



City Council Meeting

August 30, 2025

City Council Chambers, 38 West Center

6 P.M. Mayor Nay opened the meeting.

Roll Call:

Donald Childs, Mike Wanner, Shawn Crane, Robert Andersen, Lori Nay

Invocation/Inspirational Thought:

Given by Councilor Shawn Crane

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Mayor Nay

Public Forum:

Paul Childs asked if the road going up to the G-Hill was going to be closed. Mayor Nay let him know that it was a misunderstanding with the contractor and that the road will not be closed permanently.

Ron Christensen stated that the curb was rolled so that the road would be cut off. There are boulders in the road that he would like to see removed. He said that he wanted to council to ensure that the road would stay open. The boulders are there to keep away traffic while the road is being built. The council agreed that when the construction is completed that the boulders be removed.

Public Hearing

2025 RAP Tax Ballot Initiative:

Councilor Andersen made a motion to open the public hearing for the 2025 RAP Tax Ballot Initiative; Councilor Childs seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Childs: Yes, Wanner: Yes, Crane: Yes, Andersen: Yes

6:17 P.M. Councilor Stella Hill arrived

City Administrator Dennis Marker addressed the council and community members. He let them know that the public hearing was to serve two purposes: 1) discussion about the upcoming RAP

Tax proposition on the November ballot, and 2) to inform the public about the city's current RAP tax standing. The City Council approved Resolution 2025-12 on August 6, 2025. This resolution authorized that a ballot proposition be submitted to qualified voters of the city regarding the reauthorization of one-tenth of one percent (0.10%) sales and use tax for the purpose of funding recreational and cultural facilities in the City of Gunnison. A RAP tax may be approved under Title 59, Chapter 12, Part 14, Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended and applicable provisions of the Utah Election Code Title 20A, Utah Code Annotated 1953 as amended. State law requires that any RAP tax must be approved by a majority qualified voters before the Council can impose the tax. State law also provides that cities are to provide voters with information about the ballot measure; City Recorder Valerie Andersen prepared and mailed out a voter information packet to registered voters and conducted a public hearing to further inform the public. The current RAP tax was approved by voters during the 2012 general election and took effect in April 2013. Title 59 provides that a RAP tax may be imposed for up to 10 years and then must be reauthorized. Gunnison adopted Ordinance 2023-03 in March 2023 to reauthorize the RAP tax.

Notwithstanding, an email from the Tax Commission was received in July 2025, which indicates that the Gunnison RAP tax has expired. Presumably, it expired in April 2023, 10 years after it was instituted. After receiving the email, the Tax Commission staff indicated that the State would continue to collect the RAP tax until April 2026 unless reauthorized by the Council after a proper election proposition. He stated that there has been much debate over the past two months between the legislature and the Utah League of Cities and towns about how to deal with taxes collected for an expired RAP tax. Some legislators feel that cities should be penalized for collecting an authorized tax. Recent negotiations between ULCT and key legislators have included possible penalties such as a town not being eligible for outdoor recreation grants for the equivalent time that an expired tax was collected, having to hold an election to authorize a retroactive RAP tax, and having to reauthorize a RAP tax sooner than 10 years. At this time, there is consensus among the negotiating parties that the city must hold a the public hearing and explain three elements: Explaining the issue and accepting responsibility for failing to properly reauthorize the tax, Showing how the collected funds were used in accordance with the intended tax, and Outlining how taxpayers can receive a refund through the tax commission. Dennis Went through all of this with the public.

Alisia Newman asked if this was a majority vote. Dennis let her know that it is a yes or no question that will be stated on the ballot that will require the majority vote.

Councilor Crane stated that he used to ne over little league football many years ago. He talked about how hard it was to get money and that a lot of the equipment costs fell on the parents. The nice thing about the RAP tax is that visitors also contribute.

Councilor Andersen stated that the recreational program has come a long way and that he would hate to see it go backwards and expect volunteers to run it again.

Casey Dyreng asked how this would be written on the ballot. Dennis let him know that it will be exactly how it is shown in the voter information pamphlet. He stated that putting .10% is confusing and that it looks like 10%. Dennis let him know that is how it is written in the code and that the City is required to put it that way. Casey felt like it would be better if it stated that it was \$1 for every \$1000 spent.

Councilor Shawn Crane stated that he felt like the City needed to clear this up and get the word out to help citizens better understand.

Councilor Stella Hill stated that there are a lot of kids involved in the recreation and arts in town that could take information around homes and tape something on their doors.

Nona Dyreng suggested sending stuff home with kids from school.

Councilor Robert Andersen stated that it is good for kids to be a part of a team.

Alisia Newman asked if the City could do a Facebook post and explain what the tax is better.

McKeisha McDonald stated that people need to realize that the program could be gone.

Nona Dyreng added that they should highlight everything that it is used for.

Dennis Marker stated that the City recently had to replace a slide at the park, and it cost over \$2K.

Zack Jensen asked how much of the tax is used towards parks.

Mayor Nay stated that the tax mostly goes to the recreational program.

Councilor Andersen stated that with the rec program they have been able to get grant money and upgrade the ballfields at Mayfield, Centerfield and Gunnison parks.

Zack Jensen asked if this tax affects the City being able to receive grants.

Mayor Nay stated that it's not a requirement but having the program help when they are applying.

Councilor Hill stated that Kaylie Hill put on a drama camp and that the recreation program donated money for it.

Dennis Marker stated that the City has done everything that they can, and that public funds cannot be used to sway the opinion of the public.

Shane Knudsen asked if it was good for 10 years.

Mayor Nay stated that it is.

Shane Knudsen stated that they need to let people know about it.

Mayor Nay thanked everyone that took the time to come and speak for the RAP tax.

Councilor Crane made the motion to close the public hearing for the 2025 RAP Tax Ballot Initiative

Roll Call:

Childs: Yes, Wanner: Yes, Shawn: Yes, Hill: Yes, Andersen: Yes

Minutes

September 17th, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

Councilor Wanner made the motion to approve the minutes for September 17th, 2025, regular council meeting, Councilor Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Childs: Yes, Wanner: Yes, Shawn: Yes, Hill: Yes, Andersen: Yes

Bills for period ending September 25th, 2025, totaling \$67,694.97:

Councilor Childs made the motion to approve the bills for the period ending September 25th, 2025, totaling \$67,694.97, Councilor Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Childs: Yes, Wanner: Yes, Crane: Yes, Hill: Yes, Andersen: Yes

Reports of Officers, Staff, Boards and Committees

Chief Adamson:

Went over the monthly statistical report for September with the Council. They had a higher call for service. They had a domestic that they received help from the prison SWAT team, it had a great outcome.

Mayor Nay:

There is a possibility of a movie being filmed in Gunnison and they will need to coordinate road closures with the police department.

Dennis Marker:

Vehicle boneyard south of the high school. The current owner is letting people store their old vehicles there. He was told that he cannot do that. He will work on getting it cleaned up.

CBDG application is due tomorrow October 1st.

Having issues with the tax commission, hoping to know more about the truth in taxation soon.

ULCT stated that 25 entities were flagged. There was a list that the county was supposed to provide, and the City was supposed to have this list available at public hearing. Waiting to see if the tax commission will allow appeals. If not, they will have to reconcile \$60k in the budget.

Valerie Andersen:

Ballots will be mailed out in a couple of weeks.

Reports by Mayor and Council Members

Mike Wanner:

Race weekend is ready. There will be a short race on Friday and a big one on Saturday. There will be food trucks at the park on Friday night.

Stella Hill:

The flowerpots will come down this week.

Carolyn Childs will be retiring October 31st the board will appoint a new librarian in 2 weeks.

They also have a new board member, Tanisha Heath.

Fall cleanup soon.

Public Forum:

Contacted Josh Flake addressed the Council regarding the complaints that he was receiving for the boulder closing off the road to the G-Hill. He stated that the drop from the new road to the gravel road is about 3 ft. He thought when he met with the council 2 ½ years ago that they'd decided to block it off. Mayor Nay stated that they thought the other road would have been done by now. Josh agreed to use his equipment to slope the road.

Executive Session:

Councilor Hill made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, Councilor Crane seconded the motion.

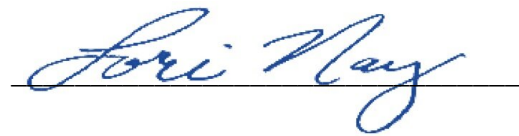
8:15 P.M. out of executive session

Adjournment:

Councilor Crane made the motion to adjourn; Councilor Andersen seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Childs: Yes, Wanner: Yes, Crane: Yes, Hill: Yes, Andersen: Yes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lori Nay", written over a horizontal line.

Lori Nay, Mayor

Approval Date: October 15th, 2025

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Valerie Andersen", written over a horizontal line.

Valerie Andersen, City Recorder