

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 Overton
Chair Meredith Harker
Vice Chair Bob Knudsen
Council Member Anna Barbieri
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Curt Cochran

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.

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

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

43 **2. Adjourn**

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

45

46 **6:30 PM REGULAR MEETING**

47

48 **Elected Officials Present**

49 Mayor Kristie Overson
50 Chair Meredith Harker
51 Vice Chair Bob Knudsen
52 Council Member Anna Barbieri
53 Council Member Ernest Burgess
54 Council Member Curt Cochran

55
56 **Excused:** Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

57
58 **Others Present:** Debbie Barton, Jim Dunnigan, Richard Flink, Nancy Henderson, and Susan
59 Holman

60

61 **1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

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

64

65 **1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND REVERENCE**

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

67

68 **1.2 MAYOR'S REPORT**

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

73
74 The Mayor detailed the grand opening of Primary Children's Hospital Behavioral Health Center,
75 emphasizing its significance as a walk-in crisis center providing comprehensive pediatric mental

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

109 **1.3 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CITY EVENTS**

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

112

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

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

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

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

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

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

175 **3.2 WASATCH FRONT WASTE & RECYCLING DISTRICT – Pam Roberts**

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

180
181 Evan Tyrrell said he felt privileged to continue Ms. Roberts' 18-year legacy. He detailed his dual
182 graduate degrees in public affairs and environmental science, previous service as Solid Waste and
183 Fleet Services Director for Flagstaff managing residential/commercial collection, regional landfill,
184 household hazardous waste facility, and recycling transfer operations. His experience as Executive
185 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.

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

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

233 **3.3 TAYLORSVILLE ARTS COUNCIL – *Susan Holman***

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

241
242 Upcoming events included the Barry Manilow revue September 12-13 at 7:30 PM on the plaza,
243 with Friday featuring food trucks and Saturday offering free popcorn. Tombstone Tales would run
244 September 18-20 at the cemetery featuring Mayor Overton portraying her mother. The Symphony
245 would perform October 16 at the MidValley Performing Arts Center, followed by the October 17-
246 18 art show.

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

251 **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

255 **5. PLANNING MATTERS**

256 There were no planning matters on the agenda.

257 **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

258 There were no financial matters on the agenda.

259 **7. OTHER MATTERS**

260 There were no 'other' matters on the agenda.

261 **8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION**

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

263 **9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS**

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

265 **10. CLOSED SESSION**

266 There was no need for a closed session.

267 **11. ADJOURN**

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

270 The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

271

272

273 Jamie Brooks, City Recorder

274

275 *These minutes created with the aid of HeyGov Artificial Intelligence.*

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