

Minutes of the
BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL
January 5, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

Official notice of the City Council Meeting was given by posting an Agenda at City Hall and on the Bountiful City Website and the Utah Public Notice Website and by providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: The City Journal and Standard Examiner.

Special Council Meeting– 5:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Present:	Mayor	Kate Bradshaw
	Councilmembers	Dan Bell, Beth Child, Richard Higginson, Matt Murri
	City Manager	Gary Hill
	Asst City Manager	Tyson Beck
	City Attorney	Brad Jeppsen
	City Engineer	Lloyd Cheney
	Planning Director	Francisco Astorga
	City Recorder	Sophia Ward
	Recording Secretary	Maranda Hilton

PRELUDE MUSIC – BOUNTIFUL PHILHARMONIA

Mayor-Elect Kate Bradshaw opened the meeting at 5:05 pm. She thanked the Bountiful Philharmonia for the wonderful prelude music and welcome everyone in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Logan and Lincoln Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Jamie Dester, Bountiful Interfaith Council, offered the invocation.

INTRODUCTION AND REMARKS

Mayor-Elect Bradshaw thanked Lt. Governor Diedre Henderson for coming this evening to assist in the ceremony.

Lt. Governor Henderson praised the wonderful prelude music, saying that institutions like Bountiful Philharmonia are a key ingredient to the greatness of America and its democracy. She explained that the French philosopher Alexis De Tocqueville once toured the United States, trying to identify what made America so special. He determined that it was the cities and the towns and all the local institutions that bring people together to make their communities better and create a culture of “togetherness.” She said it is important to remember why this country was created and that local government is so important to that vision. It’s “where the rubber meets the road”, where people vote for their local leaders and learn about democracy.

Lt. Governor Henderson shared the story of her 3rd Great-grandmother, who immigrated from Liverpool in 1860 and ended up settling in Bountiful, where she raised nine children and ran a farm. She said her ancestor found freedom, community, happiness and opportunities here that she could never have found in England.

Lt. Governor Henderson said she got her start in politics by joining the Spanish Fork Theater Board in 1998 with no intention of a career in politics. She explained that participating in our own

1 communities to make them stronger is where it all starts, and it is how we make this country great
2 and strong. She expressed how grateful she is to these people that are willing to stand up and serve in
3 local government and for the people here to support them and be engaged in their communities.
4

5 **OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY LT. GOVERNOR DIEDRE HENDERSON**

6 **A. MAYOR KATE BRADSHAW**

7 **B. COUNCIL MEMBERS DAN BELL AND BETH CHILD**

8 Lt. Governor Henderson administered the Oaths of Office to Councilmember Child,
9 Councilmember Bell and Mayor-Elect Bradshaw in that order.
10

11 **MUSICAL SELECTION**

12 Bountiful Philharmonia played a selection of songs.
13

14 **REMARKS BY NEWLY SWORN OFFICIALS**

15 Councilmember Child thanked Bountiful Philharmonia, Lt. Governor Henderson, and
16 everyone who came to show their support. She said that she and her husband moved to Bountiful in
17 2000, buying a home and settling their three children into the community. She recounted a story of a
18 poor tailor who traveled a long way from home in search of treasure, only to find the treasure buried
19 under his own stove. She said this story held a lot of meaning for her as she related it to her own life,
20 realizing only after she had lived in Bountiful for some time, just what a treasure she had in the
21 community and the people here. She said her motivation to run for the City Council is to help others
22 find that same treasure. She promised to uphold the oath she took and be a wise steward of this city
23 and its people.

24 Councilmember Bell expressed how much he appreciated being given this opportunity to
25 serve Bountiful. He said that he moved to Bountiful when he was 6 years old and shared his
26 memories of making the basketball team at Mill Creek Junior High. He explained that getting your
27 basketball uniform was a special moment, it signified that you would now represent your school and
28 your peers, it was evidence of the hard work you (and your family) had put in, and it was a token of
29 the work you were committed to doing as part of the team. He said joining the Council felt similar in
30 many regards. He was ready to represent Bountiful and its residents, had worked hard to campaign
31 and win an election, and was now committed to work even harder as part of "Team Bountiful." He
32 thanked Kendalyn Harris for her encouragement, thanked his wife, Marilyn, for her support "past and
33 future," and expressed his gratitude for the City staff and first responders for the essential services
34 they provide to 45,000 residents every day. He said he agreed with ChatGPT when it answered that a
35 great city is "where people care about their families, their neighbors, their children, and their shared
36 future. When those values are lived daily, a city becomes more than just a place to live."
37

38 Mayor Bradshaw said she used her campaign to ask people to send colleagues her way that
39 would help her do the important work of the City, and they delivered. She congratulated
40 Councilmembers Child and Bell on running clean and thoughtful campaigns focused on how they
41 could improve Bountiful. She thanked everyone who came tonight for their support, saying that
42 serving on a local level is very intimate and can be bruising, but that the excellent people around you
43 make the hard days better. Mayor Bradshaw explained that she first joined the Council as a mid-term
44 vacancy replacement and recounted how humbling it was to be chosen from among the many people
45 who were willing to serve. She said that being chosen for the Council completely changed the
46 trajectory and focus of her life. Her focus has been on Bountiful and this community. She explained
that her philosophy has not changed since she was chosen seven years ago; a good leader listens more

1 than they talk and must stay connected to the people they serve. She said she has worked very hard to
2 be responsive and accessible as a Councilmember, and pledged to continue that plight in her role as
3 Bountiful's mayor. She explained that she believes how people feel about their streets, homes, public
4 safety and parks has a bigger effect on their personal happiness than anything that happens at the state
5 level, so she chooses to focus her time here where she can make a difference. She thanked her
6 husband, Michael, for being willing to edit newsletters, cancel vacation plans, hand out flyers, supply
7 late dinners, and completely disrupt his life in support of her big ideas. She thanked her siblings for
8 being her biggest cheerleaders and for keeping her grounded. She expressed what an honor it is to
9 work with an army of city employees who make sure the City runs and functions every day, saying
10 they are the "secret sauce" that makes Bountiful a great place to live. Finally, she thanked the many
11 mentors who nudged and directed her over the years, committing to reflect all the love and support
12 she has received back to the people of Bountiful.

13
14 **ADJOURN**

15 Councilmember Higginson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilmember Murri
16 seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bell, Child, Higgins, and Murri
17 voting "aye."

18
19 The meeting ended at 5:48 pm.
20
21

Mayor Kate Bradshaw

City Recorder