**Town of Mantua Council Meeting Minutes**
**Approve Amended Budget for the Current Year**
**For April 16th, 2026**
**Location: Town Hall, 409 North Main, Mantua, Utah**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Annette Ash, Mayor Pro Tempore Matt Jeppsen, Council Member Cheryl Burgan, Council member Scott Ross, Council Member Henry Dovey
**Recorder:** Sherita Schaefer

**Audience Present:** Pam Eaves, Marcus Abel, Dakota Midkiff, Will Hodgins

The meeting was opened by Mayor Annette Ash.

## REVIEW OF APPROVE AMENDED BUDGET FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR

*Presented by: Financial Clerk, Ronald Wallace*

**Comparative Review:** Actual revenues are exceeding projections, primarily due to cemetery fees reaching $18,400 compared to a projected $9,500. While interest earnings and growth-driven property and sales taxes have contributed to the surplus, interest in the water fund is decreasing as capital is used for the water tank project. Telephone taxes and motor vehicle fees have declined. The Police Department reached 76% of its budget by the end of March, necessitating an adjustment to $323,000 for the fiscal year. Regarding the enterprise funds, the Water Repair and Maintenance Fund rose from $10,000 last year to $140,000 this year for water funds.

**Variance Summary:** Budget amendments were implemented to cover $67,000 in well repairs, $47,000 for main line valves, and updates to the SCADA system. The Police budget was amended by $10,000 to settle a Motorola bill for three years of radio fees. A formal transfer from the General Fund addressed a $7,000 deficit in the Sewer account resulting from increased cleaning costs and higher fees from Brigham City. Funding for Danes Park was adjusted to $74,500 for equipment and beautification. Additionally, a $70,137 General Fund surplus was reallocated, with $20,000 designated for Fire/EMS, $3,100 for Parks, and $47,037 for a Capital Projects fund for a future municipal building.

## FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM MARCH 19TH 2026 AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

**Parks & Recreation Oversight:** Wallace presented a series of internal controls and preventative measures to mitigate overspending, requiring department heads to adhere to approved limits. Under these new controls, any proposed budget overrun requires a formal council vote rather than an automatic adjustment. Council member Burgan is conducting monthly reviews with park staff to evaluate maintenance needs against departmental wish lists, and expenses exceeding 10% of the approved budget are now subject to extra scrutiny. Additionally, budget alignments were performed to clarify that certain expenditures, such as the $74,500 for Danes Park, were previously authorized and that recent amendments were made to ensure administrative paperwork accurately reflects those actions.

**Waste Management Services:** Robinson Waste Services, Inc. has acquired the garbage service contract previously held by Econo Waste Inc. Despite an increase in refuse cans and related revenue, net income for garbage services has declined relative to the previous year. A rate analysis indicates that while formal contract rates have not changed, there is a documented increase in the contractual services expense line.

**Negative Water Utility Fees:** Wallace explained that a -$50,000 variance in water utility fees was a corrective accounting measure rather than a loss of cash. This variance resulted from several excessively high-water bills sent to residents in error. To resolve the issue, the town adjusted the accounts to the correct amounts; however, since the initial incorrect totals had been recorded as expected revenue, the adjustments were reflected as a negative variance in budget reports. Following these corrections, actual water revenue was approximately $241,000, which aligns with the previous year's performance.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Allocation of General Fund Surplus**: Wallace identified a total surplus of $70,137.00 in revenue over expenses and facilitated its formal allocation. Of this amount, $20,000.00 was distributed to the Fire and EMS department to fund a new fire engine or ambulance to reduce reliance on external services. Another $3,100.00 was allocated for maintenance and bark at Maple Springs Park. The remaining $47,037.00 was transferred into a Capital Projects fund for a future municipal or maintenance building to provide storage and additional space for the fire station.

Council Member Ross motioned to approve the budget as presented, with the specific allocation of a $70,137 surplus distributed as follows: $20,000 for a new fire engine or ambulance; $3,100 for Parks and Recreation (specifically for bark at Maple Springs and Dane’s Park); and the remaining $47,037 transferred to the Capital Projects Building Fund for future municipal buildings. And to adopt the amended budget for fiscal year 2025-2026. Mayor Pro Tempore Jeppsen seconded the motion.
**Yes votes:** Mayor Annette Ash, Matt Jeppsen, Scott Ross, Cheryl Burgan, Henry Dovey
**No votes:** None
**Abstained:** None
**Absent:** None
**MOTION PASSED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON APPROVE AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR**
*Per Utah Code, the Council will receive input only; no decisions can be made on public comments. Time limits are at the discretion of the mayor.* *(none)*

**ADJOURNMENT**
Mayor Pro Tempore Jeppsen motioned to adjourn the budget meeting. Council Member Dovey made the second.
**Yes votes:** Mayor Annette Ash, Matt Jeppsen, Scott Ross, Cheryl Burgan, Henry Dovey
**No votes:** None
**Abstained:** None
**Absent:** None
**MOTION PASSED**