

# Fountain Green City Council

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2026, 7:01 p.m., 375 N. State, Fountain Green, UT.

Attendance: Kerry Farnsworth, Vaughn Jacobsen, Rich Walker, Kim Johnson, and Jacob Littlefield.

Presiding: Mayor Willard Wood.

Prayer: Kerry Farnsworth

Pledge

### Call to Order

The meeting of the Fountain Green City Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The Mayor welcomed those in attendance and noted that the process was new for some members. There were no public comments.

### 1. Approval of Minutes.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the previous month.

- **Motion: Kim Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from December 18, 2025, council meeting.**
- **Second: Jacob Littlefield seconded the motion.**
- **Vote: All present voted "Aye."**
- **Result: Motion carried unanimously.**

### 2. R6 Updates.

Shay Morrison provided updates regarding the Community Impact Board (CIB) project portal.

- The CIB list collection is currently open, with a deadline of May 1 for projects seeking funding next year.
- One project has already been placed on the list; however, the Mayor and Council were encouraged to review all projects.
- Council members, the Mayor, and staff may request accounts to access the portal and review capital improvement projects.
- Funding availability varies, and recent meetings have depleted available funds, occasionally resulting in a temporary deficit until funds are replenished. Increased drilling in the basin may help restore funding over time.
- The City is in good standing with the current sewer project unless additional items are submitted.

No further questions were raised.

### 3. Fee Schedule Review.

Laura presented the proposed fee schedule and invited discussion.

- Newly highlighted administrative code enforcement amounts were noted.

- Cemetery fees were discussed due to concerns that the City's rates are lower than those of surrounding communities. Comparisons were provided to Council members.
- Planning and Zoning rates for subdivision applications are still pending.
- Updated sewer and water impact fees were included due to upcoming deadlines in February (sewer) and March (water).
- Updated meter costs were reported:
  - ¾-inch meter cost: approximately \$346.32.
  - 1-inch meter cost: approximately \$390.00.

**Council Discussion:**

Vaughn recommended addressing both resident and non-resident cemetery fees, noting the importance of preventing speculative lot purchases and ensuring adequate perpetual care funding. It was agreed that adjustments should be considered to better serve current and future citizens.

**Direction:**

- Cemetery fees will be placed on next month's agenda for further discussion.
- Meter fees will also be reviewed at the next meeting.

**5. Theater and Dance Hall Stucco Repair – Bid Ratification.**

The Mayor reported that large sections of stucco were falling from the theater and dance hall. Due to favorable weather and contractor availability, the Mayor authorized repairs without prior council approval under emergency circumstances.

- The selected bid included a more durable material with a 15-year guarantee rather than a temporary patch.
- Additional repairs were required after water intrusion damaged bathroom tile.
- Total cost: **\$10,600**, with a private donor contributing half of the expense.

**Motion:** Vaughn Jacobsen motioned to ratify the emergency expenditure of \$10,600 for the theater repairs and to accept the donation covering half the cost.

**Second:** Kim Johnson seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Kerry – Yes; Vaughn – Yes; Rich – Yes; Kim – Yes; Jake – Yes.

**Result:** Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Ethics Pledge and Required Forms.**

Michelle reviewed required annual documentation and training:

- **Fraud Risk Assessment:** Completed annually by the city; will be placed on next month's agenda.
- **Ethics Agreement:** Must be signed personally at the beginning of each year.
- **Conflict of Interest Form:** Also required annually; members who previously completed it were asked to sign again for consistency.
- **Open and Public Meetings Act Training:** Provided by the City and Shay.

- Newly elected officials must complete the fraud risk training once during their four-year term via the state auditor's website.

Council members were instructed to sign the ethics and conflict of interest forms and return them to Michelle before leaving.

#### **6. Irrigation Lease Agreement.**

Greg addressed the Council regarding irrigation matters.

- Greg Johnson (Fountain Green Irrigation President) noted the confusion among new residents, where municipalities often provide secondary and culinary water. Some residents mistakenly believe irrigation water is "free" or supplied by the City.
- He requested a clearer distinction on the City's website and Facebook page to separate the City from the Irrigation Company to prevent further confusion. The City acknowledged that irrigation is managed by a separate entity and agreed that a distinction would be helpful.
- Greg presented a drafted lease agreement for Council review. The Conex has been relocated from behind the old firehouse and meets setback requirements. Due to time constraints during the move, proper documentation will now be completed and placed on record.

**Action:** No formal council action was required at this time. Staff will obtain and file the appropriate forms.

#### **7. Library Report.**

Taryn Collard presented draft documents required for the State's library certification process and asked Council members to review them for accuracy and provide any requested changes.

- The final versions will be presented at the next City Council meeting for approval before submission to the State.
- Taryn will provide the library budget and scheduled items at an upcoming meeting.
- She informed the Council that she will be away from February 20 through April 3 and does not anticipate major updates during that period. She will coordinate with Michelle if anything arises and determine whether a substitute is necessary.
- Jake was confirmed as the City Council liaison for the library.

#### **Council Request:**

Taryn was asked to prepare a report for the next meeting explaining how library usage is measured, including statistical data. She also noted plans to install a people counter to improve tracking accuracy.

## **8. Fire Department Report.**

Fire Chief Todd Robinson discussed the designation of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas within or near the City.

- Chief Robinson recommended designating **zero acres** as WUI within City limits, noting that existing areas primarily consist of low brush rather than high-risk vegetation.
- Established homes would not be affected; WUI requirements typically apply to new construction.
- Areas outside City limits remain outside municipal jurisdiction unless annexed.

### **Next Steps:**

- The WUI map will be redrawn to reflect no designated interface areas within the City.
- An ordinance adopting the applicable WUI code will be prepared using a state-provided template.
- The ordinance and updated map will be submitted to Planning and Zoning for a public hearing.
- After adoption, signed documentation will be forwarded to the county fire warden.

Chief Robinson also stated the department will continue proactive mitigation efforts, such as reducing grasses and weeds, to minimize fire risk.

The Council thanked Chief Robinson for his report.

## **9. Planning and Zoning Report.**

Jake reported on recent Planning and Zoning activities.

- One building permit was issued for a new maintenance shed.
- A solar permit was approved for a Tesla Powerwall installation for Annette Hansen.
- The Commission reviewed ordinance recommendations discussed during the public hearing, including minor wording changes affecting subdivisions. These changes are intended to streamline the process for residents wishing to split lots and pay impact fees before the upcoming fee increase deadlines (mid-February for sewer and mid-March for water).

Laura requested a formal notification when subdivisions are approved so the City can verify applicants have begun the process before accepting impact fee payments. Planning and Zoning agreed to provide a letter for each approved subdivision.

## **10. Ordinance Amendments.**

The Council considered amendments recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission affecting Chapters 2, 3 (Table of Contents), 7, and 10.

- **Motion:** Kerry Farnsworth motioned to accept the ordinance provisions as outlined by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the specified chapters.
- **Second:** Vaughn Jacobsen seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** Kerry – Yes; Vaughn – Yes; Rich – Yes; Kim – Yes; Jake – Yes.
- **Result:** Motion carried unanimously.

## **11. New Maintenance Shed Discussion.**

Curt provided an overview of maintenance storage needs. After evaluating priorities, staff determined that replacing the aging shed at the cemetery would be more beneficial than constructing a larger maintenance facility.

### **Proposed Plan:**

- Demolish the decades-old cemetery shed.
- Construct a new garage-style building to store equipment, including the mini excavator, mower, and other cemetery tools.

### **Cost Estimates:**

- Original maintenance shed bid (40x80): approximately **\$236,175**.
- Proposed 24' x 35' x 14' metal building: **\$22,530** (building only).
- Engineering plans: approximately **\$600**.
- Equipment lift rental: approximately **\$700**.
- Concrete pad: estimated **\$8,000–\$10,000**.

**Estimated Total:** Approximately **\$32,000**, excluding permitting and minor site work such as sprinkler relocation, roadway access, and power.

Staff also discussed installing additional shed-style roofing or carports in the fenced area of the current shop for storage of the float, fireworks, and other equipment.

Council members noted the proposal could result in savings of roughly \$100,000 compared to earlier building concepts and agreed the location would improve operational convenience. Preliminary staking indicates the structure would fit well in the northeast corner of the cemetery property, though coordination with the county may be required since part of the cemetery lies outside city limits.

**Action:** No formal motion was recorded during this discussion. Further details, including permitting and final costs, will be reviewed before proceeding.

## **12. City Operations Report.**

Curt provided an update on recent public works and city operations activities.

### **Winter Operations and Maintenance:**

- Limited snowfall has reduced plowing demands but allowed him to complete additional projects.
- Chlorine residual samples are collected three times weekly and submitted quarterly.
- Meter readings were completed; six 2-inch registers and approximately ten antennas were replaced. Roughly sixteen failed units will be returned under warranty, and additional replacements will be ordered.
- The dance hall door was repaired, realigned, and fitted with a newly constructed **astragal** to eliminate gaps.
- Christmas decorations were removed, heat tape installed at City Hall and the dance hall, furnace filters replaced, and vehicle transitions completed.
- The City plans to utilize a \$14-per-month GM tracking app for the truck to monitor location, maintenance, and service needs. A physical tracker may be considered if the app proves insufficient.

### **Grounds and Infrastructure:**

- The burn pit has been consolidated and is ready for use when conditions are allowed.
- Staff met with Sunrise regarding the cemetery bridge project. Construction is expected to begin after Memorial Day, with the bridge potentially closed for approximately 30 days. Bills must be submitted to the State by June 30, though construction may extend beyond that date.
- A neighboring property owner has granted limited access for burials and maintenance during construction but does not permit public traffic. The City may explore installing a temporary pedestrian bridge.
- Two graves were prepared and completed, potholes were repaired in the cemetery, drainage near the flagpole was improved, and several stop signs were straightened. Replacement sign faces have been ordered.
- Rocks have been swept from intersections to preserve asphalt conditions.
- Two new front tires were installed on the four-wheeler, and the cemetery truck has returned to service.

### **Staffing and Compliance:**

- The cemetery position has been posted with a closing date of February 13<sup>th</sup> and advertised in the newspaper.
- Pressure-reducing valves throughout the City are inspected monthly.
- Water certification has been renewed, and Curt will attend training in St. George February 23–27 to obtain a higher-level certification.
- Manhole cover clearing remains in progress.

### **Sewer Lagoon Assessment Discussion:**

Staff expressed concerns regarding the recent engineering assessment of the City's sewer lagoon system.

- It was noted that the current evaluation may lack reliable flow data due to the absence of a proper flow meter. Staff recommended installing one to accurately measure system loading.
- Questions were raised about assumptions related to leaching and the projected need for a new lagoon cell, estimated at approximately **\$6.9 million**.
- Staff requested permission to seek additional engineering opinions and explore alternative approaches, such as refurbishing an existing cell during winter months.

**Council Discussion:**

Council members acknowledged the importance of verifying the findings given the significant financial impact on residents. While respecting the qualifications of the current engineers, the Council agreed it would be prudent to review additional perspectives.

**Direction:**

Curt will gather information, including potential costs for another study and available engineering resources, and report back after an upcoming professional conference. The matter will be revisited at a future meeting before any further action is taken.

**13. Water and Sewer Certification.**

Curt's water certification is renewed. He is signed up to take a class 23rd through 27th of February in St. George to get his sewer certification and then tests on the 27th of February.

**14. IT Services Update.**

Jim provided an update on the City's information technology systems.

- The City has officially transitioned away from the Rock Mountain Tech. All prior equipment has been removed, and new equipment has been installed and operational. Computers, Wi-Fi phones, email, and cameras are fully functional.
- A new, secure equipment rack was purchased with mayoral approval after staff determined the previous rack was inadequate and not secure. Jim will schedule a brief system outage to reroute cables and complete installation.
- Two new computers, approved previously due to the end of Windows 10 security support—will be deployed to Brenda and Laura within the next month.

**Email Service Issue:**

- The City encountered sending limits with its email provider, causing monthly billing emails sent through Polaris to be delayed or fail.
- Staff will first attempt a recommended settings change. If unsuccessful, the proposed solution is to create a single billing email under the City's existing **fountaingreencity.com** domain at an estimated cost of \$20–\$30 annually, rather than upgrading all .gov accounts at significantly higher cost.
- An optional upgrade for approximately \$10 per year would provide ready-made receipts to confirm delivery.

**Additional Items:**

- A network switch was installed to provide sufficient ports for all security cameras.
- Council and Planning Commission members experiencing Outlook connectivity issues were encouraged to contact IT for assistance.
- A nonfunctional city-issued computer will be returned for recycling.

### **Ordinance Hosting Discussion:**

The Council discussed duplicate ordinance documents appearing online and the need for a single, searchable source.

- Broken links have been removed, leaving one active set of land use ordinances; however, the City still maintains separate land use and general ordinance documents.
- CivicLink was identified as a cost-effective hosting option compared to similar services such as CivicPlus and American Legal. Benefits include improved search capability, easier public access, and simplified updates.
- IT indicated implementation would require minimal technical effort; the primary task would be merging documents for migration.

### **Next Steps:**

A proposal and pricing for available hosting services will be presented at a future meeting so the Council can determine whether to proceed.

## **15. Approval of City Bills.**

Council reviewed the submitted bills and discussed several line items, including locksmith services, sanitation supplies, legal fees for the annual financial report, and sheriff's department contract costs. It was clarified that citation revenue does not offset enforcement expenses due to state-mandated distributions.

- **Motion:** Vaughn made a motion to approve payment of the City bills.
- **Second:** Rich Walker seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

## **16. Miscellaneous.**

### **Aquifer Storage and Recovery Discussion**

The engineer continued discussion on the proposed aquifer storage and recovery project.

- Chlorinated water would be the simplest option for recharge due to the well's proximity to the pressurized system; using unchlorinated water would require additional infrastructure.
- The project presents a unique opportunity for the City to store excess winter water and potentially recover a portion for future use, subject to state approval. Stored water would not convert into additional water shares but could supplement supply depending on state requirements.
- Recovered water could potentially be injected directly into the system, with chlorination added only if required.

**Timeline:**

The State is currently reviewing a protest filed by the Fountain Green Irrigation Company. No timeline has been provided. Even if approved, the City would still need to decide whether to proceed and complete minor well modifications, including piping and meters.

**Wastewater Study and Lagoon Capacity**

The engineer requested an opportunity to meet with the Council in a work session to review the wastewater study and explain the methodology used to determine system capacity.

- The study evaluated winter usage and excluded high-volume agricultural users to better reflect residential flows. Installation of a flow meter was strongly recommended to refine future projections.
- Lagoon liners are subject to strict state standards, and exceeding permeability limits can quickly reduce capacity.
- Council was advised to consider acquiring additional land for future lagoon expansion to avoid being constrained when capacity is reached. Lagoon systems remain the lowest-maintenance and most cost-effective wastewater treatment option compared to aeration systems, which require continuous operation and higher maintenance.

**Next Step:**

Council expressed interest in scheduling a work meeting to review the study in detail.

**Ordinance Review Initiative**

Staff recommended assigning a council member to lead a comprehensive review of City ordinances.

- Many provisions are outdated or conflict with recently updated Planning and Zoning ordinances.
- Digitized copies are available in Word and PDF format, and a preliminary document identifying outdated or unclear sections has already been prepared.
- IT offered assistance using document comparison tools to help identify contradictions and streamline revisions.

**Action:**

Rich volunteered to coordinate the review with staff and IT support. The process is expected to be extensive and completed over multiple sessions.

**Cemetery Shed Project – Next Steps**

Council revisited the proposed cemetery shed and confirmed the need to proceed with proper procurement steps.

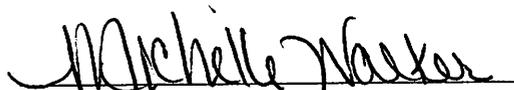
- A site plan will be developed in coordination with staff.
- Competitive bids will be obtained from qualified building providers.
- Because part of the cemetery lies in county jurisdiction, the City will coordinate with the county on required approvals.

No formal motion was made.

### Adjournment

- **Motion:** Kim Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- **Second:** Kerry Farnsworth seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** All present voted "Aye".
- **Result:** Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourns at 9:10 p.m.

  
Michelle Walker, City Recorder

