

1 **PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

2 Wednesday March 18th, 2026, 6:00 PM

3 Providence City Office Building, 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT

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5 To view the video recording of the meeting please visit our YouTube channel found [HERE](#).

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7 **HR. MIN. SEC.** above agenda items are timestamps of the YouTube Recording.

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9 **Opening Ceremony:**

10 Call to Order: Mayor Alder

11 Roll Call of City Council Members: Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

12 Staff in Attendance: City Manager Ryan Snow, Community Development Director Skarlet Bankhead and City
13 Recorder Ty Cameron.

14 Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Sealy

15 Opening Remarks/Prayer: Council Member Campbell

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17 **Council Reports:** Items presented by the City Council Members will be presented as informational only; no
18 formal action will be taken.

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20 **Council Member Kunz**

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22 • Council Member Kunz began his report by discussing a volunteer opportunity he had posted on the Just
23 Serve website for a canyon cleanup project. Mayor Alder had provided him with contact information for
24 a Forest Service volunteer coordinator who could help with organizing the cleanup and providing supplies
25 like gloves. He planned to contact her the following day to coordinate volunteer support.
- 26 • Regarding mosquito abatement, Council Member Kunz reported that new ATVs had been delivered and
27 were ready for the spraying season. The district had hired a new drone pilot and was currently hiring two
28 foggers to drive trucks and three larvicide sprayers. He noted there had been a newspaper article about
29 West Nile virus and mosquito abatement efforts. The district had ordered three bags of spray but received
30 three pallets, giving them plenty of extra spray for the season. He explained that the lack of water from
31 the previous year might have contributed to increased West Nile cases because birds and mosquitoes
32 congregated around the same limited water sources, allowing mosquitoes to pick up the virus from infected
33 birds. Overall mosquito numbers in traps were down last year, and similar trends were expected this year
34 given the weather conditions. He also mentioned needing to complete training for the open public meetings
35 act for the mosquito abatement district.
- 36 • Council Member Kunz had met with City Manager Ryan Snow multiple times to discuss the library survey
37 and had read through all the public comments submitted, finding them valuable for understanding
38 community feedback.

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40 **Council Member Kirk**

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42 • Council Member Kirk reported that it had been a fairly quiet month for her. She had taken eighteen youth,
43 accompanied by Council Member Sealy, to the Utah State Leadership Conference the previous weekend.
44 The conference ran Thursday through Saturday on campus, and she praised the exceptional quality of
45 Providence's youth and how well they represented the community. She expressed confidence that the
46 future was in good hands with these young people.

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Council Member Sealy

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Council Member Speth

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Council Member Campbell

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- Council Member Sealy thanked Carrie for inviting her to join the leadership conference, agreeing that the youth were great kids and it was an enjoyable experience.
 - With the legislature having finished its session, she noted that webinars would begin to provide overviews and updates on legislation passed during the session. She encouraged council members to watch them when possible, mentioning they were recorded and available on YouTube for those who couldn't attend the live sessions. She also mentioned completing a lunchtime session for council members.
- Council Member Speth attended the Cache County emergency management meeting where upcoming events and concerns were discussed. The lack of water and rapidly disappearing snowpack was very concerning to emergency management officials. This could lead to a serious wildfire season, requiring people to be extremely mindful about fire risks anywhere a wildfire could start, including in yards throughout the valley. He noted that minor earthquakes were happening regularly and mentioned the Great Shakeout earthquake drill scheduled for some time in April, joking that it was nice to have a scheduled earthquake so everyone could be prepared without actual damage.
 - Noted that he had been working with church ward and stake leaders on emergency preparedness efforts. Some wards had organized block captains, provided them with radios, and training was underway. He had met specifically with Providence Stake leadership about emergency management and met with residents regarding library issues.
 - He expressed concern about potential water management issues depending on how severe conditions became this year, noting that while the city could pump water, it would be costly and they might need to consider how to handle water management for citizens.

- Council Member Campbell reported on several initiatives he was working on. The Utah Well-being Project survey was currently active, and the city had sent notifications through social media and the pipeline newsletter. The survey allowed residents to provide feedback on how they felt about living in Providence, giving valuable input to the city. He provided the survey link for the record.
- Council Member Campbell had been asked to participate in the Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization's Bicycles and Pedestrians Advisory Committee. However, after doing his homework and contacting people, he learned the committee was not currently running due to lack of interest. The Cache County Trails Committee, headed by Landon, was active though. He had extensive discussions with Landon about Providence City's involvement, costs, benefits, and impact. He was impressed with the detailed information Landon provided about completed trails, current projects, future plans, budget, funding sources (mostly grants), operational costs, and project costs. He was surprised to learn that Providence's assessment for participating in the program was miniscule compared to the overall budget.
- He was also in charge of the America250 celebration and had been gathering information from other communities and the county about their plans. He will discuss this topic later in the meeting.

- He had watched the Cache County Council meeting where Dane Murray was announced as the new interim attorney. He also mentioned meeting with residents, including one particularly lengthy two-and-a-half hour session working through various issues regarding the library.

Mayor Alder

- Mayor Alder concluded the council reports by discussing her activities related to the end of the legislative session. She had attended numerous meetings throughout the session, always asking key questions: What are we trying to solve? How many people does this impact? She felt these questions weren't asked often enough. While she attended many chamber activities and meetings that might seem unrelated to Providence, she explained these connections were valuable for building relationships with the governor and other officials. When Providence needed support or letters of recommendation, these relationships allowed her to make calls and receive assistance. The time spent in seemingly unrelated meetings actually served important networking purposes for the city's benefit.

Approval of the Minutes:

- **Item No. 1 Approval of the Minutes:** The Providence City Council will consider for approval the minutes of February 18th, 2026. **(MINUTES)**

- Mayor Alder called for the approval of the minutes of February 18th, 2026.
- No corrections were made

Council Member Sealy moved to approve the minutes of February 18th, 2026. Council Member Speth seconded.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

Reports and Presentations:

12 MIN 55 SEC.

- **Item No. 2 Connect Board City Representative Appointment:** The Providence City Council will review discuss and may appoint Paul Mortenson as the City's Representative on the Connect Board.

- Mayor Alder explained that the council had appointed Scott Theurer to the Connect Board a couple of months earlier, but health issues had prevented him from serving. Scott reached out and had recommended his neighbor, Paul Mortensen, as a replacement. She noted that Mr. Mortensen was a retired Delta Airlines pilot who understood transportation systems and moving people efficiently.

- Paul Mortensen addressed the council, providing background information about himself. He grew up in Cache Valley, graduated from Logan High School and Utah State University, served eight years in the Air Force, and was a pilot for Delta Airlines for thirty years before recently retiring. He had lived mostly in Logan but downsized and moved to Providence about four years ago. He was married with four children - two living in Providence, one in River Heights, and one in Draper. He continued flying for recreation and enjoyed hiking and biking. His neighbor Scott had suggested he might be a good fit for the Connect Board given his transportation background, and he was willing to serve if approved.
- Mayor Alder noted that Mr. Mortensen had been reviewing minutes and agendas to get up to speed and would represent both River Heights and Providence on the board. Council Member Speth would serve as his contact for reporting back to the Providence City Council.
- Council Member Sealy raised an important point about public education regarding Connect's services. When she spoke at the high school during a government panel, several students asked why Providence no longer had bus stops. She suggested there was a need for better education about Connect's rideshare model and how the transit system now interfaces with the community. Many people didn't understand the current system, and with gas prices rising, high school students were increasingly interested in public transit options.

Council Member Kirk moved to appoint Paul Mortensen to the Connect Board and express gratitude for his willingness to serve. Council Member Sealy seconded

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, Paul Mortensen is appointed to the Connect Board.

Resolutions/Ordinances:

17 MIN 55 SEC.

- **Item No. 3 Ordin. 01-2026 PCC 10-8-10 Affordable Housing Incentives Code Addition:** The City Council will review, discuss and may take action on an ordinance regarding PCC addition 10-8-10: Affordable Housing Incentives. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on January 14th. Planning Commission made a motion to recommend that the Council approve the addition to city code on March 11th after further additions were added per their recommendation. ([ORDIN. 01-2026](#))

- Mayor Alder introduced the item. Community Development Director Skarlet Bankhead presented the details, explaining that they had been working on affordable housing incentives for a couple of years, but the requirements had been a moving target. With some stability expected for about six months, it was a good time to implement these provisions.
- Ms. Bankhead explained that state code included an incentive program that was somewhat out of reach for Providence's practical implementation. The proposed ordinance was based on state guidelines but adapted for local conditions. It provided incentives for developers willing to build on smaller lots or smaller units while maintaining deed restrictions. For rental units, deed restrictions would keep rental payments within moderate income housing rates for at least fifteen years. For owner-occupied units, restrictions would last at least five years.

- 176 • The Planning Commission had reviewed and discussed the ordinance extensively, requesting
177 additional provisions for the rental component. Ms. Bankhead had researched and added
178 underlined sections based on their recommendations. A key feature was requiring annual reports
179 from property owners to ensure compliance without being overly burdensome.
- 180 • The incentive structure offered a twenty percent density increase, so a property that could
181 normally have ten units per acre could have twelve. However, the restricted lots must be at least
182 eighty percent of the base lot size - for example, a 10,000 square foot lot could be reduced to
183 8,000 square feet. Setbacks would remain the same. Planned unit developments could receive an
184 additional fifteen percent density bonus beyond their existing ten percent bonus. The ordinance
185 also included provisions for life cycle residential development and mixed-use development
186 zones.
- 187 • Monitoring would occur through annual reports, with the city having audit authority to ensure
188 compliance. The ordinance mentioned homeownership promotion zones, which were entirely
189 governed by state code with ongoing changes to financing programs.
- 190 • City Manager Snow noted that fifteen years was a standard reporting period for housing credits,
191 similar to low-income housing credit requirements. Many developers using these restrictions
192 would likely also qualify for state or federal housing credits, creating complementary programs.
- 193 • Mayor Alder appreciated that the state had paused moderate income housing reporting
194 requirements while transferring oversight from workforce services to the economic development
195 department. This change was expected to be more favorable than the previous arrangement. The
196 governor needed to engage more directly with developers and banks rather than placing all
197 responsibility on cities.
- 198 • Ms. Bankhead clarified that cities would still need to report building permits but wouldn't need
199 to update moderate income housing plan strategies and objectives, significantly reducing
200 reporting time requirements.
- 201 • Council Member Speth asked about property tax implications. Ms. Bankhead explained that
202 impacts would only occur if developers used federal programs through the county, but the city
203 wouldn't directly affect property taxes. The properties would remain residentially assessed unless
204 they included commercial components in mixed-use developments that were taxed based on
205 income.
- 206 • Council Member Speth and City Manager Snow discussed whether to include a sunset clause
207 requiring periodic review of the ordinance. Mr. Snow explained that sunset provisions were
208 common with incentives, particularly in tax legislation, where incentives expired unless renewed.
209 This allowed for periodic evaluation and potential renewal or modification.
- 210 • Council Member Kirk expressed preference for a revisit clause after implementation but felt they
211 should still pass the ordinance to meet requirements. Council Member Speth suggested
212 considering a sunset clause and potentially tabling the item to the next meeting if time wasn't
213 critical.
- 214 • Ms. Bankhead noted they could add a sunset clause as part of the motion and reminded the
215 council that code could always be amended later if the ordinance wasn't working effectively. She
216 suggested a sunset period of four or five years if that would make the council more comfortable.
- 217 • Council Member Sealy questioned whether to implement the ordinance immediately since they
218 weren't required to do moderate income housing reporting this year. She wondered if it made
219 sense to wait until needed for the next report. Ms. Bankhead explained that cities were being
220 encouraged to get credit for accomplishments rather than starting over each year, so
221 implementing the ordinance now would allow them to report it as an achievement even in off
222 years, whether or not developers took advantage of it.

- Council Member Kunz raised concerns about the ordinance's effectiveness and resident acceptance. He questioned what success would look like and noted that residents were generally adverse to density increases. The ordinance allowed twenty percent more density on eighty percent of the previous land requirement, which might not be well-received by residents. He suggested considering a two-year sunset clause maximum, or potentially waiting to see what the new requirements would be. He felt the process had been burdensome for staff, particularly on Ms. Bankhead, and questioned the value given that properties in the \$400,000-500,000 affordable range weren't selling well in Providence.
- Ms. Bankhead noted that the affordable housing price range was actually around \$300,000 based on eighty percent of the county's median income using federal housing administration definitions, not the higher state figures. She acknowledged the time-consuming nature of the reporting but noted it was easier to work on code amendments during less busy periods rather than under deadline pressure. She compared the situation to other incentives the city had implemented, noting that few developers typically took advantage of such programs.
- Mayor Alder favored passing the ordinance with a sunset clause, reasoning it was easier to renew an existing program than to create one when urgently needed.

Council Member Speth moved to approve ordinance 01-2026, adding code to the Providence City Code regarding affordable housing incentives, Title 10 zoning regulations, Chapter 8 area regulations and Section 10 affordable housing incentives, with a sunset clause of two years.

Council Member Kirk seconded.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kirk, Speth & Campbell.

Nay- Council Members Kunz & Sealy

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed, Ordinance approved with additional condition.

37 MIN 45 SEC.

- **Item No. 4 Ordin. 05-2026 PCC Title 11: Subdivision Regulations Amendments & PCC 7-3-4: Standards:** The City Council will review, discuss and may take action on an ordinance regarding amendments to City Code Title 11: Subdivision Regulations and removal of PCC 7-3-4:Standards. Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 11th and motioned that the City Council approve the amendments. ([ORDIN. 05-2026](#))

- City Manager Snow explained this ordinance was about organizing information correctly. The city had adopted standards matching APWA standards, similar to what Logan and Nibley had done. During the implementation process, they discovered information was misplaced between the standards and ordinances.
- Mr. Snow used a recipe analogy to explain the reorganization: they wanted flour in the flour bin, eggs in the fridge, and recipes in the cabinet. Previously, they had recipes in the flour bin and eggs in the recipe book, so they were reorganizing everything into proper locations. The ordinance wasn't adding or subtracting requirements, just organizing standards, code, and policy into appropriate sections.
- Some items that belonged in standards had been duplicated in code, requiring searches across multiple documents for any changes. The reorganization would reference standards from the

code rather than duplicating information. Definitions that belonged in standards were moved there, while instructions that belonged in ordinances were moved to the proper location.

- Mr. Snow described the extensive process of comparing old and new standards with existing ordinances to identify misplaced items. This cleanup was expected when they adopted the new standards, and while it took months to complete, it was necessary to properly organize everything.
- He shared a success story from the 12th South Sewer Project, where having the same standards as adjacent Logan City made coordination much easier. When projects cross city boundaries or involve shared infrastructure, having compatible standards eliminates complications about differing requirements. This standardization would be increasingly helpful as more cities adopted similar standards.

Council Member Sealy moved to approve ordinance number 05-2026. Council Member Kunz seconded.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, ordinance approved.

45 MIN 20 SEC.

- **Item No. 5 Res. 02-2026: America250 Utah Logo Usage Agreement:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on a resolution for an agreement from the State's Department of Cultural and Community Engagement regarding America250 licensing agreement for its logo and name. **(RES. 02-2026)**

- Council Member Campbell explained that the resolution was required to participate in the America250 celebration commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence signing. To use the America250 logo, they needed permission from the state organization overseeing the program.
- The resolution would allow them to combine the America250 logo with Providence City's logo for joint use. The state organization had specific requirements about logo usage - they wanted it used appropriately without modification. They provided the logo in their specified color format or black and white versions, along with a toolkit enabling use across various formats from social media to print materials.
- Council Member Campbell explained this was required paperwork to establish the arrangement with the state. The state provided \$1,500 for advertising and community involvement activities. This was part of a state program that derived from a federal program, so specific rules applied.
- Initially, when He and City Manager Snow reviewed the contract, it appeared the state might change Providence's logo, but they clarified that wasn't the case. Providence would simply add the America250 logo where appropriate to encourage community involvement.
- Council Member Campbell mentioned gathering information from other communities about their celebration plans. He wanted to coordinate with Providence's city celebration but noted their timing was too late since everything needed completion by July. He was seeking committee volunteers and asked interested residents to contact him to help with patriotic celebrations.

- Mayor Alder and Council Member Campbell noted that other communities were planning simple activities like potluck dinners or "walk, run, or ride 250 miles between now and July 4th" challenges. There were numerous options for community involvement.
- Council Member Sealy pointed out that according to the resolution requirements, all committee members' names must be submitted to the state. She wanted to ensure volunteers understood this requirement in case they preferred privacy or had concerns about having their names provided to state authorities.

Council Member Campbell moved to approve item number 5, resolution 02-2026, America 250 Utah logo usage agreement. Council Member Kirk seconded.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, resolution approved.

Agreements, Contracts, Bid Awards:

51 MIN. 20 SEC.

- **Item No. 6 100 South Road Widening Project Bid Award:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on awarding a bid for the City's 100 S Road Widening Project. **(TABULATION) & (BIDS)**

- City Manager Snow explained this project would widen the south side of 100 South Road between Highway 165 and Gateway Drive, specifically the narrow section after Discount Tire that widens again before the roundabout. This spot improvement was funded through COG grants.
- The city received an excellent response with eight to ten bidders. LeGrand Johnson submitted the low bid at \$118,474.94. Other bidders like Parson and Geneva Rock, were extremely close, within about \$80-120 of each other.
- Mr. Snow recommended accepting the low bid from LeGrand Johnson. Staff had positive interactions with the company regarding surface work, and this type of project aligned well with their expertise. They were a local company, and staff felt confident about their low bid after engineering review. The bid came in below the engineer's estimate and within the COG budget.
- Rocky Mountain Power needed to move power poles as part of their franchise agreement at their own cost. Mr. Snow had contacted them, and they were aware of the requirement. The project would create a good connection from the 100 South roundabout to Highway 165 once right-of-way acquisition was complete.

Council Member Sealy moved to accept the bid from LeGrand Johnson for the 100 South Road widening project. Council Member Speth seconded.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

351 Absent-

352 Motion passed unanimously, LeGrand Johnson awarded bid for 100 S Road Project.

353 **55 MIN. 30 SEC.**

354 ➤ **Item No. 7 1200 S Sewer Improvements Project Bid Award (W. Logan City):** The Providence City
 355 Council will review, discuss and may take action on awarding a bid for the Logan and Providence City's
 356 joint 1200 S Sewer Improvements Project. **(RECOMMEND LTR)** & **(BID TAB)**

- 357 • City Manager Snow expressed excitement about this joint project with Logan City. The design
 358 process went smoothly with both cities staying aligned without conflicts. Logan city was more
 359 advanced with multiple in-house engineers while Providence used in-house staff and third-party
 360 engineering. Sunrise Engineering did excellent work, though costs seemed to increase
 361 throughout the process. Fortunately, bids came in better than expected.
- 362 • The project included 1200 South infrastructure from Providence's meter just east of Highway
 363 165 on 100 North. They would need to bore under the highway similar to the 1700 South project
 364 but deeper and bigger. Snow compared it to the previous 1700 South project but with larger scale
 365 requirements.
- 366 • Council Member Speth asked about the meter location. Mr. Snow clarified the meter was on the
 367 east side of Highway 165, though controls were on the west side. They needed to install a
 368 manhole on Providence's side and go underneath the highway because they had to upsize their
 369 portion. The current 12-inch sewer line from Providence was undersized for the additional 15-
 370 inch flow from Highway 165. They would upgrade from 12 inches to 21 inches to handle the
 371 increased capacity.
- 372 • Council Member Speth asked about the existing 12-inch line's capacity east of Highway 165.
 373 Snow explained their master plan showed sufficient capacity in that stretch, but problems arose
 374 when adding the 165 flow and additional connections further down 1200 South. The
 375 improvement would run from Highway 165 to Highway 89/91.
- 376 • Regarding the construction method for crossing Highway 165, Snow believed they would need
 377 to bore under it, though he would need to verify the specific approach. They wouldn't need to
 378 cross Highway 89/91 as that wasn't part of this project.
- 379 • Council Member Sealy asked about dual lines and whether both would be maintained. Mr. Snow
 380 explained they wouldn't maintain dual lines. If Logan city wanted to keep the existing line, it
 381 would become Logan's responsibility. The design allowed Logan to keep the old line for their
 382 flow while Providence used the new larger line. This avoided Providence being responsible for
 383 maintaining two lines in the future.
- 384 • Council Member Speth asked whether the hotel and other developments would connect to
 385 Providence's new line. Mr. Snow indicated they would likely stay with Logan's system, though
 386 connections to the new line were possible if Logan abandoned their old line.
- 387 • The project was funded through multiple sources: impact fees (nearly \$300,000), economic
 388 development grants, rate increases that had built up reserves, and Logan's contribution. Logan
 389 would lead construction management and had been an excellent partner throughout the process.
- 390 • Mr. Snow noted they had initially worried the project might cost \$3 million but it came in at \$1.2
 391 million, which was much better than expected.
- 392 • Council Member Speth asked about future ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Mr.
 393 Snow confirmed Logan would own the line under their 1986 agreement, with Providence
 394 responsible for proportional major repair costs.

- Council Member Speth questioned whether cumulative costs might eventually exceed the \$55 million cost of building their own treatment plant. Mr. Snow acknowledged that while treatment plant costs were now estimated at \$55 million, if bids continued coming in favorably like this project, reconsidering their own plant might make sense. However, at this point they were committed to this project and making the best of the situation.

Council Member Speth moved to approve item number 7, the 1200 South Sewer Improvement Project Bid Award, awarding it to Suncore as the lowest bidder. Seconded by Council Member Campbell

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously. Suncore awarded bid.

Plans and Other Business:

1 HR. 06 MIN 45 SEC.

- **Item No. 8 Library Funds to Support the Cache County Library:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on request for additional funds to support the cache county library. The library is seeking a donation from each city to support the library, since the county is cutting their budget.

- Mayor Alder explained that Cache County had decided they no longer wanted to operate libraries in individual cities and were asking cities to take over operations. The city needed to decide how to respond to this situation.
- City Manager Snow reported on a survey they had conducted, which received 473 responses - the highest response rate for any city survey, including parks surveys that typically received 200-250 responses. Snow had sent survey results to all council members for detailed review and wanted to share key findings with the public.
- Ninety-six percent of survey respondents lived in Providence. The city had also created a similar survey for River Heights and offered to do the same for Nibley and Millville, though they hadn't taken advantage of the offer yet.
- Ninety-two percent of respondents were homeowners, which was important since they would be directly affected by any tax increases. Over half had lived in Providence more than ten years. Eighty-one percent said someone in their household currently used the county library, which was impressive for such a small library. About thirty-three percent used it weekly, another thirty percent monthly, with others using it a few times per year. About twenty percent didn't use it, which matched those without library cards.
- Physical books were the most popular service, which surprised Snow given the extensive digital collection and low wait times. He had expected digital services to be more popular. Computer and internet usage was very limited, possibly because people weren't aware the library had 10-gig internet service making it potentially the fastest computer access in the valley.

- 436 • Two-thirds of respondents said the library was very important to them, with another thirteen
437 percent saying it was somewhat important, totaling about eighty percent - consistent with usage
438 patterns.
- 439 • Forty percent said library closure would affect them significantly. By far the most desired
440 outcome was for the county to continue funding the library. People would reluctantly accept city
441 operation if necessary, but strongly preferred county continuation.
- 442 • Over half would accept city operation with reduced staff and services, though many wanted more
443 information about what reduced services would mean.
- 444 • Regarding property tax increases, Mr. Snow analyzed responses until reaching fifty percent
445 support, determining that about \$20 per household annually would likely receive majority
446 support. This translated to approximately \$55,000-60,000 in potential revenue, compared to the
447 current \$250,000 budget. There was a significant gap between desired funding levels and what
448 survey data suggested residents would support through property taxes.
- 449 • Mr. Snow explained that a dedicated library tax line item would be preferable to general fund
450 increases because it would dedicate all revenue specifically to library operations, providing
451 ongoing funding rather than competing with other city needs annually.
- 452 • Council Member Sealy, served on the library board, provided updates on county actions. The
453 county appropriations committee would review the budget on Monday, with a county council
454 vote on Tuesday. She didn't know details of the county's proposal but understood various budget
455 options had been presented.
- 456 • An important factor was that the county executive required a super majority (five of seven votes)
457 to override his veto, not just a simple majority. This made it challenging to reverse the
458 executive's position.
- 459 • She recommended implementing a specific library tax rather than funding through the general
460 fund, as this would provide more stability. General fund support could be easily changed when
461 other pressing needs arose, but a dedicated tax would be more reliable. Based on her budget
462 analysis and experience, the city had numerous ongoing projects and maintenance needs that
463 would strain general funds.
- 464 • She noted state code allowed up to 0.001 percent of assessed property value for library services.
465 Logan's library tax was 0.00098 percent (about nine thousandths), roughly one-tenth of the
466 maximum allowed. For Providence to generate a \$100,000 library budget would require about
467 0.0008 percent, significantly lower than other cities but resulting in roughly \$40 per household
468 annually.
- 469 • She felt that if people understood their options, \$40 per year for local library service was
470 reasonable compared to the \$40 annual fee for Mendon library access, which was across the
471 valley. She suggested using the truth in taxation process to gauge public response and make
472 adjustments if \$40 proved too high based on public input.
- 473 • The council discussed ballot initiatives versus direct council action. Mayor Alder preferred
474 letting voters decide on tax increases rather than the council making that decision directly.
- 475 • Council Member Campbell expressed concerns about ballot initiatives, noting that if only 400
476 people voted out of 5,000 eligible voters, a small percentage could decide for everyone. He
477 wanted assurance of good publicity and a clear plan for fund usage, whether \$100,000, \$150,000,
478 or \$200,000 was needed, and whether \$60,000 could work.
- 479 • Mr. Snow outlined different service levels: \$60,000 would provide a part-time librarian with no
480 benefits working under thirty hours weekly, no support staff, and extremely limited circulation -
481 basically just the Beehive Collection and a few thousand dollars of books annually. At \$120,000,
482 they could have a full-time librarian and slightly better collection but still rely on volunteers. At

483 \$150,000 (the proposed county budget), they would immediately lay off one of three part-time
 484 staff and cut collection spending from \$60,000 to \$10,000 with significant service reductions.
 485 The current \$250,000 budget would maintain existing services.

- 486 • Mr. Snow noted the survey identified 78 people willing to volunteer by name, which was
 487 promising for potential workforce support.
- 488 • Mr. Snow explained the difference between binding and non-binding ballot votes. Binding votes
 489 meant if 51 percent of voters supported the measure, it would automatically become law. The
 490 concern was that low voter turnout in a non-municipal election year could result in a small
 491 percentage of residents deciding for everyone. Non-binding votes were advisory only, but if
 492 residents voted yes and the council rejected it, that would also create problems.
- 493 • Mr. Snow suggested the county should fund the collection (books and digital resources) for all
 494 county libraries, eliminating double taxation while allowing cities to manage facilities and
 495 staffing. This would test the executive's voucher program preference and benefit librarians by
 496 providing additional funding for collections.
- 497 • Council members discussed concerns about the county cutting funding while keeping the money
 498 rather than reducing taxes or providing other services. The county had raised property taxes 18
 499 percent the previous year while maintaining \$7 million in reserves.
- 500 • After extensive discussion about various options including increased taxes, ballot initiatives, and
 501 county negotiations, the council focused on providing staff direction.

502 **Council Member Sealy moved to direct staff to pursue a binding ballot initiative for Providence**
 503 **for a line item library tax on the county ballot for November, and to send out an additional survey**
 504 **question illustrating service differences at different funding levels. Council Member Kirk**
 505 **seconded.**

506 **Vote:**

507 **Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.**

508 **Nay-**

509 **Abstained-**

510 **Absent-**

511 **Motion passed unanimously.**

512 **1 HR. 58 MIN. 35 SEC.**

513 **Public Comments:** Citizens may express their views to the City Council on issues within the City's jurisdiction.
 514 The City Council accepts comments: by email providencecityutah@gmail.com, and by text 435-752-9441.

- 516 • Mayor Alder opened the floor for public comment.
- 517 • Justin McMurdie addressed the council with suggestions regarding the library situation. Given the
 518 county's short timeline constraints, he proposed a temporary tax with automatic sunset provisions to
 519 keep the library operating while the city developed a comprehensive long-term solution. This would be
 520 easier than building services from nothing later.
- 521 • He suggested the possibility of a separate Q&A session specifically about the library for citizens,
 522 allowing staff to present educational information about what different budget levels actually meant in
 523 terms of services and operating hours. This would help residents make informed decisions about funding
 524 levels.

- 525 • He acknowledged his software industry background where temporary fixes were common,
526 understanding this approach might not work as well for municipal government due to different rules and
527 timelines.
- 528 • Mayor Alder thanked him for thinking creatively about solutions and said they would consider his
529 suggestions.

530 **2 HR. 03 MIN. 20 SEC.**

531 **Staff Reports:** Items presented by Providence City Manager and/or Staff will be presented as information only.

- 532 • City Manager Snow reported that much of his recent time involved library discussions. He was willing
533 to engage in individual meetings about library issues and suggested the library board meetings might be
534 appropriate venues for detailed Q&A sessions.
- 535 • The city had submitted several grant applications during grant season. They applied for a Land and
536 Water Conservation Fund grant requesting \$1.2 million. While unsuccessful, they received positive
537 feedback from evaluation staff who liked the proposal, though the final selection committee (whose
538 membership they couldn't know) made different choices.
- 539 • They submitted another application for Grandview Park to install amenities after completing grading
540 with the developer. The grading plan was finalized and provided to the developer that day.
- 541 • Their RAP tax application would fund power and lights at the pickleball courts by Thompson Field, plus
542 pathway lighting for safe access.
- 543 • Mr. Snow had worked with the school district on safe routes to school improvements. Since the new
544 school didn't have a community council yet, they had a preliminary committee. Proposed improvements
545 included a pedestrian-activated light and crossing guard at Center Street and 2nd West, plus a four-way
546 stop at 100 West and 1st North. Both improvements required county approval since they involved
547 county roads. They were also working on pedestrian-activated lights at the roundabout.
- 548 • Hillcrest Park's playground was complete and immediately popular with children once fencing was
549 removed. Snow expressed satisfaction seeing kids enjoy new equipment, whether at Zollinger Park,
550 Grager Park, Hillcrest, or the Skate Park.
- 551 • Thompson Field's underground infrastructure was complete but planting was delayed until spring. The
552 school district planned to fence their property as they transitioned from middle to elementary school,
553 which would encompass current soccer fields. While they were open to continued use arrangements,
554 fields would be closed during school hours for K-5 student safety.
- 555 • The school planned to remove about one-third of the east parking lot for a playground, which would
556 affect the city's car show location. They had requested a 10-foot gate in the fence to maintain access for
557 events, with Thompson Field as a potential alternative location if needed.
- 558 • Water system improvements continued across multiple fronts.
- 559 • Mayor Alder thanked staff for their extensive work on numerous projects, noting that most residents
560 weren't aware of the scope of ongoing municipal projects and how much staff work contributed to the
561 city's appearance and quality of life.

562 **Council Member Speth moved to adjourn the meeting. seconded by Council Member Campbell.**

563 **Vote:**

564 **Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell.**

565 **Nay-**

566 **Abstained-**

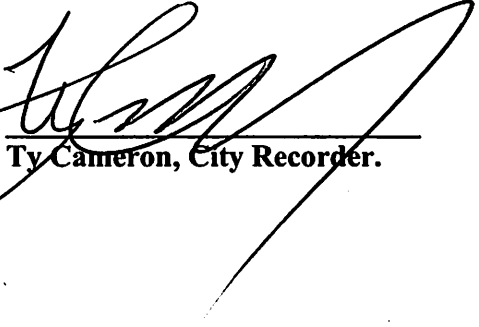
567 **Absent-**

568 **Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.**

569 **Next City Council Meeting will be April 15th**

570 **Minutes approved by vote of council on 15 day of April 2026.**

571 **I swear these minutes are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

572 

573 _____
574 **Ty Cameron, City Recorder.**

575

576