-in. Ms. Jastremsky said staff would probably have time to dedicate at the beginning of the new year. Mr. Barker said staff would put together a proposal to meet the needs of the Council and the community.

Councilmember F. Lowry asked about requirements related to permanent long-term storage containers. Staff said options would be presented at a future work session.

Councilmember Green asked about maintenance of weeds in park strips. Staff said park strip maintenance was the responsibility of property owners. Mayor Walker suggested involvement of Code Enforcement if needed.

Councilmember Green asked if an ordinance clarifying that Draper City elections were non-partisan would be possible.

9. **Adjournment**

Councilmember Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember F. Lowry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.