

**Naples City Council  
February 12, 2026  
Minutes**

A meeting of the Naples City Council was held February 12, 2026, 7:30 p.m., at the Naples City Office, 1420 East 2850 South, Naples, Uintah County, Utah.

***DATE, TIME & PLACE OF MEETING***

Council members attending were Brock Arnold, Nate Zilles, Dan Olsen, Ross Morton, Kenneth Reynolds and Jonathan Beede.

***COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING***

Others attending were Guy Collett, Greg Olsen, Nancy Olsen, Kelcie Olsen, Braden Olsen, Mason Holmes, Lauren Holmes, Cody Evans, Becky Evans, Cheryl Meier, Jolene Baker, Dean Baker, Jackson Beede, Brooks Jones, Keith Sprouse, Jordan Thompson, Benjamin Anderson, Szeth Simmons, Ryan Cook and Micheal Davis.

***OTHERS ATTENDING***

Mayor Arnold welcomed everyone and asked Councilman Morton to lead the pledge of allegiance and Councilman Reynolds to offer the invocation.

***OPENING CEREMONY***

Mayor Arnold asked for approval of the agenda. Kenneth Reynolds **moved** to approve the agenda. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

***APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA***

The minutes of the city council meeting of January 22, 2026 were presented for approval. Dan Olsen **moved** to approve the minutes of January 22, 2026. Ross Morton **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

***MINUTES APPROVED***

Mayor Arnold asked if anyone had anything they would like to follow up with from the previous meeting. Nothing was brought forward.

***FOLLOW UP MATTERS***

Mayor Arnold asked if anyone had any questions about the bills. The bills presented were in the amount of \$82,480.34. Kenneth Reynolds **moved** to approve the bills. Nate Zilles seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

***APPROVAL OF THE BILLS***

Nate Zilles	Aye
Dan Olsen	Aye
Ross Morton	Aye
Kenneth Reynolds	Aye
Jonathan Beede	Aye

Mayor Arnold stated that they have added a new item to the agenda. He said according to Utah Open and Public Meetings Act they can have room for public comment, but there needs to be order to that. He said people can speak to what is on the agenda or anything that might not be on the agenda. Mayor Arnold said the time for each person's comments will be three minutes. He said it will not be a discussion but people can voice their comments, concerns, or something they feel the Council might need to look into. Mayor Arnold said anyone can share during that public comment period but when it's over he asked for respect and decorum during the rest of the meeting. Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to go into a public comment period. Nate Zilles **moved** to go into a public comment period. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting aye.

***PUBLIC COMMENT  
PERIOD***

Dean Baker said that many at the meeting were interested in the discussion for pickleball courts and he wanted to wait until after that discussion because he didn't know what was going to be said. Mayor Arnold said they are going to have a presentation later on the agenda for pickleball courts. Dean Baker asked if they could move their comments to after the presentation because they didn't know what was going to come up in the discussion. Mayor Arnold said that is not normally how an open meeting works. He said they would be willing to hear any comments for or against the item and will take those into consideration during that discussion. Mr. Baker said he is not against pickleball courts but he is concerned about losing grass, softball fields, and lights on them at night.

Greg Olsen said he also has some of the same concerns as Mr. Baker. He said he leases out the turf farm three days a week for baseball and when he goes he sees maybe one or two people playing pickleball. He said what he has never seen are the pickleball courts full but what he has seen is the grass area at Naples full. He sees people picnicking, running on the grass, and baseball coaches practicing. He stated he has nothing against it, he just wants to see the need for it. He said he's not really worried about the lights but he is

worried about space that is utilized by more than four people on a court. He just feels like it needs to be in the right spot.

Ben Anderson said he has a different experience with pickleball and people playing on the courts at Independence Park. He stated that he's seen families set up their lawn chairs and seen kids playing on the courts. Mr. Anderson said he often goes in the afternoon with friends and they end up sitting for long periods of time waiting for their turn to play. He said it has been warm enough, with the weather, that he went up on an afternoon in December and the courts were full. Mr. Anderson said he has seen families there socializing and feels like pickleball is a social sport and even when you are not playing, there are people there visiting. Mr. Anderson said he doesn't know where they are considering putting the courts and doesn't know the concerns that others are talking about, but wanted to give his experience as a counterpoint. He said the courts are not going to be full all the time, that's just how it is, but the grass does not have people on it all the time either. He said there is a need for more courts.

Jolene Baker stated her concern about the lights at the park and they shine in her bedroom window all year long. She said once they go on they never go off. Ms. Baker said they are there all season long. She said she was also opposed to tearing up grass to replace with concrete.

Braden Olsen said he didn't want the pickleball courts to go any further north on the grass. He also expressed a concern about the parking and how full the parking lots are during the summer. Mr. Olsen said he would like to see a map of where they will be located and the impact to parking.

With no other comments from the public, Dan Olsen **moved** to close the public comment period. Kenneth Reynolds **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting in favor of the motion.

Mayor Arnold stated the Planning Commission has a couple of vacancies on the Board and they've received a couple of letters of interest for the positions. He stated he was going to go alphabetically by last names to have the individuals introduce themselves.

He asked Guy Collett if he would start with an introduction and his interest in serving on the Planning Commission. Mr. Collett said he is currently living in Naples City. He shared

***INTRODUCTION OF  
APPLICANTS FOR  
NAPLES PLANNING  
COMMISSION***

that he has served on the Planning Commission for the County in the past. Mr. Collett said he is planning to build on a parcel of land that is not in the City but while he does live in the City he would like to have the opportunity to serve. He stated he is a real estate agent and he wanted to help Naples progress and take care of the residents. Councilman Zilles stated that Mr. Collett will be running for one of the County Commission seats and wondered if that would be a conflict of interest. Mr. Collett said he didn't see it as such and thought it could be a benefit because the City is part of the County and they could work together. He said he works with the American Legion and works with the Chamber of Commerce as the public relations chair and didn't feel those were a conflict. He said if he gets elected it would be up to the County and Naples to see if he could continue to serve. He said he feels like we need to improve our cohesiveness in the County. Councilman Zilles said he appreciated that and didn't mean anything by it. Mayor Arnold said the Planning Commission is an advisory board and makes recommendation to the City Council, who then makes the decisions, and they would probably need to seek legal council on that. Mayor Arnold said he sees the conflict as minimal. Councilman Morton asked Mr. Collett what difference he sees between a City and County Planning and Zoning. Mr. Collett said he saw it with the assisted living homes being allowed in residential neighborhoods in Vernal and not allowed in the County, but then they came to see that it made sense to have similar regulations. He said it depends on what each entity's goals are. Mayor Arnold wanted to know if Mr. Collett had any scheduling conflicts in regards to the night the Planning Commission holds their meeting. Mr. Collett stated, not on that Thursday, but he does volunteer a lot in the community. Mayor Arnold asked what Mr. Collett's thoughts were on the overlap of his occupation as a real estate agent and serving on the Planning Commission? He said there is value in his real estate knowledge and how he would manage that line of conflict of interest between making sure that he's not pushing for something that helps him sell something in the bounds of Naples City. Mr. Collett said it is an advisory board and he does feel like he has something to offer because of his profession, but only in an advisory position. Mayor Arnold thanked him for answering their questions.

Mayor Arnold asked Mason Holmes to introduce himself. Mr. Holmes said he has lived in Vernal for 23 years and said he is working in the electrical field and has been involved in

construction most of his life. He said he received a degree in business management and just wanted to put himself out there and had a little more to learn. Mr. Holmes felt his knowledge and his youthfulness might help direct some things. He also said he knows a couple of the commission members already and thought that would help. Councilman Zilles asked what things he has noticed in the Naples area that he would like to maybe discuss as a member of the Planning Commission. Mr. Holmes said that we do live in a rural town, but he does see the potential for growth and would love the idea of a grocery store here and to be a part of that. Mayor Arnold said they do talk about growth but how do you deal with the mixed views on what people do and don't want? He wanted to know how Mr. Holmes would try and manage those conversations. Mr. Holmes said you do need to do your own research and have those conversations and find out what people want because the City has both businesses and individuals they are serving. Councilman Zilles asked Mr. Holmes if he had ever heard the term "nimbyism?" He told him it stands for "not-in-my-backyard" and there is that movement that, if it's going to go in my backyard, then I don't want it. Councilman Zilles asked him what his thoughts were about that? Mr. Holmes said he's grown up raising cows and they had the opportunity to put solar panels on family-owned property and they had some say "not-in-my-backyard" but some saw the positive in it. He went back to what he said before, weigh the pros and cons of who it's going to benefit, who it's going to hurt, and to try and find some middle ground. Mayor Arnold did point out that Mr. Holmes is Micheal Davis' son-in-law, but because the Planning Commission does not report to the City Manager, he didn't feel there was a conflict. Mayor Arnold said he didn't have any problem with moving this forward. Councilman Reynolds said he has worked with the Planning Commission for years and didn't have any problem with either of the individuals and would make the **motion** to approve the appointments. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting aye. Mayor Arnold said he would have Gwen Harrison get in touch with both of them about the next meeting.

*A P P R O V E  
A P P O I N T M E N T S T O  
N A P L E S P L A N N I N G  
C O M M I S S I O N*

Cheryl Meier with the USSD#1 came before the Council regarding a proclamation supporting the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities. She said the proclamation is to help Uintah County become part of a community of active, healthy, aging status. Ms. Meier said there is only one other county in the State of Utah that participates with AARP to be

*A P P R O V E  
P R O C L A M A T I O N  
S U P P O R T I N G  
P A R T I C I P A T I O N I N T H E  
A A R P N E T W O R K O F A G E -  
F R I E N D L Y*

healthy aging designated. She said they are trying to show some partnership and be able to apply for some grants with AARP that will help with their senior programs at the Recreation Center. Ms. Meier stated there is no monetary commitment for the City attached to this, they are just asking that in any planning or capital projects the City is considering that they keep in mind the healthy aging community for sidewalks, programs, etc. She said it is a reminder, when they are making plans, to keep this group in mind. Ms. Meier stated the first grant she would like to go after would be to help pay for a personal trainer for the age group they are talking about. Councilman Zilles asked about the reporting requirements for Naples City, is that something she would take care of? Ms. Meier stated the paperwork would show Uintah County Healthy Active. Councilman Zilles asked if the proclamation was just a supporting document? Ms. Meier said it is. Councilman Zilles wanted to know if it's restricted if any entities in the County didn't pass a similar document? Ms. Meier said if the City were to apply for a grant on their own with AARP, the document would only help them, it wouldn't hurt them. With no other questions, Nate Zilles **moved** to approve the proclamation. Ross Morton **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting in favor of the motion.

## *COMMUNITIES*

Before turning time over to Cheryl Meier, Mayor Arnold stated that he recognizes that there are always two sides to every issue. He asked Council to weigh those pros and cons internally, ask questions, and then make a decision. He asked them to keep an open mind. Mayor Arnold turned the time over to Cheryl Meier for a discussion on pickleball courts at the Naples Park. She showed a picture of the overlay of the park and showed the original location of the courts near the musical equipment. Ms. Meier explained that USSD #1 manages the parks for Uintah County, Ballard, Vernal, and Naples City. She said there are many sports that people participate in or watch and their goal is to provide recreation for all. Ms. Meier shared that disc golf and pickleball are huge right now. She explained they do have a very extensive softball park project and it has started in Naples with the lights on the two fields. Ms. Meier said she does have a large grant that was applied for but she's still waiting on it. She referred again to the map and said when they first engineered a place for the pickleball courts it was determined that the best place was near the musical instruments. She said that section of the park is watered with culinary water and USSD #1 pays for that. Ms. Meier

## *DISCUSSION REGARDING PICKLEBALL COURTS AT NAPLES PARK*

reminded everyone about the water situation in the area and they have to determine where and what to water with limited supply. She said the goal is to turf all of the ball fields so they can get to a place where they can still play, if they can't water anymore. Ms. Meier also mentioned the other area that was discussed located between the two fields and said they do have people who practice there and it does have better turf. Ms. Meier discussed the lighting because she knew that was an issue and showed a picture of the placement of the lights and a sample of the lights. She stated lighting is very different now days and they are directional, LED, and zoned down. Ms. Meier had a picture showing the radius of the lights and explained that the numbers represent how far out the light shines and when you get to a zero that means there is no light. Ms. Meier stated the same light study had to be done when they located the courts at Independence Park. Ms. Meier said there could be the potential for twelve additional cars if every court was being used and if each person brought their own car. She stated that parking is an issue at any park but didn't feel like twelve cars was justification for additional parking. Mayor Arnold asked if she could address the question of usage. Ms. Meier stated she tried to pull up the camera information for the park but wasn't able to, she did say the usage has been crazy. Mayor Arnold stated he's had a couple of people talk to him about what the Turner's vision of this park was. He read from the deed of the property of when the Turner's donated the property to Naples City. He said he understands the Turner's wanted to keep it a park and that Naples City have a say in it. He said the City has given over some of it to the Recreation SSD, and they recognize them as the authority on the recreation. He said there is nothing on the record as to what Naples City can and can't put on there. He recognizes that it does create a weird balance between the City and the Uintah SSD because Cheryl has a job as the land manager to try and do what she views as best when it comes to watering and when it comes to all the different groups that want to use the park and the comments she's getting, and where does that balance with Naples still maintaining a say in it, so we don't have to give it back. Mayor Arnold stated that we live in a small community and we're neighbors and it's not always easy to stand up in front of people but he genuinely appreciates that they took the time to come and share their thoughts. Mayor Arnold stated their job, as a Council, was to look at all of it, not just one activity above another, but to create space and opportunity for everyone. Mayor Arnold

shared his own personal opinion that they don't see as many kids out on the grass and riding bikes, they do have those that play sports, but not as many that are out playing. Mayor Arnold shared his thoughts on the lighting issue and said they do a much better job of being directional and shouldn't cause a lot of issues for surrounding areas. Mayor Arnold said they don't want to take away anything from the baseball and softball, they want to work on some things that allow them to collaborate with those groups. Mayor Arnold asked if the Council members had anything to add, for or against?

Councilman Morton also expressed his appreciation for those that were willing to talk with him. He stated he was of the opinion that if they can talk things out, they can get things worked out. Councilman Morton said he has always loved baseball and softball and wants to support those groups, so when those in attendance brought their issues to a previous meeting, he met with Becky Evans and told her they want to support softball. Councilman Morton said when he met with her they came up with some ideas that would help the softball people and still allow them to have the pickleball. He said he took the ideas to Cheryl and they talked about ways they can help support the softball program. One of the things they talked about were the batting cages on the west end of the field and if they had those up then they wouldn't need a whole field for practice. He said they discussed some improvements that could be made on the lower field to make it better to practice on. Councilman Morton said he did talk with Braden Olsen and found out they don't want to take away what they call "practice cove" so they took that area off the table. Councilman Morton said he spoke with Becky about doing a pickleball tournament once a year where all the proceeds go to girls softball. He said he didn't want them to think he didn't listen and that he doesn't care about softball, he wants it to be a successful program. Councilman Morton said he did talk with Cheryl about lights and was assured that the lights are directional and wouldn't be a bother to people. He said he does think this would be a good thing for the community and while everyone doesn't get exactly what they want, everybody can get what they need through compromise. He said he appreciates the comments and feedback and hopes that a lot of the concerns have been answered and they can make both sides happy. Councilman Morton shared that their family was always glad, if they traveled with one of their children to a ball game, if they pulled up and there were pickleball courts. He said it gave the rest of the family something to do while the one child

practiced or played. Councilman Morton also shared that new bathrooms, a score tower, and concession stands were coming as part of the improvements for softball. He said they really do care about their program.

Councilman Olsen asked Cheryl if she had the square footage of the pickleball courts. It was determined that it would be a little less than half an acre. Councilman Olsen said the area discussed is being used for fall football. Cheryl said they play fall football everywhere and are in discussion about using the old central cove area for additional practice or playing space. Councilman Olsen also asked if there was any money available to help pave the parking area next to Naples Elementary? Cheryl wasn't sure, she said she could look because they have a similar need at the Recreation Center.

Councilman Zilles asked if there had ever been any discussion with the School District about the property west of Naples School. He said that area is rarely used. Cheryl stated the School District does things on their property for their own needs and the USSD does not have any type of agreement with the School District for use of their properties. Councilman Zilles stated that he appreciated how concerned Greg Olsen was regarding the use of the area and Councilman Zilles said he understands it is predominately a softball-oriented park. He said he also appreciated the comments Greg made regarding the lights and how that wasn't as big an issue for him. Councilman Zilles addressed the concern of the drought that everyone is living through right now and the ability of anyone to keep things green was going to be limited. Councilman Zilles agreed that softball is fun and pickleball is fun, he asked if there was any type of focus group that was put together to decide where these pickleball courts would be located? Cheryl stated they've worked with an engineer and their parks and rec staff and they are very aware of the land they manage, the area, the grades, the water conditions, and the soil conditions. Cheryl said they did not walk every inch of the park because they know there are areas that would be a no. She said the far east corner has some parking space but with the knowledge they have, they know that is too far from a restroom. She also noted that if the Recreation District is put on water restrictions they would have to shut the splash park down and they still want to be able to provide recreation opportunities. Councilman Zilles recognized that this is a hot topic and it's not going to be possible to make everyone happy, but wondered if they got more minds to the table

then maybe they could make more people happy. Cheryl said they have looked at the areas discussed and they have spent time trying to determine the best area for the location and that is how they came back to the original site.

Councilman Reynolds said he doesn't agree with the location because there are undeveloped places in the park. He understands that it is a drought year but it won't always be that way so why take away what they've got. He said if they went to the north west it would be near a parking area. He said the parking near the pavilions is always being used. Cheryl said they have looked at a lot of areas and the consensus was that it was too far away from the park. Cheryl said she understands that it's not always going to be a drought, but Naples City does not pay the water bill, the Recreation District does, and last June it was \$16,000 for Naples Park. Councilman Reynolds said it won't always be a drought year. Cheryl said she understands that but the bill for \$16,000 was from last year and things are not changing yet this year. Councilman Reynolds just didn't know why they were taking away from what was already there, and you can't get it back.

Councilman Zilles said he appreciated all the thought that Cheryl has put into this and also the comments made by Councilman Reynolds and just wondered if there needed to be more community outreach. He said it is very difficult because he understands there will be impact to everyone around there or involved.

Councilman Morton said there has been a lot of discussion involved in this already. He said they are also looking at a time element if they want to be able to have the contractor secured.

Ms. Meier recommended the Council walk the area and discuss the locations. She stated the location they suggested was best for the cost. She invited them to look at the areas and the drainage of the areas.

Mayor Arnold stated the Council does need to make a decision, for or against. He asked them to be willing to look at the other side, whatever their opinion currently is, he asked them to really be willing to try and understand each side. He asked them to look at both sides and be prepared to make a decision at their next meeting. He said they need to move on.

Councilman Olsen asked Ms. Meier what the issue was with the area west of the splash park. Ms. Meier stated they would have to lower the elevation so much that they will offset the entire drainage of the park and it would be a large dollar amount. Councilman Olsen said it was probably the least utilized area of the park. Ms. Meier stated the City has engineer capability and they could talk to people. She said if money was no concept they'd put a pickleball court on every corner. Ms. Meier said they are not out to destroy recreation in Naples City Park, they are there to make it bigger and better.

Mayor Arnold asked the Council to take the time to consider both sides of the issue and be prepared to come back next meeting to make a decision. Councilman Olsen wanted to know what they were considering? Mayor Arnold said, whether or not they are going to put them at the park. He recommended that if Councilman Olsen was interested in a certain area of the park then to get with Mike and see if it's feasible.

Ryan Cook came before the Council to ask for approval to purchase a new crack seal machine. Ryan presented two bids for a new machine and presented those to the Council. Ryan told the Council that crack sealing is the best bang for your buck to extend the life of a road. He said their machine is still running, but it is 20 years old. Ryan asked the Council to allow him time to go out and look at one of the machines. He said Vernal City owns one of the machines he received a bid on and he's been able to look at it but he wanted time to travel to Salt Lake to look at the other one. He was asking them to allow him a chance to look at the other machine and then make a decision. Ryan said he feels like the machines are selling quickly. Mayor Arnold asked what the benefits of the more expensive machine are? Ryan said that crack seal machine comes with all the bells and whistles, but that sometimes means more things can go wrong. Ryan said he really wanted to be able to check out the wand on the other machine because of weight and ergonomics. Mayor Arnold asked Ryan if he like the Holland machine. Ryan stated he liked some of the safety features. Mayor Arnold asked him if it was worth the additional \$6,000. Ryan said he believes so. Councilman Morton asked if it was a budgeted item and where in the budget it would be coming from. Ryan said it was and gave him the budget line item. Kenneth Reynolds **moved** to allow Ryan to purchase the Holland machine.

***APPROVE PURCHASE OF  
CRACK SEAL MACHINE***

Nate Zilles **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Jonathan Beede	Aye
Kenneth Reynolds	Aye
Ross Morton	Aye
Dan Olsen	Aye
Nate Zilles	Aye

Micheal Davis presented some changes to the purchasing policy for the City. He stated in the current policy anything above \$500 came before City Council and the change would be that anything over \$1,000 would be approved by the City Manager and anything over \$5,000 would be reviewed by the City Council. Mayor Arnold stated that he asked Micheal to update the policy and bring it before Council because there seemed to be some confusion about whose approval was needed. Micheal said they also changed the amounts on what is required for bids. Jonathan Beede **moved** to approve the amendments to the Naples City purchasing policy. Councilman Zilles asked about the range listed in one area and the amount listed in the other. Micheal said it would be anything between \$1,000 and \$4,999. Councilman Morton said the policy reads "purchases over" and maybe that should be changed to "between." Micheal said we can do that. Jonathan Beede **amended** his motion to approve the amendments to the policy with the change discussed. Councilman Olsen stated the ordinance needed to be cleaned up and brought back before they approved it. Jonathan Beede **amended** the motion to table the adoption of the ordinance and to make the changes with the direction given. Micheal said this is the ordinance, he said this does make the changes discussed. Micheal said they need to adopt the ordinance to change the policy. Councilman Olsen said the ordinance needs to be a clean copy without the corrections. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion was to approve the discussed changes to the purchasing policy and to bring back the Ordinance for approval. The motion passed with all voting in favor.

Councilman Zilles wanted Council members to know of the upcoming GIB seminar sponsored by UBAG. He said there would be training for newly and existing elected officials and planning commission, engineering firms, or any staff are invited that would like to come. He said it would be on April 1, 2026 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

***DISCUSSION TO AMEND  
NAPLES PURCHASING  
POLICY - ORDINANCE NO.  
26-264***

***OTHER MATTERS OR  
FUTURE COUNCIL  
MATTERS***

Mayor Arnold had tickets for the upcoming Vernal Chamber of Commerce Gala if anyone was interested in attending.

With no other business before the Council, Ross Morton **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan Beede **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting aye.

*MOTION TO ADJOURN*

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_