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PROVO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Council Chambers (Room 100)

445 W. Center Street, Provo, UT 84601 or

<https://www.youtube.com/provocitycouncil>

Roll Call

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION WERE PRESENT:

Councilor Becky Bogdin

Councilor Gary Garrett

Councilor Travis Hoban

Councilor Katrice MacKay

Councilor Rachel Whipple

Councilor Jeff Whitlock

Mayor Marsha Judkins

Council Executive Director Justin Harrison

Chief Administrative Officer Scott Henderson

City Recorder Heidi Allman

City Attorney Brian Jones

Conducting: Chair Katrice MacKay

Excused: Councilor Craig Christensen

Prayer – Angie Carter

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilor Whipple

Presentations, Proclamations, and Awards

- 1 A ceremony recognizing Chief Troy Beebe as Utah Chiefs of Police Association's Chief of the year (26-007) [00:01:34](#)**

Mayor Judkins recognized Troy Beebe for being named the 2026 Large Department Chief of the Year by the Utah Chiefs of Police Association. She noted that the award had been presented at the Association's conference in St. George and expressed the City's desire to also recognize him publicly at the Council meeting. Mayor Judkins highlighted Chief Beebe's leadership, including efforts to improve department staffing, support the language incentive program, and advance innovation and modernization within the department. She also acknowledged his work in strengthening the statewide law enforcement radio system, collaborating with agencies across Utah to apprehend a dangerous fugitive, and expanding community partnerships. Under his leadership, the Provo Police Department has enhanced community policing, improved response times, and strengthened public trust. The Mayor further noted Chief Beebe's hands-on leadership style and willingness to address challenges of all kinds, sharing an example of his direct involvement in resolving a public safety concern along the Provo River Trail. She concluded by expressing appreciation on behalf of the City and Council and congratulated Chief Beebe on the well-deserved recognition.

- 2 A ceremony recognizing Provo City students' accomplishments within the Sterling Scholar Scholarship Program (26-007) [00:04:38](#)**

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Mayor Judkins recognized the academic achievements of Provo's 2026 Sterling Scholars. She explained that the Sterling Scholar program honors high school seniors across Utah for excellence in scholarship, leadership, and citizenship, with recipients selected through a competitive process that includes portfolio submissions and multiple rounds of evaluation. The Mayor recognized Rachel Ryu of Timpview High School as a runner-up in Family and Consumer Sciences. She highlighted Rachel's accomplishments, including service as a Provo City School District student board member, participation on the student advisory council, involvement in FCCLA leadership, and her role as a varsity lacrosse team captain. Adalaide Wingate, also of Timpview High School, was recognized as a runner-up in World Languages. The Mayor noted her leadership as orchestra president, her achievements as a concerto winner and longtime violinist, her participation in athletics, and her strong academic performance. Ella Fillmore, of Timpview High School, was recognized as the Sterling Scholar in the Dance category. The Mayor highlighted her extensive dance training, international study experience, leadership in the school's dance company, and her efforts to serve the community through dance-related outreach and volunteer work. Mayor Judkins congratulated each student and expressed appreciation for their contributions and accomplishments.

Public Comment

Chair MacKay read the public comment preamble and opened the public comment period.

Angie Carter, East Neighborhood District Chair, spoke regarding a proposal discussed during the Council's work session related to a potential conservation easement for Slate Canyon. She reminded the Council of strong community interest in preserving the canyon, referencing significant public turnout at a neighborhood meeting the previous year when development of the area had been proposed. Ms. Carter expressed that residents value Slate Canyon for its natural beauty, recreational opportunities, and its role as a gateway to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. She noted that the area already provides amenities such as dirt bike trails and a disc golf course, and that it has long been identified in the City's General Plan as a future park. While acknowledging that the conservation easement was not part of the formal agenda, she urged the Council to give it careful consideration as a means of preserving the canyon for future generations. She emphasized the importance of maintaining access to natural spaces and the positive impact such environments have on residents' well-being.

Taudine Andrew, a Provo resident and owner of Curvature, a plus-size thrift store, invited the Council to attend an upcoming ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the expansion of her business. She noted that the business is growing and has recently acquired the adjacent property, effectively doubling its size. Ms. Andrew also raised concerns regarding the City's utility deposit requirements. She explained that she was asked to pay a \$400 deposit to establish utilities for the expanded space, which would be held for three years. She stated that this timeframe is longer than in many other Utah municipalities, where deposits are typically held for one year, and suggested the Council consider revisiting this policy to better support small business growth. Additionally, she noted that despite being an existing business with a strong payment history, she was initially required to provide a second deposit for the expansion. While she expressed appreciation that the City ultimately granted a waiver, she suggested that a more consistent policy for existing businesses could simplify the process for both staff and business owners. Ms. Andrew indicated she would follow up via email with additional information.

Glen Johns, a resident of Springville, addressed the Council regarding his missing granddaughters, Amelia and Sophia. He reiterated prior requests made to the Council, asking that the City encourage the Police Department to prioritize the case and allocate appropriate resources, utilize available communication channels to increase public awareness, and support future efforts to strengthen state

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laws related to parental abduction. Mr. Johns expressed concern that information about the missing children had not been broadly shared through official channels and emphasized the importance of raising awareness. He referenced information from Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification regarding the serious risks and long-term impacts associated with parental abduction, including instability, emotional distress, and lack of access to consistent care. He urged the Council and community to assist in efforts to locate his granddaughters and emphasized the importance of reuniting them with their family.

Steven Nordstrom, a Provo resident, spoke in support of efforts to locate two missing children in the community. He shared that he is a longtime friend of the children’s father and expressed concern over the lack of progress in the case. Drawing on his own experience as a father, he emphasized the emotional impact such situations have on families. Mr. Nordstrom urged the City to ensure continued attention and focus on the case, including regular updates and prioritization by law enforcement. He expressed hope that all available resources would be utilized to assist in locating the children and supporting their safe return.

Naomi Flinders, a Provo resident, raised concerns regarding pedestrian safety along 500 North, noting that the roadway falls under the authority of the Utah Department of Transportation. She shared that a child was recently struck while using a crosswalk in the area near North Park. Ms. Flinders asked the Council to help bring attention to the issue with UDOT and consider potential safety improvements. She suggested that replacing the existing flashing crosswalk with a stop sign could reduce confusion for drivers and improve safety, particularly given the high volume of pedestrian traffic, including children.

Chair MacKay closed public comment.

Action Agenda

3 A resolution consenting to the mayor’s appointment of the energy services director for Provo City. (26-028) [00:18:22](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Resolution 2026-8, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Mayor Judkins recommended the appointment of Patricio Hernandez as the City’s Energy Services Director and requested the Council’s advice and consent. She noted that Mr. Hernandez was selected following a nationwide search that included 24 applicants and expressed full confidence in his qualifications. The Mayor highlighted Mr. Hernandez’s prior experience with Provo City as a power systems control operator, where he monitored the City’s energy distribution system. She also outlined his subsequent work with Rocky Mountain Power and Heber Light & Power, where he gained additional technical and managerial experience. Mayor Judkins emphasized Mr. Hernandez’s leadership background, including roles as an engineer, project manager, and his recognition as an award-winning safety committee chair with the American Public Power Association. She concluded by recommending his appointment for the Council’s consideration.

With no council discussion, Chair MacKay called for a vote.

Vote: The motion passed 6:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Garrett, Hoban, MacKay, Whipple, and Whitlock in favor. Councilor Christensen excused.

Judge Schreiner administered the oath of office to Director Hernandez.

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4 A resolution consenting to the mayor’s appointment of the parks and recreation director for Provo City. (26-029) [00:22:45](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Resolution 2026-9, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Mayor Judkins recommended the appointment of Bradley Raney as the City’s Parks and Recreation Director and requested the Council’s advice and consent. She noted that Mr. Raney was selected following a nationwide recruitment process that included 87 applicants. The Mayor outlined Mr. Raney’s educational background, including a bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science from Brigham Young University and a master’s degree in athletic administration. She also highlighted his prior experience serving as Parks and Recreation Director in both Green River, Wyoming and Edmond, Oklahoma. Mayor Judkins noted that, in his most recent role, Mr. Raney successfully managed several multi-million-dollar projects that improved financial sustainability, operational efficiency, and service quality for residents. She emphasized his experience in local government operations, budgeting and financial management, and community engagement, and recommended his appointment for the Council’s consideration.

Vote: The motion passed 6:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Garrett, Hoban, MacKay, Whipple, and Whitlock in favor. Councilor Christensen excused.

Judge Schreiner administered the oath of office to Director Raney.

5 A resolution appropriating \$75,000 in the General Fund for an economic development study for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. (26-016) [00:25:32](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Resolution 2026-10, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

Cody Hill, Division Director of Economic Development, presented. He noted that this initiative was identified by the Council in January as a key priority for both the Council and City Administration. Mr. Hill explained that staff and Council have collaborated over the past several months to develop and issue a Request for Proposals (RFP), which is a formal process used by the City to solicit qualified firms to provide professional services. The RFP closed on April 18, and ten proposals were received. He indicated that a selection committee was scheduled to meet later in the week to review submissions and make a recommendation. The requested funds would support the completion of the study to help guide future economic development efforts citywide.

Chair MacKay opened public comment. With none, and no council discussion, she called for a vote.

Vote: The motion passed 6:0 with Councilors Bogdin, Garrett, Hoban, MacKay, Whipple, and Whitlock in favor. Councilor Christensen excused.

6 An ordinance amending power generation, evaporative cooling, and environmental reporting requirements for data centers. (PLOT20250458) [00:27:24](#)

Motion: An implied motion to approve Ordinance 2026-13, as currently constituted, has been made by council rule.

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Hannah Salzl, City Planner and Sustainability Coordinator, presented proposed amendments to the City's data center code, which had originally been adopted in September. She explained that, after implementation and coordination with departments and the Utah Municipal Power Agency, staff identified updates intended to better protect the City's power grid, air quality, and water resources. Ms. Salzl outlined three primary components of the proposed amendments. First, the ordinance would remove power generation as a permitted use for data centers. She explained that existing requirements from the power provider would effectively limit facilities to 50 megawatts, which would significantly reduce potential air quality impacts. Second, the amendments would require non-evaporative cooling systems. While these systems may increase energy use, they reduce water consumption and would prohibit discharge into the municipal wastewater system. Third, the proposal would remove certain third-party environmental analysis requirements due to the reduced environmental impact, while still maintaining Council discretion in reviewing applications. Ms. Salzl also noted that the Planning Commission had reviewed the proposal and recommended against fully prohibiting power generation as a permitted use. Instead, the Commission suggested allowing it as a conditional use with performance-based standards, recognizing the potential economic benefits of data center development.

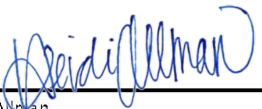
Chair MacKay opened public comment. With none, and no council discussion, she called for a vote.

Vote: The motion passed 5:1 with Councilors Garrett, Hoban, MacKay, Whipple, and Whitlock in favor. Councilor Bogdin opposed and Councilor Christensen excused.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at approximately 6:01 PM.

These minutes were approved by unanimous consent on the 12th day of May, 2026.

X 

Heidi Allman
City Recorder