



ROY CITY
Roy City Council Vacant Council Seat
Interview Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2026– 1:00 p.m.
Roy City Council
5051 S 1900 W Roy, UT 84067

Minutes of the Roy City Council Vacant Council Seat Interview Meeting held in person in the Roy City Basement Conference Room and streamed on YouTube on February 3, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the Utah Public Notice Website at least 24 hours in advance. A copy of the agenda was also posted on the Roy City website.

The following members were in attendance:

Mayor Ann Jackson
Councilmember Hulbert
Councilmember Jackson
Councilmember Saxton
Councilmember Wilson

City Manager, Matt Andrews
City Recorder, Brittany Fowers
City Attorney, Matt Wilson

Excused:

Also present were: Randy Scadden, Samantha Bills, Jason Sphar, Rebecca Bassett, Nancy Inman, Leon Wilson, David Young, Glenda Moore, Cindy Whinham, Mike VanAlfen.

A. Welcome & Roll Call

Mayor Jackson welcomed those in attendance and noted Councilmembers Hulbert, Jackson, Saxton, and Wilson were present.

B. Business Items

1. Vacant City Council Seat Candidate Interviews

1. Rebecca Basset

Mayor Jackson asked Rebecca Basset what she envisioned for the City over the course of the next two years. Mrs. Basset said it was important to manage the City's finances appropriately and said her goal was to ensure that the Council was spending the City's money wisely and moving the City forward in a unified direction. Mrs. Basset acknowledged that people were worried about the City's finances and she expressed that she was well-versed in financial management and said she was willing to both think outside the box and incorporate other people's perspectives and opinions. Mrs. Basset summarized that she wanted to move the City forward and work through their problems.

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Basset how she would choose to resolve the City's funding issues. Mrs. Basset replied that there was only so much cutting that the City could do before it negatively impacted City services. However, she also appreciated that a property tax increase was not a sustainable answer. Mrs. Basset wondered if they could outsource certain services in order to effectively utilize staff time. She said that outsourcing could save staff work. She expressed that she was not in favor of reaching into one-time reserve funds and opined those should be set aside for emergencies only.

Mayor Jackson asked how Mrs. Basset would incorporate her constituents into important City matters. Mrs. Basset replied that many people did not have time to watch the Council meeting, yet getting citizen feedback was very important. She described her plan to host Facebook lives where she would recap the Council

meetings and share her opinions.

Mayor Jackson asked how Mrs. Basset would work with other Councilmembers and staff members. Mrs. Basset explained that she needed to work with many professionals in her line of work and appreciated that everyone had distinct viewpoints because of their different perspectives. She said that she was aware there would be differences of opinions at times, and said she dealt with divergent viewpoints in her line of work frequently. She described how she worked through those moments by finding common ground and making sure that all parties understood how the process worked.

2. Jason Sphar

Mayor Jackson asked Jason Sphar what he envisioned for the City over the next two years. Mr. Sphar said it would be difficult to keep the City happy given the cuts to services. He said that it was important to have input from the citizens, even though they would not be able to make everyone happy. He said that his priorities were to focus on the fire department and making sure that the City maintained a necessary level of services.

Mayor Jackson asked if Mr. Sphar was in favor of a property tax increase, cuts to City services, or a dip into one-time funds. Mr. Sphar said that he had been in favor of the proposed tax increase, although it had not passed. He said that he was generally opposed to using one-time expenses, but said that it could be appropriate if there were no other good options.

Mayor Jackson asked how Mr. Sphar would solicit public engagement. Mr. Sphar acknowledged that getting public involvement was difficult, and said that many people did not trust the City government. He said that many residents had a belief that there were extra funds somewhere and said it was difficult to convince those people of the funding issues. He said it was important to educate people, even though sometimes it was frustrating. He said he was very open to ideas about how to better inform the public.

Mayor Jackson asked about collaboration with other Councilmembers. Mr. Sphar recalled that during his time on the Planning Commission, he had sometimes felt constrained about what he was willing to say during the formal meetings. He said that he would rather work with people who did not see eye-to-eye with him 100% of the time and expressed that he valued alternate viewpoints. He said that he had many friends whom he did not always agree with, but he still appreciated their opinions.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Sphar how he would work through a difference of opinion. Mr. Sphar said he had been lucky in that this had rarely happened during his tenure on the Planning Commission, and said that he would rather try to hear someone out and understand their perspective than try to attack them or undermine their view.

3. Randy Scadden

Mayor Jackson asked Randy Scadden what he envisioned for the City over the next two years. Mr. Scadden said that he had served on the Council for the past two years and said he knew that the Council would need to make some tough decisions in the near future, especially in regards to the fire department and the property tax increase proposal.

Mayor Jackson asked if Mr. Scadden was in favor of a property tax increase, cuts to City services, or a dip into one-time funds. Mr. Scadden said that property taxes were the City's only source of definite income. He said it was not appropriate to take out one-time funds, since this placed a burden on future Councils.

Mayor Jackson asked about how Mr. Scadden would solicit public engagement. Mr. Scadden also cited

the value of offering post-Council meeting re-caps on social media and thought this was a good way to get broader public engagement. He also discussed AI options to help synthesize the Council meetings and distill them into an easily-understandable format.

Mayor Jackson asked about collaboration with other Councilmembers, staff members, and community members, and how Mr. Scadden would work through a difference of opinion between Councilmembers. Mr. Scadden said that he was used to having open and honest conversations with City Staff from his time on the City Council. He also discussed that from his time serving on various committees, he was comfortable working with different organizations. Mr. Scadden recalled that he had differed in opinion with his former fellow Councilmembers, but said that he respected where everyone was coming from and said he appreciated the ability to have a nuanced conversation with people who had different beliefs than he did.

4. Samantha Bills

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Bills what she envisioned for the City in the coming two years. Mrs. Bills expressed that economic growth was crucial for Roy City. She also said that public engagement was a key issue for her and said it was important to educate people about what was going on in the City. She also cited that it was important to retain employees, and she discussed the value of employee longevity within the City Staff.

Mayor Jackson asked if Mrs. Bills would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services. Mrs. Bills said that given her background in finance, she knew it was not a wise choice to use one-time monies. She said that she was willing to be creative, but said that it was likely they would need a property tax increase. Mrs. Bills said that they also should reevaluate their budget and make sure they were not spending money unnecessarily.

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Bills how she would engage the public. Mrs. Bills discussed that they could look at the complaints they received from residents and respond to them. She said that the more that people understood, the more likely they were to be in favor of the changes that City Council proposed, and as such it was important to focus on outreach. She also noted the value of short-form videos on social media.

Mayor Jackson asked about collaboration with other Councilmembers, staff members, and community members, and how Mrs. Bills would work through a difference of opinion between Councilmembers. Mrs. Bills said that it was key to go in with an open mind, and said it was never a bad idea to allow your mind to be changed. She said that everyone brought value to the table through their own experiences and views. She said she had never had such a strong opinion on a topic that she was unable to see another person's point of view, and said that she always made an effort to ask questions that were meaningful.

5. Chris Collins

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Collins what he envisioned for the City during the two years of his tenure. Mr. Collins said he would like to see downtown development move forward.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Collins if he would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services in the event of a budget shortcoming. Mr. Collins replied that he wanted to avoid raising property taxes any more, and said that he felt it could be avoided by attracting more businesses to the City. Mr. Collins said his least-desired path was raising property taxes.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Collins how he would engage City residents. Mr. Collins replied that he would work hard to reach out to his constituents, and not just urge them to attend City Council and Planning

Commission meetings, but also engage them through social media and other channels.

Mayor Jackson asked how Mr. Collins would work with other Councilmembers. Mr. Collins spoke about his time on the Planning Commission and said that although he did not always see eye-to-eye with everyone, he was always willing to work with others.

Mayor Jackson asked the last time Mr. Collins had needed to work through a difference of opinion. Mr. Collins elaborated on his experience on the Planning Commission and said that when there were times in which he had a strong opinion about something, he waited for others to speak first. That way, he allowed for the opportunity for other people to change his mind.

6. Mike VanAlfen

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. VanAlfen what his vision for the next two years in the City were. Mr. VanAlfen said that he wanted to get the City cleaned up and attract more people to move to Roy City.

Mayor Jackson asked if Mr. VanAlfen would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services in the event of a budget shortcoming. Mr. VanAlfen stated that he was not in favor of a property tax increase, and said that he would be more likely to cut services. However, he said he would go through the budget with the entire City Council and work collaboratively.

Mayor Jackson asked how Mr. VanAlfen would engage residents on City issues. Mr. VanAlfen said that it was difficult, since they could not force people to do things that they did not want to. He said that the newsletter that the Council sent out was a good idea.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. VanAlfen how he worked with others and how he would work through a difference of opinion. Mr. VanAlfen discussed that he had been wrong before and said that he was always willing to listen to others.

7. Stephen Hughes

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Hughes what he envisioned for the next two years in Roy City. Mr. Hughes replied that he planned on talking to a lot of people and getting very involved with the various committees within the City. He also said that he anticipated a lot of canvassing.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Hughes if he would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services in the event of a budget shortcoming. Mr. Hughes said he felt strongly that there were departments in Roy City that were not performing well and he believed that certain officials should be fired and their budgets should be adjusted. Mr. Hughes said that his goal was to work for the taxpayer, not the government. He appreciated that there were budget constraints, but felt it was more important to listen to the taxpayers and not raise the property tax.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Hughes how he would engage residents. Mr. Hughes said that he wanted to encourage small businesses to work with local government, and he also wanted to urge citizens to work with their neighbors. He said that their priority residents were people who paid taxes to Roy City, and he said he would try to get those people to be more involved with the Council and to express the things that mattered to them.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Hughes how he would work with other Councilmembers, Staff members, and community organizers, and also how he would resolve a difference of opinion. Mr. Hughes said that it had been difficult to get in touch with City Council and Staff members as a private resident, and so he said that his goal was not to be friends with City Council or Staff members. He opined that if cordiality was a

requirement to be on the City Council, that was inappropriate. Mr. Hughes said that there would have to be some sense of reconciliation and problem-solving when it came to debates, and he said that they should always return to the facts during those cases. Mr. Hughes said that he was confident, but not arrogant and said that he would always work in the interest of the taxpayer.

8. Annette Mifflin

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Mifflin what her vision of the next two years in Roy City was. Mrs. Mifflin discussed that she had noticed how unique Roy City was when she had moved here and said that she was close with her neighbors. Mrs. Mifflin expressed her confidence in the growth of Roy City. She said that she had been attending the Senior Center and seen people there who were really struggling, and she thought they should look to the senior population in Roy City to see what their needs were. Mrs. Mifflin also brought up children and said she wanted to see more spaces for children and the elderly within Roy City. She opined that people were feeling very divided lately and said she wanted to see more cohesion in Roy City.

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Mifflin if she would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services in the event of a budget shortcoming. Mrs. Mifflin said that property taxes were a tricky subject and said she was more inclined to raise taxes rather than cut services. She felt that they needed to take into account the various populations in the City, however, and adjust taxes accordingly based on their income.

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Mifflin how she would reach out to residents to engage them on public issues. Mrs. Mifflin recalled that she had served on the Planning Commission for several years and remembered it was difficult to engage people for the most part, but sometimes there was a large turnout for major issues. Mrs. Mifflin thought if there was a way to keep that kind of energy consistent, it would help with public education about what was going on at the City Council. She thought it was important for residents to know that they always had an open door.

Mayor Jackson asked Mrs. Mifflin about how she would work with others to achieve shared goals, and how she would resolve a potential dispute. Mrs. Mifflin spoke about some of her previous experience working for a city and said that role had taught her a lot. She learned that it was important to listen to people and she said that people felt more inclined to work through issues when they felt that their opinion was being valued. Mrs. Mifflin expressed that collaboration was key, and she said that if people did not feel respected then they were less likely to come to a solution.

9. Jeremy Brighton

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Brighton about his two-year vision for Roy City. Mr. Brighton said he wanted to generate more community involvement. He said that he was involved with getting the farmers market started in Roy City and said he loved to see neighbors helping neighbors.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Brighton if he would approve a property tax increase, the use of one-time funds, or a cut in City services in the event of a budget shortcoming. Mr. Brighton replied that he was not in favor of raising taxes, though he did appreciate that there were certain services that the government was required to supply. He felt that getting more citizen involvement could help alleviate some of the financial pressures.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Brighton how he would reach out to residents. Mr. Brighton said that he loved talking to residents and made an effort to make himself readily available and easy to contact.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Brighton how he would work effectively with the City Councilmembers and City

Staff. Mr. Brighton said that he already worked closely with City Staff in his capacity as a construction company, and said he always prioritized what was best for Roy City, not for him personally.

Mayor Jackson asked Mr. Brighton how he would work through a difference of opinion. Mr. Brighton recalled a situation several years ago when he had worked with the City Council to get a parking ordinance changed. He said that in that scenario, he had not always agreed with everyone, but he had appreciated the experience and the chance to learn about other people's points of view.

C. Adjournment

Councilmember motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember seconded the motion, all present Councilmembers voted "Aye" and the meeting adjourned at

Ann Jackson
Mayor

Attest:

Brittany Fowers
City Recorder

dc: