

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 19, 2025

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Formal Session on Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

The following Council Members were present:

Alejandro Puy, Chris Wharton, Daniel Dugan, Darin Mano, Sarah Young, Victoria Petro, Eva Lopez Chavez

Present Legislative Leadership:

Jennifer Bruno – Executive Director, Lehua Weaver – Deputy Director, Nick Tarbet – Deputy Director

Present Administrative Leadership:

Mayor Erin Mendenhall, Rachel Otto – Chief of Staff

Present City Staff:

Mark Kittrell – City Attorney, Keith Reynolds – City Recorder, Stephanie Elliott – Minutes & Records Clerk, Taylor Hill – Constituent Liaison/Policy Analyst

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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A. OPENING CEREMONY:

1. Council Member Eva Lopez Chavez will conduct the formal meeting.
2. Welcome and Public Meeting Rules.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1.

Ordinances: Truth-in-Taxation Hearing for Fiscal Year 2025-26

The Council will accept public comment and consider adopting one or more ordinances approving the final rate of tax levy, for all City funds including the Library Fund, in an amount greater than the Certified Tax Rate, upon all real and personal property within Salt Lake City made taxable by law for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and adopting the final budget, including the Library Budget, for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Summary:

Jennifer Bruno provided a brief introduction and explained that the public hearing was required by law due to the proposed property tax revenue for the city.

Council Member Puy clarified that Salt Lake County assessed property values and calculated tax rates, and reminded property owners that they could request a tax evaluation from the County, which would then determine if an adjustment was warranted.

Council Member Petro clarified that the City must adhere to state-mandated tax rates and encouraged community members concerned about tax increases to participate in State Legislative Sessions, which set tax rates for all local governments in Utah.

Public Comments:

Alicia Scotter expressed concern about the differences in property tax rates between newly purchased and long-established homes, noting that tax-exempt properties increase the share of taxes paid by other Salt Lake residents.

Dean Mellott expressed concern about ongoing property tax increases and requested lower taxes and city spending, stating that new initiatives and capital improvements should be limited if they result in higher taxes.

Motion:

Moved by Council Member Puy, seconded by Council Member Dugan to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 52 of 2025, establishing the final rate of tax levy, including the final levy for the Library Fund, upon all real and personal property within Salt Lake City, made taxable by law for fiscal year 2025-2026, and ratify the budget as adopted by the Council in June.

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AYE: Alejandro Puy, Chris Wharton, Daniel Dugan, Darin Mano, Sarah Young, Eva Lopez Chavez, Victoria Petro

Final Result: 7 – 0 Pass

C. POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS:

NONE.

D. COMMENTS:

NONE.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

NONE.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE.

G. CONSENT:

NONE.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

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Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes Approved: October 7, 2025

City Council Chair – Chris Wharton

City Recorder – Keith Reynolds

Please refer to Meeting Materials (available at <https://data.slc.gov> by selecting City Council Meeting Information) for supportive content including electronic recordings and comments submitted prior to or during the meeting. Websites listed within the body of the Minutes may not remain active indefinitely.

This document along with the digital recording constitutes the official minutes of the City Council Formal meeting held Tuesday, August 19, 2025 and is not intended to serve as a full transcript. Please refer to the electronic recording for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203.