



2191 East 6550 South – Uintah, Utah 84405

(801)479-4130

Office Hours M-W 9:00-5:00 Thr-Fri 9:00-1:00

Mayor Gordon Cutler

Council Members:

Michelle Roberts

Kristi Bell

Daniel Combe

Ross Patterson

UINTAH CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

Planning – Debra Wickizer
Building Inspector-Jeff Monroe
Treasurer – Mike Ulrich
Sheriff – Lt. Slater
Fire Chief – Britt Clark

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Members Present: Mayor Cutler, Council Member Bell, Council Member Combe, Council Member Roberts, Council Member Patterson

Staff Present: City Attorney Bryan Baron, City Recorder Michelle Mortensen, Lt. Slater

Visitors: Teague Sorenson, Dean Larson, Don Pearson, Marilyn Pearson

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Cutler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Roberts.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Dean Larson stood and opposed his opposition to the proposed increase citing the recent tax increase. He thinks they should vote no on the ordinance or defer as Council Member Combe's suggested at another meeting to let the new city council decide after the upcoming election.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA: Action Item**
 - A. Approval of City Council Minutes – October 7, 2025
 - B. Approval of Invoices - September
 - C. Financial Reports – September
 - Motion made by Council Member Patterson to approve the city council minutes.
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Bell.
 - Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
 - Motion was made by Council Member Bell to approve the invoices and financial reports.
 - All in favor; the motion carries. Mayor Cutler aye; Council Member Bell aye; Council Member Combe aye; Council Member Roberts aye; Council Member Patterson aye.
4. **PUBLIC HEARING:**
 - A. None
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ORDINANCE 298-25 ENACTING COMPENSATION INCREASES FOR SPECIFIC CITY OFFICERS:**
Presenter: Mayor Cutler
 - Mayor Cutler said that we discussed this during the work session, and the comments seem to keep coming.
 - Council Member Roberts said that as we have had this time it has given citizens time to reach out to her. There were three people who voiced their discontent, and she has had multiple people support the pay increase.
 - Council Member Bell echoed what she said. She has had one email and one text of opposition. Citizens have

expressed to keep moving forward with what we are doing, and the vast majority have been happy.

- Mayor Cutler stated that most people have been supportive and are grateful that people are volunteering so they do not have to.
- Council Member Bell explained that she gets the optics, and they are not lost on her. She values them as well.
- Council Member Roberts said that it has been mentioned that people have brought up that council pay was previously donated and was \$50 per meeting. Uintah used to be a town, and as we are now a city, we have more regulations and rules that we have to abide by which means we are required to do more as a council. It is not lost on her either. She has had numerous conversations with multiple citizens who have said that it has been 13 years since you got a raise, and one suggested looking at doing not as big of a raise.
- Council Member Combe said he would feel more comfortable moving forward with a \$150 raise for the Mayor and \$100 for city council. With the optics of a tax increase, I would not be opposed to looking at this again at the end of the first quarter of 2026 after seeing where our projections are at with our budget.
- Council Member Patterson asked how we can encourage people to come serve, there has to be something in it for them. People are not as willing to serve and there has to be some compensation. He would like to wait and see where the budget is also. He is flabbergasted about how much time he has put into being on the council. To him there has to be compensation, but he would like to understand the budget a little more. He sees a need for an increase.
- Council Member Bell emphasized that increased compensation should not be viewed as an incentive to entice serve, but rather as a fair acknowledgment of the time and commitment required of council members. She noted that the council's time is valued. She added that by comparison, a city manager could receive \$120,000 annually, while the proposed adjustment for the council is a fraction of that amount.
- Mayor Cutler has had lots of comments about people wishing things were the way they used to be. We do not have a big tax base with businesses and there are some items coming into the legislature regarding property taxes. There is never a good time to discuss raising elected officials' compensation.
- Council Member Roberts stated that she feels the need to be transparent and honest. There was a large tax increase, and we are mentioning this at the same time and that is not good optics. She is the only one on the council in the position where she is up for election. She is open to discussions about the amount, but she is in favor of a raise whether it be now or in the spring. That is the honest and right thing to do.
- Motion was made by Council Member Bell on Ordinance 285-25 Enacting Compensation for Elected Officials to be \$100 for City Council Members and \$150 for the Mayor.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Combe.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; the motion carries. Council Member Combe aye; Council Member Bell aye; Mayor Cutler aye; Council Member Roberts aye; Council Member Patterson aye.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

None

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Planning Commission Report: none

B. Public Works Report: Public Works Jack Burton

- Mr. Burton reported that he is happy to work here, and his family is happy as well.
- Highlights for the summer include: the park was mowed 17 times and trimmed 10 times over the summer. Fertilizer was applied to the park and outfield in May and again in October. Grubs were treated at the city office and at the park. A new back-flow preventer was installed at the city building. At the park there were 7 sprinklers capped and 5 replaced. The pump ran without any issues all summer. Some zero-scaping was done at City Hall to reduce water usage. New 25 mph signs were installed at the west end of town to improve safety. A bid was received for an electronic radar sign. An overlay project was completed on 2125 East and patchwork was done on 6600 East. Monthly checks are being done on the PRVs. 38 water meters have been replaced due to bad batteries or malfunctioning parts. All city water valves and fire hydrants have been mapped via GPS which has been a huge help. All valves were cleaned out, and 28 valves were identified as having problems. All fire hydrants were painted to give better visibility. Cleaning storms drain grates is an ongoing task and Mr. Kendell will have responsibility for storm drain maintenance.
- Council Member Roberts thanked him for minimizing the inconvenience to the citizens when they had to repair pipes this summer and that is not lost on her.
- Council thanked him for all he does.

C. Sheriff's Report: Lt. Slater

- Lt. Slater mentioned that the call volume for September increased. Crashes were up on Highway 89. The numbers for calls for service were down, which is good.
- Council Member Roberts asked what the numbers look like as far as officers go. Lt. Slater stated that the department is authorized for 82 full-time sworn officers, but they are currently understaffed. We do have nine in the academy

now.

- Mayor Cutler told him to be safe out there.

D. Council Reports:

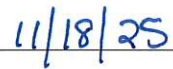
- Council Member Combe is waiting for reports to come back from the engineer on the park design. There is some discussion on changing park fees due to baseball tournaments, but we might want to wait and look at that next summer.
- Council Member Bell thanked the city for the continued support of the race for Bonneville Communities that Care to prevent opioid prevention. There is a prominent role that the Mayors and City Council play in helping with that. The health department made signs available for no smoking or vaping at parks or at businesses.
- Council Member Roberts stated that we are going to hand out candy at the truck or treat at the church and would love any council members to come participate as well as the candidates running for city council.
- Council Member Patterson has been talking to Mr. Burton about what they want to do about electronic speed signs.

8. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made by Council Member Roberts to adjourn the city council meeting at 6:50 p.m.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Patterson.
- Mayor Cutler asked if there was any discussion on the motion; there was none.
- All in favor; the motion carries.



Michelle Mortensen, Uintah City Recorder


Date