



City Council
Tuesday May 19, 2026 7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Mayor
Nile Mathisen
Public Works Director
Ben Mower
Secretary/Recorder
Kaelyn Meyers/Tasha Crum

Council Members
Shaun Murray
Ben Allred
Alfred Kettle
Steve Secrest

Item

1) CALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER

- **Welcome and Roll Call** -Mayor Nile Mathisen welcomed all in attendance and called roll. The Council Members in attendance were Ben Allred, Alfred Kettle, Steve Secrest and Shaun Murray. Secretaries Tasha Crum and Kaelyn Meyers.
- **Prayer** – Nile Mathisen
- **Pledge of Allegiance** -said by all in attendance
- **Public Attendees**-Jeffrey Baker, Toni Webb, Corey Auger, Chad Huffaker, Laura Allred, Abigail Roberts, Matthew Wilber, David Kettle, Karalee Kettle and Brett Kettle
- **Conflicts of Interests** -- *All Council Members who have a conflict with any item on the agenda please state concern.*

-No conflicts were stated by Council Members-

2) UINTAH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION NIGHT DONATION-

- Laura Allred, representing Uintah High School Committee, requested a donation to support graduation night. She mentions the theme “Last Rodeo” and activities planned. It is being organized by parents and community sponsors, an event that is open to all seniors regardless of graduation status.
- **Motion made by Council Member Shaun Murray to approve one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) donation to Uintah High School graduation night, 2nd by Council Member Ben Allred. All in Favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen
Ben Allred
Al Kettle
Steve Secrest
Shaun Murray

3) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT APPROVAL- Corey Auger

- Corey Auger, County Fire Warden, presents the Cooperative Wildfire System agreement, explaining its purpose and the updates included. The agreement is renewed every five years and includes provisions for participation, accounting, and firefighting responsibilities.
- **Motion made by Council Member Ben Allred to accept the Cooperative Wildfire System agreement, 2nd by Council Member Alfred Kettle. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen
Ben Allred
Al Kettle
Steve Secrest
Shaun Murray

4) CONSIDERATION OF SPEED BUMPS NEAR 237 S 1500 E-

- Toni Webb expressed concerns about semi-trucks and high school drivers speeding on the narrow road near her home and the safety risks to her family. Council

Members agreed that speed limit enforcement is important and discussed possible measures, including increased law enforcement presence. They will continue to communicate with the County to request enhanced enforcement along that road. The Council Members thanked her for bringing this matter to their attention.

5) FREE CLEANUP WEEK DISCUSSION- K&K Sanitation

- David Kettle representing K & K Sanitation reported on the success of free cleanup event. Council Members expressed appreciation and acknowledged the success of the event and plans to continue supporting similar initiatives in the future.

6) CONSIDERATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT – ZMFU, II (Zions Bancorporation)

- Mayor Nile Mathisen explained that Ballard City is entering into a lease agreement with Zions Bank Corporation under existing state contract pricing, using the same approved leasing company and the same terms as in a previous lease. He added that the lease may be finalized now, and the attorney's opinion letter will be provided once the necessary qualifications are satisfied.
- **Motion made by Council Member Ben Allred, to approve the Zions Bank Corporation lease agreement, 2nd by Council Member Steve Secrest. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen

Ben Allred

Al Kettle

Steve Secrest

Shaun Murray

7) CITY EMPLOYEE RAISES –

- City employee raises were reviewed. The budget reflects a 3.5% increase for employees, split between Ballard Water Improvement District and Ballard City, with Ballard City contribution set at 1.75%.
- **Motion made by Council Member Alfred Kettle to accept an employee raise of 1.75%, 2nd by Ben Allred. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen

Ben Allred

Al Kettle

Steve Secrest

Shaun Murray

8) BUDGET DISCUSSION –

- Council Members reviewed the budget. There will be a Public Hearing at the next meeting on June 2nd to approve the 2026-27 budget.

9) ENGINEERING UPDATE- Jeff Baker

- Jeff Baker, with Jones & DeMille, reported that the primary update is the 1000 South Project, which is currently advertised for bids. He discussed the pre-bid conference and the strong interest shown by contractors. An addendum will be issued to revise the contract dates: contractors will be required to complete the box culvert with backfill and all underground utilities by the end of this year, while remaining items (such as paving/stripping) may be completed in the spring. He noted bids are due June 1st at 1:00 PM, and will present the bid results at the June 2, City Council meeting. He will follow up on the permit this week to check the status of the 1000 South project permits.

10) UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF / COMMISSION REPORTS

- Deputy Pratt was not in attendance.
 1. Illegal trailers-This topic was not addressed at this time and will be carried over to the next City Council meeting for further discussion.
- Matthew Wilber, a candidate for Seat A on the Uintah County Commission, introduced himself to Council Members. He mentioned that he will be on the primary ballot for June 23 and expressed his intent to engage with the community.
- Danny Harrell, a candidate for Seat B on the Uintah County Commission, introduced himself to Council Members. He mentioned his commitment to assisting Council and maintaining his support for the County's initiatives.

11) BOARD MEETING UPDATES

- Council Members Shaun Murray and Ben Allred provided updates on USSD 1, indicating that they are currently working on a list for next year's capital improvements, including the parking lot. They also mentioned maintenance issues with the sprinkler system and the importance of finalizing the list before submission deadline.
- Council Member Shaun Murray gave an update on today's water board meeting. He reported that several residents requested water connections and have been advised to join a waiting list. The Tribe reaffirmed their plans to implement water rates in alignment with those of Roosevelt City, indicating that conservation rates will be the new standard. It was also noted that A public hearing will need to be scheduled in the water board meeting to discuss these developments further.

12) OFFICE / PROJECTS REPORT

- Nothing to report on.

13) REVIEW AND CORRECT MINUTES

- Council Meeting May 5th, 2026

Motion made by Council Member Ben Allred to approve the council minutes of May 5th, 2026 as Corrected, 2nd by Council Member Shaun Murray. All in favor.

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen

Ben Allred

Al Kettle

Steve Secrest

Shaun Murray

14) FOLLOW-UP ON PAST MINUTES

- Nothing to follow up on.

15) MAYOR'S REPORT

- Nothing to report.

16) COUNCIL REPORTS

- Council Member Ben Allred reported that the hiring committee has met and is in the process of developing bullet points for the job description. Another date has been set for a second meeting to finalize these bullet points into a comprehensive job description.
- Council Member Steve Secrest expressed agreement on the importance of moving forward with the hiring process but raised concerns regarding current water situation and hookups.
- The Council will continue discussions regarding the hiring process and water situation based on further developments and findings from the next committee meeting.

17) FINANCES: Checks, Statements, Reports and Budget

- Mayor Nile Mathisen discussed finances.
- **Motion made by Council Member Alfred Kettle to approve the finances as presented, 2nd by Council Member Steve Secrest. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen

Ben Allred

Al Kettle

Steve Secrest

Shaun Murray

18) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- No executive session was held.

19) ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING

- **Motion made by Council Member Alfred Kettle to adjourn Council Meeting, 2nd by Council Member Shaun Murray at 7:45 PM. All in favor.**

YEA

NAY

Council Members

Nile Mathisen

Ben Allred

Al Kettle

Steve Secrest

Shaun Murray