

**City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

**Wednesday, September 3, 2025
Council Chambers (Room No. 140)
2600 W Taylorsville Blvd
Taylorsville, Utah 84129**

Elected Officials Present

Mayor Kristie Overson
Chair Meredith Harker
Vice Chair Bob Knudsen
Council Member Anna Barbieri
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Curt Cochran

Staff Members Present

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, CFO/Asst. City Admin.
Dina Blaes, Strategic Engagement
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Richard Rich, Unified Fire Captain
Betsy Valora, Receptionist
Ben White, City Engineer

Excused: Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

6:00 PM BRIEFING SESSION

1. Review Agenda

Chair Harker conducted the briefing session which convened at 6:00 p.m. A roll call took place and all council members were present. The Chair noted that this would be Pam Roberts' final Taylorsville presentation as she would retire at the end of the month.

Chair Harker mentioned that the Parks and Recreation committee had noted the need for a drinking fountain somewhere in Centennial Plaza. They also felt city parks could be better highlighted on the city website and were available to help if needed.

Mayor Overson explained that city staff were currently working on updating that particular portion of the website.

Council Member Barbieri pointed out that the new CEO of Wasatch Front Regional Council would be in attendance for the regular meeting. He came with a background in landfill management.

Council Member Burgess asked for an update on the Freedom Shrine project. Mayor Overson explained this was an Exchange Club project that was ongoing. It would be finished in either the fall or spring.

Discussion then turned to signage needs at the MidValley Performing Arts Center, with some suggesting a marquee to better communicate events, including those at Centennial Plaza. Mayor Overson noted previous discussions during the planning phase but noted that funding had been an issue. She agreed to revisit the topic with the county.

2. Adjourn

The briefing session adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

6:30 PM REGULAR MEETING

Elected Officials Present

Mayor Kristie Overson
Chair Meredith Harker
Vice Chair Bob Knudsen
Council Member Anna Barbieri
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Curt Cochran

Staff Members Present

John Taylor, City Administrator
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Excused: Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

Others Present: Debbie Barton, Jim Dunnigan, Richard Flink, Nancy Henderson, and Susan Holman

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Chair Harker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., after which a roll call was conducted. All council members were present.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND REVERENCE

Council Member Barbieri led the pledge of allegiance before offering a brief prayer.

1.2 MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Overson delivered an extensive report highlighting recent city activities and developments. She began by describing the inauguration celebration for Dr. Greg Peterson at Salt Lake Community College's South Salt Lake campus, praising the evening's program showcasing the college's diverse offerings and Dr. Peterson's vision for the institution.

The Mayor detailed the grand opening of Primary Children's Hospital Behavioral Health Center, emphasizing its significance as a walk-in crisis center providing comprehensive pediatric mental

health services including 50% more inpatient beds, family-centered behavioral healthcare, and outpatient spaces. She thanked Chief Cottom, Dina Blaes, and council members who attended this "remarkable facility" opening, expressing delight at welcoming them to Taylorsville.

Mayor Overson celebrated St. Matthew Lutheran Church's new expanded food pantry opening, which she attended with Council Member Knudson. She described the community support demonstrated through donations and in-kind service, Pastor Weier's blessing ceremony, and the meal provided by Troop No. 1996.

The mayor said the recent volunteer appreciation picnic was the best attended in recent years, providing a relaxed atmosphere for thanking volunteers through food and conversation. Mayor Overson credited staff's planning efforts and appreciated council members' participation in mingling with volunteers who she described as "so important to our city."

Regarding ongoing events, the Mayor noted four weeks remained for both the Farmers Market and Starry Nights.

Youth Council activities included a robust budget discussion where students learned about spending challenges, prioritization, and the respective roles of mayor and council in budget decisions. The Mayor found their perspective on spending city money enlightening. She noted that the youth ambassador application deadline had passed and interviews were in the process of being scheduled. Mayor Overson reminded attendees about Wreaths Across America donations, reporting 25% progress toward the goal of 260 wreaths for veterans at Taylorsville Cemetery, emphasizing this as the Youth Council's yearly service project.

Current infrastructure improvements included Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding approval for sidewalk installation on 3200 West at Summit Park, including a missing section that had never existed. The 60/40 match project would begin this fall, incorporating flashing lights on Summit Vista Boulevard and Don Francisco at 3200 West. In response to an inquiry from Chair Harker, the mayor confirmed the sidewalk would follow existing park plans.

Taylorsville library upgrades were described, with Salt Lake County planning to address the outdated main entrance this fall. The wooden trellis would be replaced with a glass entrance featuring 12-foot ceilings, automatic sliding doors, increased street visibility, reduced maintenance costs, and a more modern appearance. Construction was expected to begin in October and continue through the winter.

The Mayor concluded by highlighting new handholds added to the Taylorsville Recreation Center climbing walls, including bright animated holds for children and beginners plus new routes on three walls.

1.3 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

Chair Harker then provided a brief overview of upcoming city-sponsored events. Further details on each were available through the city's website.

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113 **1.4 CITIZEN COMMENTS**

114 The Chair opened the time for citizen comments. However, there was no one who expressed a
115 desire to speak, so she closed the citizen comment period.

116
117 **2. APPOINTMENTS**

118 There were no appointments on the agenda.

119 **3. REPORTS**

120
121 **3.1 TAYLORSVILLE DAYZZ – *Jim Dunnigan***

122 Taylorsville Dayzz Committee Chair Jim Dunnigan presented the report, acknowledging the
123 successful event despite the decision to alter carnival operations somewhat. He expressed gratitude
124 to Chief Cottom and Unified Fire's Captain Rich for public safety's "wonderful presence," noting
125 numerous positive comments about attendees feeling safe. He reported normal attendance at
126 concerts and fireworks with full crowds, though booth attendance and revenue decreased. He then
127 invited committee members to describe their roles, beginning with Nancy Henderson who
128 managed volunteers.

129 Ms. Henderson coordinated efforts of the following groups:

- 130 ○ Boy Scout Troop No. 111
131 ○ Kearns High School Choir
132 ○ Kearns High School Dance
133 ○ Kearns High Football
134 ○ Kearns High "Latinos in Action" Club
135 ○ Riverton High School Soccer
136 ○ Taylorsville High Dance
137 ○ Taylorsville High Football
138 ○ Taylorsville High Soccer
139 ○ Taylorsville High Student Government
140 ○ Taylorsville High Junior ROTC
141 ○ Heritage Park Stake
142 ○ Court-ordered community service workers
143 ○ Church members

144 She indicated that these groups performed 1,656 total volunteer hours above all the hours that the
145 committee members put in in preparation for the event.

146 Mr. Dunnigan wished to thank Sue for accounting and billing assistance, Gary and Toni Santi for
147 logistical setup, and Howard Wilson who worked as the main stage manager. He also

acknowledged Carol Crockett, who helped Ms. Henderson coordinate volunteers, before introducing Parade Chair Debbie Barton.

Ms. Barton noted there were 79 parade entries compared to the typical 92 in “political” years. She praised the West Jordan Police motorcycle unit’s thoughtful addition of clearing street debris on their first pass which was important for their own safety. Several community members had particularly enjoyed the motorcycles. New “The End” signs on golf carts successfully addressed confusion about parade conclusion. Utah Community Credit Union’s BMX bike riders provided exceptional entertainment. Ms. Barton’s only challenge was an announcer who failed to show up, leaving one parade section without commentary, which she pledged to address next year. When Chair Harker inquired about leftover parade candy, discussion revealed uncertainty about cleanup procedures.

Susan Holman managed local entertainment, reporting she had to turn down performers due to limited time slots. Many specifically chose Taylorsville over other venues for safety reasons, particularly appreciating constant police presence near the small stage. There were diverse music genres despite some requesting volume reductions for hard rock performances. The 11 p.m. end-time allowance helped manage post-main stage traffic flow. Ms. Holman noted that one group would not be invited back but she otherwise praised all the performers.

Mr. Dunnigan then introduced Vice Chair of the Taylorsville Dayzz committee, Richard Flink. Mr. Flink described his role as “duct tape, bailing wire, and MacGyver,” crediting his subcommittee including Gary and Toni. He emphasized forming relationships with Chief Cottam, Lt. Fowler, UFA’s Captain Rich and Tony Barker. He also detailed vendor relationships for equipment procurement, noting how news coverage of security changes prompted vendors to offer additional lighting assistance, enabling price negotiations which benefited Taylorsville. Mr. Flink concluded his comments by pointing out that volunteering benefits one’s “overall soul.”

In response to a question from Council Member Cochran regarding any financial impact from the changes that were made this year, Mr. Dunnigan reported that revenue was down 40% despite maintaining attendance levels.

3.2 WASATCH FRONT WASTE & RECYCLING DISTRICT – Pam Roberts

General Manager/CEO Pam Roberts began her report by expressing pride in her leadership team’s succession planning preparation. The board of trustees appointed Evan Tyrrell on August 25th following the interview committee’s recommendation, with Roberts praising Council Member Barbieri and the rest of the board’s “stellar” selection.

Evan Tyrrell said he felt privileged to continue Ms. Roberts’ 18-year legacy. He detailed his dual graduate degrees in public affairs and environmental science, previous service as Solid Waste and Fleet Services Director for Flagstaff managing residential/commercial collection, regional landfill, household hazardous waste facility, and recycling transfer operations. His experience as Executive Director for Grand County’s Solid Waste Special Service District included managing collection,

186 hauling, two active landfills, recycling operations, and transfer facilities. Mr. Tyrrell expressed
187 excitement at providing "the best services at the most reasonable rates practicable."
188

189 Ms. Roberts then highlighted the District's positive public presence goals, detailing participation
190 in Taylorsville's annual cleanup with the Green Committee. The District participated in the
191 Taylorsville parade and Taylorsville Dayzz, maintaining an active Facebook presence with
192 sustainability coordinator James Kelsey posting recycling education content.

193 Service statistics showed Taylorsville comprised 16% of the district's 86,000+ customer base.
194 January-July 2025 comparisons revealed landfill voucher usage had decreased slightly, potentially
195 due to QR code implementation preventing non-resident abuse by landscapers and construction
196 workers. Ms. Roberts praised the self-service portal for can replacements, with Chair Harker
197 confirmed next-day service for her cracked recycling can replacement. Ms. Roberts emphasized
198 that the 5-7 business day service standard was often exceeded, highlighting in-house customer
199 service with live phone and chat support.

200 Diversion statistics showed Taylorsville achieved 16% waste diversion through green waste,
201 curbside recycling, and glass collection at both the central liquor store on 2700 West and through
202 curbside service. The city had over 1,600 green waste subscribers and 121 curbside glass
203 subscribers. A District-wide 19% diversion rate exceeded the 18% goal. Disposal costs were \$37
204 per ton for garbage and \$40 per ton for recycling-- one dollar less than in 2024.

205 Ms. Roberts addressed bulk cleanup container challenges, reiterating that the change was
206 necessary due to CDL driver shortages. Despite budgeting for 10 seasonal drivers, they started
207 with ten but ended with only seven. For 2025, the board considered shifting resources from the
208 underutilized trailer rental program to add a full-time position guaranteeing 60+ containers daily
209 for Taylorsville. She noted that delivering 63 containers daily "is a lot."

210 Council Member Burgess praised the current system as being more controlled, safer, less messy,
211 and keeping materials in driveways rather than on streets. His neighborhood reported no
212 complaints, considering it "a better way to do it." Ms. Roberts explained the priority reservation
213 system giving previous year's wait-listed residents first booking access, early access for non-
214 participants, and general reservations for previous recipients. Statistics showed 1,200 containers
215 delivered over 19 days from 1,935 requests, with \$34,000 in disposal fees. Despite having fewer
216 drivers, 2024 numbers nearly matched 2023.

217 Before and after photos illustrated safety improvements eliminating street piles from illegal
218 dumping and preventing dangerous container climbing. Roberts stated container street placement
219 would never resume due to these issues. When managing 120 street locations required twenty CDL
220 drivers plus 8 ground crew, current driver shortages made that impossible.

Ms. Roberts provided historical context, crediting Taylorsville as the catalyst for creating the administrative control board in 2010 when Mayor Wall pushed for the four major cities (Taylorsville, Herriman, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights) to have "seats at the table." The board formation helped her navigate district management after starting three years prior. Cities pushed for separation leading to Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District's January 1, 2013 establishment, with employees helping design the logo and select the name.

Ms. Roberts concluded her report by praising current Taylorsville leadership as being the "right people in the right seats" and Mr. Tyrrell as the "right person" to assume leadership of WFWRD. The council expressed extensive appreciation for Roberts' years of service and education about behind-the-scenes operations making "trash disappear" through significant effort. Council Member Barbieri pointed out the high level of employee satisfaction she was responsible for and acknowledged how much they would miss her guidance.

3.3 TAYLORSVILLE ARTS COUNCIL – *Susan Holman*

Nellie Hassler performed *Tomorrow* from the Arts Council's production of *Annie*. Ms. Holman then reported the Council's production "Once on This Island" sold out two of the three nights, which was exceptional for a junior show. July's *Taylorsville's Got Talent* attracted last-minute performers after initial concern about participation, featuring a good variety. *Annie* featured a huge cast, selling out three of five nights. Salt Lake County had noted that Taylorsville Arts Council attracted more attendees than any other city's productions, which Ms. Holman attributed to cast quality and hard work.

Upcoming events included the Barry Manilow revue September 12-13 at 7:30 PM on the plaza, with Friday featuring food trucks and Saturday offering free popcorn. Tombstone Tales would run September 18-20 at the cemetery featuring Mayor Overson portraying her mother. The Symphony would perform October 16 at the MidValley Performing Arts Center, followed by the October 17-18 art show.

"Quilters" was a play scheduled for October 23-25 which told stories through quilt squares. Nancy Henderson created both a display quilt and matching stage squares, working extensively on this project. The raffle quilt was displayed, revealing Henderson's beautiful craftsmanship from 35 years of award-winning quilting experience.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Knudsen moved to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2025 city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters on the agenda.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

There were no financial matters on the agenda.

7. OTHER MATTERS

There were no 'other' matters on the agenda.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION

The council members did not raise any subsequent issues for consideration.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

Chair Harker briefly listed upcoming meetings of both the city council and planning commission.

10. CLOSED SESSION

There was no need for a closed session.

11. ADJOURN

MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cochran and Chair Harker declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

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