

**Pleasant Grove City
City Council Meeting Minutes
Work Session
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
4:30 p.m.**

Mayor: Eric Jensen

Council Members: Dianna Andersen
Cyd LeMone
Todd Williams

Staff Present: Scott Darrington, City Administrator
Christine Petersen, City Attorney
Wendy Thorpe, City Recorder
Denise Roy, Finance Director
David Packard, Human Resources Manager
Drew Engemann, Fire Chief
Sheri Britsch, Library and Arts Director
Neal Winterton, Public Works Director
Sierra Pierson, Assistant to the City Administrator
Keldon Brown, Police Chief
Megan Zollinger, Recreation Director
Daniel Cardenas, Community Development Director
Andi Veenker, City Event Coordinator
Britton Johnson, Management Intern
Deon Giles, Park Director

Excused: Steve Rogers, City Council Member

The City Council and Staff met in the Community Room, 108 South 100 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

4:30 P.M. WORK SESSION

Mayor Eric Jensen called the Work Session to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed those present.

a. Recognition of Leadership Academy Graduates.

City Administrator, Scott Darrington, reported that each year, certain employees are asked to participate in the Leadership Academy. The City's 14th Leadership Academy had recently concluded. In the training, they study *Endurance* by Alfred Lansing, which is about an early 1900s expedition to Antarctica, and discuss some of the leadership principles discussed in the book.

The employees were presented with certificates of completion, and those present spoke about something they learned in the Leadership Academy.

- Derick Shumway learned about the importance of adaptation and keeping morale high.

- Trent College (not in attendance)
- Stacy Martineau (not in attendance)
- Sierra Pierson appreciated hearing everyone's topics. She researched leading through awareness of both your own leadership style and your team's personalities.
- Nate Lloyd learned that plans often must be set aside to handle more pressing problems, and the journey can still be successful despite hardships.
- Loreena Webb (not in attendance)
- Kim Griffin learned about leadership and positivity.
- Caden Biel (not in attendance)
- Amber Woffinden (not in attendance)

Mayor Jensen recommended *Flight of the Phoenix* by John Whiteside and Sandra Egli for the next Leadership Academy.

Administrator Darrington reviewed the meeting agenda. Item 8 was the Choose Kindness Month Proclamation by Mayor Jensen. Public Hearing 9A will be continued to February 17, 2026. The item addresses building heights for residential construction and will affect three in-process projects. City Attorney, Christine Petersen, and Community Development Director, Daniel Cardenas, drafted language to exempt existing projects, but the item must now go back to the Planning Commission prior to consideration by the City Council.

Attorney Petersen reported that Item 10A was an addendum to the Strawberry Days agreement. They have incurred a large amount of debt to improve seating at the rodeo grounds, which will become an appurtenance to the property once it is installed. In recognition of that significant investment in City property, they asked that the City allow them to hold up to six additional events per year without incurring a rental fee. The Strawberry Days Association will pay all law enforcement and other fees that are normally associated with an event permit, and they must follow all established policies and procedures for special events.

In response to a question raised by Council Member Andersen, Attorney Petersen confirmed that Strawberry Days will manage the events and retain all revenue. They are providing the upgrades for free, and the City is allowing them to recoup their investment by holding additional events without sharing that revenue with Pleasant Grove. The Strawberry Days Association is incurring the debt, and no changes have been proposed to the original Strawberry Days Rodeo agreement. Once the debt is paid off, they will resume renting the facility for additional events.

Fire Chief, Drew Engemann, reported that Item 10B was approval of the new Wildland Urban Interface ("WUI") Map to comply with requirements of House Bill 48. He is happy with the final map, and it should not have a negative impact on insurance rates in the City. The map was included in the Meeting Packet.

b. Staff Business.

Fire Chief, Drew Engemann, reported on the following:

- Testing for the open lieutenant position was completed that week. Zack Larsen will be promoted to Lieutenant.
- The new hire he spoke about at the last meeting would be starting soon.
- A part-time firefighter had been brought on full time. He started with the department in 2018 as an intern, and Chief Engemann believes he will be an asset to the City.
- Three employees will be graduating paramedic school in March, which will help with staffing and cut back on overtime.
- In response to a question from Council Member Williams, he reported that they have had a lot of very good candidates over the last two to three years. Candidates for the lieutenant position included 17-year veterans of other fire departments, and the top three test results were from Pleasant Grove firefighters with only three to five years of experience. He is pleased with where the department is headed.

Library and Arts Director, Sherri Britsch, reported on the following:

- Stacy Martineau has been working to create programs for underserved groups since she began working at the City, one of which is five to eight-year-olds. They now have regular programs for that age group, including the Tune Troop music program that is run by Annemarie Hatch.
- The 18- to 30-year-old group now has Trivia Night, Bingo Night, and a financial workshop. Staff is working to create “granny skills” classes to teach skills like crocheting, which is also trendy for that age group.

Police Chief, Keldon Brown, reported on the following:

- The annual awards banquet will be held on February 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Grove Station.
- An officer is leaving for Saratoga Springs. That job opening leaves the department down two officers.
- They have been very busy. There were 105 more arrests in 2025 over 2024, charging 385 more offense. A total of 1,200 more citations were written covering 1,600 more violations. At least 700 more incidents occurred, including 16 more DUIs. Approximately 2,000 more traffic were conducted, with 29 more accidents.
- Officers are also proactively trying to make the streets safer. The speed trailer is utilized weekly, and it is currently on 3300 North. They have also conducted studies on Loader Road, Locust Avenue, and 600 West.
- In response to a question from Council Member LeMone, he reported that there had been no recent citizen requests for the speed trailer, but all citizen requests are addressed. He is placing the trailer on roads he knows have traffic issues. If the Council would like to study a specific street, they should contact him with that information. Data collected includes times of day when high-end offenses are more likely to occur. The highest recorded speed on Loader Avenue was 58 miles per hour, and 1300 West registered speeds of 80 miles per hour at certain times of day. Mayor Jensen requested that Chief Brown provide examples at the Budget Retreat.

Human Resources Director, David Packard, reported on the following:

- Digital copies of all W2s will be emailed by the end of the week. They can be accessed via the same Doculivity system as paystubs. Print copies will be available next week, and any that are not picked up in person will be mailed. Doculivity has changed its security requirements, so new passwords and multifactor authentication will be required.

Management Intern, Britton Johnson, reported on the following:

- He will be with the City until the end of April and is working on an employee intranet to provide employee resources like important contacts, documents, and forms.
- He is completing a compensation and benefit analysis comparing Pleasant Grove to neighboring cities for a potential midyear adjustment.
- He is working on his Master of Public Administration degree at Brigham Young University.

Recreation Director, Megan Zollinger, reported on the following:

- The Fitness Fair was a great week with approximately \$12,000 more in sales than 2025. Membership prices increased, but membership numbers remain steady. The recreation and pool combination pass was very popular.
- Adaptive Coordinator, Alisha Leifson continues to grow the adaptive programs.
 - Once-a-month Parent Nights will be held starting Friday, January 23. Parents will be able to drop off their child and go on a date on a month.
 - She is working on a Lifelong Learning pilot program for Summer. When adaptive programming students graduate high school, they often lose their community and structure. The Recreation Center is partnering with United Angels to have summer programming three days each week. Classes include topics like finance, physical activity, and field trips.
- The new floor color has brightened up the facility.

Public Works Director, Neal Winterton, reported on the following:

- He is still receiving deer mitigation calls. They also frequently receive calls about water shares, roads, sidewalks, and water leaks.
- He has some concerns about the City's water supply, but there was less water available at this time in 2019. Contingencies are being put in place in case the trend continues.
- Street sweeping is continuing.
- They are well under the salt budget for the year.
- They held a pre-bid meeting earlier in the day for the Battle Creek Trailhead and the North County Boulevard project.

Community Development Director, Daniel Cardenas, reported on the following:

- Magleby's is completing its interior construction. Once the final inspection is completed, they will submit a business license application. It should open approximately two weeks after the application is received.

- A steakhouse planned for The Grove is working with the Design Review Board prior to presentation to the Planning Commission. It is a national franchise with pre-set plans, and certain changes are required to those plans to meet zoning requirements.
- He is preparing a comprehensive report of upcoming projects for the Budget Retreat.
- The kickoff meeting for the downtown revitalization plan was held the previous week. It was a stakeholders meeting focused on business and property owners. He will follow up with the City Council via email regarding a Council charette meeting during the second week of March. A lot of background work had been completed, including a technical memo of existing conditions and parking analysis.

City Recorder, Wendy Thorpe, reported on the following:

- A total of 12 applications and 10 videos were received for the City Council vacancy. The deadline for applications is January 21 at 12:00 p.m. Applications and videos will be posted online immediately after the application period closes.

City Administrator, Scott Darrington, reported on the following:

- The Recreation Center's year-end awards ceremony is on Saturday, January 24. They requested an RSVP from anyone planning to attend.
- A special City Council meeting to fill the vacant seat is Tuesday, January 27 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Fire Department awards ceremony is Friday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m. at The Ruth.
- The annual budget and planning meeting is February 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at The Ruth. That agenda will be emailed to the Council by January 23.
- The police banquet is February 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Grove Station.
- The date for the Public Works event is to be determined.
- The Pleasant Grove-Lindon Chamber of Commerce Gala is Thursday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m. at Olivers Place.
- He and Director Winterton met with the contractor for the pickleball courts earlier that day and will be scheduling a phone call with the installer to ask more specific questions about the surfacing. The outdoor surface they saw on the site visit is different than expected, and they also spoke with the contractor about what happens if the City chooses not to go with that surface. Mayor Jensen stated that the City has invested a lot of time, effort, and money to have courts similar to the Veterans Memorial Courts. Council Member LeMone stated that those are the nicest courts in Utah, and Pleasant Grove's should be similar in standard and quality.

In response to a question from Council Member Williams, Administrator Darrington stated that they discussed following up with the supplier once more to ask clarifying questions. If the proposed surface is not acceptable, they will need to discuss replacement with the contractor. They are trying to find a long-term solution and avoid litigation. He will provide an update as soon as he speaks with the installer. Council Member LeMone asked if the call could be bypassed because they had already decided that the proposed surface was not sufficient. Mayor Jensen suggested that they consider the installer's responses prior to moving forward. Administrator Darrington understands the timing concerns, but time will be lost regardless. His goal is a long-term solution, and he believes losing time is a reasonable tradeoff for ensuring the courts are of the quality they expected.

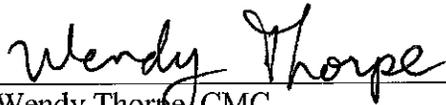
- City Event Coordinator, Andi Veenker, is planning events for the America 250 celebration on Saturday, July 4. He and Mayor Jensen will be meeting with her on February 23 to discuss those plans. Strawberry Days has also reached out about partnering on an activity. Director Britsch reported that the library has a Walk 250 program where participants walk 250 miles in 2026. Staff met the previous Friday to brainstorm ideas for the celebration.

Council Member Andersen stated that a Special Use Permit had been issued to the National Forest Service for the July event. She asked about next steps regarding the donation by Mayor Fugal. Attorney Petersen stated that the donation has not been finalized, so the City does not yet have jurisdiction.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 5:28 p.m. Council Member Williams moved to ADJOURN the Work Session. Council Member Andersen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

The City Council Work Session Minutes of January 20, 2026, were approved by the City Council on February 3, 2026.



Wendy Thorpe CMC

City Recorder

(Exhibits are in the City Council Minutes binders in the Recorder's office.)

**Pleasant Grove City
City Council Meeting Minutes
Regular Session
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor: Eric Jensen

Council Members: Dianna Andersen
Cyd LeMone
Todd Williams

Staff Present: Scott Darrington, City Administrator
Christine Petersen, City Attorney
Wendy Thorpe, City Recorder
Denise Roy, Finance Director
David Packard, Human Resources Manager
Drew Engemann, Fire Chief
Sheri Britsch, Library and Arts Director
Neal Winterton, Public Works Director
Sierra Pierson, Assistant to the City Administrator
Keldon Brown, Police Chief
Megan Zollinger, Recreation Director
Daniel Cardenas, Community Development Director
Andi Veenker, City Event Coordinator
Britton Johnson, Management Intern
Deon Giles, Park Director

Excused: Steve Rogers, City Council Member

The City Council and Staff met in the Community Room, 108 South 100 East, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

6:00 P.M. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eric Jensen called the Regular Session to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed those present. Council Member Rogers was excused.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Williams.

3) OPENING REMARKS

The Opening Remarks were offered by Council Member Andersen.

4) APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Jensen reported that Item 9A would be continued to the February 17, 2026 City Council Meeting and Public Works Director, Neal Winterton, would speak prior to the Open Session.

ACTION: Council Member Williams moved to APPROVE the Meeting Agenda, as amended. Council Member Andersen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

Mayor Jensen asked Director Winterton to speak about road safety enhancements. Director Winterton reported that on the following:

- Enhancements for 100 East in front of Pleasant Grove Junior High School were discussed at a December 2025 meeting. As that is a county road, he reached out to the Utah County Public Works Director to discuss solutions. The County is willing to purchase the equipment for Pleasant Grove to install. Delivery will take up to 10 weeks. Crosswalk equipment cannot be purchased in advance and stored because some parts and signage are location-specific.
- Trees had been trimmed on 3300 North. A crosswalk with rapid flashing beacons was installed at 1350 West and another on the north leg of the road.
- A crosswalk was also added at 1650 West. A study had been commissioned to see if the two-way stop should become a four-way stop, but it was determined that the current configuration is sufficient.
- An engineering study was commissioned for design work on the corner of 1450 West and 3300 North. The sidewalk is at approximately 50% design. The estimated project cost is \$300,000 due the restoration work that will be required.
- In partnership with American Fork, east and westbound driver feedback signs with increased reflectivity were installed. Police presence has also been enhanced.
- Equipment has been ordered for a crosswalk and enhanced visual aids at 600 West and 1500 North.
- Pedestrian ramps and enhanced linework are planned throughout the City.

Mayor Jensen stated that Communications Director, Lisa Flinders, is working with Director Winterton and the Police Department to create a slogan and remind the public to pay attention and drive safely.

5) OPEN SESSION

Mayor Jensen opened the Open Session. There were no public comments. The Open Session was closed.

6) **CONSENT ITEMS**

A. **Payment Approval for January 8, 2026.**

ACTION: Council Member Andersen moved to APPROVE the Consent Items, as read. Council Member LeMone seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

7) **BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**

A. **None.**

8) **PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Choose Kindness Month Proclamation.**

Mayor Jensen invited Brooklin Burns to speak about Choose Kindness Month.

Ms. Burns stated that seven years ago, she stood before the City Council as Miss Pleasant Grove with the idea in her heart to put kindness into action in Pleasant Grove by creating Kindness Month. Seven years later, the community has come together and been united in service and doing good for others. She has loved watching all the small miracle moments. The proclamation says, “We encourage our citizens to choose to practice kindness. Through increased awareness of its benefits, we can achieve our goal to strengthen individuals in our community and our community as a whole as we see the ripple effect kindness can have on each one of us.”

Ms. Burns believes in that ripple of kindness and has seen it work to unite the community. During an end-of-month service project last year, they were putting together care kits for hospitalized children. The kits included coloring books, crayons, comfort items, and a handmade fleece blanket. A father walked in with his two teenage sons, and he shared that he had recently lost his wife to cancer. Despite that loss, he and his sons were at the recreation center on a Saturday morning to help build the kits. She admired his strength. There were also young children there being taught about what service means by the parents and grandparents. Everyone who participated was excited to put service into action. Choose Kindness Month is about more than uniting the community in kindness and service. It is about every individual in the community having a purpose in kindness, service, doing good, and being part of something that is greater than themselves.

Ms. Burns stated that the Choose Kindness Month calendar includes a daily initiative to put kindness into action, and she hoped the City Council would be an example to the community of putting the initiatives into action. Multiple service projects were also scheduled throughout the month.

Choose Kindness Club members Eden and Ethan provided information on the Choose Kindness Month service projects. Eden reported that they will be collecting coloring books, fleece, colored pencils, and other items for the children’s care packages all month. The community will meet to assemble the care packages on February 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Recreation Center. It is a small thing the community can do to spread kindness and love. Ethan reported that the kickoff service project will be on January 29 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. They will

be packing lunches for the homeless that will be delivered the following Saturday. They will also be passing out hearts for a citywide “heart attack”.

Charlene Day stated that although Pleasant Grove has celebrated Choose Kindness Month for seven years, the Choose Kindness organization has existed since 2017. A lot has happened in that time. Pleasant Grove is unique for having this special program, and she hopes the Council and everyone in the City will be part of it. They have been able to connect businesses, schools, and the community in choosing kindness. She reported that a lot of Choose Kindness apparel is available, and any clothing that says “kindness” will entitle the wearer to a coupon or free item from participating businesses. They will also be holding a “Galentine’s” event.

ACTION: Council Member Andersen moved to APPROVE the Proclamation that February is Choose Kindness Month in Pleasant Grove. Council Member Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

Photographs were taken with the City Council.

9) **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

- A. **To Consider for Adoption an Ordinance (2026-004) to amend Section 10-6-2: Definitions, to Modify the definition of Building Height applicable to all residential and commercial buildings, including an effective date. *Presenter: Director Cárdenas.***

The above item was continued to the February 17, 2026, City Council meeting.

10) **ACTION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- A. **To Consider for Adoption a Resolution (2026-04)-Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Addendum No. 1 to the agreement between the Strawberry Days Association and Pleasant Grove City regarding Capital Improvements at the Rodeo Grounds and providing for an effective date. *Presenter: Attorney Petersen.***

City Attorney, Christine Petersen, presented the item. The City has a master agreement with the Strawberry Days Association and its Rodeo Committee regarding the yearly rodeo celebration. The City owns the rodeo grounds, which were in need of capital facility improvements, and the Strawberry Days Association fronted \$2 million to install bleacher improvements. In return for that capital investment, the City will agree that the Strawberry Days Association, through the Rodeo Committee, will be allowed to conduct up to six additional events each calendar year, not including Strawberry Days rodeo events, and retain all revenue generated by those events.

The Strawberry Days Association will be required to provide adequate parking for any additional events held at the rodeo grounds pursuant to the City’s normal parking requirements for special events. No rental fee will be charged for additional events until the debt is paid off. After that time, other revenue-sharing options may be considered and negotiated. The Strawberry Days Association will be responsible for paying for Police and Parks Department personnel, including any overtime hours due to the events, and any impact on the adjacent baseball fields if they are used for parking.

The City can conduct any of its own sponsored events outside of the Strawberry Days celebration without prior approval from the Strawberry Days Association.

ACTION: Council Member LeMone moved to ADOPT Resolution 2026-04 – Authorizing the Mayor to sign Addendum No. 1 to the Agreement between the Strawberry Days Association and Pleasant Grove City regarding capital improvements at the rodeo grounds and providing for an effective date. Council Member Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

- B. To Consider for Adoption a Resolution (2026-05) – Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Cooperative Agreement between the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State lands and the City of Pleasant Grove regarding Wildland Fire Management; and providing for an effective date. Presenter: FD Chief Engemann.**

Fire Chief, Drew Engemann, presented the resolution and reported that the updated Wildland Urban Interface Map is in response to House Bill 48 and will also address issues caused by insurance companies using outdated maps.

Council Member Andersen remarked that she had been contacted by constituents who received notices about their insurance being cancelled. Chief Engemann stated that the issue should be taken care of because insurance companies must use the new map. Residents of far eastern Pleasant Grove may still have a problem, but the Fire Department will work directly with those homeowners to mitigate any insurance company concerns.

ACTION: Council Member Williams moved to ADOPT Resolution 2026-05 – Authorizing the Mayor to sign a Cooperative Agreement between the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State lands and the City of Pleasant Grove regarding Wildland Fire Management; and providing for an effective date. Council Member Andersen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, LeMone, and Williams voting “Yes.”

11) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Continued Items from the Work Session, if Needed.**

None.

12) REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE JANUARY 27, 2026, AND FEBRUARY 3, 2026, CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Administrator Darrington reported that the Special Meeting to appoint a New City Council Member was scheduled for January 27 at 6:00 p.m. There are currently 12 candidates, but others may apply prior to the January 21 deadline. The City Council will receive a one-page outline of the process prior to the meeting, and candidate information will be posted online after the deadline has passed.

13) **MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS.**

None.

14) **SIGNING OF PLATS.**

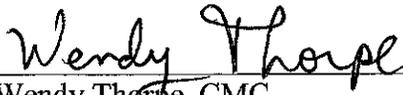
None.

15) **REVIEW CALENDAR.**

16) **ADJOURN**

ACTION: At 6:30 p.m., Council Member Williams moved to ADJOURN. Council Member Andersen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Council Members Andersen, Williams, and LeMone voting “Yes.”

The City Council Minutes of January 20, 2026, were approved by the City Council on February 3, 2026.



Wendy Thorpe, CMC
City Recorder

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