

**HEBER CITY CORPORATION
301 South Main Street
Heber City, UT 84032
Heber City Council Meeting
January 22, 2026**

APPROVED Minutes

**5:00 p.m. Special Meeting
2026 Annual City Council Retreat - Day 1**

I. 5:00 p.m. Welcome | 5 min - Mayor Franco, Matt

Mayor Franco called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Annual 2026 Council Retreat.

City Council Present: Mayor Heidi Franco
Council Member Yvonne Barney
Council Member Aaron Cheatwood
Council Member Mike Johnston
Council Member Morgan Murdock

City Council Absent: Council Member Sid Ostergaard

Staff Present: City Manager Matt Brower
Assistant City Manager Mark Smedley
Community Development Director Tony Kohler
Planning Manager Jamie Baron
City Engineer Russ Funk
Finance Manager Sara Jane Nagel
City Attorney Jeremy Cook
City Recorder Trina Cooke
Chief of Police Parker Sever
Public Works Director Matthew Kennard
Justice Court Judge Randy Birch
Human Resource Manager Cherie Ashe
Airport Manager Travis Biggs.
IT Director Anthon Beales
Building Official Curt Davis

Staff Participating Remotely: none.

Also Present: Mia Yue, Marissa Stanger, Max Stirling, Del Barney, Sandra Brower, Angie Kennard, Bob McKinley, Ron Carlile, Joli Cardenas, Ben Sehy, Heather Murdock, and others who did not sign in or whose handwriting was illegible.

Also Attending Remotely: (names are shown as signed-in online) Benjamin Sehy, Shorty5, and Scott Phillips.

1. Check-in
2. Overview
 - Ground rules & logistic details
 - Parking Lot of Ideas & Action Register
 - Time Management
3. Desired Outcomes
 - Reaching Team Potential
 - Moving the Community Forward
 - Finalizing Budget and Policy Priorities for FY '27

City Manager Matt Brower read the agenda for the meeting. He described the expectation for the night of collaboration with the Council to identify the budget and policy priorities for the year 2026.

II. 5:05 p.m. Public Comments

No one from the public came forward to comment.

III. 5:10 p.m. Dinner - Working Dinner (spouses invited)

The meeting was paused briefly for dinner service.

IV. 5:30 p.m. - Guest Speaker - Ben Sehy with Meeder Public Funds | 40 min

1. Federal, State, and Local Economic Overview
2. Q&A

Ben Sehy, with Meeder Public Funds, shared a presentation regarding the economic forecast and the City's financial outlook as included in the meeting materials.

V. 6:10 p.m. Celebrating 2025 Victories | 70 min - Leadership Team

1. Department Presentations

Finance Director Sara Jane Nagel shared the 2025 Victories of the team in the Finance Department as attached to the meeting materials.

Chief of Police Parker Sever showed a video of the Police Department as included in the meeting materials.

Planning Manager Jamie Baron shared a video recognizing the accomplishments of the Planning Department throughout 2025.

Airport Manager Travis Biggs shared a PowerPoint reviewing the Heber Valley Airport Victories of 2025 as included in the meeting materials.

Judge Randy Birch provided an overview of the Heber City Justice Court's successes of 2025 as included in the meeting materials.

Public Works Director Matthew Kennard distributed a newspaper-like handout of the year in review to share the Public Works Department Victories in 2025.

City Engineer Russ Funk shared the Engineering Department Victories for 2025.

Building Department Director Curt Davis reviewed the Building Department's 2025 Victories.

VI. 7:20 Break | 10 min

VII. 7:30 State of the Administration | 60 min

1.

- Score Card Summary - '25 Council Priorities - Matt
- Fund Review and Projections
- Key Trends
- Watch Items
- Decision Points
- Priority Recommendations
- 4th Class Cities Benchmarking Initiative - Lainee

City Manager Matt Brower provided the State of the Administration report as included in the presentation, attached to the meeting materials. He reviewed the City's funds and contributing revenues, including property and sales tax. He reviewed proposed bills at the 2026 Legislative Session.

VIII. 8:30 p.m. - Strategic Topic - Presentation and Discussion

1.

- Review of Dogs in City Parks Survey and Policy Direction | 25 min - Mark S
- Night Sky | 25 min - Tony

Assistant City Manager Mark Smedley presented the findings from a survey to discover the community's opinion regarding allowing dogs in public parks.

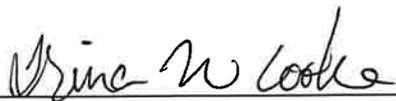
The City's current ordinance did not permit dogs in city parks. The feedback had been in favor of allowing dogs in city parks with certain restrictions, including keeping dogs on leash and cleaning up their waste. Council supported staff moving forward to amend the existing dog ban in city parks.

Community Development Director Tony Kohler provided a dark-sky presentation offering options for the City to improve the dark sky and potentially seek an international dark sky designation. Mr. Kohler proposed an amortization process to help the City phase out non-compliant dark sky lighting at local businesses.

IX. 9:20 p.m. Wrap-up / Overview of Day One - Mayor

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.





Trina Cooke, City Recorder