

Manti City Council Regular Meeting

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 4, 2026
6:30 PM

MANTI CITY BUILDING
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET

MEETING CALLED BY	Mayor Mary Wintch
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular Council Meeting
ATTENDEES	Councilmembers: Meagan Johnson, Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Jennifer Christiansen, and Brian Francois City Manager: Jason Brown City Recorder: Matt Gray
ABSENT	None
WELCOME	Mayor Wintch
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Led by Councilmember Meagan Johnson

Regular Meeting

ITEM 1	Declaration of Conflicts of Personal Interest
<p>Mayor Wintch began the meeting by asking the council if there were any agenda items that needed to be disclosed concerning conflicts of interest. There were no items brought to the attention of the council.</p>	

ITEM 2	Approval of Recent Council Meeting Minutes, January 21, 2026
<p>Mayor Wintch spoke regarding the minutes for the Council meeting on January 21, 2026. She asked if there were any corrections needed for the regular City Council meeting minutes. One correction was brought forward by Councilmember Jennifer Christiansen. The correction was to ensure the correct name was stated in the record for the Dollar General store. The mayor called for a motion to approve the minutes for January 21, 2026, with corrections. Councilmember Jennifer Christiansen made the motion and Councilmember Brian Francois seconded the motion. Council members voting Aye: Meagan Johnson, Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Jennifer Christiansen, and Brian Francois. Council members voting Nay: None.</p>	
ACTION TAKEN	
<p>Approval of the City Council minutes, with corrections, from the January 21, 2026 meeting.</p>	

ITEM 3	Capital Improvement Projects Discussion
<p>City Manager Jason Brown started this topic by displaying a list of capital improvements and project costs that the city is planning. The list was split out by department. Several specific items in the list were the culinary water treatment plant, Manti City spring water line upgrades, sewer lagoon (cell #1) refurbishments, sewer main line replacements, new sidewalks, and a new backhoe for the public works department. Several additional projects were discussed in the electrical department, cemetery, parks, and public safety departments. The items displayed are in various stages and are between planning or in-process work.</p>	

ITEM 4	City Sponsored Events Discussion
<p>Mayor Wintch initiated the fourth item and turned the time again to City Manager Brown. He then went through the list of event items on the Manti City calendar. These include spring, summer, and fall sports events of all sorts, Cinco De Mayo, The Rat Fink Reunion, Movies in the park, July 4th and America 250 celebration events, The Manti ATV runs, Utah Taiko, The Sanpete Fair, Halloween, and the Christmas Light parade. The list of events included the dates for each event.</p>	

ITEM 5	South Sanpete School District Appreciation & Support
<p>Mayor Wintch opened this item by requesting council comments regarding the new charter school that may be built in Ephraim. Councilmember Brian Francois stated that he had talked to the Manti High School Principal, Karen Soper. She commented that there is a potential for teacher layoffs if the new charter school draws away too many students and could also negatively impact future school funding. The discussion continued with several Councilmembers interjecting comments. Several Councilmembers stated that it is too early to determine their stance until further information comes forth. After the discussion ended, Mayor Wintch asked for a motion to simplify the letter to South Sanpete School District and state that Manti City Council recognizes the great service the district provides but will stay neutral on this topic. The motion was set forth by Councilmember AJ Mower and seconded by Councilmember Meagan Johnson. Council members voting Aye: Meagan Johnson, Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Jennifer Christiansen, and Brian Francois. Council members voting Nay: None.</p>	

ITEM 6	Payment Approval Report (Bills)
<p>A short discussion occurred regarding the procedure and timing of paying the city bills. Mayor Wintch then called for a motion to approve the city bills and sign them after the meeting adjourns. The motion was set forth by Councilmember Mary Pipes and seconded by Councilmember AJ Mower. Council members voting Aye: Meagan</p>	

Johnson, Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Jennifer Christiansen, and Brian Francois. Council members voting Nay: None.

ITEM 7	Continuing Business
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a. Short Term Rentals Moratorium

On hold for administrative work.

b. Annexation/Subdivision Moratorium

On hold for administrative work.

c. Cemetery Ordinance

On hold for administrative work.

d. Proposed Veterans Memorial

Nothing to report.

e. Andy Adamson - Quarry Hills Trail Development

Nothing to report.

f. America 250

July 4th meetings have begun. Co-chair names are still being decided. Citizens can prepare for activities now.

g. Request to ease square footage and 2nd floor restrictions in "Accessory Dwelling Unit" Code (17.40.040)

Further discussion in the Planning Commission meeting on February 10, 2026.

h. Economic Development: Inland Port Project

Manti City is currently working on projects.

ITEM 8	Council Member Reports
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Council Member Johnson

-Nothing to report.

Council Member Pipes

- Stopped by Manti's newest business, Poppies Floral Shop, LLC. She states that it is a delightful little shop and is thrilled to have this new business.

- Attended the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) meeting which discussed property taxes and land use. She stated that one of the bills that was concerning to Manti City has been removed from the LPC list of bills to discuss.

Council Member Mower

- Nothing to report.

Council Member Christiansen

- Requested a social media informal poll requesting citizen opinion on the monthly newsletter.

- A Youth City Council interest meeting was held at Manti High School to garner interest in being on the Youth City Council. The school has advertised in several ways. New applications have been given to the high school for distribution.

- Attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon and listened to a presentation regarding the chamber itself. The Chamber of Commerce has just received a grant to begin construction of a new space that will help entrepreneurs, startups, and existing businesses improve. This new startup program will be called Square One and will be housed in the Granary building in Ephraim.

Council Member Francois

- Wanted to follow up from last council meeting regarding citizen communication. Sanpete County subscribes to a citizen alert system, and Manti City can contact the Sanpete County dispatch for any alerts. Alerts can go out via email or text as long as Sanpete County has the contact information. An information request can go out to residents of Manti and the citizens can choose to be on the alert system.
- Manti City citizens have expressed interest in having the City Council meetings live streamed. This will help the aging population keep in touch with city agenda items.

ITEM 9

Administration Reports: City Manager Jason Brown

City Manager Jason Brown asked to clear up some of the previously mentioned items and wanted to ensure that a vote was taken on the letter to South Sanpete School District. The matter was corrected and there were no further items to discuss.

ITEM 10

Public Comment

Susan Manning

- Stated that she just returned from talking with many of the legislators and had a meeting with the Speaker of the House. She stated that many small towns are misunderstanding the affordable housing initiative that wants smaller houses on smaller lots. This view may not be totally correct.
- Wanted to know if the city was tracking the Dollar General revenue and if it was doing what the city hoped it would? Ms. Manning was asked if she had been in the store. She indicated that she had only been in the store for comparison shopping. She also stated that she does 90% of her shopping on-line.

Justin Zohner

- Introduced himself and said that he was running for office and wanted to address those in the audience. He is running against Troy Shelley. He stated that he is from Nephi and running for the House District 66 which covers Sanpete and Juab County. He wants to get burdensome legislation out of the way and unbind the hands of the local people. His philosophy is that legislative policy should be the least invasive as possible.

Russ Hatch

- Wanted to announce that he was running for office as part of the Constitution Party. He stated that Mr. Zohner's principles align with the Constitution Party.

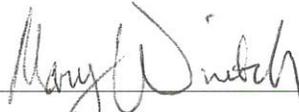
ITEM 11	Mayor Comments: Mayor Wintch
<p>Mayor Wintch initiated her comments by stating that a Manti City Employee meeting was held on Friday January 30th. She indicated that she thought the employee meeting was very well done and that city goals, benefits, and priorities were discussed. Mayor Wintch then went on to discuss the Rural Water Association Conference will be held 25-26th of February. Mayor Wintch then detailed that she will be missing the Rural Water conference because she will be attending the UMPA meeting on the same dates. The previous UMPA meeting discussed the water situation in Lake Powell. It was stated that the water levels are scary. Lake Powell is down 31 feet from last year and if the levels drop another 20 ft or so it could mean literally turning off the power generation turbines. UMPA stated that when the bypass was used for just a short time, for small mouth bass, the cost to ratepayers was \$25 million. Mayor Wintch went on to say that the water level in the current snowpack is 5.7 inches and should be normally 8.8 inches. She is hoping that the next two months will bring in some good water totals. Mayor Wintch moved onto the ULCT conference that will be held April 22-24, 2026. Additionally, the R-6 annual training will be held on May 6th. Due to the R-6 training she indicated that the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on May 6th will need to be rescheduled. The last item mentioned was regarding nuisance deer. Mayor Wintch said that three citizens had reached out to her about the deer eating their vegetation and being hit by cars in town.</p>	

ITEM 12	Closed Session - for discussion
<p>Mayor Wintch called for a motion to adjourn from regular session and move into closed session to discuss current litigation and personnel issues. Council Member Mary Pipes set forth the motion and Council Member Jennifer Christiansen seconded the motion.</p> <p>Council members voting Aye: Meagan Johnson, Mary Pipes, AJ Mower, Jennifer Christiansen, and Brian Francois. Council members voting Nay: None</p> <p>Adjourned from the regular session into the closed session.</p> <p>Signing of bills and payroll occurred after adjournment.</p>	

ADJOURNED	7:58 P.M.
NEXT MEETING DATE	Regular Council Meeting – February 18, 2026

General Account

Michelle Francks	\$ 100.00
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Mary Wintch, Mayor



Matt Gray, City Recorder