

On April 21st, 2026, the Lewiston City Council meeting and Public Hearing was held in the Lewiston City Clubroom at 29 South Main at 7:30pm. Council members Westover, Trexler, Simper, Morrison, Bodily, City Recorder Chris Barr, Public Works Director Paul Swainston, and Assistant Public Works Director Brennan Hyer were present. Others present included Kendall Crockett, Kirsti Kjome, Patricia Johnson, George Daines, Chad Jensen, and Jake Johnson.

Councilmember Westover called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Trexler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and approval of the minutes of the March 17th, 2026 meeting.

Simper motioned to approve the minutes as stated from the March 17th meeting, seconded by F. Bodily. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Resident Input. None

George Daines (Cache County Executive) – Fire District Voucher System

Mr. Daines explained the Cache County has been moving towards a centralized bureaucracy and absorbing the outlying communities. The county has a Fire Board, and they have been working on this for some time. Mr. Daines has had numerous mayors tell him that they don't want this to happen and would like to maintain control over their own stations.

Currently, everybody in the county is being taxed at the same rate for Cache County Fire Service. Some cities pay for this and don't get anything out of it because they have their own fire departments or arrangements separate from the county. Others pay very little but are getting the same benefits as those who pay a lot.

Mr. Daines presented some stats and figures showing how a uniform levee would correct some of the issues of inequality in paying for fire protection. A discussion of the benefits of a voucher system versus a unified fire authority happened. Lewiston Fire Chief Jake Johnson asked some questions about how this would directly affect Lewiston, and Mr. Daines answered those.

Kendall Crockett – extension of water line to unincorporated area for new home.

Mr. Crockett explained that he is trying to build a home south of Oakdell Egg Farm on the south side of Conference Road which is in the unincorporated county. He needs water service to build a home there. This would involve extending the closest water main approximately 1700 feet, 760 feet of which would be outside of Lewiston City.

Councilmember Westover asked Assistant Public Works Director Brennan Hyer to share his thoughts on extending this water line. Mr. Hyer explained that there is no benefit to Lewiston to have a service line outside of our service area. Having a long length of pipe dead end like that would significantly reduce the quality of the water. It would be detrimental to the existing system, causing lower pressures in an area that already has sub-par water pressure. Fire protection would also be inadequate due to the pressure.

Mr. Kendall questioned the council as to whether or not they would approve of the extension of the water line before he moved forward with further engineering expenses. Councilmembers Bodily, Morrison, and Simper stated that they wouldn't approve it because of the pressure problems.

Sheriff Chad Jensen explained that it is time to renew the contract for Law Enforcement Services. He presented data supporting the current service that CCSO has provided. The newly proposed contract includes an annual

increase to the rate. The current rate is \$56. The new 3-year contract includes a rate of \$60 per contracted hour the first year, followed by an increase to \$64 the second year, and \$68 the third year.

The Animal Control Contract for the new 3-year contract will not change.

Resolution 26-01 - City Fundraising, discussion and vote.

Councilmember Westover presented Resolution 26-01 as a resolution to define the policy of fundraising as organizations operating as part of the City.

F. Bodily motioned to approve Resolution 26-01, seconded by Simper.

Roll call vote:

Bodily: yes

Morrison: yes

Simper: yes

Trexler: yes

All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Amend Resolution 25-04 - updating meeting day for Events Council, discussion and vote.

Councilmember Westover explained that this is to approve an amendment to the Meeting Schedule for the Events Council. The original Resolution listed the meeting day as the second Wednesday of each month, but there has been a change in members that want to keep the day as it has been, on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

F. Bodily motioned to approve the amendment to Resolution 25-04, seconded by Morrison. All in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report.

- Mayor Bodily absent.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Jonna Westover reported that the Youth Council Easter egg hunt went well. She is looking for volunteers to help with the boot races and the home run derby.

Councilmember Jason Trexler reported that Deb Williams has been appointed as the Library Board chair.

Councilmember Simper reported that the theatre will be doing the summer children's matinees again, and they will also be showing 9:00 movies starting in June through the summer.

Councilmember Morrison said that Planning & Zoning did not have a meeting last month so there is nothing new to report. They do have a few names that they will be asking to serve on the commission to replace Abel Herrera as a commissioner, but he will remain as the P&Z Administrator.

Councilmember Bodily reported that the Events Council had their Spring Fling Dance, it was unfortunately scheduled for the same night as the prom. There were enough youth baseball registrations to form two coach-pitch teams and one t-ball team.

Adjourn

F. Bodily motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Simper. All in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Chris Barr

Lewiston City Recorder

