

**SANTA CLARA CITY COUNCIL WORK MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026
MEETING MINUTES**

THE CITY COUNCIL FOR SANTA CLARA CITY, WASHINGTON, UTAH, met for a Work Meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 4:00 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 Mark Hendrickson
Councilman Dave Pond
Councilwoman Christa Hinton
Councilman Justin Caplin

Excused: Councilwoman Janene Burton

Staff Present: Brock Jacobsen, City Manager
Selena Nez, City Recorder
Matt Ence, City Attorney
Jim McNulty, Planning Director
Casey Stratton, Public Works Director
Gary Hall, Power Director
Ryan VonCannon, Parks Director
Lance Haynie, Government Affairs Director
Jaron Studley, Police Chief (arrived at 4:33 p.m.)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Jarett Waite called the Santa Clara City Council Work Meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Present from the council were Councilman Mark Hendrickson, Councilman David Pond, Councilwoman Christa Hinton and Councilman Justin Caplin. Excused Councilwoman Janene Burton.

2. Working Agenda

A. General Business:

1. Continued discussion regarding Parks Pavilion Fees and Use. Presented by Ryan VonCannon, Parks Director.

Parks Director Ryan VonCannon began by reflecting on the previous meeting's discussion about pavilion fees and the concerns raised by a resident regarding her preschool graduation event. VonCannon acknowledged that he had initially made accommodations for this resident by changing mowing and irrigation schedules, which went against his standard practice of treating everyone equally. He explained that this created additional work and complications, as what normally takes 15 minutes of mowing became a 2-hour process when schedules had to be adjusted around events.

VonCannon emphasized that pavilion rentals should not affect the city's daily maintenance schedules, including mowing and irrigation. He noted that while they try to accommodate special requests for large annual events, they cannot continue making exceptions without creating operational problems.

Regarding the proposed discount structure, VonCannon expressed concern that Santa Clara would become the go-to destination for non-residents seeking cheaper rentals. He reported that in just the past three weeks, five or six people from other cities, including La Verkin, had reserved pavilions in Santa Clara because their rates were significantly lower than neighboring cities. A La Verkin resident specifically told staff it was cheaper to bring pizza and hold a party in Santa Clara than to rent a pavilion in their own city.

Council Member Mark Hendrickson strongly opposed creating a complex discount system, stating it would create unnecessary work and headaches for staff. He argued that layering different rates for different groups would complicate what was supposed to be a simplification effort. Hendrickson advocated a flat \$10 per hour rate with a minimum of two hours, noting that even youth sports organizations don't receive discounts when renting school facilities.

Council Member Christa Hinton questioned whether maintaining separate resident and non-resident rates might be simpler than creating special group discounts. She pointed out that this approach is already used for cemetery plots and could address concerns about non-residents taking advantage of lower rates.

City Manager Brock Jacobsen explained that the original intention to eliminate the resident/non-resident distinction was to streamline the online reservation process. However, he acknowledged that maintaining different rates could still work if they could implement a simple verification system, such as requiring an address that could be verified against utility records.

After extensive discussion, the council leaned toward maintaining a resident rate of \$10 per hour with a two-hour minimum, and establishing a non-resident rate of \$15 per hour. This would result in a \$30 minimum for non-residents compared to neighboring cities' \$50 rates for four-hour blocks.

The council also discussed adding notification language about maintenance schedules that could potentially interfere with events, though there was some concern this might create more problems than it solves. VonCannon suggested simple language directing concerned renters to call for information about potential schedule conflicts.

VonCannon confirmed that the existing daily rental rates would be eliminated in favor of the hourly system, and that certain pavilions (the corner pavilion at Gubler Park and the pickleball pavilion) would be removed from public reservations entirely.

2. Discussion regarding City approved Flags. Presented by Brock Jaconsen, City Manager.

City Manager Brock Jacobsen explained that state legislation requires cities to only fly approved flags on city property, and that America 250 flags are not among the exempt flags. He presented several flag options for potential approval for the 2026 calendar year, including variations of America 250 designs, Betsy Ross flags with 250 commemorative elements, and versions of the city logo on blue and white backgrounds.

Council Member Dave Pond suggested modifying the city logo flag by changing the lighter blue elements to white for better contrast and consistency. He recommended adopting all five proposed flag designs to provide flexibility. Council Member Mark Hendrickson supported adopting all the flags.

City Attorney Matt Ence clarified that the state code requires flags to represent a city, municipality, county, or political subdivision of the state, and that by formally adopting the flags, the city would meet this requirement.

There was brief discussion about simply reinstating the previously used America 250 flags to save on printing costs, but Jacobsen noted this might not meet the legal requirement without city-specific elements. The council agreed to bring back all five flag designs for formal adoption, with the modification to change blue elements to white on the city logo version.

3. Discussion regarding Updated Special Event Permit Application. Presented by Jim McNulty, Planning Director.

Planning Director Jim McNulty presented proposed updates to the special event permit application, maintaining the existing fee structure of \$150 for events under 500 people and \$300 for larger events.

The main additions included options for temporary power pedestals in three sizes (small, medium, and large) with corresponding daily rental rates and availability numbers. McNulty explained that Gary Hall from the Power Department had developed specifications and pricing for these options.

The application would also include questions about reserving the city hall banquet room and parking lot, with rates for full-day and half-day rentals. Additionally, provisions were added for Santa Clara-Ivins Fire Department and Police Department services at their respective rates. McNulty noted that the power pedestals would only be available in locations where the city has infrastructure to support them, primarily at parks near existing transformers.

Council Member Justin Caplin asked about the banquet room rates shown in the application. Staff clarified these were resident rates, leading to discussion about how to handle the resident/non-resident rate structure in the application. Council Member Dave Pond suggested showing the higher non-resident rate prominently and directing residents to contact the front desk for their rate, to avoid confusion when non-residents discover higher fees after seeing lower rates advertised.

The council agreed to remove specific rates from the application and simply direct applicants to contact the front desk for current rates and applications, which would automatically ensure compliance with resident/non-resident pricing structures. City Manager Jacobsen noted that parking lot rates remain the same regardless of residency status, at \$275 for full day and \$150 for half day. The council expressed support for the proposed changes, which would be implemented to meet growing demand for special events, particularly during the spring and fall seasons when weather is most favorable.

3. Staff Reports

Various department heads provided updates:

Police Chief, Jaron Studley reported:

- Conducted a mass casualty training event at Rocky Vista with 70+ officers from multiple agencies
- Announced departure for the 10-week FBI Academy; Captain Rogers will attend meetings in his absence
- Noted community feedback regarding increased patrols and parking enforcement
- Reported receiving 14 complaints about parking enforcement, balanced by appreciation from other residents

Government Affairs Director Lance Haynie had nothing to report

- Attended National League of Cities conference in Washington, DC and presented on land conveyance issues
- Received positive feedback from Community and Economic Development committee and interest from other cities
- Noted progress with Senator Curtis's office adding Santa Clara to land transfer list
- Reported no updates on power line and substation funding requests
- Announced upcoming ADA compliance requirements for website and forms with a one-year implementation timeline
- Scheduled new photos of council and staff for April 1st at Santa Rosa building

Parks Director, Ryan VonCannon reported:

- Coordinated community service project with university students on Bonneli Trail (tree planting and cleanup)
- Announced upcoming Rocky Mountain tournament utilizing all seven fields, including a drone show fundraiser
- Attended MPO trails-focused meeting discussing connectivity, mapping, and uniform color coding across cities

Power Director, Gary Hall reported:

- Provided update on Veyo power plant transformer replacement and temporary use of standby generators
- Reported plans to relocate engine radiators to improve cooling efficiency, with shared cost responsibility
- Noted ongoing engineering for South Hills substation, including transformer orders with long lead times
- Expressed concerns regarding delays in BLM responses for transmission line environmental assessments

Public Works Director, Casey Stratton reported:

- Reported ongoing crack sealing work with anticipated on-schedule completion
- Noted continued road patching and sidewalk replacement following water leak repairs
- Identified a significant leak on Malaga despite minimal satellite indication
- Reported Asterra's request to feature Santa Clara in an upcoming webinar highlighting rapid response efforts

Planning Director, Jim McNulty reported:

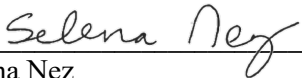
- Announced upcoming Planning Commission meeting items, including commercial development and historic district home
- Provided update on rural communities opportunity grant submission, awaiting results
- Reported strong building permit activity, including residential, townhome, and apartment developments

City Manager, Brock Jacobsen reported:

- Attended National League of Cities conference with council members and staff
- Provided update on ongoing budget development, with plans for upcoming work meeting review
- Reported progress on updated public safety agreement, with additional staff and chief review scheduled
- Noted need for follow-up meeting with True Grit event organizers to address concerns from the recent event

4. Adjournment

Mayor Waite adjourned the work meeting at 4:58 p.m., noting they would reconvene at 6:00 p.m. for the regular meeting.



Selena Nez
City Recorder

Approved: April 8, 2026