Minutes of the regular meeting of the Ogden City Council held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, and via electronic meeting, on the third floor of the Municipal Building, 2549 Washington Boulevard, Ogden City, Weber County, Utah.

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| Present: | Chair | Richard A. Hyer |
| | Vice Chair | Dave Graf |
| | Council members | Flor Lopez |
| | | Kevin Lundell |
| | | Shaun Myers |
| | | Ken Richey |
| | | Alicia Washington |

Council Executive Director Glenn Symes
Council Assistant Executive Director Steve Burton
Senior Policy Analyst Clint Yingling
Communications Director Brandon Garside

Also present:
Mayor Benjamin K. Nadolski
Chief Administrative Officer Mara A. Brown
City Attorney Gary Williams
Management Services Executive Director Lisa Stout
Police Chief Jacob Sube
Public Services Executive Director Justin Anderson
Public Services Assistant Executive Director Edd Bridge
City Engineer/Deputy CAO Taylor Nielsen
Public Works Operations Director Gage Charlesworth
Fire Marshal Brandon Parr
Community and Economic Development Executive Director Jared Johnson
Community and Economic Development Assistant Executive Director David Sawyer
Assistant Economic Development Director Kelly Pendleton
Airport Director Brian Condie
Parking and Mobility Operations Coordinator Emil Vargason
Chief Executive Assistant Cindy Weloth
Sustainability Coordinator Lorenzo Long
Marketing and Communications Director Mike McBride
Accounts Payable Technician Gena Laughter
Chief Deputy City Recorder Lee Ann Peterson

At the request of the Chair, all present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Weber County Fire Officers Honor Guard.

A moment of silence was observed.

Acknowledgements: America 250. Chair Hyer offered a brief historical reflection on the complexity of the American Revolution, described not only as a struggle for independence but also as a civil war. The preceding moment of silence served to honor this complex history and the varied contributions of those who lived through that era.

Council member Richey acknowledged recent vandalism near Pioneer Stadium that resulted in murals being painted over, while also noting that new murals appeared to be going up near the canyon in preparation for an upcoming marathon. He encouraged the community to help protect public art.

Council member Lopez congratulated Ogden Recreation and Latinos United Promoting Education and Civic Engagement (LUPEC) for the Cinco de Mayo event held the previous Saturday, describing it as well-attended and well-organized.

Council member Washington announced that the following evening's Prelude Student Showcase, presented by On Stage Ogden at the Browning Center at Weber State University, would recognize students who auditioned for funding to continue their musical education.

End-of-year presentation to the City Council reviewing the activities, events, and service projects of the Ogden City Youth Council

The Ogden City Youth Council Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Annual Report came before the Council for consideration.

Council Communications Director and Youth Council Advisor Garside presented the annual report of the Ogden City

Youth Council. Mr. Garside outlined the three pillars of the program: learning about local leadership, developing leadership skills, and providing community service. The 2025–2026 council was composed of ten members from Ogden High, four from New NUAMES, and two from Ben Lomond High.

Youth Council Service Officer Jaime Jimenez Lopez addressed the Council, reflecting on tours of Union Station and the city water treatment facility, as well as participation in Local Officials Day at the State Capitol. Mr. Lopez described learning about state legislative processes and meeting Governor Cox at a legislative dinner. He also recalled a health-focused dinner with the Governing Youth Council under the Weber County Morgan Health Department umbrella, during which he discussed youth mental health and proposed a group therapy model for his school's Hope Squad.

Mr. Garside highlighted service projects including volunteering at the community Thanksgiving dinner at the Lantern House and the Santa's Splash event at the Marshall White Center. He noted ongoing recruiting efforts at area high schools and outreach through the school district's social media channels and indicated that the program is open to students in grades 9–12. Applications for the following year were described as beginning to come in.

Council members thanked Mr. Garside and Mr. Lopez, with Council member Richey noting the value of the program as a résumé builder and encouraging families with high-school-aged youth to consider applying.

## Approval of Minutes

Council member Lopez stated she had reviewed the minutes of the joint work session of March 10, 2026, and found them to be accurate to the best of her recollection.

Council member Lundell stated he had reviewed the minutes of the joint work session of March 24, 2026, and found them to be accurate to the best of his recollection.

Council member Myers stated he had reviewed the minutes of the regular meeting of March 24, 2026, and found them to be accurate to the best of his recollection.

Council member Richey stated he had reviewed the minutes of the joint work session of April 7, 2026, and found them to be accurate to the best of his recollection.

Council member Washington stated she had reviewed the minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2026, and found them to be accurate to the best of her recollection.

**COUNCIL MEMBER WASHINGTON THEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MYERS, ALL VOTING AYE.**

## Mayor Benjamin K. Nadolski will present the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget

Mayor Nadolski used the aid of a PowerPoint presentation to present the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 Budget for Council review. He opened with a "then versus now" overview of accomplishments since taking office, including restoring public safety staffing to historic highs, advancing development ordinance updates, resolving airport audit findings, benchmarking workforce compensation, improving road conditions for the first time since measurement began, securing the city's role as an Olympic host community, and bringing the Marshall White Center to full operation. The Mayor identified the following budget goals:

- No tax increase
- Continued investment in public safety
- Infrastructure as a top priority
- Culture and quality-of-life capital improvement projects
- Employee pay based on objective performance measures
- Strategic financial management and citywide efficiencies

Mayor Nadolski cited modest economic projections for FY 2027, including anticipated job growth of 1.3 percent, taxable sales growth of 3.5 percent, and a CPI of approximately 2.7 percent. He presented revenue increases driven by a projected 5 percent increase in sales tax revenue, $1.7 million in interest income, and nearly $1 million in additional Prop 1B and C infrastructure funds.

Key efficiency measures described included a fire operations service realignment establishing a Community Risk Reduction Team, the consolidation of the recreation enterprise fund into the general fund, position eliminations through functional review, software investments enabling measurable cost savings, and adjustments to cost allocations in public services. The Mayor noted the proposal takes the first step toward four-handed engine staffing by converting Engine 3, and that five prior approved police officer positions were proposed to be made permanent.

On infrastructure, Mayor Nadolski noted proposed investments of just over $11 million in utility infrastructure and more than $5 million in grant funding for road and sidewalk projects. Capital improvement projects included $6.1 million toward Union Station, $1.2 million for Lester Park, and parks and recreation investments of nearly $1 million in city funds. The total proposed general fund was described as just under $100 million, with a total city budget of $328 million, representing year-over-year increases of 4 percent and 5 percent respectively.

Employee compensation was proposed at a 2.18 percent cost-of-living adjustment for general employees, with step increases for public safety employees, and a performance-based range of 0–4 percent for general employees graded on a curve through annual reviews and key performance indicators.

The Mayor noted the budget would be posted to the city website by 10:00 AM the following morning. For a copy of

Mayor Nadolski's presentation in its entirety, see the information packet for the meeting.

**COUNCIL MEMBER RICHEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET FOR REVIEW. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR GRAF, ALL VOTING AYE.**

<u>Proposed Ordinance 2026-5 amending Section 10-5-4 to revise provisions related to paid parking; by repealing and reserving Section 10-5-7 regarding Municipal Building parking; by repealing and reserving Section 10-5-12 regarding special loading permits; by amending Section 10-6-1 to revise provisions regarding unauthorized use of streets; by amending Chapter 10-9 to revise parking provisions for the city; by adopting a new Chapter 10-10 to outline a paid city parking provision; to make technical changes; and to appropriately revise the index:</u>

- <u>Option 1 – Authorizing implementation of the Managed Parking System for Phase 1 of the Downtown Ogden Parking Management System Phasing Plan in addition to other areas established in the Managed Parking Area; or</u>
- <u>Option 2 – Authorizing implementation of the Managed Parking System for all phases of the Downtown Ogden Parking Management System Phasing Plan based on evaluation criteria in addition to other areas established in the Managed Parking Area. AND</u>

<u>Proposed Ordinance 2026-6 amending Section 4-6-1 by adopting a new Subsection H to adopt parking fees, to make technical changes, and to appropriately revise the index</u>

A memo from the Management Services Department regarding Managed Parking System Ordinance amendments came before the Council for consideration. The memo stated the Council will receive a presentation from the Administration on two options for the proposed ordinance establishing the legal framework for Ogden City's Managed Parking System. Both options authorize the Administration to implement and manage the system, including designating managed parking areas, setting rates and fines, issuing permits, and enforcing parking regulations. The primary difference between the two options is the scope of the downtown implementation area. Option 1 identifies specific downtown streets, lots, and parking structures for inclusion in the managed parking system. Option 2 defines a broader downtown and adjacent commercial area and adds a phased implementation framework, including criteria for expansion, written findings, and public notice and outreach before implementation or expansion. The Administration is scheduled to initiate a trial period in May 2026, with the initial phase anticipated to begin in June 2026. Fiscal projections have been provided for the original proposal, but separate projections for Option 2 have not yet been provided.

Management Services Executive Director Stout summarized the memo and reviewed the timeline of the managed parking effort, tracing its origins to a 2020 MakeOgden study and a 2021 Kimley Horn paid parking study. She noted that in FY 2023 the Council authorized MBA bonds for the parking structures, backed by an agreement for the city to operate the facilities and make lease payments to the MBA sufficient to cover bond obligations. After a stakeholder pause initiated in September 2024 due to community pushback, a stakeholder committee was formed and produced the revised, scaled-back proposal before the Council.

Robert Ferrin, Senior Project Manager with Kimley Horn Mobility & Parking, provided the professional rationale for managed parking. Mr. Ferrin described the 2021 study findings: while overall downtown peak parking occupancy was approximately 50 percent, utilization in areas along the 25th Street corridor and near the Municipal Building exceeded the 80–85 percent threshold at which customers perceive a parking shortage and begin circling. He emphasized that managed parking is not punitive but rather creates predictable availability, supports turnover, and gives customers options, with the expectation that the experience normalizes over time.

Parking and Mobility Operations Coordinator Vargason, described the operational details of the proposed Phase 1 system:

- **Technology:** The Passport parking app (currently used at Ogden Airport and in Salt Lake City), payment kiosks, and text-to-pay. Enforcement via pay-by-license-plate and zone-based methodology.
- **Managed parking locations:** 25th Street on-street, Kiesel Avenue from 22nd to 24th Street, the WonderBlock Garage, Electric Alley (100–200 blocks), and the 300 block of 23rd Street from Grant to Washington.
- **Free parking locations:** Union Station lot, the Junction Garage (no change, remains free), and City Hall meeting lot. Two-hour free on-street parking on surrounding streets.
- **Hours of enforcement:** Monday through Saturday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.
- **Proposed public rates:** On-street at $1.50–$2.00/hour; off-street at $1.00–$1.50/hour; EV charging at $2.75–$3.00/hour; maximum daily rate of $15–$18; monthly unreserved permits at $80; business employee permit processing fee at $10/month.
- **Key stakeholder-informed features:** 15 minutes free per stall (requires app/kiosk); free ADA parking up to 2 hours with no app required; free parking Sundays and state holidays; English and Spanish interfaces; solar-powered kiosks; parking ambassadors from contractor Interstate Parking focused on education over enforcement; a 30-day introductory free trial period before enforcement begins.

Ms. Stout addressed the financial projections, noting that under conservative utilization assumptions the parking revenues would not fully cover the debt service and operating costs, requiring a contribution from Business Depot Ogden (BDO) lease revenues to bridge the gap, at least during an initial ramp-up period.

Mr. Ferrin concluded by reemphasizing that the proposal is built on parking management options rather than restrictions, and recommended monitoring and evaluation at 6–12-month intervals with the flexibility to adjust rates and expand phases based on data.

Chair Hyer introduced in writing proposed Ordinance 2026-5, entitled:

> "An ordinance of Ogden City, Utah, amending the Ogden Municipal Code by amending Section 10-5-4 to revise provisions related to paid parking; by repealing and reserving Section 10-5-7 regarding Municipal Building Parking; by repealing and reserving Section 10-5-12 regarding special loading permits; by amending Section 10-6-1 to revise provisions regarding unauthorized use of streets; by amending Chapter 10-9 to revising parking provisions for the City; by adopting a new Chapter 10-10 to outline a paid City parking provision; to make technical changes; to appropriately revise the index; and by providing that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon posting after final passage."

Chair Hyer introduced in writing proposed Ordinance 2026-6, entitled:

> "An ordinance of Ogden City, Utah, amending the Ogden Municipal Code by amending Section 4-6-1 by adopting a new Subsection H to adopt parking fees; to make technical changes; to appropriately revise the index; and by providing that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon posting after final passage."

Chair Hyer then opened the public hearing. The following individuals provided comment: Joseph Baumann, Emily Fox (resident), Travis Pate, Thomas Hardy (25th Street business owner, 40+ years), Tim Watkins (Wasatch Front Regional Council), Sheila Stone (massage therapist, 25th Street, 25 years), Roberta Glidden (Gallery 25 owner), Annie Dunaway (downtown business owner), Malik Dayo (resident), Nick Van Arsdel (Lucky Slice Pizza co-owner), Arlo Kunzler (resident), Mitch Vance (J. Fischer Companies/WonderBlock developer), Angie Van Leer (Lene' Marie's Chocolates employee), Lene' Balster (Lene' Marie Chocolates owner), Reide Thompson (Ogden Downtown Alliance Executive Director), Thor Doresh (resident), Dustin Chapman (resident), Thaine Fisher (property owner/developer), Julianne Fowers (resident), Debbie Muir (Higher Ground Hot Yoga), Claudia Cash (Queen Bee Giftory co-owner), Janet Kendrick (Four Sisters Furniture & Framing, 35-year business), Corey Swallow (downtown business owner), Linda Sanchez (longtime resident/community member), Laura Lewis (resident), Heath Satow (resident, via online), David Lawrence (resident, via online), Amilia Jones (property and business owner, 25th Street, via online), Teresa Bramwell (resident, via online). Key points raised during public comment:

- **Opposition – Financial concerns:** Multiple speakers questioned the financial viability of the program, citing the public projection that paid parking revenues would fall far short of covering bond obligations and that BDO funds amounting to an estimated $40 million over the life of the bond would be redirected, representing a significant loss of funding for parks, infrastructure, and other community priorities.
- **Opposition – Impact on small businesses:** Numerous 25th Street business owners expressed concern that paid parking would deter customers, particularly seniors and those unfamiliar with app-based technology. Several referenced comparable situations in other cities where paid parking was followed by significant revenue declines. Business owners also raised concerns about employee permit costs and the availability of safe parking for late-shift workers.
- **Opposition – Timing and construction uncertainty:** Several speakers argued that following more than two years of significant construction impacts reducing available parking by an estimated 45 percent, the current parking situation does not reflect true demand, and that it would be premature to implement a paid system before conditions normalize, particularly before WonderBlock is operational.
- **Opposition – Technology and equity barriers:** Concerns were raised about the burden on elderly, low-income, and non-tech-savvy customers. Questions were also raised about the practicality and cost of the 15-minute free window requiring app use, and about data privacy related to license plate readers.
- **Opposition – Use of reserves:** One speaker argued the city's reported $22–$25 million reserve fund should be used in lieu of implementing paid parking; Ms. Stout clarified that the usable portion is constrained by state law and Council-adopted policy requiring a minimum reserve percentage.
- **Support – Parking management rationale:** The WonderBlock developer (Mr. Vance), a regional transportation planner (Mr. Watkins), and one property owner (Ms. Jones) expressed support, noting that turnover is critical to business viability, that density projections for WonderBlock will significantly increase parking demand, and that the costs of free parking are simply hidden in taxes and higher costs rather than eliminated.
- **Support – Process acknowledgment:** The Ogden Downtown Alliance's Executive Director (Mr. Thompson) acknowledged the complexity of the issue and asked that any decision be accompanied by clear community communication and data tracking to monitor impacts on small businesses.
- **Historical context:** Longtime resident Arlo Kunzler recalled that Ogden had previously benefited from removing parking meters, arguing that simple time-limit signage is a more proportionate response to current conditions.

There being no further persons appearing to be heard, **COUNCIL MEMBER RICHEY MOVED THE PUBLIC HEARING BE CLOSED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MYERS, ALL VOTING AYE.**

Following the closure of the public hearing, Council members engaged in substantive discussion. Several clarifications were provided:

- The Municipal Building parking lot will not be subject to paid parking during normal business hours and will operate as it always has; access to the Council Chambers will not be impaired.
- License plate reader data for parking enforcement is housed within the Passport system by a separate vendor (Genentech, not Flock), stored for 90–120 days, and is not shared with the Ogden Police Department.
- The City owns all hardware and the contract with Passport spans three years.
- Out-of-state parking violations follow the same collection process as local violations, escalating to third-party collections after 45 days.
- Parking enforcement hours (8 AM–8 PM) were based on updated Visit Ogden traffic data and stakeholder feedback.
- The 30-day termination fee of $30 applies only if a customer does not opt out within the first six months of parking billing.
- The parking ambassador contract with Interstate Parking has already been signed.

Council member Myers expressed significant concern about the shift from the original financing plan—in which parking revenues were to cover the bond—to the current model relying on BDO funds, describing it as deeply troubling given the competing needs for those dollars. Mayor Nadolski acknowledged the concern and characterized the BDO contribution as a necessary ramp-up measure rather than a permanent subsidy and expressed his intention to pursue accelerated event programming and other strategies to grow parking utilization over time.

Council member Washington stated she could not support the ordinance at this time, citing: outdated data underlying the parking study; inadequate stakeholder outreach given new small business owners; unresolved questions about the second parking structure's financials; the absence of a cap on special event parking fees; and a legal opinion from LRB Public Finance Advisors indicating the city is not legally required to impose parking fees to secure the bond. She urged the Council to table the vote until after the budget process, during which creative financing alternatives could be explored.

Council member Lundell expressed concern that the peak utilization threshold justifying paid parking (approximately 50 percent overall) was below the 65 percent standard typically cited in studies, and that the small footprint of Phase 1 would generate insufficient revenue to justify the community friction. He indicated a preference for waiting until WonderBlock was operational and data better reflected true demand.

Council member Richey acknowledged having voted for the WonderBlock and parking structure bonds, defended the broader downtown development vision, and stated that while the current proposal is not identical to what was originally anticipated, the scaled approach with data-driven phase expansion provides a reasonable path forward.

Vice Chair Graf stated his support, framing paid parking as an equitable mechanism by which visitors and users—rather than Ogden taxpayers—contribute to the cost of downtown parking infrastructure. He noted that on an inflation-adjusted basis, the proposed rates are below what parking meters cost in 1969.

Council member Lopez expressed that there was a significant conflict of interest for Council member Washington due to her ownership of a small business that could be impacted by the parking decision. Council member Lopez emphasized that Council member Washington's business holdings might hinder her ability to consider the broader financial obligations of the Council related to the existing bond commitments. Council member Lopez stated she believed the Council had a financial obligation to move forward given the existing bond commitments. Council member Washington clarified her ownership of a small business, Good Company Theatre located on 24th Street and Wall Avenue, which has its own parking lot, and therefore would not be directly impacted by the parking decision in question. She emphasized that her experience of previously operating a business on 25th Street, enabled her to fully engage in researching the parking matter. She underscored that her research and assessment of the documents were meant to represent a comprehensive and informed analysis rather than a conflict of interest.

**ON A MOTION BY VICE CHAIR GRAF AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MYERS, ORDINANCE 2026-5, OPTION 2, WAS ADOPTED UPON THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING AYE – COUNCIL MEMBERS LOPEZ, MYERS, RICHEY, VICE CHAIR GRAF, AND CHAIR HYER. VOTING NO – COUNCIL MEMBERS LUNDELL AND WASHINGTON.**

**ON A MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MYERS AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR GRAF, ORDINANCE 2026-6 WAS ADOPTED UPON THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING AYE – COUNCIL MEMBERS LOPEZ, MYERS, RICHEY, VICE CHAIR GRAF, AND CHAIR HYER. VOTING NO – COUNCIL MEMBERS LUNDELL AND WASHINGTON.**

Mayor Nadolski addressed the Council following the votes, thanking all those who participated and taking exception to any characterization of the Administration's proposal as haphazard, noting it was developed carefully in response to extensive stakeholder input.

Proposed Ordinance 2026-7 amending Chapter 1 of Title 4 by adopting a new Article 4 to formalize and establish Ogden City's participation in the Community Clean Energy Program and making technical changes

A memo from Council staff regarding the proposed Community Clean Energy participation ordinance came before the Council for consideration. The memo stated the Council will receive a presentation regarding the Community Clean Energy Program – formerly known as Utah Renewable Communities (URC) program. Following recent approval by the Utah Public Service Commission, participating cities are required to adopt an ordinance to enable resident and business participation. Approval of this ordinance would formally enroll Ogden in the program and allow Rocky Mountain Power to offer a net-100 percent clean energy option by 2030 to customers throughout the City.

Sustainability Coordinator Long summarized the memo and presented the proposed ordinance formalizing Ogden City's participation in the Community Clean Energy Program, also known as the Utah Renewable Communities (URC) Program. Mr. Long explained that the program was authorized by the Utah Legislature in 2019 and is the result of approximately seven years of development involving Ogden and 18 other communities through the Utah Renewable Communities Agency. The Public Service Commission approved the program, beginning a 90-day clock expiring June 2, 2026, by which the Council must act.

Mr. Long described the program as an opt-out mechanism whereby participants' monthly contributions fund the construction of utility-scale renewable energy projects fed into the shared grid, with the goal of meeting 100 percent of participating customers' electricity needs from clean energy. Key features of the program as presented:

- **Residential cost:** $4.00/month ($3.88 program fee + $0.12 low-income surcharge).
- **Non-residential cost:** Volumetric at $0.006/kWh plus the $0.12 monthly surcharge.
- **Low-income participation:** Customers qualifying for Rocky Mountain Power's HELP program (linked to the HEAT bill assistance program at or below 150% of the federal poverty level) receive a bill credit fully offsetting their participation cost, allowing free enrollment.
- **Opt-out:** Customers may opt out at any time; those who do so within the first 60 days incur no charge; those who opt out within the following four months (a total six-month window) incur no fee; after that period, a one-time $30 termination fee applies for residential customers.
- **Rate trajectory:** The Public Service Commission indicated rates are unlikely to meaningfully increase and are expected to decrease after initial startup costs are recovered.
- **Weber State University partnership:** WSU offered to hire a staff member to assist residents—particularly low-income households—in understanding the program, navigating HEAT and HELP enrollment, and making informed opt-out decisions.
- **City cost:** A one-time contribution of $51,774 to reimburse Rocky Mountain Power for mailing two opt-out notices to all customers; otherwise, no ongoing cost beyond participation as a customer.
- **Program structure:** The Utah Renewable Communities Agency will issue RFPs, execute 25-year power purchase agreements with third-party developers, and conduct independent audits to verify renewable energy delivery commitments.

Mr. Long noted that six of the nineteen participating communities had already adopted the ordinance. He compared the program favorably to Rocky Mountain Power's existing Blue-Sky option, estimating the URC program costs residents 3–4 times less than achieving equivalent net-100-percent renewable coverage through Blue Sky.

Chair Hyer introduced in writing proposed Ordinance 2026-7, entitled:

> "An ordinance of Ogden City Utah, amending the Ogden Municipal Code by amending Chapter 1 of Title 4 by adopting a new Article 4 to formalize and establish Ogden City's participation in the community clean energy program; by making technical changes and by providing that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon posting after final passage."

Chair Hyer then called for public input regarding the proposal. The following individuals provided comment in support or opposition:

In support: Jenny Erb (realtor/resident), Chris Chambers (resident), Sadie Braddock (renter/resident), Chad Downs (architect/resident), Emily Fox (resident), Tara Saley (Ogden Sustainability Committee Chair, Mountain Green), Rosemary Lessar (subscriber solar participant/resident), Dan Bedford (resident), Joanne Lawrence (resident), Jen Bodine (resident), Alice Mulder (resident), Stephanie Vaughan (Natural Resources and Sustainability Committee member), Jenny Gnage and Cassandra Becken (researchers from the 2022 community renewable energy survey), David Timmerman (resident, via online), Lynn Carroll (resident, via online), Amy Wicks (resident, via online), Heath Satow (resident, via online), David Lawrence (resident, via online), Zachary Thomas (resident), Travis Pate (resident), Amilia Jones (resident), Bonnie Christiansen (resident/Weber State affiliate).

In opposition: Annie Dunaway (downtown business owner), Linda Sanchez (resident), and Laura Lewis (resident).

Key points raised during public comment:

- **Support – Access and equity:** Multiple speakers emphasized that the program gives renters, those with historic or otherwise solar-incompatible homes, and low-income residents an affordable path to clean energy not otherwise available to them.
- **Support – Air quality:** Several speakers connected the program to addressing Utah's well-documented inversion and air quality challenges, noting that Utah is warming at roughly twice the global average rate.
- **Support – Cost and stability:** Proponents cited the declining cost of solar and battery storage and the volatility of fossil fuel prices (natural gas up 80% following the Ukraine conflict) as reasons to diversify the energy mix. The $4/month cost was described by multiple speakers as modest relative to the public benefit.
- **Support – Real energy impact:** Supporters distinguished the URC program from Rocky Mountain Power's Blue-Sky option, noting that URC funds the construction of actual new renewable generation rather than purchasing renewable energy certificates.
- **Opposition – Opt-out structure:** Ms. Lewis and Ms. Sanchez objected to the opt-out structure, arguing that residents who do not want to participate should not bear the burden of taking action to remove themselves from the program.
- **Opposition – Rocky Mountain Power trust and program specificity:** Ms. Dunaway argued the city has no

sustainability plan with defined goals and metrics, that program details and partner identities remain unspecified, and that Rocky Mountain Power's record on community obligations (such as street lighting) does not inspire confidence.

- **Opposition – Speculation:** Ms. Sanchez and Ms. Lewis argued that rate projections and program outcomes remain speculative and that the city should ensure more contractual specificity before committing.
- **Survey clarification:** Researchers Ms. Gnage and Ms. Becken clarified data from the 2022 community survey: 45% of respondents said yes to joining the program, 8.9% said no, and 46.1% were unsure; however, 71–79% agreed that businesses, residents, and local government should be doing more to pursue renewable energy.

Following the close of public comment, Council members expressed broad support.

**ON A MOTION BY VICE CHAIR GRAF AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LUNDELL, ORDINANCE 2026-7 WAS ADOPTED UPON THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING AYE – COUNCIL MEMBERS LOPEZ, LUNDELL, MYERS, RICHEY, WASHINGTON, AND VICE CHAIR GRAF. VOTING NO – CHAIR HYER.**

Vice Chair Graf credited the persistence of the URC board, the participating communities, Weber State University, and community advocates over seven years of program development. He framed the vote as an expression of Ogden's forward-thinking character and noted the importance of energy independence from fossil fuel price volatility.

Council member Lundell described climate change as the quintessential collective action problem and expressed pride in the Council taking a governmental step toward addressing it.

Council member Richey acknowledged residual concerns about the opt-out structure but said those had been largely addressed through the program's outreach commitments.

## Public Comments

Joseph Baumann expressed appreciation to firefighters and noted support for including additional firefighter positions in the budget. He also thanked the Administration for the $5.8 million water infrastructure allocation and raised questions about snow removal budget carryover and contractual winter protection costs associated with the Canyon waterline project.

Blake Ham presented a data analysis of arrivals at the local ICE hold room, asserting that records show arrivals nearly doubled compared to prior periods, that approximately 25 percent of arrivals occurred outside the facility's permitted 7 AM–4 PM operating hours, and that 43 separate nights of detention past midnight and 14 instances of multi-day holds were documented. He called on the Council to direct code enforcement to act on documented permit violations.

Alex Johnson followed up on concerns raised at a prior meeting regarding proposed construction access through the Kingston neighborhood near Tyler Avenue between 36th and 37th Street. He reported the access had not been used since the prior meeting and that the project superintendent indicated the access point was not critical. He requested updates on the traffic control plan and the status of the proposed access route.

David Belnap addressed the ICE hold room matter, clarifying that his group's frustration is directed at the facility's operator, not the current Administration. He stated he has a recorded incident involving an alleged threat by the facility's head agent toward his five-year-old grandson and raised concerns about a possible duplicate license plate violation. He also noted that a neighboring business was inspected by the Fire Department for compliance while the hold room has not been similarly inspected.

Emily Fox corroborated concerns about ICE activity in Ogden, noting an uptick in mutual aid requests from families impacted by enforcement actions. She also raised concern about the environmental impact of a proposed large-scale data center on the Great Salt Lake and suggested the city consider designating monitored safe exchange spots at a police facility, as has been done in South Jordan.

Linda Sanchez thanked Council member Washington for her diligence in researching the parking matter. She also acknowledged a message from Ogden City police regarding community scams and raised concerns about potential campaign contribution conflicts of interest related to the clean energy vote.

Laura Lewis thanked Council member Washington for her research into the WonderBlock financing and expressed continued interest in obtaining further documentation.

James Dixon offered personal religious remarks, emphasizing themes of repentance and forgiveness. He expressed a desire for service and unity among people, drawing on religious principles. Mr. Dixon warned against division, urging the community to focus on love and care instead. His comments also included reflections on broader spiritual and societal issues, touching on themes of deception and the importance of adhering to moral and spiritual guidance.

Travis Pate submitted for Council consideration a conceptual master plan for an Ogden Heritage Park, Arts Retreat, and Cultural Gardens, noting that May is Preservation Month.

## Mayor Comments

Mayor Nadolski confirmed that firefighter line items sought in public comment are included in the proposed budget. He addressed the ICE hold room data presented by Mr. Ham, stating that he had not dismissed community concerns but rather directed staff to consolidate the various data sources being submitted and produce a unified analysis before drawing conclusions. He committed to reviewing Mr. Ham's email and dataset.

There being no further business to come before the Council, **VICE CHAIR GRAF MOVED THE MEETING ADJOURN AT 12:15 A.M. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LUNDELL, ALL VOTING AYE.**

LEE ANN PETERSON, MMC
CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

RICHARD A. HYER, CHAIR

APPROVED: June 5, 2026