



UINTAH CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd, 2026
6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Mayor Bell, Council Member Combe, Council Member Roberts, Council Member Sorenson, Council Member Patterson

Staff Present: City Attorney Lauren Thomas, City Recorder Michelle Mortensen, Public Works Jack Burton, Planning Commission Chair Aaron Stuart

Attendees: Don & Marilyn Pearson, Austin Bennion, Brandon Everett, Gloria Funk, Jill Smith, Gage Loveland

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Roberts.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
 - Austin Bennion stood and thanked council for putting up speed limit signs. He is grateful for a community that listens and cares. You deserve more appreciation and it does not go unnoticed. I also noticed the flashing lights down at the other end of town. Thanks for your hard work from this side of Uintah.
 - Gage Loveland, a Bonneville High School student officer asked for donations from the city and is seeking other donations from community members to help fund a drug free and alcohol-free party after graduation which will be held at Skinny Dogs.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2026
 - B. Approval of Invoices – None
 - C. Financial Reports – None
 - Council Member Combe made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Sorenson.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.

4. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WEBER COUNTY FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES:**

Presenter: Council Member Sorenson

 - Council Member Sorenson noted that the agreement involves more than he initially expected and raised several concerns after reviewing it. He expressed hesitation about the proposed five-year term, feeling it represents a larger commitment than anticipated, and emphasized the need to fully understand what the City is agreeing to. Although the previous contract expired at the end of 2025, the County delayed sending the new agreement, which will now be backdated to January 1.
 - He pointed out that the agreement promises quarterly reports, though Council Member Roberts clarified that updates have typically been provided during quarterly meetings. Sorenson also expressed concern about annual written fee adjustments, stating that the agreement does not include a clear formula, leaving the potential for open-ended increases.
 - Under the scope of services, he noted that animal control does not typically respond during evenings, weekends, or holidays unless the situation is significant. In those cases, neighbors or law enforcement would handle the matter.
 - Sorenson also stated that the City is not locked into this service and mentioned that South Ogden operates with two employees working out of a small facility and uses the Weber County Animal Shelter as needed, paying per service. He suggested the City may want to explore alternative contracting options.

- Council Member Combe expressed openness to exploring alternative options and suggested signing a one-year agreement to ensure coverage while the City looks at other options and does its due diligence. Council Member Sorenson noted that the City has already paid for March despite not having a signed agreement in place. Council Member Combe also recalled that the last significant animal control incident occurred in 2024, involving a dog bite to a mail carrier. Attorney Lauren Thomas advised that the agreement includes a six-month notice requirement for termination.
- Council Member Roberts asked whether any cities operate outside an interlocal agreement. It was noted that Washington Terrace previously worked with South Ogden, and that most agencies do not provide services during evenings, weekends, or holidays.
- Council Member Sorenson explained that Roy, Riverdale, and South Ogden manage their own animal control operations while utilizing Weber Animal Services as needed. He is seeking confirmation of last year's total cost, estimated at approximately \$15,000.
- Council Member Combe reiterated that signing the agreement while reviewing other options may be the most practical approach. Council Member Patterson commented that \$15,000 is a substantial amount given the relatively low level of activity in the City.
- Motion was made by Council Member Sorenson to approve the interlocal agreement for animal control services with Weber County.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Combe.
- All in favor; the motion carries.

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON SURPLUS ITEMS

Presenter: Council Member Combe

- Council Member Combe explained that in an effort to simplify multiple vehicles doing different things, we put the meter reading equipment and snowplow on the 1-ton Dodge that was purchased last year, so the city has a 2000 Ford F350 that has no use. We do have a need for a commercial grade lawn mower. Our current one is 20 years old and needs a new engine. Replacing the engine is not being fiduciary responsible. We sold some lawnmowers and two other trucks this year which gave us some money. By selling this, we utilize our equipment replacement program.
- This is our cities last fire truck, and he feels that we should do this as a closed bid for Uintah City residents. If no one acts on this, we could send it to the state auction. It has just over 10,000 miles on it and has a pump system on it.
- Motion was made by Council Member Combe to declare the 2000 Ford F350 as a surplus item and the method of disposition would be disposal.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.
- All in favor; the motion carries.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Planning Commission Report: Planning Commission Member

- Chair Aaron Stuart explained that we changed the time for planning commission meetings to the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. We postponed the swearing in of the planning commission alternates and asked Andrew Flegal to serve as an alternate. The commission feels that it would benefit the community to participate in the newsletter with compliance issues so they can get ahead of some things.

B. Public Works Report: None

C. Sherriff's Report: None

D. Council Reports:

- Council Member Combe reported that we have a representative from the RAMP committee for the grant we put in. We were given high marks on everything but matching in kind funds. We have \$27,000 in RAMP money to use for this project and we also have a citizen donating \$22,000. We have some contractors that will donate installation and our public works will take care of \$67,000 worth of demo work which gives us almost 20% of in-kind donations. Selection will be made by the end of the week. The way we have the project engineered, we can choose projects we want to do. The walking path is priority one, followed by the pickleball courts and then the playground equipment. If we do not get everything we asked for, we will be asking for more money next year.
- Council member Sorenson said we had a meeting scheduled with Waste Management that fell through, so we are waiting for that to be rescheduled.
- Council member Patterson mentioned that we are putting up new speed limit signs and figuring out what we want to do this year for roads.
- Council Member Roberts, Easter donation letters went out so we will begin our preparations for Easter. Liz, Jill, and I are working on getting together for U-days meetings. We will be opening the hike to the U to all citizens this year and there will be more information coming on that. We have a good system in place for U-days and so it begins.
- Mayor Bell mentioned that at WACOG, webercountyweeds.com has a lot of valuable resources where you can upload pictures from your property and they will help determine what weeds are in your yard and what you can do to battle them. They are knowledgeable and willing to help. A lot of weeds have a tolerance for chemicals, so they are willing to help us come up with solutions. Also, Ogden City would like all the cities to put a float in this year's Pioneer

- Day parade. The County is offering a rain collection program that allows residents to purchase rain barrels at a subsidized rate. The City would contribute \$28 per barrel, reducing the cost to residents to \$60 each. The barrels can be used to collect rainwater for gardens, trees, and yards. This program may be beneficial since the City purchases all its culinary water.
- The City also met with its engineer to discuss an upcoming project with Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). UDOT has asked the City to anticipate any potential "betterments" it may want included in the project, even though the full scope of impacts is not yet known. UDOT will replace existing infrastructure as-is during construction, but any requested upgrades—such as improvements to undersized water lines—would be considered betterments and would be at the City's expense. Because the City has some undersized water lines that need upgrading, and other potential financial obligations on the horizon, it may need to begin setting aside funds in anticipation of these costs. There may also be requests for UDOT to relocate certain water lines, depending on the final project design, and the City hopes UDOT will be cooperative in allowing work that benefits the City's water system.

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made by Council Member Combe to adjourn city council meeting at 6:57 p.m.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Patterson.
- All in favor; the motion carries.

Michelle Mortensen
Michelle Mortensen, Uintah City Recorder

3/17/26
Date