



City of Green River

460 East Main Street, Green River, Utah
City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 09, 2025

ATTENDING: Mayor Pro Tempore, Bo Harrison, Council Members Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff and Guy Webster; Planning Commission Members; Stephanie Crabtree, Tonya Bigelow, Dylan Keele ; Employees; Edward Bennett, Julie Spadafora, David Wilson, Loni Meadows, Bryan Meadows, Kerry Bigelow; Citizens; Keith Johnson, Ed Korycan, Christine Sheeter, Kathy Ryan, Diane Chandler, Conra Weber, Della Ekker, Frank Vetere, Diane Smith, Jill Smith, Randy Erwin, Anne Elliott, Chalyn Francis, Kenny Fallon, Lance Erwin, Dorothy Carter; Low Income Taxing Credit; Bill Knowlton; Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity; August Granath.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The Pledge of Allegiance as directed Kent Nelson

1. Public Comment

Council began with an acknowledgment of Mayor Ren Hatt's passing by Mayor Pro Tempore Bo Harrison. City Manager Edward Castro Bennett explained the legal process for mayoral transition, noting that since there are less than 30 days remaining in the current term, Mayor Pro Tempore Bo Harrison would serve as acting mayor through December 31st. Beginning January 1st, the City Council will have 30 days to appoint a new mayor through a public process, who will serve for two years before a special election in 2027.

Kathy Ryan expressed concern about EMS services in Green River, sharing a personal experience where she had to transport a loved one to meet an ambulance. She urged the city to work with the state to improve local emergency services. Councilmember Guy Webster provided an update that the county had recently hired a driver and two EMTs, which should improve coverage. He also mentioned they increased the budget for EMT training with a focus on Green River.

Dorothy Carter announced plans to start a new Business Alliance to help address issues between the county and city and support local businesses. She requested an update on the Veteran's Monument, which Edward confirmed is being paid.

2. Presentation on Fireman Pay Structure; Steph Crabtree

Stephanie Crabtree presented a proposed merit-based pay structure for the fire department. She explained the current inconsistent pay system and proposed a new structure that would reward firefighters for certifications and training hours. The proposal included:

- A 2-cent per training hour increase for certified skills (ranging from 4-hour courses to multi-month certification programs)
- Maintaining the starting wage at \$14/hour
- Adding minimum callout times (1 hour for daytime calls, 2 hours for nighttime calls)

Stephanie Crabtree provided budget projections showing the proposal would maintain costs around current levels even with firefighters pursuing additional certifications. She emphasized the value of recognizing firefighters' personal time investment in training and their growing role in medical and rescue operations. The proposal will be formally presented for approval in January.

3. Discuss/Approve/Deny Development Adoption of Governor's Office of Economic Development Green River Rural Economic Blueprint

August Granath from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity presented the Rural Economic Blueprint, which provides economic development strategic planning services for Green River. The document had been previously reviewed in a work session, with changes made based on feedback, including the addition of a stormwater drainage master plan project.

The council discussed the plan, and Guy Webster noted that the requested changes had been incorporated. Dorothy Carter asked if the document would be available to citizens, and Edward Bennett confirmed it would be uploaded to the City Website.

MOTION: Guy Webster made a motion to approve the development adoption of the Governor's Office of Economic Development Green River Rural Economic Blueprint. Larry Packer seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

4. Discuss/Approve/Deny Development Agreement with Airbuild, Inc.

This agenda item was tabled at the request of Airbuild, Inc.

MOTION: Kent Nelson made motion to table the Development Agreement with Airbuild, Inc. Larry Packer second the motion. **VOTE:** : Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

5. Discuss/Approve/Deny Renewed Billboard Lease with Sam Wilson

Edward Castro Bennett explained that the city has been paying Sam Wilson \$1,500 per year for a lighted billboard on his property for many years. After reevaluation, the city agreed to increase the payment to \$5,000 per year for a 3-year term, with options for automatic renewal or renegotiation. Either party can terminate with 90 days' notice.

MOTION: Larry Packer made a motion to approve the Renewed Billboard Lease with Sam Wilson. Kent Nelson second the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

6. Discuss/Approve/Deny Sending Out for Bids on Public Safety Building Security Proposal

Edward Castro Bennett presented security concerns at the public safety building, including inconsistent door locks (some keyed, some with keypads) and areas lacking camera coverage. The city received a quote higher than the purchasing threshold, so council approval is needed to send out for formal bids.

Stephanie Crabtree added that the current security system is outdated, and a new system could include app-based controls that would allow department heads to monitor and secure the building remotely. Edward mentioned the possibility of seeking grant funding for the project.

MOTION: Kent Nelson made a motion to approve sending out for Bids on the Public Safety Building Security Proposal. Guy Webster seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

7. Discuss/Approve/Deny Sending Out for Bids for Covering for the Historic Ambulance and Fire Truck at the Public Safety Building

Edward Castro Bennett explained that community members have expressed interest in protecting the historic ambulance and fire truck displayed at the public safety building. An initial quote for engineering and construction came in much higher than expected. The proposal is to seek bids for various options, from a simple pole barn to a building addition.

The council discussed the importance of these vehicles as a tourist attraction while ensuring any covering wouldn't detract from their visual appeal. Guy Webster suggested forming a committee before sending out bids to better define what the community wants. Edward agreed to organize this next week.

MOTION: Kent Nelson made a motion to approve Sending Out for Bids for Covering for the Historic Ambulance and Fire Truck at the Public Safety Building. Larry Packer seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

8. Discuss/Approve/Deny Transportation Masterplan Funding Application

Edward Castro Bennett presented an opportunity for a transportation master plan through a grant program. The total project cost would be \$55,000, with the city contributing \$4,000. The plan would complement other planning documents and could be used to seek funding for future transportation projects, including potential Main Street improvements.

Guy Webster emphasized that Main Street needs an overhaul and this plan could help secure state or federal funding for improvements like sidewalks and curbs.

MOTION: Guy Webster to approve Transportation Masterplan Funding Application. Larry Packer second the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

9. Discuss/Approve/Deny issuing Request For Proposals for Landfill Management

Edward Castro Bennett discussed issuing an RFP for landfill management to address the city's litter problems. He explained that an area outside the current green waste dump has been previously designed for a landfill but was never funded. The RFP would seek proposals from waste management firms to help design, establish, and potentially co-manage a municipal landfill that could also accept commercial waste.

Dorothy Carter asked why the previous landfill was closed, with concerns about covering requirements. The council discussed that different classifications of landfills have different requirements, and the RFP would help determine options.

Guy Webster noted that a landfill would help address illegal dumping issues in and around town.

MOTION: Guy Webster made a motion to approve the Request For Proposals for Landfill Management. Kent Nelson seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

10. Discuss/Approve/Deny issuing Request for Proposals for a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) project

Bill Knowlton, a low-income housing tax credit developer, provided an overview of the LIHTC program created under the Reagan Tax Reform Act of 1986. He explained that the program allows for quality housing development for those making below certain income thresholds by providing tax incentives to developers, who must commit to owning and maintaining the properties for at least 15 years.

Several council members and citizens raised questions and concerns about the proposal:

- Kent Nelson asked whether the housing would benefit the local population, particularly those with questionable legal status
- Keith Johnson worried that subsidized housing might attract non-residents without employment prospects
- Randy Erwin questioned whether taxpayer subsidies for low-income housing was the right approach compared to economic development

Bill Knowlton emphasized that the program requires income verification, background checks, and proof of ability to pay rent. He also noted that housing is essential for attracting businesses to the community.

MOTION: Kent Nelson made a motion to approve the request for a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Project. Bo Harrison seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, and Ben Lehnhoff voted aye. Guy Webster voted nay. The motion carried.

11. Discuss/Approve/Deny Ordinance No. 2025-05, an Ordinance Setting the RAP Tax Renewal

Edward Castro Bennett explained this ordinance would codify the RAP tax renewal that was approved by voters in the recent election. Guy Webster noted that 77% of voters approved the measure, showing strong community support.

MOTION: Guy Webster made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-05, an Ordinance Setting the RAP Tax Renewal. Larry Packer seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

12. Discuss/Approve/Deny Ordinance No. 2025-04, an Ordinance Setting the Schedule for 2026's Regular City Council Meetings

MOTION: Larry Packer made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-04, an Ordinance Setting the Schedule for 2026's Regular City Council Meetings. Ben Lehnhoff seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

The council reviewed the proposed schedule for 2026 council meetings. A typo was discovered showing an incorrect date for the June meeting. After discussion, the correct date was confirmed to be June 9, 2026.

The council voted to recall the previous vote due to the error, then voted again with the correct dates.

MOTION: Larry Packer made a motion to recall the previous vote. Ben Lehnhoff seconded the vote. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried

REMOTIONED: Bo Harrison made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-04, an Ordinance Setting the Schedule for 2026's Regular City Council Meetings with the corrected date of June 9, 2026, for June's meeting. Guy Webster seconded

the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

13. City Council, Mayor, and/or Employee Comments and Concerns

Edward Castro Bennett announced that applications were available for the Planning Commission, with two open seats due to Tonya Bigelow and Stephanie Crabtree moving to the City Council.

Bryan Meadows provided updates on the water plant, noting that equipment upgrades were in progress and communications between buildings were being established. He also reported on a pre-bid meeting for sewer lift station improvements with strong contractor interest. The projects will include new pumps, guide rails, control panels, and backup generators for each lift station.

The council thanked outgoing members Ben Lehnhoff and Larry Packer for their service and congratulated Tonya Bigelow and Stephanie Crabtree on their appointments.

14. Discuss/Approve/Deny Consent Agenda

- Financial Report October 2025
- Payment Approval Report December 2025
- Treasurer Report November 2025
- City Council Regular Meeting Minute November 12 ,2025
- City Council Special Meeting Minutes November 12, 2025

MOTION: Ben Lehnhoff made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Larry Packer seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried

15. Closed Session, if necessary, pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-205

No closed session was needed.

16 Adjourn, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

MOTION: Guy Webster motioned to adjourn the meeting. Larry Packer seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Bo Harrison, Kent Nelson, Larry Packer, Ben Lehnhoff, and Guy Webster voted aye. The motion carried.

Bo Harrison, Mayor Pro Tempore

Julie Spadafora, City Recorder

Approved: January 13, 2026