

MEETING MINUTES
EPHRAIM CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EPHRAIM CITY HALL
5 SOUTH MAIN, EPHRAIM, UTAH
JANUARY 21, 2026
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Ephraim City Council Meeting, having been properly noticed, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Larsen.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Larsen; Mayor, Dennis Nordfelt; Mayor Pro Tem, Anthony Beal, Troy Birch, Loren Steck, Jack Dalene

MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

Katie Witt; City Manager, Candice Maudsley; City Recorder, Bryan Kimball; Community Development, Megan Spurling; Planner, Jeff Hermansen; Fire Chief, Jeff Jensen; Public Works Director

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

The prayer was offered by Council Member Nordfelt.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jessica Keisel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comment presented.

PRESENTATIONS

Alma Lund provided an update on the Veteran's Memorial project, reporting that the statue is nearly complete. He recognized artist Brad Taggart for his extensive work on the project and noted that a \$40,000 RAP Tax grant has been awarded to support the memorial. The statue symbolizes the impact of a veteran's loss on family members, particularly mothers and children.

Alma also acknowledged committee members Paul Gardner, Mark Larsen, Penny Kittlesrud, Tyler Alder, Beverly Thomas, and Brad Taggart, who have worked to bring the memorial to fruition. It was noted that the memorial site could serve as a staging area for future Memorial Day and veterans' events.

Council discussed placement of the statue and plaque, including space limitations and the importance of orienting the plaque to face east. Potential relocation options were reviewed to improve visibility and functionality of the memorial area. The Council expressed appreciation for the committee's efforts.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER**
- B) APPROVAL OF 2026 MINUTES**
- C) EPHRAIM CITY RESOLUTION 26-02 SCANDINAVIAN BOARD BYLAW CLARIFICATION UPDATES**

Councilmember Nordfelt moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steck. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

ACTION AGENDA

A) EPHRAIM CITY ORDINANCE 26-01 CEMETERY ORDINANCE UPDATE

- a) Cemetery Sexton Shane Davis presented photographs illustrating examples of decorations covering headstones and discussed issues related to overcrowded plots. He reviewed the proposed cemetery ordinance updates and explained the need to maintain and beautify the cemetery through clearer standards for decorations and upkeep.
- b) *Councilmember Birch moved to adopt ECO 26-01 updating the cemetery ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Beal. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

B) INDIGENT CEMETERY PLOT

- a) Cemetery Sexton Shane Davis recommended approval of an indigent cemetery plot for Kevin James Neil. A letter from Bob Conder was submitted to the Council in support of the request. Council discussed the recommendation and reviewed background information regarding the request, including financial hardship. It was proposed that the indigent plot be located in the northwest corner of Block H, designated for cremation burial with a flat headstone.
- b) *Councilmember Nordfelt moved to approve the use of an indigent cemetery plot for Kevin James Neil. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dalene. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

C) WATKINS SUBDIVISION AMENDMENT

- a) Bryan Kimball presented the request for a Watkins Subdivision Amendment, including diagrams of the proposed boundary line changes. The request involves combining adjacent parcels and adjusting lot lines without creating any new lots.

Applicants Shalise Watkins and Kurt Parry requested to combine Parcel S-880X into Lot 13 of the Sunset Estates Subdivision, creating one lot consisting of approximately 0.82 acres. Parcel S-880X will become part of the Sunset Estates Subdivision. A portion of Parcel S-880X was also sold to Kurt Parry, requiring an amendment to his lot boundaries. The proposed amendment includes vacating and relocating some existing easements; however, no existing utilities will be affected. Staff and the Ephraim City Planning Commission reviewed the application for compliance with the Ephraim City Municipal Code and found that it meets all minimum requirements. The Planning Commission previously recommended approval unanimously.

b) *Councilmember Beal moved to approve the Watkins Subdivision amendment. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nordfelt. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

D) EPHRAIM CITY RESOLUTION 26-01 VEHICLE POLICY

a) The Council reviewed the proposed revision to the City Vehicle Policy, which clarifies that directors and on-call staff may keep City vehicles at their residences overnight. Vehicles must remain within City limits during work hours unless being used for approved City business. Randi Keisel asked whether the policy applies to police vehicles, and Councilmember Steck expressed concern regarding the public perception of personal use of City vehicles.

The Council agreed to postpone finalizing the policy language until February 4th to allow additional time for review and clarification regarding liability insurance coverage.

b) *Councilmember Birch moved to postpone ECR 26-01 amending the city vehicle policy to the February 4th meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dalene. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

a) *Councilmember Steck moved to appoint Eddy Christensen to a five-year Utilities Board term and Val Hill to a four-year Historical Board term. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nordfelt. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.*

Jack Dalene

- Planning Commission: Attended his first Planning Commission meeting. Concerns were discussed regarding the South Towne Subdivision.

Anthony Beal

- Library Board: The board reviewed the five-year strategic plan. Members expressed interest in expanding the library and offering literacy classes.

Loren Steck

- Historic Board: Reported that the board is interested in preserving and promoting Ephraim's history. The board is newly formed and is currently working to establish its direction.

Troy Birch

- Cemetery Board: Reported that the Wreaths Across America program went well and expressed appreciation for the Youth City Council's assistance. He noted that if any veteran did not receive a lawn sign for Veterans Day, the Cemetery Board should be notified.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

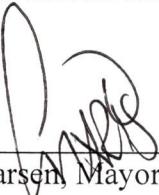
- The City Manager reported that Council should have received a draft of the City's Strategic Plan via email earlier in the day. Department heads have been working on strategies tied to each established goal. The document is in draft form, and Council was asked to review it and provide feedback prior to formal presentation at a future City Council meeting.
- The City Manager reported that the legislative session has begun. She will be attending the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) meetings on Mondays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will provide brief updates to Council periodically.

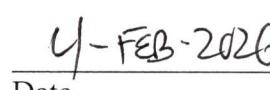
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Nordfelt moved the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:49 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dalene. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City Council room.

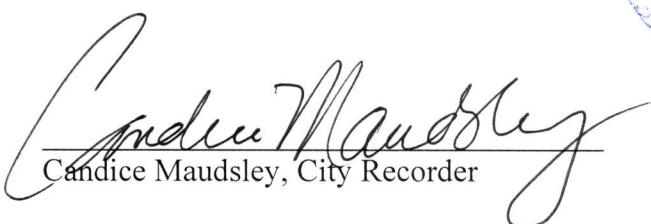
MINUTES APPROVED:


Chris Larsen, Mayor


Date



ATTEST:


Candice Maudsley, City Recorder


Date