

**SANTA CLARA CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026
MEETING MINUTES**

THE CITY COUNCIL FOR SANTA CLARA CITY, WASHINGTON, UTAH, met for a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 2603 Santa Clara Drive, Santa Clara, Utah. The meeting will be broadcasted on our city website at <https://santaclarautah.gov>.

Present: Mayor Jarett Waite
Councilman Justin Caplin
Councilwoman Janene Burton
Councilwoman Dave Pond
Councilman Mark Hendrickson

Excused: Councilwoman Christa Hinton

Staff Present: Brock Jacobsen, City Manager
Selena Nez, City Recorder
Jim McNulty, Planning Director
Dan Cazier, Fire Chief
Casey Stratton, Public Works Director
Gary Hall, Power Director
Ryan VonCannon, Parks Director
Lance Haynie, Government Affairs Director

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jarett Waite called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The mayor welcomed everyone and noted all city council that was present: Councilman Justin Caplin, Councilwoman Janene Burton, Councilman Dave Pond, and Councilman Mark Hendrickson. Excused Councilwoman Christa Hinton.

2. Opening Ceremony

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Caplin

Opening Comments: Hans de Haan, Friends of Southern Utah (Quakers)

3. Conflicts and Disclosures

No other conflicts were disclosed by council members.

4. Working Agenda

A. Public Hearing(s) 6:00 pm

1. None

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes and Claims:
 - February 25, 2026, City Council Work and Regular Meeting
 - February 25, 2026, Closed Meeting Session
 - Claims through March 11, 2026
2. Calendar of Events:
 - March 25, 2026, City Council Work and Regular Meeting
 - April 8, 2026, City Council Work and Regular Meeting

Motion: Councilman Pond moved to APPROVE the consent agenda as presented. Councilwoman Burton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Hendrickson - Aye, Pond - Aye, Burton - Aye and Caplin - Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

C. General Business

1. Discussion and action on the Acceptance of the Rural Communities Opportunity Grant. Presented by Jim McNulty, Planning Director.

Mayor Waite introduced this item as a continuation from previous discussions, with Planning Director Jim McNulty available along with Colette Cox to answer questions and provide guidance on the amendment process.

The primary issue centered around the original grant proposal's inclusion of angled parking removal in front of the fruit stand, which the business owners strongly opposed, stating it would force them to close. The council explored various alternatives, including a modified parking proposal provided by Dennis Frei that would relocate some parking to create a food truck area.

Colette Cox emphasized the need for specific details in any amendment, explaining that the grants committee would require explicit instructions about what changes were being requested. She noted that the original grant was primarily a road project focused on creating a center turn lane, which required removing the angled parking to provide adequate space.

Former Mayor Rick Rosenberg provided technical insight, explaining that keeping the parking would necessitate abandoning the center turn lane and likely retaining the existing pop-outs for traffic guidance. He noted that the angled parking was originally a concession made in 2006-2007 to gain public support for the streetscape project, despite known visibility concerns.

Mayor Waite reported that the fruit stand owners had indicated they would consider modifying parking if provided with verifiable safety data, suggesting that a traffic visibility study could help inform the decision.

The council discussed including various elements in their amendment:

- Keeping original grant items (business signage, facade lighting, landscaping, marketing campaigns, Jenkins oil cleanup, power pole relocation)
- Adding a traffic visibility study funded by the grant
- Determining whether any parking stalls should be eliminated based on study results
- Adding ADA compliant parking stalls
- Including Dennis Frei's modified parking proposal with proper engineering design
- Removing the center turn lane from the original proposal
- Keeping existing curbs and pop-outs

Motion: Councilman Pond moved to APPROVE the Acceptance of the Rural Communities Opportunity Grant with conditions including: retaining all original grant items (business signage updates, facade lighting, landscaping, marketing campaigns, Jenkins oil property cleanup, and power pole relocation); adding funding for a traffic visibility study; pending the traffic study to determine if any parking stalls should be eliminated; adding ADA compliant stalls with appropriate curbing and access to the fruit stand; including the modified parking proposal provided by Dennis Frei with engineering design; and removing the center turn lane from the original grant proposal while keeping existing curbs and pop-outs. Councilman Caplin seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Hendrickson - Aye, Pond - Aye, Burton - Aye and Caplin - Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and action to consider approval of a Consulting Agreement with Dustin Mouritsen. Presented by Brock Jacobsen, City Manager.

City Manager Brock Jacobsen presented a consulting agreement with recently retired Public Works Director Dustin Mouritsen, who had served the city for over 28 years. The agreement would provide transition support for new Public Works Director Casey Stratton, similar to arrangements made when previous directors retired.

The consulting agreement would run for six months at \$500 per month (corrected from the \$700 mentioned in the written proposal), allowing Mouritsen to provide guidance on an as-needed basis. Jacobsen noted that formalizing the arrangement with payment ensures both parties feel comfortable with the consulting relationship.

Motion: Councilman Hendrickson moved to APPROVE the Consulting Agreement with Dustin Mouritsen. Councilwoman Burton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Hendrickson - Aye, Pond - Aye, Burton - Aye and Caplin - Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Reports

A. Staff / Mayor / Council Reports

Various department heads provided updates:

Lance Haynie reported:

- Santa Clara City will receive Special Achievement in GIS Award from Esri for GIS work supporting police and fire during the PGA event. He credited Ryan Levsey and Rich Preston for most of the work.
- That most potentially negative legislative bills did not pass. He is preparing a binder summarizing legislative changes affecting the city.
- Federal land conveyance request, noting continued progress and positive feedback from Backcountry Hunters and Anglers.
- Haynie outlined federal priorities for the National League of Cities trip, including land conveyance for housing, infrastructure funding, improved access to federal funding, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reform, and streamlining federal grants.
- Rick Waite discussed land acquisition options shared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Haynie confirmed the city is pursuing a direct congressional land transfer, which would be simpler and less costly than completing the full NEPA process.

Parks Director, Ryan VonCannon reported:

- Irrigation systems are being started in preparation for warmer temperatures, with crews addressing leaks and system issues.
- Staff will attend WeatherTRAK irrigation training in Salt Lake.
- A Rocky Mountain Baseball tournament will take place Thursday through Saturday utilizing all seven fields.

Power Director, Gary Hall reported:

- One apprentice advanced to third-year apprentice status.
- Crews are replacing aging power poles and installing a transformer at the park for Swiss Days.
- The department received the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) award from the American Public Power Association, recognizing reliability, safety, and operational excellence.

Public Works Director, Casey Stratton reported:

- Crews continue daily crack sealing and roadway maintenance.
- Leak repairs identified through satellite imaging are about halfway complete.
- The new sewer jetter truck is performing well, and water line replacement on Tamarisk continues.

Fire Chief, Dan Cazier reported on:

- The department responded to 113 calls last month and completed several specialized trainings.
- Notable incidents included multiple falls at Gunlock Falls and a helicopter rescue of workers stranded on Utah Hill.
- Medic Engine 31 is temporarily out of service for maintenance, and the department will provide standby coverage for upcoming events.

Planning Director, Jim McNulty reported:

- Development applications were received for Solas Townhomes and Quail Crossing apartments.
- A public hearing for the annexation policy plan update is scheduled in two weeks.

City Manager, Brock Jacobsen reported:

- Thanked the council for the recent budget retreat.
- Will attend the National League of Cities rally in Washington D.C. with city representatives.
- Confirmed completion of the ARPA funds closeout process.

Councilman Justin Caplin reported being approached by residents of Sycamores and Rhone subdivisions about concerns regarding transients living in the hills and wash areas, with requests for city investigation. He was also approached about exploring vacation rental options for owner-occupied residences to allow short-term rentals of casitas or secondary units, requesting future discussion of ordinance amendments.

Councilwoman Janene Burton echoed concerns about transients and requested to participate remotely in the March 25th meeting due to her son's celebration of life service.

Councilman Dave Pond thanked staff for the budget retreat and former Mayor Rosenberg for the activities provided. He reported meeting with the cemetery committee, noting that future work meeting discussions would be needed regarding cemetery expansion options and policies for nonresident burials due to limited space remaining in the city cemetery.

Councilman Mark Hendrickson reported that both county meetings had been canceled and mentioned meeting with the mayor about Tobler Park plans and reconstituting the economic development committee.

Mayor Waite thanked staff for Dustin's retirement lunch, highlighted the excellent America 250 lecture on the Escalante Dominguez expedition, and reported on attending a Siva Pasifika Ava ceremony. He announced Shakespeare in the Park dates (April 24, 25, and 27), discussed a productive public safety work group meeting, and addressed resident concerns about corner parking visibility issues.

The mayor also reported on rooster ordinance enforcement issues in the R-1-10 zone on Vineyard Drive, where residents received code enforcement letters despite considering their properties rural. He indicated staff would explore potential solutions for the zoning conflict.

Finally, he shared information about United Way's 211 service, which connects residents with resources for housing, food, healthcare, and other needs.

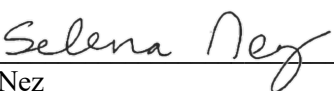
6. Closed Meeting Session

Mayor Waite confirmed there was no need for a closed meeting session.

7. Adjournment

Motion: Councilman Pond moved to adjourn. Councilman Hendrickson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.



Selena Nez
City Recorder

Approved: _____
March 25, 2026