

**City of Taylorsville**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
*Minutes*  
**Wednesday, October 1, 2025**  
**Council Chambers – Room No. 140**  
**2600 W Taylorsville Blvd**  
**Taylorsville, Utah 84129**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Elected Officials Present**

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

**Staff Present**

John Taylor, City Administrator  
Terryne Begeson, Planner  
Brady Cottam, Police Chief  
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney  
Betsy Valora, Receptionist

**Excused:** Jamie Brooks, City Recorder; Scott Harrington, Asst. City Administrator/CFO; Dina Blaes, Chief of Strategic Engagement.

**Others Present:** Captain Richard Rich (Unified Fire)

**6:00 P.M. BRIEFING SESSION**

Chair Harker conducted the briefing session which convened at 6:01 p.m. A roll call took place, and all council members were present except Council Member Burgess who arrived shortly thereafter.

**1. Review Agenda**

Chair Harker briefly reviewed the agenda. Council Member Burgess had questions regarding Agenda Item No. 5.1. Terryne Bergeson (Planner) explained that Title 8 of the city code had not been amended since 2009 and needed some updates in both formatting and content. The result was essentially a total overhaul with input from animal services and the legal department as well as development staff. Although the changes were primarily “clean up” in nature, the more significant changes were outlined in the council summary contained in the agenda packet.

Council Member Cochran asked if the number of animals allowed in a home was being changed. Ms. Bergeson responded that the proposed number would change the limit from three to four.

Chair Harker indicated that the Council had been asked to assist with the upcoming Fall Festival. Council Member Barbieri said that she would be out of town and would therefore be unable to attend that event or the city council meeting taking place the same week.

Council Member Burgess had been contacted by a resident who expressed concern about noise from Utah Transit Authority buses at their new stop location abutting Salt Lake Community College. Mayor Overson asked that he forward any communications he had on this topic to her and explained that although it was an issue for UTA to address, the City would certainly like to be in the loop.

There was a brief discussion about the future art to be installed at MidValley Express stops.

Council Member Burgess asked if there were any plans to build a playground on the grassy area between city hall and fire station no. 118. Mayor Overson responded that there were not, but if the Council were interested in that, she would be open to having such a conversation.

## **2. Adjourn**

The briefing session adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

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## **6:30 P.M. REGULAR MEETING**

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Elected Officials Present**

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

#### **Staff Present**

John Taylor, City Administrator  
Terryne Bergeson, Planner  
Brady Cottam, Police Chief  
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney  
Betsy Valora, Receptionist  
Ben White, City Engineer

**Excused:** Jamie Brooks, City Recorder; Scott Harrington, Asst. City Administrator/CFO; Dina Blaes, Chief of Strategic Engagement

**Others Present:** Susan Holman, Gideon Lemon, Tony Henderson, Steve Kuhlmeier, and Jared Smith

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

**1.1 Pledge of Allegiance & Reverence – Chair Harker**

Chair Harker led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance before turning the time over to Chief Brady Cottam who offered a prayer.

**1.2 Mayor's Report**

Mayor Overson reported on the recent ribbon cutting for Sweet Family Ties, noting it was a festive event that included music. She thanked the Youth Ambassadors, and Council Members Knudsen and Barbieri for their attendance, as well as Brittany Kempff who coordinated the event with ChamberWest.

The Mayor noted the previous week had been a "week of lasts," including the final Farmers Market of the season. She indicated that city officials would meet with the market organizer to evaluate the season and discuss plans for the following year.

Mayor Overson also reported on the final *Starry Nights* event, which featured live performances. She expressed satisfaction with how attendance increased throughout the season.

In conjunction with *Starry Nights*, the city held its *Plaza Plus Art* appreciation dinner and unveiled new sculptures on Centennial Plaza. Mayor Overson thanked Council Member Knudsen and Chair Harker for supporting the art program and described the evening as "delightful," noting that residents had the opportunity to speak directly with artists about their work.

The Mayor acknowledged the Arts Council and Historic Preservation Committee for their work on the *Tombstone Tales* event, noting it was understandably held only every five years due to the significant effort involved. She thanked the Council for greeting guests and the Youth Council for helping with setting up and tearing down the event.

Mayor Overson expressed appreciation to the Riverview Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for providing community service at the Taylorsville cemetery. She shared that it was meaningful to walk through with community members who could point out family members' graves while they performed their work.

The Mayor reported on her participation in the reading of the U.S. Constitution at the State Capitol, describing it as "a great opportunity to hear the Constitution read" and noting it took less than an hour to complete.

Mayor Overson mentioned attending a senior expo for mobile home communities, specifically for Monte Vista in Taylorsville and other mobile home communities with the same owner. She and Jen Andrus staffed a table to answer questions from Taylorsville residents.

The Mayor highlighted the fortieth anniversary celebration of Nelson Labs, describing them as a global company that had expanded within Taylorsville even before the city was incorporated, purchasing additional buildings as they grew.

Mayor Overson reported on her attendance at the Utah League of Cities and Town's fall conference, noting it provided an opportunity to connect with elected officials from other cities, share ideas, and learn from others' experiences. She thanked Council Members Burgess and Knudsen for participating as well.

The Mayor shared that the Youth Council had met earlier that day with Taylorsville resident Aimee Winder Newton who also served as a Salt Lake County Council member and senior adviser to Governor Cox. She shared "7 Lessons in Leadership" with the youth, who were reportedly "mesmerized" by the presentation.

Speaking of the Youth Council, Mayor Overson reminded everyone about the Youth Council's *Wreaths Across America* service project, noting they hoped to provide approximately 280 wreaths this year for veterans buried in the Taylorsville Cemetery. She encouraged everyone to donate to the project.

Finally, the Mayor reported on the Salt Lake County TRCC (Transportation, Recreation, Culture and Convention) board meeting, which she chaired. She noted the Board had completed hearing all grant application presentations and would begin discussion and evaluation the following day, with funding decisions expected within a month.

### **1.3 Calendar of Upcoming Events – Chair Harker**

Chair Harker reviewed the numerous city-sponsored events anticipated for the next few weeks.

### **1.4 Citizen Comments**

The Chair then explained that residents who wished to address the Council on any topic of interest could now do so. However, there was no one who expressed a desire to do so.

## **2. APPOINTMENTS**

### **2.1 Appointment of Gideon Lemon to the Taylorsville Arts Council – Mayor Overson**

Mayor Overson recommended the appointment of Gideon Lemon to the Taylorsville Arts Council, noting that he had previously served on the Arts Council as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and wanted to continue his involvement now that he was no longer serving in that capacity.

Chair Harker mentioned that Mr. Lemon had been one of her third-grade students many years before, and she expressed happiness at seeing him grown up and serving the community. She also noted that he had performed as a soldier in the recent *Tombstone Tales* event.

**MOTION: Council Member Cochran moved to approve the appointment of Gideon Lemon to serve on the Arts Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**

### **3. REPORTS**

#### **3.1 Public Safety Committee – Tony Henderson**

Committee Chair Tony Henderson presented the Public Safety Committee report, focusing on their work with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program over the past six months. He reported that approximately 75 people had attended their February public meeting, indicating significant community interest.

Mr. Henderson explained they were exploring different approaches to CERT, including connecting with the state CERT organization located in Taylorsville. He noted that committee members had been invited to participate in training sessions, with the next one scheduled for October 6th.

He addressed the challenge of maintaining CERT interest long-term when no emergencies actually occurred. He mentioned they were considering a "Taylorsville Response" program—a leaner version of CERT similar to programs in Herriman and Riverton—which would start with three modules of online training followed by four different options for citizen involvement based on interest. However, he noted this approach would downplay the rescue aspect of traditional CERT training.

Mr. Henderson reported on the committee's participation in the wristband effort during Taylorsville Dayzz, working with the Police Department and Youth Council to reunite twelve lost children with their parents.

Regarding the *Night Out Against Crime* event in early August, Mr. Henderson reported that the committee had sent formal invitations to outside vendors for the first time. Attendance counts ranged from 171 to 286 people throughout the evening, bolstered by attendees from the concurrent *Starry Nights* event. He mentioned plans to improve vendor outreach and advertising for next year's event, starting in winter rather than just the month before.

Mr. Henderson announced that committee member Doug Davis had retired due to health reasons. He acknowledged Mr. Davis's contributions, particularly his ham radio expertise, and noted that Mr. Davis hoped to have a colleague join the committee to maintain that connection.

Council Member Knudsen added that he had recently spoken with a representative from CommonSpirit Health who had participated in *Night Out Against Crime* and was enthusiastic about returning next year.

Chair Harker suggested using large vinyl signs at busy intersections to advertise events, noting that the Historical Preservation Committee had seen increased attendance using this approach.

#### **3.2 Salt Lake County Public Works – Steve Kuhlmeier**

190 Steve Kuhlmeier presented a report on Salt Lake County Public Works services in Taylorsville,  
191 focusing on storm drain clearing, street sweeping, and streetlight replacements.

192 Regarding storm drains, Mr. Kuhlmeier explained that his department used Vactor trucks to  
193 remove debris and clear blockages. He reported that they had started a new five-year service plan,  
194 dividing the city into five geographic quadrants. Their goal was to clean 25,000-30,000 linear feet  
195 of pipe annually, with about 20% of the first year's plan completed already. He noted they typically  
196 started in higher elevation areas and moved to lower elevations to accommodate winter operations.

197 For street sweeping, Mr. Kuhlmeier reported that their service level ensured every street was swept  
198 at least once annually, with more frequent service for major and arterial roads. He mentioned they  
199 were developing an interactive map similar to their snowplow tracker that would allow the city  
200 and potentially the public to see when streets were last swept.

201 Mr. Kuhlmeier reported that year-to-date, they had received approximately 133 service requests,  
202 with an average response time of 63 hours, which was better than their 72-hour target. About half  
203 of these requests concerned streetlights, while 25% were for pothole repairs.

204 Regarding streetlights, Mr. Kuhlmeier reported they had installed 224 new or updated streetlights  
205 in Taylorsville, with 16 more planned for installation in the next month.

206 Mr. Kuhlmeier concluded by mentioning they were preparing for snow season by transitioning  
207 vehicles and conducting annual snow training for staff.

208 Council Chair Harker expressed appreciation for the essential services provided by Salt Lake  
209 County Public Works that improved residents' quality of life but often went unnoticed.

### 210 **3.3 Parks & Recreation Committee – Jared Smith**

211 Committee Chair Jared Smith reported on the Parks and Recreation Committee's activities,  
212 including their involvement with five *Movies in the Park* at *Starry Nights* events, which saw  
213 attendance of over 200 people per event. Attendance continued to increase annually.

214 He reported that the 5K race on June 28th had the most registrants ever, with minor improvements  
215 planned for next year's event scheduled for June 27th, 2026.

216 Mr. Smith discussed upcoming events, including the *Fall Fest* on October 11th and the *Boo Dash*  
217 on October 25th. For the *Boo Dash*, he noted they had planned for 200 registrants but already had  
218 258 registered, requiring some adjustments. The committee would also help with *Saturday with*  
219 *Santa* on December 6th.

220 Mr. Smith reported that the committee was working on updating the amenities list for all city parks.  
221 He noted they had discovered many parks lacked water fountains or water bottle filling stations,  
222 even those with restrooms and sports facilities like pickleball courts. He asked about the process  
223 for addressing those issues.

Mr. Smith raised concerns about Vista Park boundaries, believing the county might be including the Vista Softball Complex as part of Vista Park, potentially resulting in the city paying for the county's portion of maintenance. He noted this confusion had practical implications, citing a medical emergency where emergency services went to Vista Park instead of the softball complex.

Mr. Smith also raised issues about crosswalk lights that only worked on one side and porta potties left at Vista Park by a football organization three weeks after their last event.

Mayor Overson acknowledged the committee's important work in identifying park amenities. She explained this would help determine responsibility (city or county) and guide future budget discussions about improvements like water fountains.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

##### 4.1 Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 17, 2025

**MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2025 City Council meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Knudsen and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.**

#### 5. PLANNING MATTERS

##### 5.1 Ordinance No. 25-08 Consideration of an Ordinance of the City of Taylorsville Amending Taylorsville Municipal Code Title 8: ANIMALS – *Terryne Bergeson*

Ms. Bergeson presented Ordinance No. 25-08, which would amend Title 8 of the Taylorsville Municipal Code regarding animals. She explained that the ordinance covered animal administration, enforcement, nuisances, rabies control, licensing permits, and standards for animal and human safety.

Ms. Bergeson explained that Planning staff and code enforcement worked closely with West Valley Animal Services, which provided animal control services for Taylorsville. She reported that most permits processed were for chickens or hobby permits, with the majority of hobby permits issued for households with three dogs.

Ms. Bergeson described the current cumbersome process for residents who wished to keep a third dog: they must contact staff, complete an online application, submit paperwork, wait for an inspection by West Valley Animal Services, have a staff report prepared, get director approval, and finally notify West Valley and the applicant. This process, which typically took about a week, surprised residents who expected to simply license their third dog.

She explained that the proposed changes would streamline the process by allowing residents with three dogs to get licenses immediately without a hobby permit, while those with four or five dogs would still need to go through the permit process, including inspection and annual renewal.

261 Other proposed changes included:

- 262 • Restructuring and reorganizing the definition section of the title for easier navigation
- 263 • Clarifying that fancier permits (for breeding dogs) included all animals
- 264 • Changing the residential chicken permit to a residential fowl permit, allowing ducks as
- 265 well as chickens
- 266 • Setting a limit of five animals of any single species
- 267 • Changing lot size requirements for fowl permits from 5,000 square feet to 5,999 square
- 268 feet
- 269 • Improving the impound release process in consultation with the legal department
- 270 • Updating the section addressing wild animals, to allow non-venomous snakes and lizards
- 271 • Changing the restraint definition to assist with legal proceedings

272 There was a brief discussion regarding whether a resident could keep a goat. Ms. Bergeson  
273 responded that the keeping of farm animals was not part of this particular code section but goats  
274 were prohibited in the City with one exception— on property zoned as R-1-40.

275 Council Member Burgess expressed concern about feral cat colonies. Ms. Bergeson responded that  
276 there was not currently an avenue to obtaining a permit for a cat colony in Taylorsville. But that  
277 fact did not exempt anyone or any entity from maintaining a clean and safe environment where  
278 feral cats were known to be.

279 Council Member Cochran was concerned about a resident having the ability to apply to have four  
280 large dogs in one home. There was a home near him with two large ones which created a great  
281 deal of noise. He couldn't imagine doubling that amount. Ms. Bergeson explained the inspections  
282 that would result if someone should apply for such a permit.

283 **MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to adopt Ordinance No. 25-08, approving a**  
284 **zoning text amendment to the Taylorsville Municipal Code, Title 8 related to**  
285 **standards for animals. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess.**

286	<b>Chair Harker</b>	<b>Yes</b>
287	<b>Council Member Burgess</b>	<b>Yes</b>
288	<b>Council Member Knudsen</b>	<b>Yes</b>
289	<b>Council Member Cochran</b>	<b>No</b>
290	<b>Council Member Barbieri</b>	<b>Yes</b>

291  
292 **Motion Passed 4-1**

## 293 294 **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

295  
296 There were no financial matters on the agenda.

## 297 298 **7. OTHER MATTERS**

299



There were no other matters on the agenda.

**8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)**

Chair Harker inquired whether a new scavenger hunt game would be created for the new sculptures in Centennial Plaza. Mayor Overson responded that she believed the women who created the first one would likely create a new one soon.

**9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The Chair briefly reviewed the dates and times of upcoming public meetings.

**10. CLOSED SESSION**

There was no need for a closed session.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: Council Member Knudsen moved to adjourn, and Chair Harker declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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Jamie Brooks, MMC  
City Recorder

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