



# City Council

Tuesday February 17, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

**Mayor**  
Nile Mathisen  
**Public Works Director**  
Ben Mower  
**Secretary/Recorder**  
Kaelyn Meyers  
**Secretary**  
Anissa McDonald

**Council Members**  
Shaun Murray  
Ben Allred  
Alfred Kettle  
Steve Secrest

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## COUNCIL MEETING

<b>VISTORS</b> Brent Bastian Corey Auger Jeffery Baker Joe Garcia
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**Item**

**1) CALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER**

- a. **Welcome and Roll Call** –Mayor Nile Mathisen, Council Members Steve Secrest, Shaun Murray, Tasha Crum, Kaelyn Meyers. AL Kettle was excused
- b. **Prayer** – Ben Allred
- c. **Pledge of Allegiance** –
- d. **Conflicts of Interests** -- *All Council Members who have a conflict with any item on the agenda please state concern.*

**2) FFSL WILDFIRE URBAN INTERFACE MAP APPROVAL**

Cory Auger, the County Fire Warden for Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, introduced House Bill 48, which requires municipalities to adopt the 2003 Wildland Urban Interface Code to define wildland urban interface areas. Mr. Auger and Jeremy Raymond did an assessment of Ballard City, they presented a proposal and map for feedback at a previous meeting. Concerns were raised about the evaluation process, particularly that areas closer to wildlands received lower ratings than those near Roosevelt. Mr. Auger clarified that the low-rated areas do not necessarily need to be included in the wildland urban interface. He also highlighted the UWRAP website, allowing users to assess fire risk in their areas. Council Member, Ben Allred, asked about implications for residents regarding insurance rates and building restrictions. Mr. Auger noted that existing home residents must follow fire mitigation practices, while new constructions will adhere to stricter codes. Properties will be rated for hazard levels by Jeremy Raymond before permits are issued. Mr. Auger clarifies that the Ballard City has the authority to define the Wildland Urban Interface areas and that the Fire District supports the city’s decision. Mayor Nile Mathisen requests additional time to research the Wildland Urban Interface Code. Mr. Auger reiterated the importance of the Community and the Council Members’ research and understanding of the code. Additionally, Mr. Auger is willing to hold a work session with Council Members at a later date and recommends reaching out to Jeremy Raymond to set it up when ready.

**3) CUP APPROVAL SUPER PAD OIL & GAS - Uintah Wax Operating LLC --Andrea Gurr/Joe Garcia**

Joe Garcia, representing Uintah wax, provided an update on the plan in development for a deceleration lane aimed at enhancing safety for community roads. This plan will extend approximately 1300 feet in front of Sherry’s Auction Yard. Mr. Garcia expressed optimism that today’s documents provided would be sufficient for the Council Members to approve the Conditional Use Permit and assured them he would seek any additional information needed. Mr. Garcia is committed to UDOT’S safety recommendations, mentioning that UDOT had no objections to starting dirt work, if the Council was informed. Council Member, Ben Allred, supports the project while raising concerns about establishing a timeline for completion, noting the need for a deadline to avoid delays due to the potential influx of traffic from drilling truck, and insisted that improvements must be completed before fracking begins.

Mr. Garcia acknowledged the importance of establishing a timeframe and expressed that it is crucial to complete the improvements within the calendar year, stating that he would be willing to set specific timelines if the Council desired. A new condition was added to the Conditional Use Permit requiring that road improvements be finished prior to commencement of fracking.

**Motion made by Council Member Ben Allred to approve the CUP for Uintah Wax contingent on the construction of Highway lanes being completed before fracking starts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Shaun Murray.**

YEA

NAY

**Council Members**

- Nile Mathisen
- Steve Secrest
- Shaun Murray
- Ben Allred

Council Member Al Kettle was excused

**GENERATORS-** Nile Mathisen

Mayor Nile Mathisen mentions the need for bids on generators for Ballard City office and the shop. Council Member Ben Allred noted Ballard City requires bids from at least two companies and would like to consider local companies. Council Members Ben Allred and Steve Secrest will seek additional bids.

- 4) **DISCUSSION-** Zoning Administration, City Attorney, Building Inspector  
Mayor Nile Mathisen mentions the necessity of appointing a new zoning administrator. Council Member Ben Allred expressed that, given the current development in Ballard City and Uintah Basin, he envisions the role of a city planner or manager, certified as a building inspector, who can be dedicated in the field full-time, possessing extensive knowledge of development, grants, and building requirements, which he believes would alleviate the frustrations currently faced by building contractors. Moreover, Council Member Ben Allred believes that this approach could yield beneficial financial gains for Ballard City, contributing to the city’s growth. He pointed out that the costs associated with building inspections and zoning enforcement could generate additional income that the city is currently not capturing, potentially helping to offset the expenses associated with this new position. He urged everyone to start considering this idea, acknowledging that implementing it would require concerted effort and budget consideration.
- 5) **WORK SCHEDULE MEETING-**  
The Council schedules a work meeting for February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM to discuss ordinances, zoning and other administrative matters.
- 6) **ENGINEERING UPDATE –**  
Jeff Baker, with Jones & DeMille, provides an update on the engineering project, including the removal of trees and progress on right-of-way negotiations. The Council discusses the potential need for additional signage to direct oil field traffic and prevent access issues. Mr. Baker mentions the importance of finalizing the environmental committee and the permitting schedule before advertising the project.

A) Fee Schedule

Jeff Baker discusses the need to update Ballard City zoning ordinances to ensure developers cover the costs of additional out-of-pocket expenses, inspections and reviews. These updates are intended to align with ongoing changes in State Legislation. The objective is to support ongoing development while safeguarding taxpayer interest. Mr. Baker said any changes will go through public hearings before finalizing the ordinances, allowing residents to contribute to the discussion.

7) **UINTAH COUNTY SHERIFF / COMMISSION REPORTS –**  
Nothing to report.

8) **BOARD MEETING UPDATES –**  
No updates.

9) **OFFICE / PROJECTS REPORT-**  
Nothing to report.

10) **REVIEW AND CORRECT MINUTES --**

a. Council Meeting February 3, 2026

**Motion made by Council Member Shaun Murray to approve the council minutes of February 3, 2026 as written, 2nd by Council Member Steve Secrest. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

**Council Members**

Shaun Murray

Nile Mathisen

Steve Secrest

Council Member Al Kettle was excused.

b. Combined Meeting February 5, 2026

**Motion made by Council Member Shaun Murray to approve the combined minutes of February 5, 2026 as written, 2nd by Council Member Steve Secrest. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

**Council Members**

Nile Mathisen

Shaun Murray

Ben Allred

Steve Secrest

Council Member Al Kettle was excused.

11) **FOLLOW-UP ON PAST MINUTES –**  
Nothing to follow up on.

12) **MAYOR'S REPORT—**  
Mayor discussed fire alarm at address.

13) **COUNCIL REPORTS –**  
Council Member Ben Allred discussed a financial report.  
Council Member Shaun Murray reported on the parks.

14) **FINANCES:** Checks, Statements, Reports and Budget  
Mayor Nile Mathisen went over discussed finances.  
**Motion made by Council Member Ben to approve the finances as presented. 2nd by Council Member Shaun Murray. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

**Council Members**

Nile Mathisen

Shaun Murray

Ben Allred

Steve Secrest

Council Member Al Kettle was excused.

**15) ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Motion made by Council Member Shaun Murray to adjourn Council Meeting, 2nd by Council Member Ben Allred.**

**YEA**

**NAY**

**Council Members**

Nile Mathisen

Shaun Murray

Ben Allred

Steve Secrest

Council Member Al Kettle was excused.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Nile Mathisen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Tasha Crum

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**\*NOTE:** *In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations during this meeting should notify Kaelyn Meyers at Ballard City Building, 2381 E. 1000 S., Ballard, Utah 84066; Phone: 435-722-3393.*

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