

City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes
Wednesday, March 4, 2026
Council Chambers – Room No. 140
2600 W Taylorsville Blvd
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

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6:00 P.M. BOARD MEETING OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Separate minutes were taken and are on file.

6:30 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

ATTENDANCE

<u>Elected Officials Present</u>		<u>Staff Present</u>
Mayor Kristie S. Overson	At-Large	John Taylor, City Administrator
Council Chair Robert Knudsen	Dist. No. 1	Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin/CFO
Vice Chair Curt Cochran	Dist. No. 2	Grant Allen, Senior Planner
Council Member Anna Barbieri	Dist. No. 3	Dina Blaes, Strategic Engagement
Council Member Ernest Burgess (Remote)	Dist. No. 5	Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Council Member Meredith Harker	Dist. No. 4	Brady Cottam, Police Chief
		Richard Rich, Unified Fire Captain
		Ryan Richards, Dep. City Attorney
		Betsy Valora, Receptionist/Dep. City Recorder

Others Present: Melanie Bennett, Maclain Drake, Hannah Fellows, John E. Gidney, Fidel Hernandez, Todd Huber, Susan Holman, Dean Paynter and Preston Valora

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Chair Knudsen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present with Council Member Burgess attending remotely.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies-Pledge and Reverence

Council Member Harker led the Pledge of Allegiance before offering a prayer.

1.2 Mayor’s Report

27 Mayor Overson provided an update on her recent activities and city initiatives. She reported that
28 the state legislature had two more days remaining and acknowledged the significant time
29 investment by city staff, especially John Hiskey, in monitoring legislative activities. The mayor
30 praised the responsiveness of local legislators who actively sought input from the city on various
31 issues.

32 The Mayor attended the Council of Mayors meeting, describing it as an opportunity for mayors to
33 collaborate and share information about their respective cities. She emphasized her role in
34 promoting Taylorsville at such gatherings.

35 Mayor Overson reported on attending Interfaith Council Committee meetings, where they were
36 developing a mission statement and working to unite different religious communities in the city.
37 These meetings were taking place at the Alrasool Islamic Center on 4800 South, which was on the
38 historic registry.

39 She attended a St. Mark's Hospital Board of Trustees meeting, representing Taylorsville's interests,
40 as well as Scout Troop 1996's thirtieth anniversary celebration, where several council members
41 were also present alongside mayors from both West Jordan and West Valley.

42 Mayor Overson toured the Unified Fire training facility with other board members to assess current
43 capabilities and future needs for firefighter training. She also visited Vista and Calvin Smith
44 Elementary schools to read to students, emphasizing the importance of education.

45 The mayor described a tour of the water reservoir infrastructure in Taylorsville, organized by
46 Council Member Barbieri for her community council. Between 60-75 people attended this tour of
47 the underground water storage facilities. That afternoon, the youth council toured the West Valley
48 Animal Shelter to learn about their services and volunteer opportunities.

49 Mayor Overson updated the council on park development, noting that Summit Vista phase 2 had
50 begun with preliminary work visible, and phase 2 of Taylorsville Park improvements would start
51 in the coming weeks. Both projects were expected to be completed by year's end.

52 **1.3 Calendar of Upcoming Events**

53 Chair Knudsen reviewed upcoming city-sponsored events.
54

55 **1.4 Public Comment Period**

56 Fidel Hernandez presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding an incomplete wall project on
57 2700 West. He explained that while wall construction was completed in certain areas around 2021,
58 the section in his neighborhood was left unfinished, creating an inconsistent appearance. Mr.
59 Hernandez submitted a petition signed by 54 people, with 8 residents directly affected by the
60 incomplete wall. He acknowledged that city projects required significant planning and funding
61 time but requested a clear timeline for when the wall extension might be completed.

62 Mayor Overson responded that while they don't typically engage in dialogue during the public
63 comment period, she wanted to acknowledge Mr. Hernandez's continued attendance at meetings.

64 She explained that staff had been occupied with legislative matters but committed to meeting with
65 him in the coming weeks to present the city's research on the matter.

66 McLane Drake addressed the council regarding disability awareness and ADA compliance for
67 buildings and businesses in Taylorsville. He worked with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services at
68 the Sanderson Center and expressed concern about decreasing accessibility, particularly with
69 websites becoming less accessible for disabled individuals. Mr. Drake requested the city's attention
70 to ensure local businesses met ADA requirements for various disabilities.

71 **2. APPOINTMENTS**

72 **2.1 Resolution No. 26-04 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville consenting to the**
73 **Appointment of Betsy Valora as a Deputy Recorder with Administration of the**
74 **Oath of Office to Follow – Mayor Overson**

75 Mayor Overson recommended the appointment of Betsy Valora as deputy recorder, noting that
76 Betsy had worked with the city for several years and expressed willingness to take on additional
77 responsibilities. The mayor emphasized the need for backup support for the city recorder position
78 and praised Betsy's commitment to additional training and duties.

79 Chair Knudsen thanked Betsy for her willingness to serve and her ongoing helpfulness to city
80 operations.

81 **MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to approve Resolution No. 26-04, appointing**
82 **Betsy Valora as a Deputy Recorder. The motion was seconded by Council**
83 **Member Cochran.**

84 **Council Member Cochran Yes**
85 **Council Member Burgess Yes**
86 **Council Member Harker Yes**
87 **Council Member Barbieri Yes**
88 **Chair Knudsen Yes**

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90 **Motion Passed 5-0**

91 The oath of office was then administered to Ms. Valora.

92 **3. REPORTS**

93 **3.1 West Valley Animal Services Bi-Annual Report – Melanie Bennett**

94 Director of Animal Services Melanie Bennett reviewed shelter activities for the quarter including
95 agency assists, animal investigations, court appearances, trap rentals and park patrols. She
96 explained that Urban Wildlife handled raccoon and skunk removal, coming directly to residents'
97 homes to remove them when trapped.

98 The shelter maintained priority response times well below required averages by deploying at least
99 two officers per area. Ms. Bennett introduced new clerk Kim, and Jose Martinez, a new animal
100 control officer with three weeks of service.

101 Special events included October adoption promotions with Bissell covering adoption fees for 24
102 animals, and Shelter Saturday in November resulting in 7 adoptions. The facility installed new turf
103 in the back play yard thanks to the fundraising efforts of staffers Kayla and Crystal, who raised
104 over \$7,000 for the project with no cost to the shelter.

105 Ms. Bennett highlighted volunteer Robert Harlow's ongoing efforts organizing "Pupsgiving" and
106 "Santa Paws" events, bringing numerous volunteers to provide special meals and activities for
107 shelter animals on holidays.

108 Council Member Harker added that she recently took about 90 third graders to tour the animal
109 shelter as part of a community involvement initiative. The students were now engaged in learning
110 about service projects including making toys and collecting food donations for the shelter.

111 **3.2 Arts Council Bi-Annual Report – Susan Holman**

112 Susan Holman introduced Hannah Fellows, who performed a musical selection recently presented
113 as part of the Carole King Revue. She pointed out the exceptional talent that could be found in
114 Taylorsville.

115 Ms. Holman reported on recent events including the October art show. She expressed her
116 appreciation to Julie and Craig Clements, whose organizational support helped make the show
117 successful.

118 The Arts Council produced the play "Quilters," featuring talented performers with beautiful
119 harmonies telling stories of frontier women. The recent Carole King Revue featured 21 performers
120 and marked their largest revue ever with 222 tickets sold.

121 The symphony faced challenges when the director quit two weeks before a concert, but Craig
122 Farrin from Payson stepped in to conduct a successful performance. Salt Lake Community College
123 was now partnering with the Arts Council to provide a stable director for future symphonies.

124 Chair Knudsen praised the symphony performance despite the last-minute conductor change,
125 noting the commitment of orchestra members and the successful outcome.

126 Upcoming events included a Disney children's play on June 4-5 at the MidValley Performing Arts
127 Center, "Taylorsville's Got Talent" on June 6 at Centennial Plaza, "Anything Goes" from July 13-
128 18, and "Broadway Under the Stars" on September 11-12 at Centennial Plaza. The Arts Council
129 also offered tap dancing clinics for those interested in participating.

130 **3.3 Green Committee Bi-Annual Report – Mark Wendel**

131 Council Member Burgess stated that Mr. Wendel had been called out of town and would need to
132 reschedule his report.

133

134 4. CONSENT AGENDA

135 4.1 Minutes – City Council Meeting, February 18, 2026

136 MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to approve the meeting minutes of February
137 18, 2026 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harker.

138 Chair Knudsen Yes

139 Council Member Barbieri Yes

140 Council Member Harker Yes

141 Council Member Burgess Yes

142 Council Member Cochran Yes

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144 Motion Passed 5-0

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146 5. PLANNING MATTERS

147 5.1 Ordinance No. 26-03 An Ordinance of the City of Taylorsville Approving a Text
148 Amendment to Title 13 of the Taylorsville Municipal Code Amending State
149 Code Reference Numbering Pursuant to 2025 Senate Bill 1008 – Grant Allen

150 Grant Allen presented the ordinance, explaining that this represented the first of several text
151 amendments needed to ensure compliance with state code following legislative changes. Senate
152 Bill 1008 passed during the 2025 special session amended and recodified the Municipal Land Use
153 Development and Management Act (LUDMA), which authorized and governed land use and
154 zoning regulations for cities and counties.

155 Mr. Allen explained that the Act established mandatory requirements that cities must follow and
156 provided the legal framework for making zoning decisions and implementing plans. Taylorsville's
157 Title 13 contained the foundational zoning and land use regulations with numerous references to
158 state code that required updating.

159 The ordinance updated 43 references throughout approximately 36 pages of Title 13, changing
160 from the old numbering system (10-99) to the new system (10-20). Mr. Allen provided examples
161 showing existing and proposed reference changes. The ordinance updates were published in
162 February with notices to affected entities, and no comments were received. The Planning
163 Commission voted 6-0 for a favorable recommendation in February.

164 Chair Knudsen noted the straightforward nature of the changes, which simply redirected references
165 to correct code sections without substantive modifications.

166 MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-03, an Ordinance of
167 the City of Taylorsville Approving a Text Amendment to Title 13 of the
168 Taylorsville Municipal Code Amending State Code Reference Numbering
169 Pursuant to 2025 Senate Bill 1008. The motion was seconded by Council Member
170 Cochran.

171 Council Member Harker Yes
172 Council Member Cochran Yes
173 Council Member Barbieri Yes
174 Chair Knudsen Yes
175 Council Member Burgess Yes

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177 Motion Passed 5-0
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179 **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

180 6.1 **Public Hearing Accept Public Comment Regarding Proposed Increase to the**
181 **Storm Water Fee– *Scott Harrington***

182 Scott Harrington explained that city administration sought to increase the monthly storm drain fee
183 from \$4 to \$6. With the increase, Taylorsville would still be tied for the lowest fee in the valley.

184 Mr. Harrington explained that the storm drain fee was initially adopted in 2007 and billed through
185 Rocky Mountain Power, with no increases over the past 19 years. The city had completed all
186 original master plan projects that addressed sinkholes appearing on major roads, but increasing
187 costs had reduced the purchasing power of collected funds.

188 The \$2 increase would generate \$575,000 annually for new capital projects and localized storm
189 drain improvements. The revenue would also help repay approximately \$835,000 in debt owed
190 from the storm drain fund to the general fund. Capital projects addressed known issues identified
191 through pipe camera inspections, including cracks, holes, and obstructions, while localized
192 projects handled opportunistic repairs during concurrent work like sidewalk installations.

193 Mr. Harrington presented a multi-year implementation plan spanning fiscal years 2027-2035, with
194 early years focusing on higher-priority projects and debt repayment.

195 The fee also funded ongoing maintenance including street sweeping and system cleaning.
196 Implementation was planned for April 1st, with formal adoption sought at the next council
197 meeting.

198 Council Member Harker expressed surprise at the amount of work that needed to be done and
199 wondered if the fee should have been increased sooner or should now be increased even more. Mr.
200 Harrington responded that some projects were a high priority while others could easily wait for
201 future funds. He felt that increasing it to \$6.00 per month was sufficient and he did not anticipate
202 another increase in the near future unless something catastrophic took place.

203 Chair Knudsen opened the public hearing. However, there was no one present who expressed a
204 desire to speak, so he closed the public hearing.

205 **7. OTHER MATTERS**

206 7.1 **Annual Training on Utah’s Open and Public Meeting Act – *Tracy Cowdell***

207 7.2 **Annual Training on Data Privacy – Tracy Cowdell**

208 City Administrator John Taylor asked that both training items be continued to a date uncertain.

209 **8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)**

210 There were no new items for subsequent consideration.

211 **9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS**

212 Chair Knudsen briefly reviewed the dates and times of upcoming planning commission and city
213 council meetings.

214 **10. CLOSED SESSION IF NEEDED (Conference Room 202)**

215 There was no need for a closed session.

216 **11. ADJOURNMENT**

217 **MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by**
218 **Council Member Barbieri and Chair Knudsen declared the meeting adjourned.**

219 The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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222 _____
222 Jamie Brooks, MMC

223 City Recorder

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225 *Minutes Prepared with the Aid of HeyGov Artificial Intelligence*

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