

# Garland City Corporation

## City Council Meetings

### January 7, 2026

#### **Members Present:**

Jeanette Atkinson  
Sharla Nelson  
Tena Allen  
Jim Hall  
Josh Munns  
Danny Austin, Mayor  
Kristal Edwards, Recorder  
Steve Brooks, City Attorney

#### **City Council Work Session**

Mayor Austin called the work session for January 7, 2026, to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Garland City Building. The following Department Heads were present: Library Director Linda King, Park and Rec Director Shannon King, and Public Works Director Travis Atikson. Mayor Austin amended the agenda to include the Emergency Preparedness Director Lanette Sorensen.

#### **Emergency Preparedness - Lanette Sorensen**

Lanette reported on the ICS courses required due to the fact that Garland City receives federal funding and must be scheduled and completed this quarter by city officials. Council Member Atkinson questioned how many Public Information Officers (PIOs) there were. Lanette replied that she is the only one, and that it would be beneficial to have a secondary, noting that recommendations are welcome. She also mentioned that recommendations are welcome for the upcoming Emergency Preparedness Fair in April.

#### **Library – Linda King**

Linda reported that six lights need to be replaced at the library. She would like to have a Golden Spike Electric quote on the upcoming city council agenda for light fixture replacement. She reported that she ordered three little libraries. Additionally, she reported that the Creative Aging Program moved the wreath-making project to April. She reported the Library Board meeting will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup> with Tremonton for a required state meeting. She provided an update on library activities available and would like to begin tracking reports of attendance to keep the library eligible for grant opportunities.

#### **Park & Rec – Shannon King**

Shannon reported that spring soccer and lacrosse registration is open through March 1<sup>st</sup>. He provided an update on the purchase orders for football helmet reconditioning and the park signs. He noted that he will finish pruning the trees at the park. He reported that he is cleaning and organizing the maintenance building, and noted that there will be an upcoming proposal for new cook shack screen doors. He reported that the scoreboard booth is missing shingles and may need repairs in the near future.

#### **Public Works – Travis Atkinson**

Travis reported that there were thirty-eight non-reading meters. Some meters are due to incorrect programming and are currently being troubleshoot, noting that they are closer to having each meter reading. He reported that there is a pipe leak at the sewer plant, which is out of warranty, and will investigate further options to resolve this matter. Discussion was briefly has on public works on call hours.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

## **City Council Meeting**

Mayor Austin called the January 7, 2026, City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Garland City Building. Council Member Atkinson offered a thought and prayer, and Mayor Austin amended the agenda to have John McCullen lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the agenda. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the minutes for December 17, 2025. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. Council Member Hall abstained from the vote as he was not in attendance. The motion passed. Council Member Nelson motioned to approve the minutes for January 5, 2026. Council Member Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Oath of Office**

City Recorder, Kristal Edwards, administered the oath of office to the newly elected Mayor, Daniel Austin, newly elected council member James Hall, and re-elected council member Jeantte Atkinson.

## **Appreciation Certification to Former Mayor & Council Member**

Kristal presented the appreciation certification to former Mayor Linda Bourne and former council member John Losee. Council Member Atkinson read a thoughtful letter recognizing Linda as her term as Mayor concluded.

## **Open Comments**

- Linda Bourne reported that she has served on the mosquito abatement board for four years and if approved by Mayor Austin, she would like to continue to serve and report as needed. Mayor Austin approved.
- Donnie Howell spoke in favor of the proposed dispatch agreement and expressed that this police department is home to him and that this affects the safety of everyone.
- Brent Jex reported that there are problems with the current dispatch and expressed that they need help in fixing the problem, which requires tough decisions. He fears another tragic event may be repeated if they don't switch.
- Council Member Nelson noted she would like to hear from the fire department on this item as well.
- Rob Johnson reported that he was the previous fire chief and stated that there have been issues for many years, and they tried to resolve them. He expressed that enough is enough and is in favor of this agreement.
- Merrilee Gardner expressed her appreciation to those who put their lives on the line each day. She mentioned that she doesn't understand why Garland can't do the same as Tremonton to get the required licensing for transport ambulance services.
- Sherece Munns expressed her appreciation to dispatch and everyone who was involved in helping Josh during his accident.
- Jay Munns reported that it's his 40<sup>th</sup> year serving on the fire department. He expressed that he's worked with dispatch for many years, and it's not always dispatch issues, noting that some issues occur from human error from the public when calling in, providing incorrect information.
- John Losee expressed his appreciation to the city council. He made a comment that the dispatch agreement may be costly, but that the city should support what the EMS, Police, and Fire are requesting. Lastly, he noted that the city needs a transport ambulance service.

## **Old Business**

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Kelly Harris Sewer Line Easement Agreement**

Council Member Nelson motioned to table this item since Kelly is not in attendance. Council Member Munns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Dispatch Services Agreement**

Mayor Austin invited Police Chief Cordova to speak on this item. Chief Cordova expressed his appreciation to each of those who attended tonight’s meeting and voiced their thoughts. He ensures this is a necessity and has documentation to prove that there have been ongoing issues with the current dispatch. He expressed that there is no animosity towards Box Elder County Dispatch, but noted that they are failing at their mission. After he provided an update, he opened the floor to questions from the City Council. Council Members questioned the logistics of switching to Weber Dispatch, including communication, radio channels, staffing concerns, potential tax increase on residents, and funding concerns. Mayor Austin noted that he has communicated with Tremonton’s mayor, and they are in agreement to find funding solutions. Discussions ensued.

Fire Chief Harrington emphasized the importance of the safety of the fire department and noted that the city council’s support matters. He reported that he currently works in a full-time fire department that utilizes Weber’s services and that calls can be auto-routed for Garland, which would not affect the call received times. He provided an informative overview of the radio channels and zones how this would positively affect the Garland Fire Department.

A discussion ensued regarding the terms of this service agreement. Police Lieutenant Gailey reported that it’s a five-year term through 2030. Council Member Nelson expressed that she would like to see the communication between Garland and Tremonton improve, and expressed her appreciation for everyone who came to speak in support of this item.

Council Member Nelson motioned to go into a closed session 52-4-205 1c. Council Member Atkinson seconded the motion. Mayor Austin called for a roll call vote:

- Jeanette Atkinson – yes
- Sharla Nelson – yes
- Tena Allen – yes
- Jim Hall – yes
- Josh Munns – no
- Closed Session began.

Council Member Nelson motioned to adjourn from the closed session. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Austin called the regular meeting back to order.

Council Member Nelson motioned to approve the Dispatch Agreement, with a contingency of a rewrite and renewal of the MOU between the Tremonton and Garland Police by January 28<sup>th</sup>, which will include a precise plan of how dispatch will be funded in the future. Council Member Atkinson seconded the motion. Mayor Austin called for a roll call vote:

- Jeanette Atkinson – yes
- Sharla Nelson – yes
- Tena Allen – yes
- Jim Hall – yes
- Josh Munns – yes
- Motion passed.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution R-26-01 Holiday Hours**

Council Member Nelson noted that the rewrite does not match what Tremonton has currently passed. A discussion was held regarding the police officer’s holiday compensation. Council Member Atkinson motioned to pass the Resolution R-26-01 amending the Garland City employee handbook to clarify holiday pay compensation. Council Member Munns seconded the motion. Mayor Austin called for a roll call vote:

Jeanette Atkinson – yes  
Sharla Nelson – yes  
Tena Allen – yes  
Jim Hall – yes  
Josh Munns – yes  
R-26-01 passed.

**Discussion on America 250**

Council Member Atkinson reported that the celebration will be held at the Garland City park on July 5<sup>th</sup>. She noted that there will be a county meeting scheduled on January 15<sup>th</sup> regarding the America 250 celebration.

**New Business**

**Consideration and Possible Action on Magnolia Farms Development Agreement**

City Planner, Valerie Claussen, provided a brief overview of the Magnolia Farms, noting that it was recently identified that the city never received the development agreement. Council Member Nelson expressed her appreciation to Valerie for catching this. She motioned to approve the Development Agreement for Magnolia Subdivision. Council Member Munns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance O-26-01**

Council Member Nelson motioned to adopt Ordinance O-26-01, an ordinance amending section 1-6-5(a) of the Garland City code to adopt the 2026 regular meeting schedule for the Garland City Council. Council Member Allen seconded the motion. Mayor Austin called for a roll call vote:

Jeanette Atkinson – yes  
Sharla Nelson – yes  
Tena Allen – yes  
Jim Hall – yes  
Josh Munns – yes  
O-26-01 passed.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution R-26-02 Employee Reimbursement Policy**

Council Member Atkinson motioned to table Resolution R-26-02. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion and Possible Action on ICS Courses**

This item was previously discussed in the work session.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Purchase Orders**

**PO#8334 Helmet Refurbishing**

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve PO#8334. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PO#7877 Wright Signs & Graphics**

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve PO#7877. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Box Fire Training**

Chief Harrington noted that the training will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor and City Council Reports**

Mayor Austin reported he would like to appoint Linda Bourne for the Mosquito Abatement.

**Council Member Allen**

No report.

**Council Member Atkinson**

No report.

**Council Member Hall**

He reported that he will schedule a time with Travis to tour the sewer plant.

**Council Member Munns**

No report.

**Council Member Nelson**

She reiterated the motion that was passed for the dispatch agreement, with the contingency of a rewrite and renewal of the MOU between the Tremonton and Garland Police by January 28<sup>th</sup>, which will include a precise plan of how dispatch will be funded in the future.

**Financial Review – Approval of Payroll and Accounts Payable**

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the coding for payroll and accounts payable. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

**Request for Future Agenda Items**

- Police Dispatch Agreement
- Kelly Harris – Easement Connections
- Holiday Hour Resolution
- Rabies Clinic Partnership
- Big Box Training
- ICS Courses
- Closed Session for Litigation
- Resolution for City Employees Testing (city only pays once)
- Utility Rate Study Proposal

**Closed Session**

Council Member Atkinson motioned to go into a Closed Session 52-4-205 1D. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to adjourn from the closed session. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Austin called the regular meeting back to order.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

The undersigned, duly acting and appointed Recorder for Garland City Corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes for the City Council Meetings held on the above-referenced date.



Kristal Edwards, Recorder