

**City of Taylorsville
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Council Chambers – Room No. 140
2600 W Taylorsville Blvd
Taylorsville, Utah 84129**

ATTENDANCE

Elected Officials Present

Mayor Kristie S. Overson
Council Chair Bob Knudsen
Council Vice Chair Curt Cochran
Council Member Anna Barbieri
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Meredith Harker

Staff Present

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, CFO/Asst City Admin
Brady Cottam, Police Chief
Dina Blaes, Chief of Strategic Engagement
Jamie Brooks, City Recorder
Kim Horiuchi, Communications Dir.
Chief Richard Rich, Unified Fire
Ben White, City Engineer
Betsy Valora, Deputy City Recorder
Terryne Bergeson, Planner II
Brittany Kempff, Deputy City Recorder

Excused: Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney

Others Present: Suzanne Harrison, Aimee Winder-Newton

6:00 P.M. BRIEFING SESSION

Chair Knudsen called the meeting to order at 6:03 and reviewed the agenda.

1. **SALT LAKE COUNTY PRESENTATION ON COUNTY BUDGET, SERVICES, AND KEY PRIORITIES (30 minutes)** – *County Council Chair Aimee Winder-Newton and Council Member Suzanne Harrison*

Salt Lake County Council Chair Aimee Winder-Newton and at-large Council Member Suzanne Harrison presented an overview of Salt Lake County's structure, services, and budget. Chair Winder-Newton explained that although the county was approaching wall-to-wall incorporation by 2027, county government remained essential for regional services that individual cities could not efficiently provide on their own, including criminal justice, elections, health services, aging and adult services, behavioral health, culture and arts, regional parks, and library services.

Chair Winder-Newton clarified that the county's apparent \$2 billion budget was partially inflated by approximately \$500 million in pass-through dollars the county was required to show on its

books but exercised no discretion over. The true operating budget was approximately \$1.5 billion, with a \$500 million general fund, of which 74 percent was dedicated to public safety. She noted that tourism taxes, not property taxes, funded cultural and recreational amenities, saving residents an estimated \$1,700 per property annually.

Chair Winder-Newton also addressed how truth in taxation worked, emphasizing that property tax revenue did not automatically increase with rising property values, and that recent increases in residential tax bills were partly attributable to the decline in commercial office property values following COVID-19. Council Member Harrison discussed the county jail's significant capacity challenges, noting that no beds had been added since 2001 despite substantial population growth. She described ongoing bipartisan efforts to set aside \$100 million for jail expansion and outlined the county's goals to reduce the cycle of recidivism through improved mental health and substance use treatment.

Council members expressed appreciation for the county's fiscal discipline, particularly the efforts to reduce the mayor's proposed 20 percent tax increase down to 5 percent through line-by-line budget cuts. Council Member Harrison noted the county's ongoing expansion of summer recreation programming and the continuation of the free My County Rec Pass for residents under 18.

2. **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

6:30 P.M. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ATTENDANCE

Elected Officials Present

Mayor Kristie S. Overson
Council Chair Bob Knudsen
Council Vice Chair Curt Cochran
Council Member Anna Barbieri
Council Member Ernest Burgess
Council Member Meredith Harker

Staff Present

John Taylor, City Administrator
Scott Harrington, CFO/Asst City Admin
Dina Blaes, Chief of Strategic Engagement
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Kim Horiuchi, Communications Dir.
Brittany Kempff, Deputy City Recorder
Betsy Valora, Deputy City Recorder
Terryne Bergeson, Planner II

Excused: Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney

Others Present: Brandi Stephens, Lynn Handy, Mark Chalk, Lt. Nate Hutchinson, Don Russell

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Chair Knudsen called the regular meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. A roll call was conducted wherein all council members were present.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – Pledge and Reverence

Council Member Burgess led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, after which he gave a prayer.

1.2 Mayor's Report

Mayor Kristie S. Overson delivered a report covering several notable items. She highlighted the recent League of Cities and Towns Conference in St. George, where sessions focused on water, housing, and new legislative implementations. Council members also toured the Toquer Reservoir construction site during the conference.

Mayor Overson reported on the dedication of the Spencer Webster Learning Center at the city museum, a project involving hundreds of volunteer hours to convert a garage into a learning facility. She noted that school tours were set to begin in May.

The Mayor announced the ribbon cutting of the MVX (Midvalley Express) transit line, the majority of which ran through Taylorsville, representing decades of planning and collaboration with UTA (Utah Transit Authority), federal and state partners, and former city officials.

Mayor Overson noted the display of the America 250 flag at City Hall, supported by a grant obtained through the Exchange Club and Youth Council. She reported that a former Youth Council member addressed current youth council members about the value of civic service. The Council will hold a recognition ceremony for graduating Youth Council seniors at the next meeting.

Mayor Overson deferred to Chief Cottam for a report on the Shield 616 initiative and noted the promotion of UFA (Unified Fire Authority) liaison Captain Rich to the rank of Battalion Chief, recognizing his 30-year career in fire service and six years as the Taylorsville city liaison.

Regarding parks, Mayor Overson reported that Taylorsville Park was undergoing significant improvements beginning at the corner of 4700 S and Redwood Road, and that the skate area at Summit Park was expected to have concrete poured that week. She also noted a landscaping redesign on the north side of City Hall.

1.3 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Chair Knudsen briefly reviewed upcoming city events.

1.4 Citizen Comments

The chair opened the public comment period. There were no public comments.

2. APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments on the agenda.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Police Department Report – Chief Brady Cottam

Chief Cottam presented the quarterly crime and activity report, noting no dramatic increases in any crime category. He highlighted a continued downward trend in DUI incidents, attributing this in part to the widespread availability of rideshare services. Vehicle theft was noted as a continued area of focus. The quarterly report showed no homicides in the period, a positive outcome for a city of Taylorville's size. Chief Cottam also reviewed traffic accident data by district and provided maps showing the geographic distribution of incidents, concentrated largely along Redwood Road, 4700 South, 5400 South, and 6200 South.

Chief Cottam presented a detailed breakdown of citations issued, evidence management statistics, GRAMA request volumes, victim advocate activity, and priority call response times, which improved compared to the prior quarter.

Chief Cottam then reported on the Shield 616 initiative, a nonprofit organization that raised funds to provide law enforcement officers with enhanced rifle-resistant body armor plates. He explained that the standard soft Kevlar vest worn by officers provided protection against handgun rounds but not high-powered rifles. Through Shield 616's fundraising efforts and support from the city, the department received nine rifle-rated armor plates, with five more anticipated. Each plate carrier cost approximately \$2,700. Chief Cottam passed the equipment around for council members to examine. Council Member Barbieri shared her impressions from attending the Shield 616 event, expressing admiration for the founder's story and the weight and effectiveness of the armor. The department's goal was to equip all 35 patrol officers with enhanced plates.

3.1.1 Swearing in of Police Officers

Deputy City Recorder Betsy Valora administered the oath of office to two newly hired officers, Michael Lynes and Caleb Hancock. Chief Cottam also conducted a badge-pinning ceremony for Officer Caleb Hancock, marking his entry into law enforcement.

3.2 Taylorville Bennion Improvement District – Mark Chalk

Mark Chalk, representing the Taylorville Bennion Improvement District (TBID), presented a comprehensive water conditions update. He explained that despite some precipitation during the winter, unusually warm temperatures — ranging 3 to 9 degrees above normal — resulted in significantly below-average snowpack and snow water equivalent, setting record lows at certain points during the season. The outlook for the coming months projected below average precipitation and above-average temperatures.

Mr. Chalk reported that the TBID's wells, which provided 60 to 70 percent of the district's water, were in good condition. However, because surface water conditions tracked by Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District were stressed, the TBID board elected to match Jordan Valley's Level 2 drought designation. Under this voluntary conservation level, residents were asked to refrain from outdoor watering until May 15, 2026, and to limit irrigation to two days per week thereafter. Mr. Chalk emphasized that these restrictions were voluntary at this stage, with no enforcement mechanism in place, but that a Level 3 designation would trigger mandatory restrictions. He encouraged residents to water during nighttime hours to reduce evaporation.

Mayor Overson noted that the city had been receiving resident calls about watering and expressed the city's full support for the TBID's conservation messaging. Mr. Chalk thanked the city for its cooperative communication efforts. Council Member Harker suggested that engaging schoolchildren in water conservation messaging could be an effective outreach strategy, and Mr. Chalk offered to visit classrooms with a water education presentation.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Minutes – City Council Meeting, April 15, 2026

MOTION: Council Member Cochran moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2026, meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess.

Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

5. PLANNING MATTERS

5.1 **Ordinance No. 26-06 Consideration of an Ordinance of the City of Taylorsville Adopting a Zoning Text Amendment to Section 13.44.040, Related to the Manner of Height Measurement for Single-Family Attached Buildings within the SSD-R Taylor Villas Zoning District. – Terryne Bergeson**

Planner Terryne Bergeson presented Ordinance No. 26-06, a proposed zoning text amendment affecting height measurement standards for townhouse buildings within the Taylor Villas subdivision. She provided background explaining that the Taylor Villas SSD-R zoning district was established in 2024, with construction proceeding on both single-family detached homes and townhouse units. During permit review, staff identified that the townhouse building plans measured height from the top of the foundation rather than from average finished grade to the peak of the roof as required, resulting in heights ranging from slightly above 35 feet to approximately 37 feet, exceeding the 35-foot ordinance standard.

Ms. Bergeson explained that staff proposed amending the height measurement standard for townhouses only within this specific district to measure from average finished grade to the midpoint of the highest roof surface, consistent with language in the 2021 International Residential Code. This change would not affect the single-family detached homes within the district, which were verified to comply with existing standards. The alternative, if the ordinance were denied, would require the removal and replacement of roofs already under construction.

The Planning Commission voted 6-0 to forward a favorable recommendation following a properly noticed public hearing. No comments in opposition were received. Council Member Harker confirmed that approving the amendment would not change the physical appearance or construction of the buildings. Council Member Burgess noted the importance of ensuring the corrected measurement standard would prevent similar discrepancies on future projects.

MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-06. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess.

Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1 Resolution No. 26-07 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Acknowledging that, Pursuant to Utah Code Annotated § 59-2-919(4)(a)(i), the Proposed Tentative Fiscal Year 2026–2027 Budget Includes a Proposed Property Tax Increase and that the Budget Officer will Present a Property Tax Impact Schedule as Required by Utah Code Annotated § 59-2-9 - Scott Harrington

Budget Officer Scott Harrington presented the proposed property tax impact schedule for fiscal year 2026–2027, a new requirement under recent legislative changes to the truth in taxation process. The current property tax rate of 0.0082¹ generated approximately \$4,669,000 in revenue. The proposed 5 percent increase would raise revenue to approximately \$4,904,000, a difference of approximately \$234,800. These additional funds were designated for road maintenance activities including overlays, slurry seals, and chip seals. The impact to an average residential property valued at \$472,000 would be \$10.64 per year, or \$0.89 per month. For a commercial property of equivalent value, the impact would be \$19.35 per year. Mr. Harrington noted that Taylorsville's city line item represented approximately 7 percent of a resident's total property tax bill. The full budget public hearing was scheduled for two weeks from the meeting date on May 20, 2026.

MOTION: Council Member Cochran moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-07. The

¹ The current property tax rate is 0.0082

motion was seconded by Council Member Harker.

Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

6.2 Resolution No. 26-08 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Acknowledging an Intent to Consider an Increase in Property Tax Revenue and Setting the Date, Time, and Place for the Truth in Taxation Hearing - *Scott Harrington*

Mr. Harrington presented Resolution No. 26-08, which acknowledged the city's intent to consider a property tax increase and established the date, time, and place for the Truth in Taxation hearing. He explained that the hearing date must be coordinated with Salt Lake County, and the specific date — expected to fall in August 2026 — would be confirmed approximately mid-June. The Truth in Taxation hearing must be held as a standalone meeting with no other agenda items. The regular budget process continued through June 21, 2026, when the budget must be adopted.

MOTION: Council Member Burgess moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-08. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cochran.

Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

6.3 Resolution No. 26-10 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Declaring Certain Property as Surplus Property – *Scott Harrington*

Mr. Harrington presented Resolution No. 26-10, authorizing the declaration of five police department vehicles as surplus property. The vehicles were to be listed and sold through the public surplus auction website, consistent with the city's established practice. Mr. Harrington noted that the city had achieved favorable auction results through this process. Additional vehicles were expected to be surplus in approximately four months.

MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-10. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess.

Council Member Cochran	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes

Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

6.4 Resolution No. 26-11 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of One or More Lease Purchase Agreements, Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Certain Capital Expenditures, and Related Matters – *Scott Harrington*

Mr. Harrington presented Resolution No. 26-11 authorizing a lease purchase agreement in the amount of \$850,000 for the acquisition of approximately 15 to 16 police department vehicles to replace those being surplus. Eight vehicles had been secured to date, with the remainder contingent on Ford's delivery schedule. The fleet included both Ford Explorers and trucks. The anticipated financing rate from JPMorgan was approximately 4.68 percent, down from an initial estimate of 5 percent. Council discussed the relative maintenance costs and resale values of trucks versus SUVs, and Mr. Harrington noted the city's positive maintenance experience with newer fleet vehicles. The council also noted the benefit of equipment interchangeability between similarly configured trucks.

MOTION: Council Member Burgess moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-11. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harker.

Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

7. OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Resolution No. 26-12 A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Designating Certain Areas Where Orders to Disperse Are Authorized and Gang Loitering is Prohibited – *Chief Cottom & Lt. Nate Hutchinson*

Chief Cottam introduced Lt. Nate Hutchinson of the Utah Metro Gang Unit to present on Resolution No. 26-12, which renewed the gang loitering prohibition ordinance specific to the Taylorsville Dayzz event at Valley Regional Park. Lt. Hutchinson explained that gang-related incidents at city celebrations across the county had been a recurring problem, citing a quadruple homicide at West Fest the prior year as an example of the severity of the risk. The ordinance allowed officers to ask documented gang members to leave the designated area and, if they refused, to proceed with an arrest. Lt. Hutchinson noted that the criteria for documenting gang membership are defined by state statute, providing a built-in check against arbitrary enforcement.

Chief Cottam noted that Taylorsville had been a pioneer among county cities in adopting this type of ordinance and credited the Metro Gang Unit for its continued partnership. Council Member Cochran asked whether the resolution covered the full event footprint, including the parade route. Lt. Hutchinson explained that, due to past legal challenges to broad loitering laws, the designation must be narrowly drawn to a specific location — in this case, Valley Regional Park — to withstand constitutional scrutiny. Council Member Burgess expressed appreciation for the proactive approach and the deterrent effect the ordinance has had on gang activity at the event.

MOTION: Council Member Harker moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-12. The motion was seconded by Council Member Burgess.

Council Member Burgess	Yes
Council Member Harker	Yes
Council Member Cochran	Yes
Chair Knudsen	Yes
Council Member Barbieri	Yes

Motion Passed 5-0

8. NEW ITEMS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION (No Action)

Council Member Harker inquired about the city's meeting livestream and recording capabilities. City Administrator John Taylor noted that the current setup only allowed live viewing and that audio recordings were available the following day. Council Member Harker asked whether video recording and on-demand viewing could be made available in the future, acknowledging there would be a cost to upgrade the technology. Taylor confirmed video recording would require a system change. Council Member Harker also noted that the Salt Lake County Council presentation, which took place during the briefing session, was not streamed, and suggested that future presentations of similar public interest be scheduled during the regular session when possible. City Administrator Taylor noted that pre-meeting attendance typically dropped off after the break. Mayor Overson noted that the pre-meeting recording and the accompanying presentation slides were accessible to the public.

9. NOTICE OF FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS

Chair Knudsen reviewed the dates and times of upcoming planning commission and city council meetings.

10. CLOSED SESSION (Conference Room 202)

There was no need for a closed session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Barbieri moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cochran and Chair Knudsen declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Betsy Valora

Betsy Valora
Deputy City Recorder



Approved 5/20/2026