

## **CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: March 10, 2026**

**Time: 7:00 PM**

**Location: 2267 N 1500 W, Clinton, UT 84015**



**Mayor: Marie Dougherty**

**City Council: Spencer Arave, Jennifer Christensen, Chris Danson, Adam Larsen, and Dane Searle**

**Staff: City Manager Trevor Cahoon, Police Chief Shawn Stoker, Public Works Director David Williams, Fire Chief Jason Poulsen, Parks and Recreation Director Brooke Mitchell attended electronically, Treasurer Steve Hubard, Finance Director Cory Christensen, Community Development Director Peter Matson, Deputy Recorder Amy Durrans, and Recorder Lisa Titensor**

**Attendees: Lance Allen, Aaron Rice, Leni Balluff, Roger & Dawn Fitzpatrick, Linda & Aaron Calder, Jesse Simonson, Greg Allen, Kirby Crowley, Paul & Dannette Stuart, Shela Merrill, Emily Salisbury, Liv Decker, Abigail Maughn, Jennifer Maughn**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

**Mayor Dougherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by all those in attendance.**

**Councilmember Adam Larsen provided the invocation.**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Mayor Dougherty, Councilmembers Arave, Christensen, Danson, Larsen, and Searle were all present.**

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT OATHS OF OFFICE FOR NEW PATROL OFFICERS**

Police Chief Shawn Stoker introduced two new officers joining the Clinton City Police Department: Brady Fitzpatrick, a retired lieutenant with over 20 years of law enforcement and leadership experience, and Christian Connell, who brings approximately seven years of law enforcement experience. Both officers were administered the oath of office and had

their badges pinned by family members. The mayor and council welcomed them to the department and the community.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

### **Mayor Dougherty opened the public input period.**

There was no public input.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **PUBLIC HEARING – RECYCLING AND GREEN WASTE**

Mayor Dougherty provided background information regarding the city's exploration of curbside recycling and green waste collection programs in partnership with Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District. She explained that the district has been encouraging member cities to increase waste diversion to extend the life of the Davis Landfill and reduce future transportation costs associated with hauling waste to more distant landfill facilities.

Mayor Dougherty explained that recycling is currently available to Clinton residents through private companies, but participation levels are low. The city is exploring the possibility of implementing an opt-out recycling structure, which research shows results in higher participation rates than opt-in programs.

She also discussed potential grant opportunities that could assist with the purchase of recycling or green waste containers. Final cost estimates for residents have not yet been determined.

Mayor Dougherty opened the public hearing at 7:15 PM.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Emily Salisbury, a Clinton resident, spoke in favor of implementing recycling and green waste programs. She discussed environmental benefits, reduced landfill waste, and potential economic benefits related to compost and landscaping materials. She encouraged continued efforts to improve recycling programs and suggested exploring options for recycling metals and glass.

Matt Scott, a Clinton resident, also supported the program. He explained that his household currently pays approximately \$25 per month for private recycling service. He stated that curbside green waste collection would reduce trips to the landfill and expressed interest in the city exploring glass recycling options.

Liv Decker, a Clinton resident, expressed strong support for recycling and emphasized the importance of public education regarding what materials can be recycled. She noted that

since her household began recycling, the amount of waste placed in their garbage can has been significantly reduced.

Amanda Allen, a Clinton resident, raised questions about what happens to materials that cannot be recycled. She noted that some materials are currently transported to a cement kiln facility in Morgan and asked what would happen if that option were no longer available.

Aaron Rice, a Clinton resident, stated that he would opt out of a recycling program because his household does not generate enough recyclable material to justify the additional cost.

Lisa Cook, a long-time Clinton resident, expressed support for recycling and green waste programs. She noted that she has recycled for many years and believes making recycling more accessible would benefit the community.

Sheila Merrill, a Clinton resident, also expressed support for recycling. She indicated that her household currently pays for recycling services and would welcome a city program. She also expressed interest in glass recycling and green waste services.

Abigail Mahn, a Clinton resident, stated that her household fully supports recycling and other waste reduction efforts.

Cynthia Hurst, a Clinton resident, expressed support for recycling and noted that deposit programs in other areas demonstrate the value of recycling materials rather than sending them to the landfill.

Greg Allen, a Clinton resident for approximately 18 years, stated he supports recycling and appreciates the proposed opt-out option. He asked how much recycling participation could extend the life of the landfill.

Mike Parker, a Clinton resident, asked whether the city had considered creating a centralized recycling drop-off location rather than curbside service.

Lisa Cook commented that the convenience of curbside pickup would encourage greater participation.

Tia Merrill noted that in other cities where she previously lived, recycling and waste collection services were coordinated so that all containers were collected on the same day.

Paul Stewart stated that he currently takes recycling materials to the landfill but would appreciate the convenience of curbside service. He also asked questions about green waste disposal and ownership of recycling containers provided through grant funding.

Aaron Calder stated he supports recycling but would opt out if the program was not cost-effective for his household.

Mayor Dougherty closed the public hearing at 7:40 PM.

Following the closure of the public hearing, Mayor Dougherty and staff responded to several questions raised by residents.

Mayor Dougherty introduced Lance Allen of Robinson Waste Services, the city's contracted waste hauler, as well as Jesse Simonsen, Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District Landfill Manager to answer questions about recycling operations and landfill management.

Mayor Dougherty addressed comments regarding glass recycling, explaining that glass recycling can be more challenging due to transportation costs and processing limitations. She indicated that the city would need to explore partnerships or facilities if glass recycling were to be added in the future.

Mayor Dougherty also discussed the handling of materials that cannot be recycled. Some plastics and other materials that cannot be processed through the recycling facility are currently transported to a cement kiln facility in Morgan where they are used as fuel in place of coal. This process helps divert waste from the landfill while also reducing the use of traditional fossil fuels.

Questions were also raised about the seasonal nature of green waste. Mayor Dougherty explained that green waste programs typically operate during yard maintenance seasons and that the city could potentially explore options allowing green waste containers to be converted to regular garbage containers when the program is not in active use.

Mayor Dougherty addressed the suggestion of a centralized recycling drop-off location. She explained that while drop-off locations can be helpful, the waste management district has found that curbside recycling programs produce significantly higher participation rates and therefore greater landfill diversion.

Mr. Allen discussed Robinson Waste Services operational considerations for implementing curbside recycling. He explained that it is most efficient for recycling and garbage collection to occur on the same day, which helps streamline collection routes and reduce traffic and transportation costs.

Mr. Allen also clarified that garbage and recycling materials are collected separately even when pickups occur on the same day, ensuring recyclable materials are not mixed with landfill waste.

Councilmember Christensen asked how clean recyclable materials need to be before being placed in recycling containers.

Mr. Allen explained that containers should be empty and reasonably clean and that excessive food contamination can create odors and reduce the effectiveness of recycling operations.

He explained that landfill life projections are continually updated based on waste volumes and diversion rates. Increasing participation in recycling and green waste programs can help extend landfill life and reduce long-distance waste hauling costs.

Councilmember Danson asked whether transporting materials to the cement kiln facility results in additional costs.

Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District Landfill Manager Jesse Simonson explained that landfill life projections are continually updated based on waste volumes and diversion efforts. He indicated that preliminary projections estimate approximately 15 years of remaining landfill capacity but expanded recycling and green waste diversion efforts could extend that period closer to 20 years. He also explained that certain non-recyclable materials are currently transported to a cement kiln facility in Morgan for use as fuel. While the district does not have a long-term contract with that facility, the district also works with additional processing partners to manage materials that cannot be recycled through the district's material recovery facility. He explained that there are costs associated with that process, but those costs are currently managed by the district as part of its waste diversion operations. He noted that recyclable containers do not need to be thoroughly rinsed, but they should be emptied of food and other contents before being placed in recycling containers.

Mayor Dougherty thanked residents for attending and providing input and noted that the council will continue evaluating program options and associated costs before deciding.

#### **TRAINING – RDA, SSSD AND MOTORPOOL TRAINING**

Finance Director Cory Christensen provided training to the council regarding several city funds, including the redevelopment agency, the sanitary sewer special service district (SSSSD), and the motor pool internal service fund.

Mr. Christensen first provided a brief overview of the redevelopment agency (RDA), explaining that redevelopment agencies are authorized under Utah Code Title 17C and allow local governments to encourage reinvestment and economic development within designated project areas. These projects are commonly funded through tax increment financing (TIF), which captures future increases in property tax revenue within the project area to fund infrastructure and redevelopment improvements.

Mr. Christensen then reviewed the city's motor pool internal service fund. He explained that the motor pool fund is used to manage the city's fleet of vehicles and equipment and to fund maintenance, repairs, and eventual replacement of those assets. The city currently operates approximately 150 vehicles and pieces of equipment, including trucks, trailers, lawn equipment, and other specialized equipment used by various departments. The estimated replacement value of the fleet is approximately \$13 million.

Mr. Christensen explained that the motor pool fund receives revenue through departmental user fees that help cover operational costs such as maintenance and repairs. In addition, the fund includes reserve contributions intended to build savings for future vehicle and equipment replacement. For fiscal year 2026, the budget includes approximately \$500,000 in reserve contributions toward vehicle replacement. This amount represents approximately 3.8 percent of the current replacement value of the city's fleet.

Councilmember Searle asked for clarification regarding the vehicle replacement funding level. He noted that contributing approximately 3.8 percent of the replacement value annually could result in a replacement cycle of approximately 26 years for the entire fleet and questioned what types of vehicles or equipment would realistically remain in service for that length of time other than large specialty vehicles such as fire apparatus.

Mr. Christensen responded that some equipment, such as trailers and certain larger pieces of equipment, can have longer useful lifespans. City Manager Trevor Cahoon added that while some specialized equipment can remain in service for extended periods, many vehicles have recommended replacement schedules. He noted that fire apparatus, for example, typically have recommended lifespans of 20 to 25 years due to wear on critical components such as pumps, water tanks, and other emergency response equipment. Maintaining reliable equipment is an important operational and safety consideration.

Mr. Christensen also noted that the current contribution level represents one of the larger annual transfers into the motor pool reserve fund in recent years. However, because many of the city's vehicles were originally purchased at lower historical costs, replacement prices today are significantly higher. He indicated that future budget discussions may need to consider whether reserve contributions should increase over time to keep pace with rising vehicle and equipment costs and to ensure the city can replace fleet assets on an appropriate schedule.

Mr. Christensen also reviewed the sanitary sewer special service district (SSSSD), explaining that it operates as an enterprise-style fund in which revenues generated by the district are intended to cover the operational and infrastructure costs associated with providing sewer services in the district area.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Resolution 10-26, UDOT Betterment Agreement Design of Sewer Line Improvements Associated With the SR-108 (2000 West Phase 2 North) Project
2. Approval of Minutes: February 24, 2026 City Council Work Session and City Council Meeting, February 28, 2026 Special City Council Work Session
3. Approval of Accounts Payable: February 2026

**Motion: Councilmember Danson moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Searle seconded the motion. Voting by roll call is as follows: Councilmember Christensen, yes; Councilmember Larsen, yes; Councilmember Arave, yes; Councilmember Searle, yes; Councilmember Danson, yes.**

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

Public works director David Williams reported that the city has received a grant to install the next 1,000 water meters as part of the city's ongoing metering improvement program. He also reported that the design phase for the 2000 West project is currently underway. The project includes water line replacement and related infrastructure improvements. Mr. Williams explained that there is a potential conflict with the placement of water lines beneath the sidewalk and that the city may need to acquire right-of-way easements from four properties to accommodate the project. The estimated acquisition cost is approximately \$2.50 per square foot.

Fire Chief Jason Poulsen announced an upcoming emergency preparedness fair scheduled for Monday, March 16. The event will provide residents with information and resources related to disaster preparedness and emergency response planning.

Community Development Director Peter Matson reported on the planning commission meeting held on March 5, 2026. During that meeting, the commission reviewed planning commission bylaws and procedures and discussed revisions that are expected to be considered for adoption at an upcoming meeting. The commission also continued discussions regarding accessory dwelling unit regulations and related land use issues. Mr. Matson indicated that staff will be working on proposed text revisions and coordinating with the mayor and council as the process moves forward.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Trevor Cahoon reminded residents about the importance of maintaining emergency preparedness supplies, including 72-hour emergency kits for households and pets.

Mr. Cahoon also announced several upcoming staff retirements. Carol Weber and Cathy Miller will be retiring at the end of the month, and Terri Jenson plans to retire later in the year. He expressed appreciation for their years of service in the city.

Mr. Cahoon also reminded residents that the city's annual spring cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, April 18. The cleanup provides residents an opportunity to dispose of certain waste items and helps maintain neighborhood cleanliness throughout the community.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Clinton City Council Meeting Minutes March 10, 2026

Councilmember Spencer Arave announced the upcoming “Lucky to Have You” children’s dance event. The event is scheduled to begin at approximately 6:30 PM and is intended as a community activity for families and youth.

Councilmember Jennifer Christensen reported that members of the Clinton Youth Council will be attending the Youth Leadership Conference at Utah State University in Logan. She noted that the conference provides leadership development opportunities for youth and allows participants to interact with youth leaders from communities across the state.

Councilmember Chris Danson reported that the Youth Council is preparing to provide a presentation at the March 24, 2026 City Council meeting at a special time, 6 PM. He also reported on ongoing community efforts related to the Communities That Care program and recent SHARP survey results that provide insight into youth health and community trends.

Councilmember Adam Larsen stated he had nothing additional to report at this time.

Councilmember Dane Searle reported that the sewer district has been operating under city oversight for the past eight weeks and that the district is currently working through the process of hiring a director to oversee operations moving forward.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026**  
**/s/Lisa Titensor, Clinton City Recorder**