

MINUTES
HARRISVILLE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
January 27, 2026
725 W Harrisville Road
Harrisville, UT 84404

Minutes of a regular Harrisville City Council meeting held on January 27, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Harrisville City Cabin, 725 W. Harrisville Rd., Harrisville, UT.

Present: Mayor Roger Shuman, Council Member Greg Montgomery, Council Member Grover Wilhelmsen, Council Member Blair Christensen, Council Member Jason Hadley.

Excused: Council Member Karen Fawcett, Jennie Knight, City Administrator.

Staff: Mark Wilson, Chief of Police, Bryan Fife, Public Works, Parks and Recreation Director, Jack Fogal, City Recorder, Jill Hunt, City Treasurer, Brody Flint, City Attorney, Assistant Chief Of Police Nick Taylor, Master Officer Chris Paradis,

Visitors:

1. Welcome and Agenda Overview

Mayor Shuman called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Master Officer Chris Paradis explained the departments current taser is no longer serviced by Axon the maker. This causes issues because they will no longer back the product or provide cartridges. Axon created a new taser, the X10, that they will support. This product has 10 cartridges instead of just one. The distance is also doubled from 20ft to 40 ft. You can deploy this taser on multiple targets. This can be a benefit to officers. Loading a new cartridge while your adrenaline is pumping can be hard. This new platform is compatible with our current training simulator. A handle for an X10 is \$1900 to \$2300 not including cartridges or training. Just replacing the handles for the department would cost approximately \$20,000. The total package offered by Axon costs \$100,753 over 10 years. It includes 9 handles, 140 cartridges, training cartridges, training targets, VR instructor, training for taser instructors. The proposed plan from Axon is 10 years and will cost \$10,580 per year. Mayor Shuman inquired are we locked in to the 10-year commitment with this deal. Master Officer Paradis clarified this lease would lock us in for 10 years. He has inquired about the pricing to purchase the product outright and has not received an answer yet. The benefit to the 10-year plan is if the product is upgraded, we will get the upgrade. Council Member Christensen inquired will we be charged for the upgrades. Master Officer Paradis stated no, it is included in the cost of the plan. Chief Wilson stated we have less than 1 taser deployment a year. He is asking Council to think about the program. It is a necessary tool for our officers. We need to decide as a city what we want to do. Council Member Christensen questioned can we train other cities if we get the equipment. Chief Wilson stated Master Officer Paradis is a certified instructor he can train anyone. Assistant Chief Taylor stated most agencies will have to decide on their own roll out. North Ogden has already switched to the X10. They will probably have one of their officers certified to train on this taser. Master Officer Paradis stated Axon has a monopoly on tasers. This lease could be a benefit because they cannot raise the prices on us for 10 years. Council Member Wilhelmsen asked is there a state law that officers have to carry tasers. Master Officer Paradis stated there

is not a law but this is a less lethal tool that can stop a critical incident. Council Member Hadley inquired what are the prices of cartridges and items individually. Master Officer Paradis stated I do not have individual prices currently. He has reached out to the rep to get prices. Chief Wilson stated it took several meetings to get the bundle pricing. They are working on the buyout price. No decision is needed tonight. He wants to get Council to be aware of this issue and think about it. Mayor Shuman asked if we have an event how many officers are deployed at a time. Chief Wilson stated we have all of our guys there. Mayor Shuman questioned is it necessary to have 9 tasers. Could you have 4 tasers at the shop and check them in and out. Master Officer Paradis stated this is part of the standard issue equipment. Chief Wilson stated it is possible.

2. Open and Public Meetings Act Training

Brody Flint explained his role is to represent Harrisville City. His duty is to the city as an entity not any individual. Part of his job is telling people stuff they do not want to hear. It is not personal; his job is to provide the best legal advice he can. As an elected official you have governmental immunity for the most part. The public has a right to tell us things we do not like or want to hear. They can be rude or mean. The quickest way to get sued is to treat people differently during public comment. If one person takes their full time and they ask a question and you don't answer, then the next person takes their time and asks a question and you answer it. You violated the first persons first amendment rights. Council Member Montgomery asked is there a decency requirement for public comments. Brody Flint stated you can have someone removed for extreme circumstances. They need to be threatening or making severe comments. There was a case from Chicago where the mayor had the chief of police remove someone due to their comments. The courts ruled they violated the persons first amendment rights. That person sued the city, mayor and chief of police and won. Chief Wilson inquired are first amendment auditors doing this. Brody Flint stated yes, they are. You can set a time limit and have standard rules that you always follow. Our current rules limit comments to 3 minutes but do not restrict the content of the comment. You can have more restrictive rules but you must be consistent. Council Member Montgomery questioned would it be beneficial to have rules of conduct on the back of the agenda. Brody Flint stated it does not make a difference. Mayor Shuman stated he foresees challenges. When he was running for office, the public told him they did not get the answers they wanted. During the January meeting there were two people and he was able to answer one question but not the other. They did reach out to the second person after the meeting and answered their question. There is a lot of pressure to protect himself and make the residents feel heard. Brody Flint stated that is true. Mayor Shuman stated would it be better to not answer questions during the meeting and call them back. Brody Flint stated that would be better do not answer the questions in the meeting, answer them after them meeting. Council Member Hadley inquired could we amend the minutes with the answer. Brody Flint stated some cities tell the public to email the comments to someone then include them with the consent items for approval. That would be a good way to answer the public comments. Your qualified immunity is thrown out if you do something to violate someone's first amendment rights.

Brody Flint explained your social media accounts may be public record. If you post about city business or discuss items on your personal account it is now public record and is GRAMA-able. If you block someone on a social media account you violated their first amendment rights. As a public official you should setup two accounts. A personal one which does not discuss city matters and a second as an elected official. Mayor Shuman inquired is it a good idea for the city to have a Facebook account. Brody Flint stated it is run by the city staff not an elected official. The city follows and keeps records of our social media accounts. We have to keep those

records according to state retention schedules. Council Member Montgomery clarified so the city's Facebook is a record. It must be neutral correct. Brody Flint stated the city has to be neutral. We can announce there is an Easter Egg Hunt. As an example, we cannot promote a candidate with the city's resources.

Brody Flint provided training on the Open and Public Meetings Act. This act requires city business conducted by Council to be held in a public meeting. This rule applies when there are 3 or more Council Members present. You can still attend an event like the Fall Festival, but you cannot get together during that event and decide how to vote or discuss city policy.

Brody Flint stated as a City Council Member you have zero authority by yourself. The only authority you have is as a Council. You need to be mindful of that for example; a resident comes to you upset. You call city staff and tell them fix the problem reported to you. This can cause issues. You are placing staff in a difficult position. Do staff members do as you direct because you are a Council Member or do they follow the proper channels. As common courtesy put these items before Council as they are supposed to be. Mayor Shuman inquired if he is included in that. Brody Flint stated no you are different. Council Member Montgomery recounted he has been on the staff side and been uncomfortable when Council Members try to force things on him. Brody Flint stated Council decides department head issues. Let the department heads deal with staffing issues in their department.

Brody Flint reported on closed executive sessions. They are allowed but are limited by state statute. We can only have closed meetings if the state code allows it. We should not public notice a closed meeting on every agenda. We should only have them when needed. Those meetings are recorded. Recordings are kept private and are not a public record. To be released it must be approved by a judge. The information from these meetings cannot be disclosed unless you have been deposed and the city attorney says it is ok. You need to be careful when discussing those items. Even if disclosed without malice you can still be in trouble.

Brody Flint discussed the Mayors authority. It is different than the authority of a Council Member. You can direct staff outside of a public meeting. The budget is your guiding document. You have the job to oversee the budget and administer it. You work with city staff to ensure we follow the rules laid out by Council. You have the authority to enforce ordinances. You don't get to act unilaterally. If you want a change you need to work it through Council. You do have the administrative and executive functions but you lead within the budget, ordinances, and direction Council decides.

Brody Flint reported you do not get special privileges because you are a Council Member. You cannot get a special rate from the bank because the city has a contract there. Any gifts received must be \$50 or less. Do not accept gifts over that amount. As an example, if you go to a conference and they give you a water bottle that is acceptable. If you are taken to lunch that is acceptable but do not go to Ruth Chris. People will come in and want to go golfing with the Mayor or Council Members. Be careful because that can get over \$50 fast. If you own more than 10% of a business you need to disclose that on your conflict-of-interest forms. Council Member Montgomery inquired does owning a home count as a property conflict. Brody Flint stated that is not a conflict-of-interest. You need to live in the city to be on the Council. Make sure the conflict-of-interest disclosures are completed. Council Member Montgomery questioned if a Planning Commissioner disagrees with the rest of the commission could they organize a protest against the decision. He has heard of it happening before and was curious about the legality of it. Brody Flint stated it is different for Council and Planning Commissioners.

Commissioners do not make final decisions they make recommendations. As a Council Member you have to be careful. You cannot use your title or city resources to promote an issue. Mayor Shuman inquired doesn't the Planning Commission make the final decision for subdivisions. Brody Flint stated their approval is based on whether code is met or not. They should not weigh opinion into the decision. Council decides the ordinances and zoning. Planning Commission decides if it meets those ordinances.

Brody Flint explained GRAMA. You should consider texts, emails, and social media public record. The newspaper test is a good example. If you don't want your friends or neighbors to see something in the newspaper or on social media don't do it. If have questions contact him immediately.

3. Budget Discussion for Fiscal Year 2027

Chief Wilson reported on his budget. The Salaries and Wages line item is the biggest change. In last year's budget we had some openings and we budgeted a higher amount so we were not limited on who we could hire. The open positions have been filled. Two of those were filled at the lower end of the range which will save money. Part Time Wages will go up 4% which is due to potential for a merit increase. Council Member Montgomery inquired what is the criteria for a merit raise. Jill Hunt stated they get evaluated every year on their anniversary. We tailor the evaluations to their job. If they are below or average, they do not get the merit increase. If they are above, they get the merit. Chief Wilson stated when we do the budget we have to add that in because it could happen. Mayor Shuman inquired is it point based. Chief Wilson stated it grades from 1 to 7. 7 being high 1 being low. Jill Hunt stated if they go above and beyond it must be explained to justify the merit increase. This ensures we are treating every employee the same. Mayor Shuman questioned who submits the evaluation. Chief Wilson stated for the police department their supervisor does. Then Assistant Chief reviews it. They decide whether to approve the evaluation or not. Jill Hunt clarified this allows the supervisor to sit-down with the person and explain why they are getting their ratings. Council Member Montgomery questioned do they know what those measurable goals are. Jill Hunt answered affirmatively. Chief Wilson explained Court and Security wages have normally come out of the police budget. It is being moved to the Court budget. Brody Flint stated it is semantics but it's important to show what the true cost of the court is. We need to have this cleaned up to make sure we are complaint with the court systems requirements. Chief Wilson reported the police department still helps with those services. It is cheaper and easier to go through a third-party company for bailiffs. The bailiffs are at court but if someone needs to go to jail the on-duty officer will take them to avoid the extra fees from the third-party company. The employee benefits is one of our largest line items. This is due to us budgeting all of our officers for family insurance plans. Not all of them utilize our insurance. Council Member Montgomery inquired about increases in the cost of insurance for the year. Jill Hunt stated she works with the broker to get their best estimates in April. We have a lower plan increase because our staff does a lot of preventative measures. Our increase is about 3% a year. Last year the increase for Blue Cross was 13% and Select Health was 9%. Mayor Shuman inquired about employee benefits across all departments. Has the benefit program developed over time. What percentage is keeping up with the Jones and what is required by state law. Jill Hunt reported that retirement is a state requirement. The state gives the guidelines. For example, a tier 1 and tier 2 employees have different rates paid by the city into their retirement accounts. This amount is set by the state every year. Mayor Shuman stated even when he made \$200,000 a year his benefit package was not as nice as the city employees have now. Some of the benefits programs he is seeing is higher than the median income of Utah. Transparent Utah is driving resident's crazy with what it shows. It is confusing people. Even with all of that in mind the benefit side is high. Even the wages are much higher than the

private sector. Jill Hunt stated the private sector is a hard comparison to make. She lost money when she went to work for the city. We are among the lowest in the county for wages. Mayor Shuman stated what about other benefits like paid vacation days and other items similar to that compared to the private sector. Jill Hunt stated she does not have the answer to those questions, but it is good to ask these questions and have these conversations. Council Member Hadley inquired about the mindset for why we budget more than we need. Chief Wilson stated benefits are a liability. When we are audited, we must show that we have budgeted for the possibility of it happening. Jill Hunt provided an example, let's say Assistant Chief Taylor does not use insurance through us. If he leaves and his replacement uses it, we must have the money available in the account. Council Member Hadley inquired what happens if the money is not used. How does it help the budget year over year. Jill Hunt stated it goes back to the General Fund. We have a Fund Balance that can be carried over year to year. If we don't use the funds it can go to the Fund Balance and used elsewhere. Council Member Hadley questioned how that difference shows against the budget. How is it reported. Jill Hunt stated it would show as non-expensed. Council Member Hadley inquired does the General Fund help with the balancing the budget at all. Jill Hunt stated this is like a savings account in a different spot. Council Member Wilhelmsen stated the money stays there until it is allocated to a different item. Mayor Shuman clarified the General Fund can be used to offset a shortage in other areas. Jill Hunt answered you are correct it can. Staff will bring an amendment to Council for the budget in June. Let's say we did not buy a staff copier that money could be transferred to buy a new police copier if needed. Mayor Shuman stated at the end of the day we have \$892,000 in expenses and we only have \$700,000 in revenue. Could the General Fund offset that difference. Brody Flint stated it would be required to offset the difference. Chief Wilson reported technical services is CSI. Everyone in the county pays into it. Council Member Hadley inquired do we know ahead of time what the cost will be. Chief Wilson clarified they are on a different fiscal calendar than we are. We make an estimate and try getting as close as we can. The cost is based on population and call outs. We try to limit the call outs to when CSI is really needed. Council Member Montgomery inquired what does CSI do different than our officers. Chief Wilson stated they have tools we do not have, and have techs that are trained in different evidence techniques that we are not trained on. Professional Services covers drug tests, mailing letters, etc. Narcotics Strike Force has stayed the same for several years. Travel and Training is a 21% increase but it is not an overall budget increase. The difference is moving from equipment to training. Vehicle Maintenance is budgeted higher than we have needed the last few years. We like to have some extra in case a surprise happens with a vehicle. Motor Pool payments are going up a little due to vehicle cost increase. The equipment going into the new cars is more expensive. We have 3 cars that need to be upgraded. Council Member Montgomery inquired about Motor Pool whether we lease the vehicles. Chief Wilson stated they are leases. We try to order new cars around April to get the pricing for the year-old model cars. Mayor Shuman stated we purchase these on state contract. Chief Wilson reported Lexipol and Accreditation are not changing. Mayor Shuman stated we talked about moving Lexipol to training line item. Chief Wilson stated Lexipol does several things for the department. They manage manuals, officer tracking as required by state law, and policy tracking for accreditation. The training part you are talking about is Police1. It sends training to officers and tracks them for the department. Mayor Shuman stated it is not a big deal to him to combine that line item or not. Jill Hunt reminded this is a draft it will go through some changes. Chief Wilson stated Office Supplies will cover items like citation sheets, business cards, evidence sheets, etc. Mayor Shuman stated we need to try and fund code enforcement better. Brody Flint stated code enforcement will need a lot of funding. We need funds for enforcement, court, letters, and wages. Mayor Shuman questioned we can do speeding tickets why do we struggle so much with code enforcement. Can we fund it through fines and liens on a house or property. Brody Flint stated that is part of the legal

process. We can try but we cannot always recoup the cost. Chief Wilson reported there needs to be an employee who is the expert on the code. We have to have someone who can track it, enforce it, and mail out letters. When it goes to legal, we will need all of this information documented correctly. It is better that code enforcement is not done by a law enforcement officer. Law enforcement will assist as needed. Live911 is going to go away. We are asking to change the line item to Community Policing. With accreditation we need to have some community policing funds. We have firearms in evidence that can be sold and we would like to put that amount into this line item. State law says the funds from those sales must benefit the community. He will bring a plan before Council at a later date for approval. Car and body cameras are paid for through a grant. The only thing the grant won't pay for is software, warranty, and cables. The grant covered \$15,000 and the total cost was \$18,000. We have a body armor grant which pays for 50% of the body armor cost. Council Member Montgomery inquired is that grant ongoing. Chief Wilson stated we have to keep applying for it. The Alcohol and Beer tax line item is money we receive from the state. It can be rolled year to year. Council Member Montgomery questioned where this money comes from. How is it calculated. Jill Hunt stated she is not sure how it is calculated; she can reach out to the state and get an answer. Chief Wilson stated the Seatbelt line item is a pass through. We pay upfront and the state reimburses us for seatbelt shifts. We are getting rid of the EUDL line item. Swat line item has not changed in years as well. Council Member Montgomery inquired what is your goal as the police chief based on your budget. Chief Wilson clarified his main goal is public and officer safety. Council Member Wilhelmsen stated there are some items that cannot be measured in cost. During Christmas he witnessed an officer stop on the side of the road and have a good discussion with the residents. There was no violation he just wanted to wish them Merry Christmas. Chief Wilson reported we do not pay the most. Our last 4 officers took pay cuts to be here. The culture is good and that makes officers better. If the officers are happy, they will have better interactions with the public. We have excellent officers. We still handle the same calls and risk as big agencies. Our officers are well rounded and are experienced on all types of calls. Mayor Shuman stated he has enjoyed his conversations with Chief Wilson. His respect level has increased. Chief Wilson stated he is a blunt person. He would rather have a conversation with Council or the Mayor. He encouraged them to ask him questions. Council Member Montgomery stated he has a unique neighborhood. He has people up and down his street doing strange things. He does not fear because of the police presence. Chief Wilson stated we spend a lot of time training in mental health. Autism and mental health have been a large focus for the department.

Director Fife explained most of his career has been working out of the General Fund. He has very little slush or cushion. We have some decreases in parks line items and increase in public works funds. He has been working with Jill Hunt to make sure expenses are allocated appropriately. In Parks and Recreation, they do a \$500 clothing allowance. He increased it to \$750 to have consistency with Public Works. Mayor Shuman inquired are there restrictions on what it can be used for. Director Fife stated that would fall under City Council. They have had direction in the past from Council saying if you can put it on your body it counts. Council Member Montgomery inquired how many full-time employees are there. Director Fife stated we have 4 full time people. Equipment is up due to being in the middle of a 3-year plan for playground maintenance and repair. We took some building money and moved it to Public Works. Portable restrooms are being used at the parks still. We use 4 in the summer months and 3 in the winter months. Mayor Shuman stated he spoke to West Haven and they switched to concrete bathrooms. Council Member Montgomery reported they were about \$120,000 last time he looked. Mayor Shuman stated he spoke to the Pleasant View Mayor and they discussed metal toilets but they cost 10 times the amount of porcelain toilets. Director Fife stated our PD

tries to monitor our parks and if something happens, they notify Parks. We closed the bathrooms because we had a major incident that would cost about \$6,000 to repair. Before that we were hit with smaller vandalizations constantly. Council Member Hadley reported Ogden City Parks closes their bathrooms in the winter. Director Fife stated he recommends keeping the portable bathrooms during the winter. His team is doing some continuing education training this year that is required. Splash Pad line item has decreased. They purchased a large part this year and will not need to purchase it this year. We are trying to stay ahead for recreation. Last year we spent a lot of money updating equipment. That line item is decreasing this year. Council Member Wilhelmsen inquired are more people signing up for recreation teams. Has there been communication with the middle school about using their softball fields. Director Fife clarified he has not communicated with them about use of their fields but he can. Mayor Shuman stated it seems that the Weber County recreation teams do not fill up. Could we coordinate with them and send people to the county for sports. We are providing a service to a small group of people and paying to provide that service. Council Member Wilhelmsen questioned how we are advertising for recreation. Director Fife stated it can be hard because we try to reach out to kids but we do have to cap teams due to lack of available space. Santa at the Cabin still has low attendance. He estimates we see 20 families at the event. We could do away with the meet and greet and move the parade to Saturday afternoon. There are many new roads that need to be incorporated into the parade this year due to new construction. He feels the parade is a bigger hit than the meet and greet. Mayor Shuman stated Council may need to look at Santa at the cabin and decide if we want to continue that activity. He questioned if the YCC helps with events. Director Fife stated the YCC helps with whatever events he has asked of them. If Council wants to change directions, he is willing to do that. Fall Festival may need a mass gathering permit in the future due to the amount of people who attend. Movies in the park is not well attended either but those who attend say they have a good time. We pay for the next years Fall Festival fireworks right after the current year's show. The fireworks for 2026 have already been paid for. Council Member Montgomery inquired about park impact fees. Jill Hunt stated it is a restricted item. We have to pay for a study. They will look at projects we have and what the new developments will impact. The impact fee is paid once at the time of building permit issuance. The impact fee can only be used for items identified in the study and adopted in our plan. Dixon Creek Park would be eligible for park impact fees. We can work with the state auditor to make sure we are staying in scope of our plan. Director Fife stated the Misc line item is his cushion for increases in park events. Council Member Montgomery inquired what is the overall plan for existing park facilities. Do you have a road map with timeframe and budgets. Director Fife stated we have the schedule for park equipment. With staffing they spend Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and part of Thursday mowing, trimming, and blowing. That only leaves the remainder of the day Thursday and Friday for projects. We only have a road map for the playground equipment. Council Member Montgomery questioned without a plan how do you know what trees to remove or add. Director Fife stated right now we remove them as needed and plant two trees to replace them. Council Member Montgomery inquired how does the study identify what is eligible for impact fees vs being spent from the General Fund. Jill Hunt stated for the study they look at the park standard. They look at what parks are needed and what new growth will utilize this new park. The study identifies the cost for this standard and shows what can be spent on. It then goes to Council for approval. Council Member Montgomery inquired what kind of RAMP Grants have we gone for. Director Fife stated we have gone for RAMP Grants and gotten some larger and some smaller ones. Council Member Hadley inquired about adding an activity where we bring in food trucks. Jill Hunt stated we would need to get with the health department and coordinate with vendors to get their information. Council Member Hadley stated he has seen some events that are well attended and might generate revenue. Director Fife stated he can look into it.

Director Fife reported on the Public Works budget. Council Member Hadley inquired is the balance differences moved from Parks and Recreation to Public works an increase or decrease. Mayor Shuman questioned is there a problem having Parks and Recreation and Public Works on the same budget sheet. Jill Hunt stated it is easier to manage when they are separated. There are some funds that cannot mix at all. Keeping them separated helps to stop that from happening. Director Fife stated he can put them on a sheet together if that is what Council wants. Council Member Montgomery inquired about the General Fund numbering. If they are separated, does it make it easier or harder to move budgets around as needed. Jill Hunt stated we separate the line items so it is more transparent. In the past all projects were just dumped into one fund. This helps with transparency for the public and Council. Council Member Wilhelmsen asked about the Street Repair line item. Director Fife stated it was \$150,000 last year and we are asking for \$250,000 this year. That expense is endless, we can use the full budget to repair roads, the more money in the fund the more repairs we can make. Council Member Montgomery inquired is there a maintenance plan for the roads. Director Fife stated West Hoskins the Roads Lead has a plan for when roads need maintenance. Council Member Montgomery questioned has the city delayed maintenance on a road due to more pressing issues arising. Brody Flint stated yes it happens. There are always projects that are delayed due to expense. Council Member Montgomery stated it is similar for utilities. Brody Flint answered affirmatively. Council Member Hadley inquired what is a scarifier. Director Fife explained it is a concrete miller that can be used to grind down sidewalks. They use these machines to level sidewalk that has been raised. Council Member Hadley inquired about the notes by Signs stating ¼ city of the city. Director Fife stated we have a plan to replace the signs in the city ¼ this year, ¼ next year and continue that until all the signs have been replaced in the city. Council Member Hadley questioned what the class B and C road funds are. Jill Hunt stated it is funds from the state that is pulled from gas tax. Brody Flint stated it is a program name from the state. The funds are highly restricted. Director Fife reported on the Sewer Fund. Council Member Montgomery inquired is the sewer an enterprise fund. Jill Hunt answered affirmatively. Bona Vista does the billing for us and collects the sewer fee. We pay them a small fee for the service. Council Member Hadley asked about the Bond line item. Jill Hunt clarified sewer impact fees are being used to make some payments on the 2022 bond for the Public Works Building. It was identified on the sewer impact fee study as eligible for funds. Director Fife reported the we inspect and clean 50% of the sewer system each year, the next year we inspect and clean the other portion. Council Member Montgomery inquired are we having infiltration problems due to the age of our system. Director Fife stated yes, we are having some issues which is why we have a plan for lining the sewers. Council Member Montgomery questioned what materials last the longest in sewers. Director Fife stated he does not know what materials work the best but we still have some pipes that are made of clay. Council Member Hadley inquired about the West Harrisville Rd line item. Director Fife stated they used a camera on the storm drain on West Harrisville Rd and it is failing. They are working on a cost estimate to replace it. Council Member Montgomery asked about the Golden Spike Storm Water Coalition. Director Fife stated those are items he is diving into but does not have an answer currently. Council Member Hadley inquired where the funds come from for street lights and garbage. Jill Hunt stated those are fees paid by residents. We are responsible for fixing and maintaining the street lights. Garbage is another pass-through fund. Council Member Wilhelmsen questioned if we have a balanced garbage budget. Jill Hunt stated yes. Council Member Hadley inquired about recycling and if Waste Management is even doing it. Can we get away from the recycling cans. Mayor Shuman stated he spoke to Jennie Knight about it and she was going to ask our rep from Waste Management. He witnessed a Waste Management truck dump cardboard at the transfer station. He knows the county may get rid of the transfer station. There is a private investment group that

wants to put in a landfill which could increase our cost. Director Fife reminded Council about the spring and fall clean-up. Council Member Wilhelmsen inquired if Director Fife can get the numbers for the fall clean-up. Council Member Hadley stated he participated in the fall clean-up and he was not asked for proof of residency.

Jill Hunt reported on the Admin budget. Our interlocal government revenue could fluctuate based on grants. We are not positive about grants for next year so we are not budgeting any currently. Building inspection/planning will vary based on the number of building permits issued. Council Member Montgomery inquired about the 1% fee on building permits charged by the state. Jill Hunt stated yes, we still have to pay that fee. Council Member Wilhelmsen asked about the inspection company and if onsite inspections occur. Jill Hunt stated we use Beacon Consulting; the inspectors name is Tyler Seaman. The different permits require different types of inspections, but onsite inspections do occur. Council Member Hadley inquired about the Mayor and Council fund. What is the benefits line item in that fund. Jill Hunt clarified its taxes. The city withholds the taxes from Council and the Mayors pay just like a normal job would be.

Council Member Montgomery inquired what is Parks and Receptions overall goal. Director Fife stated his overall goal is to beautify the parks. Right now, the standard is to maintain. They struggle to finish the simple steps mow, blow, trim, fertilize, and water. With the combined departments now, they can pull from a bigger pool of manpower. He supports a citizen committee for park beautification. We don't always know what the residents want to see for the parks. Hearing what residents want helps them to set goals. Council Member Hadley inquired what is our acreage of parks. Council Member Montgomery stated he found about 70 acres. That does not include the new parks that have been deeded to us.

Mayor Shuman summarized at the end of the day the proposed budget shows a \$500,000 deficit. Jill Hunt stated you are correct. Mayor Shuman reminded Council they need to decide are we doing Truth in Taxation or cutting the budget. Council Member Wilhelmsen stated we need to look at what staff is doing. If we cut the budget who is going to do those jobs. How do we balance the budget vs needs. How do we make the money for the budget. Mayor Shuman reported during the last Truth in Taxation meetings the only comments residents heard was this increase is for employee compensation. The residents feel they have been taxed to death. He needs to be able to see exactly where the increased taxes are coming from. Council needs to look at it as a whole and see if there are areas we can trim or not. Council Member Hadley stated there are still some things that are unknown. There are intergovernmental revenues we are unsure of. Jill Hunt recommended having the department heads look at priorities and try to be creative. Mayor Shuman stated he wants Council to review the budgets and make sure they can make an educated decision. Council Member Montgomery clarified we are not sure what the taxes will be until the assessor lets us know. Jill Hunt reported she takes the straight across number from last year she does not know what our total will be this year. Council Member Montgomery stated we could have big changes that may be captured. The assessor looks at it as of January 1st. Council Member Christensen inquired do they pay a property tax on a lot without a house. Council Member Montgomery clarified they can be taxed on a subdivided lot but it would not have the value of a home. Council Member Hadley stated there are a lot of cities that have changed sales tax rates. It is a less apparent change to many people. We have so many people who shop in our city it may benefit us a lot. Jill Hunt stated sales tax is distributed based on population and what businesses are in the city. That is an option we can look at.

4. Adjournment

Mayor Shuman adjourned the meeting and thanked everyone for their time and participation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 P.M.





Roger Shuman
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jack Fogal
City Recorder
Approved this 10th day of February, 2026