



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 14, 2026, at 6:04 PM**

Present

Mayor Zack Stratton
Councilmember Parker McCumber
Councilmember Jacob Wood
Councilmember Jacob Holdaway
Councilmember David Lauret
Councilmember Ezra Nair

Absent

Staff Present: City Manager Eric Ellis, Chief Deputy Holden Rockwell with the Utah County Sheriff's Office, Redevelopment Agency Director Josh Daniels, Communications Director Jenna Ahern, Parks and Rec Director Brian Vawdrey, Public Works Director Naseem Ghandour, and Deputy City Recorder Tony Lara

Others Speaking: Vineyard Residents Tim Blackburn, Kimberly Olsen, Dennis Frank, Sara Cameron, Daria Evans, Brett Clawson, Chris Bramwell, David Pearce, and Caden Rhoton

1. CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Stratton started the meeting at 6:04pm. Vineyard Resident Tim Blackburn offered a prayer and led the pledge of Allegiance.

2. BUSINESS ITEMS

2.1. Approval of the amended 2026 City Council Meeting Schedule (Resolution 2026-01)

The City Recorder's Office will present the amended annual meeting schedule for discussion and consideration. This item will be voted on only if the City Council adopts Ordinance 2026-02, which approves changes to the days of the week on which City Council meetings are held. The Mayor and City Council will act to adopt (or deny) this request by resolution.

The council discussed the proposed changes. Initially there was a request for a continuance to allow for the adoption of an ordinance to allow for the changes. Councilmember Nair felt that his read of current city code allowed the council to change the meeting times by adoption of the

resolution. The Mayor and City Council discussed the options and decided to move forward with the proposed resolution.

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER HOLDAWAY MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-01 AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER MCCUMBER SECONDED. THE ROLL CALL WAS AS FOLLOWS: COUNCILMEMBERS NAIR, LAURET, WOOD, HOLDAWAY AND MCCUMBER VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2.2. Mayor Stratton to appoint subcommittee to Review Supplemental report form the independent audit

The City Council will review the findings of the independent audit, specifically those discussed as part of the supplemental observations and recommendations report. The Council may take action based on that discussion.

Mayor Stratton led a discussion with members of the council regarding the Supplemental report from the independent audit. The councilmembers shared their thoughts and discussed a proposed subcommittee to look into the findings further. Councilmember Nair recommended creating a formal audit committee possibly funded by leftover funds that had been allocated for last year's audit. Former councilmember Brett Clawson added clarification on funds and the makeup of the audit committee.

Mayor Stratton clarified his proposal for a subcommittee including the members, purpose and scope of the committee.

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER LAURET MOVED TO APPROVE THE FORMATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER WOOD SECONDED. COUNCILMEMBERS NAIR, LAURET, WOOD, HOLDAWAY AND MCCUMBER VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2.3. Mayor Stratton to appoint subcommittee to review appointed positions and staffing.

The council will review current departments and staffing. Council may decide to act based on the outcome of the discussion.

Mayor Stratton led a discussion on the proposed subcommittee. The council expressed support for the formation of the subcommittee. The mayor gave details as to who would be appointed to the subcommittee as well as its intended scope.

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER HOLDAWAY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FORMATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER MCCUMBER SECONDED. COUNCILMEMBERS NAIR, LAURET, WOOD, HOLDAWAY AND VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

3.1. Approval of the December 10, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER HOLDAWAY MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT ITEM AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER LAURET SECONDED. COUNCILMEMBERS NAIR, LAURET, WOOD, HOLDAWAY AND MCCUMBER VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CLOSED SESSION

Councilmember Holdaway asked to present clarification on the need for a closed session and expressed concerns regarding the previous city attorney Jayme Blakesley.

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER LAURET MOVED TO GO INTO A CLOSED SESSION AT 7:02 PM FOR THE PURPOSES OF A DISCUSSION OF THE CHARACTER, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, OR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL. COUNCILMEMBER NAIR SECONDED. THE ROLL CALL WAS AS FOLLOWS: COUNCILMEMBERS HOLDAWAY, MCCUMBER, WOOD, LAURET AND NAIR VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor Stratton reopened the regular city council session at 8:25pm.

Councilmember Holdaway reiterated his concerns and gave additional clarification on the closed session as well as the need for a city attorney.

Councilmember McCumber gave answers to questions raised during public comment, and explained the process that had been used to find an interim attorney as well what would be done moving forward to retain a full-time attorney. A discussion ensued.

Motion: COUNCILMEMBER MCCUMBER MOVED TO APPOINT DEER VALLEY LAW FIRM TO REPRESENT AND COUNSEL THE CITY AS WELL AS AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO NEGOTIATE AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THEM. COUNCILMEMBER HOLDAWAY SECONDED. THE ROLL CALL WAS AS FOLLOWS: COUNCILMEMBERS HOLDAWAY, MCCUMBER, WOOD, LAURET AND NAIR VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPOINTMENTS/REMOVALS

5.1. Appointment of City Attorney

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kimberly Olsen, living in the Lakefront Subdivision, wanted to express her concern over what she felt was incorrect information regarding the public release of unredacted ledgers. Additionally, she expressed concerns about dismissal of staff.

Dennis Frank, living in the Cascade Subdivision, expressed concerns about lighting along State Road 167 and Main Street. He also wanted to thank staff for their response time in dealing with concerns that he had brought to their attention previously. Lastly he expressed his gratitude to the sheriffs office for their response to his recent call.

Sara Cameron, Vineyard resident, expressed concern over what she saw as misinformation spread during the most recent election cycle and asked that the record show “I want people to understand there were a lot of things spoken that weren’t true and you continue to speak them anyway and that’s really frustrating to me.” She accused specifically Councilmember Holdaway of “humiliating and lying about staff.”

Daira Evans, living in The Villas Subdivision, commented that she would like to see future development focused on allowing residents to build equity. Additionally, she mentioned that she would like to see planning move towards a more family-focused city. Lastly, she wanted to thank the city for putting out its “year in review”

Chris Bramwell, Vineyard Resident, expressed his excitement for the incoming council and mayor and wanted to wish them luck and offered assistance in any way he could.

David Pearce, living in The Cascade Subdivision, asked several questions of the City Council regarding the appointment of the city attorney. These were addressed by Councilmember McCumber after the closed session and before the appointment of the interim city attorney.

Deputy Recorder Tony Lara read, into the record, comments sent by Vineyard resident Caden Rhoton.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm

MINUTES APPROVED ON: 1/27/2026

CERTIFIED CORRECT BY: 
TONY LARA, DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

