

# **SALT LAKE COUNTY**

2001 So. State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114  
(385) 468-7500 TTY 711



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

**1:30 PM**

**Council Chambers, Room N1-110**

**County Council**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Invocation - Reading or Thought - Pledge of Allegiance

**1.1 Quorum Call—Roll Call Vote**

**Present:**

Council Member Suzanne Harrison  
Council Member Laurie Stringham  
Council Member Natalie Pinkney  
Council Member Jiro Johnson  
Council Member Carlos Moreno  
Council Member Aimee Winder Newton  
Council Member Ross Romero  
Council Chair Dea Theodore

**Excused:**

Council Member Sheldon Stewart

**Council Member Moreno** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Ms. Dena Long** asked the Council to move public comment to the end of the agenda, so the public did not have to wait a week to talk about the agenda items. Ms. Long also stated she had been trying to get signatures for a referendum, and while doing so, had received disparaging remarks from many residents and even a Salt Lake County employee. If everyone worked collectively, they could get the referendum on the ballot. Ms. Long further stated that at a previous Council meeting, a Council Member asked for a moment of silence for people who had lost their lives by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), but it would have been more appropriate to have honored all who had lost their lives because a lot of people were killed by illegal immigrants.

**Ms. Carol Pfeiffer** spoke in opposition to the County tax increase, asking Council Members if they had given any thought to where taxpayers were going to get the money to pay the increased taxes. Taxpayers' budgets are already maxed out. She and her husband live on social security and 401k savings. Due to the 22 percent inflation rate during the Biden Administration, the value of their home nearly doubled, and prices rose over time. This tax increase pinches taxpayers twice. The County needed to tighten its

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belt and consider what programs it could defund. The Council represented taxpayers, and if Council Members just raised taxes because it was easier not to upset people by defunding programs, no one would vote for them. She recited a quote by a famous man who said, "*O God, give us men with a mandate higher than the ballot box.*"

**Ms. Carola Michel** spoke in opposition to the County tax increase. Taxpayers voted for Council Members to use their taxpayer money responsibly. She recommended the County eliminate duplication and administrative bloat. County senior administrative staffing has expanded far beyond what it had in the past, and over 100 County employees earn over \$189,000 per year. She recommended 1) eliminating five deputy or associate deputy mayor positions and functioning with one deputy mayor and one chief of staff and having them focus on core County functions; and 2) eliminating or consolidating duplicated County offices. The Office of Regional Development has a budget of \$28.3 million, and many of its functions overlap with services provided by municipal services districts and the Wasatch Front Regional Council. She further stated that the County could improve public safety efficiency without cutting core services. She asked the Council to reconsider imposing the tax increase.

**Ms. Michelle Polish** stated she was disappointed the Council had not spent more time understanding HB449 Utah Taxpayer Oversight of Government Spending Amendments, and instead quickly opposed it. While the bill would eliminate the Zoo, Arts and Parks (ZAP) tax, it would not stop the County from issuing bonds for arts and parks' amenities. This transformative tax reform would allow people to have a voice. It would require that voters approve a tax increase proposed by a state or local government, and that excess revenue be refunded to the taxpayers. This is common sense legislation and the right thing to do. She encouraged the Council to reconsider its stance on this bill.

### 3. REPORT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

#### 3.1 County Council Members

**Council Member Harrison** stated she attended the Behavioral Health Services Advisory Committee, at which some bills were discussed. Some federal cuts to Medicaid funding are translating into budget shortfalls and cuts at the state level. Medicaid helps with much of the mental health services and substance use treatment, especially for the lower income and most vulnerable neighbors.

Council Member Harrison stated she also attended the Board of Health meeting, which discussed several bills that would limit labeling and oversight on regulating milk, even the requirement that milk be refrigerated. Recently, it was reported that a mother in New Mexico developed a listeria infection from drinking raw milk, and that listeria infection transferred to an infant who died from the infection. If these bills pass and unpasteurized

raw milk is allowed to go into grocery stores, members of the public could buy it and unknowingly put themselves at risk for these types of infections. The bills eliminate oversight and could cause unsafe consequences.

**Council Member Stringham** stated she attended Salt Lake City's Opening Ceremony event for the 2026 Winter Olympics at which she watched the opening ceremony and got to march in the parade with Utah athletes, including mountain bikers and figure skaters. It was a fun event.

Council Member Stringham stated she also attended Visit Salt Lake's Winter Roundup in downtown Salt Lake City, which was held the day after the opening ceremony event. At the Winter Roundup, she and Council Member Theodore participated in skijoring behind horses on West Temple Street. About 30,000 people attended the event.

Council Member Stringham announced that the Clark Planetarium is holding its Legislative Break tonight.

**Council Member Theodore** stated she and other County elected officials have been at the Capitol watching for bills that would impact the County.

Council Member Theodore stated Visit Salt Lake did an amazing job with the skijoring event. It was a great experience to ski down West Temple. This is the event's third year. There will be another skijoring event at the Fairgrounds at the end of the month.

Council Member Theodore stated she also went skiing this weekend in the canyons and encouraged other skiers to do so too. More storms are predicted, which will help with snow.

### 3.2 County Mayor

**Ms. Erin Litvack**, Deputy Mayor of County Services, made the following announcements:

- The Office for New Americans launched a community survey to inform people of a new Welcoming Salt Lake Strategic Plan. This community input will build on the original 2016 Welcoming Salt Lake Action Plan to ensure the work reflects the needs and experiences of residents across the County. The survey will be open through March 6, 2026, and can be found at [slco.to/welcoming](http://slco.to/welcoming).

- The Parks and Recreation Division is preparing to launch a new point of sales system, which will take effect the end of February. This upgrade will improve resident-experience when searching for and registering for programs and classes.

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- The Parks and Recreation Division is also hosting “Teen After Hours” events for youth, ages 12 and up. These events will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> at Dimple Dell Recreation Center, and March 6<sup>th</sup> at Holladay Lions Recreation Center. These events provide a safe space for teens to engage with other teens.

- Last week, the County celebrated the opening of 150 new affordable homes for families at The Howick, located in Millcreek. The development includes sixty-nine three-bedroom and four-bedroom apartments, designed for families. Projects like this are an integral part of the countywide systemic coordination efforts.

- Tomorrow at 11:30 AM, the County will commemorate Abravanel Hall’s placement on the National Register of Historic Places, with a plaque unveiling ceremony, recognizing Abravanel Halls’ architectural and cultural significance to Salt Lake County.

- The Zoo, Arts and Parks (ZAP) program, with the Arts and Culture Division, is hosting an open house for ZAP grantees and the public on Thursday, February 12, 2026, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, at the Midvale Performing Arts Center, at which attendees can learn about current programs, upcoming initiatives, and the application process, and can connect with grantees and the public.

- Visit Salt Lake held the annual Silicon Slopes Summit 2026: Our 10<sup>th</sup> Year, last week at the Salt Palace Convention Center, and hundreds of people from Utah and around the nation attended. Visit Salt Lake also held its Winter Roundup last week. These events bring people and tourism dollars to Utah, which helps lower the tax burden for residents.

### 3.3 Other Elected County Officials

## 4. CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### 4.1 Consideration of Acceptance of a Donation of \$10,317.99 from the Friends of the Children's Justice Center to the District Attorney's Office for Training Costs and Interpreting Expenses

26-111

Attachments:

1. 2025.10 thru 2025.12 Friends

The vote on this consent item was approved.

**4.2 Consideration of a Resolution of the Salt Lake County Council Declaring Surplus Real Property and Approving the Sale and Conveyance of the Same by Quitclaim Deed to JNG Investments, LLC** 26-112

Attachments:

1. PSA JNG - Salt Lake Parcel Purchase Agreement - signed
2. Resolution - JNG

**RESOLUTION NO. 6353**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARING SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY AND APPROVING THE SALE AND CONVEYANCE OF THE SAME BY QUITCLAIM DEED TO JNG INVESTMENTS, LLC**

**RECITALS**

1. County owns two parcels of land located approximately at 984 East Lorraine Ave., Millcreek, Utah 84106, identified as Parcel Nos. 16-29-381-012-0000, and 16-29-381-013-0000 (the "Property").
2. JNG INVESTMENTS, LLC ("JNG"), an adjacent landowner, has offered in writing to purchase the Property from County for Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00, the "Purchase Price"), which amount has been approved by the Salt Lake County Real Estate Division as fair market value.
3. County has determined that the Property is not in public use.
4. County and JNG have entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement") attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
5. It has been determined that the best interest of the County and the general public will be served by the sale and conveyance of the Property to JNG.
6. The sale and conveyance will be in compliance with all applicable state statutes and County ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Salt Lake County Council that the Property, described in Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby declared surplus property.

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IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Salt Lake County Council that the sale and conveyance of the Property by quitclaim deed to JNG INVESTMENTS, LLC, as provided in the Agreement for the agreed Purchase Price of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) is hereby approved; and the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement, and the Mayor and County Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Quitclaim Deed, attached to the Agreement, and to deliver the fully executed documents to the County Real Estate Division for delivery to JNG INVESTMENTS, LLC, upon payment of the agreed upon Purchase Price.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

ATTEST

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By /s/ AIMEE WINDER NEWTON  
Chair

By /s/ LANNIE CHAPMAN  
Salt Lake County Clerk

The vote on this consent item was approved.

## 5. APPROVAL OF TAX LETTERS

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that the Tax Letters be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### 5.1 Personal Property Tax Abatement Request

26-100

Attachments:

1. 26-9002 #701266 PP Tax Abatement \$15,899.21 final rms

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

### 5.2 DMV Registration Refunds

26-107

Attachments:

1. MV0004 PP Tax Refund DMV \$680 rms
2. MV0005 PP Tax Refund DMV Vet \$190 rms

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

**6. ACCEPTANCE OF ETHICS DISCLOSURES**

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that the Ethics Disclosures be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Solid Waste** 26-108

Attachments:

1. Solid Waste 2026 Disclosure Documents

This ethics disclosure was received and filed.

**6.2 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Auditor's Office** 26-109

Attachments:

1. Harding Conflict Form
2. Hernandez Conflict Form
3. Jaussi Conflict Form
4. Wilson Conflict Form

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.3 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Clark Planetarium Board** 26-116

Attachments:

1. 2026 Clark Planetarium Board Disclosure Letter 1

This ethics disclosure was received and filed.

**6.4 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Aging & Adult Services Division** 26-117

Attachments:

1. 2026 AAS Employee COI Forms
2. 2026 AAS Council on Aging COI Forms

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.5 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Clark Planetarium Staff** 26-118

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Attachments:

- 1. 2026 Clark Planetarium Staff Disclosure letter 1

This ethics disclosure was received and filed.

**6.6 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Community Services Department** 26-119

Attachments:

- 1. 2026 CS COI Disclosures 1

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.7 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Parks and Recreation** 26-120

Attachments:

- 1. 2026 Parks and Recreation COI Disclosures

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.8 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Arts & Culture Advisory Board** 26-121

Attachments:

- 1. COI AC Advisory Board 2026 mlc 1

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.9 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Arts & Culture Staff** 26-122

Attachments:

- 1. COI AC employees 2026 mlc smaller 1

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Behavioral Health Services** 26-123

Attachments:

- 1. Behavioral Health Services COI Forms

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

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**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: ZAP Tier II Advisory Board** 26-124

Attachments:

1. COI ZAP Tier II mlc 1

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Library Board** 26-125

Attachments:

1. SLCo Library Board COI Disclosures

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Library Staff** 26-126

Attachments:

1. SLCo Library Staff COI Disclosures

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Criminal Justice Services** 26-127

Attachments:

1. 2026 CJS Disclosure Statements

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Health Department** 26-128

Attachments:

1. Health Department Conflict of Interest Disclosures

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Human Services Department** 26-129

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Attachments:

- 1. Human Services Dept. COI Cover Letter & Forms

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Youth Services** 26-130  
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Attachments:

- 1. Youth Services Conflict of Interest Forms

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosures: Mayor's Finance** 26-131  
**8 Administration**

Attachments:

- 1. MFA Disclosure Statements 2026

These ethics disclosures were received and filed.

**7. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**7.1 Approval of January 27, 2026, County Council Minutes** 26-135

Attachments:

- 1. 012726 Council Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**8. WORK SESSION**

**8.1 Informational Update on the Proposed Hire Report /** 26-114  
**Incentive Plans - \$3000 and Under / Weekly**  
**Reclassification Report**

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

PLAINSMAN PRINTING EST. 1992

1. Proposed Hire Report - 2-4-2026
2. Incentive Plans - \$3,000 and Under 2-4-2026
3. Weekly Reclassification Report 2-4-2026

**Ms. Hoa Nguyen**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the new hires and reclassifications. There were no incentive plans.

**8.2 Budget Adjustment: The Salt Palace Convention Center Requests \$28,480,714 from the Salt Palace Renovation Project Fund for the Next Phase of the Project** 26-136

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 38234 - Salt Palace Renovation-New Project

**Ms. Hoa Nguyen**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**8.3 Budget Adjustment: The Office of Data and Innovation Requests to Transfer \$165,000 from the Smart Government Fund to Three Departments for Their 2025 Recommended Projects** 26-137

- **Recorder's Office - Historic Records Digitization Project: \$85,000**
- **Parks & Recreation - Solar-Powered Tree Care: \$50,000**
- **Health - TOP Star Program: \$30,000**

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 38238 - Smart Gov Fund Transfer

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## 2. 38240 - Smart Gov Program Fund Transfers

**Ms. Hoa Nguyen**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment

**Council Member Stringham** asked if the Parks and Recreation Division had staff trained to care for its trees and if staff would be handling the solar powered equipment.

**Ms. Robin Chalhoub**, Director, Community Services Department, stated the Parks and Recreation Division has staff with some arbor background, and they will be installing and monitoring the equipment. The Parks and Recreation Division also has a contract with Tree Utah to take care of and plant trees throughout the County.

**Council Member Stringham** stated battery powered equipment runs out of battery life. She asked how Parks and Recreation planned for that.

**Council Member Johnson** stated the \$50,000 request included backup generators to electrically charge batteries as well as backup batteries for the tools. The plan is to buy heavy duty electric powered battery sources so equipment can be used at any time. Converting to solar energy from fuel will reduce fuel and maintenance costs and pollution. He would like to see the County move from fuel powered energy to clean powered energy countywide.

**Ms. Erin Litvack**, Deputy Mayor of County Services, stated the County is constantly monitoring the technology, as it advances quickly, and it will transition as opportunities arise.

**Council Member Stringham** asked how many people the Top Star program would reach out to.

**Mr. Javaid Lal**, Director of Performance and Innovation, Administrative Services Department, stated he did not have a specific number of individuals, but the County planned to reach out to 80 centers.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Stringham, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**8.4 Budget Adjustment: The Metro Jail Request a Scope Change for the Heat Exchanger Project to Include Replacing Two Brine Pit Supply Pumps to Ensure Proper**

26-138

**Water Softener Operation and Prevent Mineral Scaling,  
Loss of Heat Transfer Efficiency, and Premature Failure.  
This Is for Scope Change Only and Will Be Funded from  
the Project's Current Budget**

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments: None

**Ms. Hoa Nguyen**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney, seconded by Council Member Stringham, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**8.5 2026 Legislative Session Update**

26-87

**The Council May Vote to Take Positions Concerning 2026  
Legislation and Other Related Actions**

Presenter: Kara Trevino, Council Intergovernmental Relations Manager  
(45 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments: None

**Ms. Kara Trevino**, Intergovernmental Relations Manager, Council Office, reviewed the legislative updates.

- HB 470 Building Inspection Amendments – Rep. Raymond P. Ward

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill would require cities and counties to approve a plan review for applications for owner-occupied home alterations or single-family dwellings if the application was complete and included a signed certificate from a licensed building inspector. This bill was discussed at the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) Policy Steering Committee this morning, and the committee opposed it. The County also has issues with it.

**Mr. Zachary Shaw**, Deputy District Attorney, stated this is another attempt by the Legislature to have third party inspectors do building inspections, and applicants would procure those services. Having an applicant pay for the cost of a third-party inspection

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creates a risk of bias. The League of Cities and Towns and UAC have resisted this for years.

**Council Member Pinkney** stated the UAC Policy Steering Committee has several issues with this. A government entity automatically approving something is risky.

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to oppose HB 470. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Moreno was absent for the vote.

- HB 477 Land Use Regulation Revisions – Rep. Jill Koford

**Ms. Trevino** stated every year the Legislature has a bill called the Land Use Task Force bill, and Mr. Shaw participates on that Land Use Task Force for the County. The Utah Property Rights Coalition and local governments work over the interim to try to get consensus around land use issues. There is consensus on parts of this bill, and the County is comfortable with those. However, some parts have not yet been vetted. The UAC Policy Steering Committee took a position to monitor the bill because some things still need to be worked through.

**Mr. Shaw** stated the issue of external accessory dwelling units (ADUs) still needs to be vetted. There are statewide standards for ADUs, but the Salt Lake County Planning Commission was concerned because there was not a minimum lot size for external ADUs, and that led to concerns about privacy and setbacks. He recommended monitoring the bill.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to monitor HB 447. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 479 Election Code Modifications – Rep. Jefferson S. Burton

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill would drastically impact by mail and in-person voting. UAC took a position to oppose it.

**Ms. Lannie Chapman**, County Clerk, stated HB 479 makes substantial changes to Utah's Election Code, most notably how and where eligible voters can return by mail ballots. These changes would result in significant administrative burdens and costs for county clerks and would shift how voters could vote.

The bill provides that unless a voter submits a specific application in person to the Clerk's Office, 45 days prior to an election, they can only return their by mail ballot in

person at a drop box or a vote center, and they would have to present identification before the Clerk's Office could accept their ballot.

Due to the increased administrative requirements, the Clerk's Office would only be able to open drop boxes from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, five days prior to the election date, and the election date. This would be a reduction in the availability of drop boxes from 504 hours to 72 hours.

Drop boxes would have to be staffed by multiple workers the entire time they are open and drop box locations would have to be equipped to allow a voter to cast a provisional ballot. This would necessitate no less than four poll workers at each drop box, essentially turning drop boxes into early vote locations.

The bill would require an additional drop box for every 10,000 voters per municipality. This would require Salt Lake County to increase drop boxes from 28 to 71 throughout the County, and to do so would require no less than 284 additional poll workers. The Clerk's Office would have to find 43 new locations, which might mean it would need to purchase and maintain a fleet of mobile voting units because there are not enough public buildings within Salt Lake County and the municipalities to meet those demands.

At the end of every night, drop boxes would have to be emptied and closed, and the ballots transported to the Election Management Center (EMC) by teams of no less than two employees. This might make it impossible to continue a partnership with the Sheriff's Office to pick up the ballots from the drop boxes and return them to the EMC because the Clerk's Office would need a minimum of 142 officers to do that during the hours the drop boxes are open.

Voters who wanted to utilize the postal service to return their ballot would have to apply for a designation as a voter to return a remote ballot by mail by appearing in person to the Clerk's Office, and presenting identification at least 45 days prior to election day. This designation would only be valid for two years.

The Clerk's Office would have to add staff and increase the size of its processing center to allow shift work to process those returned by mail ballots for voters who had that by mail designation, and to intake the ballots from the drop boxes once they arrived at the office after 8:00 PM. If a conservative estimate of 15 percent of active voters went to the Clerk's Office to receive the by mail designation, that would be approximately 90,000 voters, so the Clerk's Office would need to prepare for about 300 voters daily, and that was on top of the Clerk's Office's current statutory duties.

The bill would also require the Clerk's Office to have one vote center per every 5,000 voters, which meant it would need to have about 117 vote centers for the current active

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registered voters. For context, during the 2024 presidential general election, the Clerk's Office had 30 vote centers with approximately 300 poll workers. This bill would require 87 additional vote centers, which would necessitate an additional 870 new poll workers for this portion of the bill alone.

The Clerk's Office would also need to purchase more voting equipment and hire new FTEs to train and troubleshoot the new voting equipment.

The Clerk's Office would still be required to verify the last four digits of the social security number and signatures, as many of the by mail ballots would not be returned to the Clerk's Office until the five days prior to election day, and this would compress the time that the Clerk's Office had to process ballots, thereby pushing back its ability to provide election results as timely as it has been doing.

This bill is costly and inefficient. To properly meet the statutory requirements proposed by this bill, it would cost Salt Lake County approximately an additional \$9.8 million the first year and an additional \$6 million ongoing. She urged the Council to oppose the bill. The Utah Clerk's Association and UAC have opposed the bill.

**Council Member Harrison** stated she was concerned this bill would disenfranchise people from voting and cost taxpayers millions of dollars. She asked how many cases of fraud there had been in Utah in the last couple of years.

**Ms. Chapman** stated there had only been a handful of fraud cases, and the Clerk's Office sent those to the District Attorney's Office to investigate

**Council Member Johnson** stated to comply with this, the County would need to increase its property taxes by 7 percent. This is an unfunded mandate. This bill would make elections more difficult and only add marginal security to elections, and there is no real concern elections are being interfered with anyway.

**Ms. Chapman** stated the bill does not provide funding for local counties to administer elections. It is an unfunded mandate. There is a small amount of funding provided in the bill, but it would go to the State to be used for voter education.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to oppose HB 479. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- SB 97 Tax Revenue Amendments – Sen. Daniel McCay

**Ms. Trevino** stated the County already took a position to oppose this bill. Sen. McCay had put in a cap on how much a taxing entity could have in reserve, but he told bond

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counsel he would take that out of the bill because of the impact it would have on all taxing entities' bond ratings.

- HB 449 Utah Taxpayer Oversight of Government Spending Amendments – Rep. Tiara Auxier

- HJR 20 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution – Utah Taxpayer Oversight of Government Spending – Rep. Tiara Auxier

**Ms. Trevino** stated the Council also opposed HB 449, as it required voter approval before a taxing entity could increase revenue and because of other requirements in the bill. The Council also opposed HJR 20, the companion bill to HB 449, for the same reason.

- HB 484 Property Tax Changes – Rep. Kay J. Christofferson

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill restricts the amount of additional property tax revenue a taxing entity can obtain through truth in taxation to a 5 percent tax increase, without getting voter approval.

**Council Member Harrison** stated this type of bill made it difficult for the County to follow State law.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to oppose HB 484. The motion carried by a 6 to 2 vote, with Council Members Stringham and Moreno voting, “Nay.”

- HB 485 Property Tax Revenue Increase Amendments – Rep. Tiara Auxier

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill would limit how much revenue a taxing entity could collect from new growth. The fiscal note would decrease local property tax revenue by \$93 million statewide. It would have a massive impact statewide.

**Council Member Stringham** stated new growth requires putting in new infrastructure, i.e., building and maintaining roads. Oftentimes, entities bond against that growth to cover the costs of the infrastructure. If the County could not get that new growth revenue, it could not pay off bonds or pay the costs of the infrastructure. She asked if the sponsor did not understand how growth worked.

**Mr. Chris Stavros**, County Assessor, stated revenue from new growth is the component that allows the County to pay for that infrastructure. Today, UAC's Assessor's affiliate met and opposed this bill for that and other reasons. Taxing entities need to be able to

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account for that new growth, which is almost always less than inflation. This is a step in the wrong direction.

**Council Member Johnson** stated if the County could not get revenue from new growth, it would have to increase taxes to recapture that money.

**Mr. Darrin Casper**, Deputy Mayor of Finance and Administration, stated new growth roughly mirrors the population increase. As the population increases, the demand for services increases. If a taxing entity had to increase taxes to recapture this, it would need to include the amount of revenue it would have received from new growth, plus inflation costs.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to oppose HB 485. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote, with Council Member Moreno voting, "Nay."

- HB 161 Property Tax Modifications – Rep. Jill Koford

- HJR 7 Proposal to Amend the Utah Constitution – Property Tax Modifications – Rep. Jill Koford

**Ms. Trevino** stated HB 161 would increase the percentage of the fair market value of primarily residential property that is exempt from property tax from 45 to 60 percent. The Council took a position to oppose the bill. There is a lot of opposition to it. The bill is not moving forward this session.

- HB 441 Property Transaction Amendments – Rep. Jill Koford

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill addresses the fair market value on commercial properties and a way to get more disclosure on commercial property. Now, there is no system for determining the fair market value on commercial property.

**Mr. Stavros** stated commercial properties are exchanged or sold based on the income they produce. The preferred methodology to value commercial properties is with a combination of sales and lease information, and market rents are analyzed regardless of whether the property is being sold or not. Having access to more market data, more data points, i.e., sales and lease information would improve assessors' ability to value commercial properties, and ultimately, when commercial values are more accurate, cost shifts to homeowners and small business owners are mitigated.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Stringham, moved to support HB 441. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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- HB 427 Tax Increment Financing Modifications – Rep. Walter R. Neil

**Ms. Kersten Swinyard**, Director, Economic Development Division, stated this bill would require any entity that used tax increment financing (TIF), including redevelopment agencies (RDA), state land authorities, such as the Inland Port Authority or the Point of the Mountain State Land Authority, public infrastructure districts (PID), and infrastructure financing districts (IFD) to seek approval from the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) before they could use any of the tax increment in their project areas. That would be a dramatic change in the way these entities function now. The bill would not necessarily affect the County because its RDA is dormant now, but it would affect how the County worked with other entities. The Economic Development Division is in support of definitions and provisions in the bill that would increase transparency and the reporting of tax increment financing, i.e., the definition of a "but-for analysis," a project application process to identify public good, the requirement that there be a strong justification for the use of public money in these project areas, and a cap on the amount of tax increment financing allowed. Ms. Swinyard recommended monitoring the bill because she thought it would change.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Harrison, to monitor HB 427. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- SB 228 Community Reinvestment Agency Amendments – Sen. Wayne A. Harper

**Ms. Swinyard** stated this bill adds additional reporting requirements for taxing entities that receive tax increment revenue and some penalties for not meeting those reporting requirements. The Economic Development Division supports this bill.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to support SB 228. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 475 Development Planning and Coordination Amendments – Rep. Calvin Roberts

**Ms. Swinyard** stated this bill formalizes functions that the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) has traditionally handled, such as managing opportunity zones (OZ), and some of the coordination and reporting functions; and it moves housing and affordable housing development from the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) to GOEO. The bill also establishes the Economic Opportunity Coordinating Council and describes its duties. The composition of the Economic Opportunity Coordinating Council would include a lot of state representation, and one UAC seat. The bill further modifies the requirements for the creation of an economic development zone, which is a mechanism for GOEO to set up economic development tax increment financing (ED

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TIF), a way to incentivize companies to come to Utah if they can provide evidence that they will bring in new employees.

**Ms. Trevino** stated the UAC Policy Steering Committee is going to monitor the bill, but it wants more local representation on the Economic Opportunity Coordinating Council.

**Council Member Romero** stated the County should push to get a member of a county of the first class on the Economic Opportunity Coordinating Council.

**Council Member Stringham** stated she wanted to watch bills closely to make sure the State did not try to take control over local planning and zoning functions.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to monitor HB 475. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 507 State Coordination of Regional and Local Economic Development Projects Amendments – Rep. Calvin Roberts

**Ms. Swinyard** stated this bill reorganizes State-mandated Tax Increment Financing (TIF) project areas. The Economic Development Division is trying to get the sponsor to change this quite a bit, and she thought it would change significantly between now and the end of the session. She recommended monitoring the bill and working with the sponsor.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to monitor HB 507. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 492 Transportation, Infrastructure, and Housing Amendments – Rep. Calvin Roberts

**Ms. Trevino** stated this is a complex bill that creates the State Housing Infrastructure Partnership Fund (SHIP). The UAC Policy Steering Committee took a position to monitor it.

**Ms. Lauren Littlefield**, Senior Policy Advisor and Special Project Director, Office of Regional Development, stated this bill would create the State Housing Infrastructure Partnership Fund, a revolving loan fund, to be used for the development of infrastructure for housing. The bill would also create the State Housing Infrastructure Partnership Board, which would disseminate the funds. The board would be made up of five members: one appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and one appointed by the president of the Senate, the executive director of the housing office, the executive director of the Department of Transportation, and a legislative liaison. The

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UAC Policy Steering Committee would like the board to also include a member appointed by UAC. Ms. Littlefield recommended monitoring the bill and working with the sponsor.

**Council Member Stringham** asked where the funding for the revolving loan fund would come from.

**Ms. Littlefield** stated the State would divert 2.13 percent of the State sales tax that is usually dedicated to the Utah Transportation Investment Fund to the State Housing Infrastructure Partnership Fund for one year.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to monitor HB 492. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Moreno was absent for the vote.

- SB 197 Transportation Funding and Governance Amendments – Rep. Wayne A. Harper

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill restructures the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Board. It repeals the three-member board of trustees and changes it to an executive and transit commission.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, to support SB 197. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Council Member Harrison** stated she would vote no to support the bill. The Legislature and the Governor are creating the commission and appointing the members with minimal input from other entities.

**Ms. Trevino** stated the idea with the commission is to get the State to put more money through the Transit Transportation Investment Fund (TTIF). She recommended monitoring the bill or remaining neutral on it and working with the sponsor to get local representation on the commission.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Johnson, to remain neutral on the bill and work with the sponsor to get local representation on the commission. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 445 County Government Land Purchasing – Rep. Mark A. Strong

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill provides that a county could not acquire real property that is located in another county without getting permission from that county through an

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interlocal agreement. This bill only applies to counties. Other political entities do not have this kind of prohibition.

**Mr. Justin Hawes**, Director, Real Estate Division, recommended opposing the bill for three reasons: 1) it is limited to counties; 2) if the County did purchase property outside the county, the County should be tax exempt as that is the standard for any other governmental entity; and 3) the County should be able to purchase property outside its boundaries for the benefit of its citizens as long as it gets Council approval, and not be limited to the decision of another jurisdiction's legislative body.

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney, seconded by Council Member Harrison, to oppose HB 445. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- HB 44 5<sup>th</sup> Sub. School Security Personnel Standards – Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

**Ms. Trevino** stated for years, the State has burdened the County with unfunded mandates and jurisdictional issues regarding school security. The Sheriff's Office has arrived at some consensus on school security with the sponsor of this bill and would like the Council to support the bill.

**Mr. Zach Van Emmerik**, Deputy Chief, Sheriff's Office, reviewed some of the new language added to the fifth substitute.

A special function officer employed by the Sheriff's Office can now respond to a situation and perform collateral duties for the purpose of public safety, whether on or off the SFO's assigned duty location. Up to this point, Sheriff's deputies were not allowed to stop and assist someone when going from one building to another building.

Schools would be allowed to contract with local police departments for the school guardian training, and an SFO deputy would be allowed to become a school guardian.

School guardians would be required to carry a firearm at all times while on duty during school hours, with the exception of restroom use or when participating in physical activity, and there are requirements in the bill for how to store the firearm when not being carried.

If an armed school security guard used deadly force, they would be put on paid administrative leave pending an investigation. That is the same standard that law enforcement follows.

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The county security chief could request help from the local police department to administer the training depending on the size of the city and the number of schools within that jurisdiction.

The bill addresses how the state security chief could handle the payment of guardian stipends by a local education agency (LEA)

The bill defines a “controlled access point,” and electronic visitor management systems would be allowed in those controlled access points.

**Council Member Harrison** asked if there was any State funding in this version of the bill for school districts or the Sheriff’s Office. It has been a challenge to provide the training of these officers due to the lack of funding.

**Mr. Van Emmerik** stated the only funding provided in the bill is to harden the schools, i.e, surveillance, fences. The sponsor was considering whether the school districts could contract with a police department and repay it if officers worked overtime to help train the guardians.

A motion was made by Council Member Theodore, seconded by Council Member Moreno, to approve HB 44 Fifth Substitute. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote, with Council Member Johnson voting “Nay.”

- HB 429 2nd Sub. Special District Amendments – Rep. Candice B. Pierucci

**Ms. Trevino** stated this bill had been a priority of the County, but its portion to be allowed to withdraw from the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area got stripped out in committee last Friday. The County is trying to work through that with the sponsor and the stakeholders.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Moreno, to change the Council’s position from support to monitor.

**Council Member Winder Newton** asked if changing the Council’s position would harm the County.

**Ms. Trevino** recommended the Council not change its position.

**Council Member Romero** asked if the County could find a sponsor for just its portion of that bill.

**Ms. Trevino** stated the County is working through that type of idea.

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A substitute motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that the Council continue to support this bill.

**Council Member Johnson** stated he could understand the frustration, but he hoped by continuing to support the bill, the sponsor would put the County's request back into the bill. If the Council changed its position, the sponsor would jettison the County from the process and not care about putting its request back in.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that the Council continue to support this bill. The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Winder Newton

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Theodore

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Moreno, to change the Council's position from support to monitor. The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Winder Newton

## **8.6 Consideration of Human Resource Policy Revisions: 5-300 Payroll**

26-132

Presenter: Greg Folta, Director of Finance and Payroll; Sharon Roux, Director of Human Resources  
(20 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 5-300\_Payroll\_ZLL\_2Feb26
2. 5-300\_Payroll\_ZLL\_2Feb26
3. Changes to HR Policy 5-300 for Council

**Mr. Greg Folta**, Director of Finance and Payroll, Mayor Finance, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled HR 5-300 Payroll Policy changes. He reviewed a Mayor Finance payroll audit; Mayor Finance payroll audit recommendations; audit related changes to HR Policy 5-300; and other changes to HR Policy 5-300.

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney, seconded by Council Member Romero, to approve this agenda item. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Harrison was absent for the vote.

### **8.7 Informational Presentation on the Name Change Request for the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Arts Center** 26-134

Presenter: Robin Chalhoub, Director of Community Services; Matthew Castillo, Director of Salt Lake County Arts & Culture (5 minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

**Mr. Matt Castillo**, Director, Arts and Culture, stated the Larry H. and Gail Miller Family Foundation has asked for an amendment to the Larry H. and Gail Miller Family Arts Center, to remove “family” from the name. The Salt Lake Arts and Culture Advisory Board recommended the name change, as per the County’s naming ordinance.

**Council Member Harrison** asked if the official name included a “Salt Lake County Facility.”

**Mr. Castillo** stated yes, the official name would be the Larry H. and Gail Miller Arts Center, a Salt Lake County Facility.

## **9. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ISSUANCE OF PUBLIC NOTICES**

### **9.1 TIME CERTAIN 4:00 PM** 26-90 **Hold a Public Hearing to Solicit Public Comments Regarding Modifying the Name of the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Arts Center**

Attachments:

1. DRAFT SLC County - Amendment to Naming Rights Contract - SLC Foundation 1.27.26
2. resolution Public Hearing 1.27.26
3. resolution 1.27.26

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A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to open the public hearing. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

No one spoke in opposition or in favor of the name change.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to close the public hearing. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 9.2 Set a Public Hearing Pursuant to Salt Lake County Ordinance 3.36.030(3) for the 1:30 PM, February 24, 2026, County Council Meeting to Receive Comment on Two Proposed Lease Agreements with the University of Utah for Approximately 11,257 Total Square Feet of Office and Clinic Space Located at Approximately 610 South 200 East in Salt Lake City** 26-110

Attachments:

1. CWS agenda - U of U - health clinic - 02.03.2026
2. Resolution - Health clinic - UofU - 02.03.2026
3. Lease Agreement 1 with UofU Peds - health clinic - 02.03.2026
4. Lease Agreement 2 with UofU Population Health - health clinic - 02.03.2026
5. Notice of Public Hearing - UofU - Health clinic - 02.03.2026 - updated

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated the February 24, 2026, date did not allow enough time to notice the public hearing, so the date will need to be changed to March 3, 2026.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to set a public hearing for March 3, 2026, at 1:30 PM, to receive comments on two proposed lease agreements with the University of Utah. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Harrison was absent for the vote.

## 10. PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

- 10. Consideration of a Resolution of the Salt Lake County Council Approving Amendment to the Naming Rights Agreement with Salt Lake County Foundation for the Larry H. & Gail Miller Arts Center** 26-133

Presenter: Robin Chalhoub, Director of Community Services; Matthew Castillo, Director of Salt Lake County Arts & Culture  
(5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. DRAFT SLC County - Amendment to Naming Rights Contract - SLC Foundation 1.27.26
2. resolution Public Hearing 1.27.26
3. resolution 1.27.26

RESOLUTION NO. 6354

RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVING AMENDMENT 1 TO THE NAMING RIGHTS AGREEMENT WITH SALT LAKE COUNTY FOUNDATION FOR THE LARRY H. & GAIL MILLER ARTS CENTER

RECITALS

- A. Salt Lake County (“County”) is in the planning stages for the construction of the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Arts Center (“Center”); and
- B. The County has previously entered into a contract For Naming Rights of the Southwest Valley Arts Theatre, dated October 23, 2024, between County and Salt Lake County Foundation (“SLCo Foundation”) to name the facility Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Arts Center
- C. SLCo Foundation desires to modify the previously approved name to remove “Family” and that the Center be named the “Larry H. & Gail Miller Arts Center”;
- D. Pursuant to Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances 2.48.030 D. the County held a public hearing on February 3, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. in order to solicit public comments regarding modifying the name of the Center; and
- E. County and SLCo Foundation have prepared the attached Amendment outlining how they will work together to implement the financing and naming of the Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Salt Lake County Council that the attached Amendment is hereby approved; and the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the original of said authorized and approved Amendment 1, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A, and by this reference made a part of this Resolution.

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APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

ATTEST

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By /s/ AIMEE WINDER NEWTON  
Chair

By /s/ LANNIE CHAPMAN  
Salt Lake County Clerk

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 10. **First Reading of an Ordinance, Amending Chapters 2.46, 26-113**
- 2 **Entitled “Geographic Information Systems Steering Committee,” of the Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances by Amending the Title From “Geographic Information Systems Steering Committee” to “Geographic Information Systems Advisory Committee”, by Amending Each Section to Recognize That Change; by Changing the Membership of the Committee; and Changing the Time of the Year in Which the Chair and Vice-Chair are Elected; and Other Changes Related to Grammar and Readability**

Presenter: Bradley E. Park, Salt Lake County Surveyor; Jason Rose, Senior Civil Attorney  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

- 1. Chapter 2.46 Legal Form Ordinance Amendment

**Mr. Bradley Park**, County Surveyor, reviewed the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Steering Committee ordinance, stating this amendment changes three things: 1) it adds the Office of Regional Development as a voting member to the GIS Steering Committee; 2) changes the name of the GIS Steering Committee to the Geographic Information Systems Advisory Committee; and 3) updates the way the chair and vice chair of the committee are nominated every year.

A motion was made by Council Member Theodore, seconded by Council Member Stringham, that the ordinance be forwarded to the February 17, 2026, Council meeting

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for formal consideration. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Members Harrison and Johnson were absent for the vote.

## 11. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

11. Notice of Cancellation of the February 17, 2026, County Council Meeting in Observance of the Presidents' Day Holiday 26-115

Discussion - Vote Needed

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Moreno, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Harrison was absent for the vote.

## 12. OTHER BUSINESS

### ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM until Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

LANNIE CHAPMAN, COUNTY CLERK

By   
DEPUTY CLERK

By   
CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL