



UINTAH CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 21st, 2026
6:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Council Members Present: Mayor Bell, Council Member Combe, Council Member Roberts, Council Member Patterson, Council Member

Staff Present: City Attorney Bryan Baron, Lt. Slater, City Recorder Michelle Mortensen, Public Works Jack Burton

Attendees: Marilyn Pearson

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Ross Patterson
CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Council Member Sorenson mentioned that he works for a fiber company, although he does not see it as a direct conflict. Mayor Bell felt as though he should be included in the conversation regarding fiber in Uintah.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Marilyn Pearson explained that she went to the canal company with UDOT which is a real fluid . Make your voice known and stay involved.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA: Action Item**
 - A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes -- March 17, 2026
 - B. Approval of Invoices -- March
 - C. Financial Reports -- March
 - Motion made to approve the consent agenda by Council Member Combe.
 - Motion seconded by Council Member Sorenson.
 - All in favor; the motion carries. Council Member Combe, aye; Council Member Sorenson, aye; Mayor Bell, aye; Council Member Roberts, aye; Council Member Patterson, aye.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. None
5. **NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, and POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - A. Fiber in Uintah City: Mayor Bell
 - Mayor Bell explained that she wanted an open discussion about bringing fiber into the city. We have had two different companies come to us wanting to bring fiber in. Council Member Sorenson added that bringing in fiber internet would be a great addition to the city utilities. It would provide competition to other providers and bring better pricing and multiple options. There are multiple options, and picking one that does not put any load or requirements on the city or future councils is the most important thing.
 - Council Member Combe shared his experience as a business owner, noting he currently pays for both Comcast and a backup CenturyLink DSL line, and that proposed fiber service costs would be half of his current expenses. Estimated pricing discussed for Connex service was around \$65-\$70 per month, with other providers being more expensive.
 - Mayor Bell asked whether the project should be put out for bid. City Attorney Baron recommended issuing an RFP to ensure the City selects the best option. Council Member Roberts questioned the need for bids, suggesting provider choice should be driven by consumer preference. In response, Council Member Sorenson explained that pursuing

- federal BEAD grant funding requires demonstrating that no other providers are serving the area.
 - The Council discussed franchise agreements, noting they are typically non-exclusive and that the City already has an agreement with Xfinity. Concerns were raised about agreements like UTOPIA's, which may require minimum subscriber commitments and could financially obligate the City.
 - It was clarified that multiple providers can operate within the City, and if dissatisfied, the City could choose not to renew a franchise agreement. Installation methods were also discussed, with Keystone preferring underground infrastructure, which may require new rights-of-way and coordination with the Planning Commission, while other providers may use aerial installation.
 - Mayor Bell suggested identifying additional low-risk providers and seeking further legal guidance. Council Member Combe emphasized the importance of maintaining multiple service options.
 - Motion was made by Council Member Combe to bring fiber into the City.
 - Motion seconded by Council Member Roberts.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.
- B. Accept Annexation Weber County Parcel #071030021 for further consideration: Mayor Bell
- Mayor Bell asked City Recorder Mortensen to explain the annexation. Ms. Mortensen advised city council that this annexation has been in the works for some time. It involves the last piece of property over in the Uintah Springs Business Park to being annexed into Uintah. After this is accepted for further consideration, it will go to planning commission and then will have to come back to city council after the protest period.
 - Motion was made by Council Member Patterson to accept the annexation for Weber County Parcel #071030021.
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Sorenson.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.
- C. Renumbering Ordinances 298 -25 Finalizing and Adopting the Budget for FY 2025/2026; Providing for Intra-Departmental Transfers; Providing for a Savings and Severability Clause and Providing an Effective Date and 298 A-25 Enacting Compensation Increases for Specific City Officers: City Recorder, Michelle Mortensen
- Mayor Bell mentioned that these are not new ordinances, we are just renumbering them.
 - Motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Council Member Roberts to renumber Ordinance 298-25 Finalizing and Adopting the Budget for FY 2025/2026; Providing for Intra-Departmental Transfers; Providing for a Savings and Severability Clause and Providing an Effective Date and 298 A-25 Enacting Compensation Increases for Specific City Officers
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Patterson.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.
- D. Lawn Mower Purchase & Approval for Tractor Purchase: Public Works, Jack Burton
- The City reported proceeds from the surplus auction and plans to use the funds to purchase a new lawn mower for park maintenance, noting the current equipment is due for replacement. Two mower brands were evaluated: Ferris and Walker. The Ferris mower was preferred for its comfort and speed, while the Walker provided a less comfortable ride. Both models include bagging systems for fall leaf collection.
 - Council Member Sorenson clarified the mower will be used for the park and City Hall grounds. Discussion also included two Ferris models, with staff recommending the smaller option based on preference and size differences.
 - Mr. Burton requested approval to also purchase a tractor for mowing purposes. Council Member Roberts commended staff for generating funds through the surplus sale to support the purchase. Council Member Combe noted that \$18,490 in surplus funds would remain available to apply toward the purchase of a used farm tractor.
 - Motion was made by Council Member Combe to approve the lawn mower purchase in the amount of \$17,744.18.
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Patterson.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.
 - Motion was made by Council Member Combe to approve the purchase of a tractor.
 - Motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.
 - All in favor; the motion carries.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Planning Commission Report: Aaron Stuart
None
- B. Public Works Report: Jack Burton
- Mr. Burton reported that the Water Department installed 31 meters last year and 10 so far this year, with additional installations anticipated due to ongoing new construction. Meter reading operations are running smoothly, and he expressed satisfaction with MeterWorks. Three new air vents were installed in the water system, including one at the Combe tank, with traffic protection added; two additional vents will receive similar protection.
 - A pressure-reducing valve (PRV) in the vault in front of City Hall was serviced for the first time in ten years, and ongoing PRV maintenance will continue. In the Streets Department, three new speed limit signs were installed, receiving positive feedback from residents. Snow removal operations included three plowing events and two sanding efforts, totaling eleven inches of snowfall. The salt and sand shed is currently full, and the new truck with the sander

- performed well. Mr. Burton recommended retaining the larger plow truck, noting the winter season was mild.
 - For parks and City Hall grounds, fertilizing and mowing are underway. Mr. Burton proposed additional xeriscaping to reduce outdoor water use and demonstrate conservation efforts to residents. He also implemented a monthly maintenance check for small equipment to ensure proper upkeep.
 - Upcoming projects include weed control, mowing, cemetery preparations for Memorial Day, and U-Days. Mayor Bell and Council Members expressed appreciation for Mr. Burton's work, noting improved confidence in water system compliance during sanitary surveys and commending his proactive, efficient approach. Support was also expressed for continued water conservation efforts.
- C. Sherriff's Report: Lt. Slater
- Lt. Slater provided an update on the new contract with the County Commission, noting the City is currently allocated 0.54 deputies per resident, with four positions funded from the general fund. Contract cities are expected to see a net gain of six deputies. Staffing updates included the addition of two lateral hires and six deputies currently in field training.
 - Regarding calls for service, Lt. Slater reported no major trends of concern aside from some vehicle burglaries. At his direction, the traffic unit has been monitoring the 6550 area, and the speed limit sign appears to be effective.
 - Mayor Bell expressed appreciation on behalf of the Council for the Sheriff's Office and the resources and support they provide to the City.
- D. Council Reports:
- Council Member Sorenson attended a Bonneville CTC event last night and he is grateful to be a part of it.
 - Council Member Roberts reported that U-day planning is underway. We are looking for volunteers to shadow this year to chair events in the future. We will have all the good things that we usually have. The fire department said that we cannot have the spray down this year, but they will figure something out. Let us get the word out for volunteers.
 - Mayor Bell explained there is a wellness survey on our website, on our Facebook page, and we have sent out the link through text MyGov. USU is partnering with multiple cities throughout the state to do this survey, so if you have not done it yet, please take the time to do it. We will get the information from that survey. The more people that do the survey the better. Ms. Mortensen will be representing Uintah at the ULCT conference later this week.

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion was made to adjourn city council meeting by Council Member Combe at 6:49 p.m.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts.
- All in favor; the motion carries.

Michelle Mortensen
Michelle Mortensen, Uintah City Recorder

5/5/26
Date