

City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes

Wednesday, March 18, 2026
Council Chambers – Room No. 140
2600 W Taylorsville Blvd
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

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

Separate minutes were taken and are on file.

6:30 P.M. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL 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.1	Scott Harrington, Asst. City Admin/CFO
Vice Chair Curt Cochran	Dist. 2	Dina Blaes, Strategic Engagement
Council Member Anna Barbieri	Dist. 3	Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Council Member Ernest Burgess	Dist. 5	Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Council Member Meredith Harker	Dist. 4	Brady Cottam, Police Chief
		Richard Rich, Unified Fire Captain
		Ben White, City Engineer

Others Present: Todd Hauber, Sarah Johns, and Unified Fire Asst. Chief Wade Russell

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Opening Ceremonies, Pledge and Reverence

Chair Knudsen called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM with all council members present. Mayor Overson led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered an invocation.

1.2 Mayor's Report

Mayor Overson provided an extensive report on recent city activities and accomplishments. She highlighted the recent ribbon cutting for Quick Quack Car Wash, expressing appreciation for the business's community engagement through a

\$3,500 fundraiser for a needy family in Taylorsville. The mayor noted the overwhelming response to Starry Nights applications, with a record 100 bands applying for the fifth season of the concert which would begin May 15th.

The mayor reported on her continued participation in the reading program in local schools, emphasizing the importance of literacy. She also spoke to YMCA after-school program participants about local government following their legislative visit. Mayor Overson recognized Carter Healy's achievement of Eagle Scout rank and presented him with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol.

Additional activities included hosting Unified Fire representatives for discussions on standards of cover and participating in the Exchange Club's annual appreciation for emergency personnel. The city hosted Chamber West's annual leadership institute and the mayor detailed the successful youth council trip to Utah State University. The mayor and other city officials enjoyed hosting Farmington City representatives for a tour of the Plaza Plus Art program.

Construction updates included ongoing work at both Taylorsville Park and Summit Park, with temporary fencing installed and preparation for tree removal and replacement underway. The mayor concluded her report by praising the Community Development team for their collaborative problem-solving approach they took to everyday challenges.

1.3 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Chair Knudsen reviewed upcoming city-sponsored events.

1.4 Public Comment Period

Chair Knudsen opened the public comment period, noting the timer was not functioning and he would maintain time manually.

Dan Vincent addressed the council briefly, appealing to the council members regarding the unfinished wall along 27th West. He expressed confidence that further consideration would reveal the project was beneficial for all parties involved, satisfying both the city's needs and the desires of residents who had waited decades for improvements.

2. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments on the agenda.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Unified Fire – *Captain Richard Rich*

Captain Rich presented the quarterly fire report covering October through December 2025. He noted that Taylorsville's incident numbers remained stable, with emergency calls consistently around 40 percent of total incidents. The four-year comparison showed generally flat trends, though Chair Knudsen questioned a notable spike when comparing October 2024 to October 2025. Captain Rich attributed potential seasonal variations to weather impacts on community activities.

The captain explained that Taylorsville's stable call volumes reflected the city's built-out status and mature demographics, contrasted with growing neighboring communities. He highlighted that Station 118 on Redwood Road handled nearly half of all calls due to higher density, while the new Station 107 in Oquirrh Shadows would help cover the southwest portion of the city and reduce some of the call stress on the Kearns station.

Response time performance showed the department meeting calls within 4 minutes 46 seconds for the 50th percentile and just over 7 minutes for the 90th percentile benchmark. Captain Rich discussed legislative session activities and announced the upcoming graduation of Recruit Class No. 61. UFA's annual banquet would be held at This is the Place Heritage Park on April 24th.

The captain outlined the upcoming standards of cover renewal, emphasizing baseline standards and risk tolerance considerations. He provided updates on the low acuity unit trial showing positive results and potential expansion to other corridors. There were currently two staff members with the low acuity unit, running during peak times. A new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) customer service survey yielded a 95 percent satisfaction rating in the last 5 months of use, ranking the department sixth nationwide among 260 participating agencies.

Community risk reduction efforts included reminders about smoke detector testing following the recent time change and emphasis on home escape planning. Captain Rich detailed hands-only CPR statistics, noting that 52 percent of 252 non-traumatic cardiac arrest cases in 2024 received bystander CPR, with 11 percent receiving Automated External Defibrillator (AED) application, resulting in a 51 percent save rate compared to the 37 percent national average. Push to Survive training opportunities were available on the UFA website.

3.2 Indigent Defense – Sarah Johns of Stowell Crayk, PLLC

Sarah Johns reported positive working relationships with prosecution and emphasized her office's focus on the immigration consequences of plea agreements. She explained that the current federal enforcement climate required careful attention to crimes of moral turpitude that could trigger deportation proceedings. The firm worked closely with the prosecution to modify plea agreements when necessary to prevent federal immigration consequences, saving the city time and money by avoiding future appeals and withdrawals.

Ms. Johns noted increased Immigration and Customs Enforcement presence at local courthouses, requiring particular care for clients with green cards facing domestic violence charges or custody situations. She praised Taylorsville police officers for their professionalism and punctuality in court proceedings.

3.3 Prosecution – Tracy Cowdell

City Attorney Tracy Cowdell reinforced the immigration issue from the prosecution perspective, noting that Ms. John's firm's expertise in both criminal defense and immigration law provided valuable comprehensive representation that prevented future legal complications when defendants faced deportation without proper initial advice.

Mr. Cowdell reported the successful transition to West Jordan courthouse, utilizing concurrent calendars with attorneys both in-person and online to manage caseloads efficiently. He described recent legislation his office helped develop to address scheduling challenges created by other jurisdictions' unusual filing practices, allowing collaborative scheduling with chief judges to adjudicate cases more efficiently.

Mr. Cowdell expressed strong support for the decision to move court operations to West Jordan's justice center, citing benefits including eliminating defendants' presence in city hall where residents conducted regular business. The justice center provided increased security.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Minutes – City Council Meeting, March 4, 2026

The city recorder requested approval of the March 4th meeting minutes with a font change for technical reasons, without altering content.

MOTION: Council Member Cochran moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 4, 2026, as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Barbieri.

Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

5. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters on the agenda.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Resolution No. 26-05 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Approving an Updated Storm Water Fee – *Scott Harrington*

Assistant City Administrator/Chief Financial Officer Scott Harrington presented the resolution to increase the monthly stormwater fee from \$4 to \$6. A public hearing had been held earlier in the month although no members of the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to approve Resolution No. 26-05, a Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Approving an Updated Storm Water Fee. The motion was seconded by Council Member Barbieri.

Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Annual Training on Utah's Open and Public Meeting Act – Tracy Cowdell

Mr. Cowdell conducted the required annual training on the Open and Public Meetings Act, emphasizing two fundamental principles: public bodies existed to aid in the conduct of the public's business, and actions and deliberations should be conducted openly, not just when voting but also dialogue and conversation on the record. He noted that following these principles ensured compliance approximately 99% of the time.

The council viewed a training video from the State Auditor's office covering meeting types, notice requirements, closed session procedures, and record-keeping obligations. The video detailed various meeting formats including regular meetings, public hearings, electronic meetings, and emergency meetings, along with specific requirements for each type.

7.2 Training on Government Records Management Act – Tracy Cowdell

Mr. Cowdell then explained that Government Records Access Management Act (GRAMA) which sought to balance the public's constitutional right to access information about public business while protecting certain private records like ongoing investigations and personnel files. He noted that Taylorsville processes approximately 17 GRAMA requests monthly through the recorder's office and over 500 monthly through the police department.

The attorney detailed the process when GRAMA requests involve council records, including notification procedures, collection responsibilities, and review for privileged materials. He outlined the appeal process through the mayor and ultimately to state administrative law judges.

Best practices recommendations included treating all communications as potentially public, avoiding content that would be uncomfortable if published, preferring phone calls over written communications for sensitive matters, and archiving important documents with the city recorder. Mr. Cowdell addressed social media

considerations, noting that official accounts used for governmental purposes trigger both Open Meetings Act and GRAMA requirements, including restrictions on blocking constituents and requirements to preserve records.

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

Council Member Harker inquired about the status of the drinking fountain planned for the plaza. Mayor Overson reported ongoing discussions about placement options and cost considerations, with decisions being made about freestanding versus wall-mounted installations.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

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


10. CLOSED SESSION IF NEEDED (Conference Room 202)

There was no need for a closed session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.


Jamie Brooks, MMC
City Recorder



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