



Sandy City, Utah

10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, UT 84070
Phone: 801-568-7141

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Brooke Christensen, District 1

Alison Stroud, District 2

Kris Nicholl, District 3

Marci Houseman, District 4

Aaron Dekeyzer, At-large

Brooke D'Sousa, At-large

Cyndi Sharkey, At-large

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

5:15 PM

Council Chambers

5:15 Council Meeting

Present: 7 - Council Member Alison Stroud
Council Member Kris Nicholl
Council Member Marci Houseman
Council Member Cyndi Sharkey
Council Member Brooke Christensen
Council Member Brooke D'Sousa
Council Member Aaron Dekeyzer

Council Staff in Attendance
Dustin Fratto, Council Director
Justin Sorenson, Assistant Director
Chris Edwards, Council Clerk
Tracy Cowdell, Council Attorney

Administration in Attendance
Shane Pace, CAO
Lynn Pace, City Attorney
Ryan McConaghie, Fire
Jeff Nigbur, Police
Tom Ward, Public Utilities
Ben Hill, Parks & Recreation
Ryan Kump, Public Works
James Sorensen, Community Development
Brian Kelley, Administrative Services
Kasey Dunlavy, Economic Development
Martin Jensen, Deputy CAO
Susan Wood, Public Affairs/PIO
Ryan Mecham, Senior Policy Advisor
Katrina Frederick, Human Resources
Mike Wilcox, Community Development

Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and Introductions

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey welcomed those in attendance.

Council Member Brooke Christensen offered the Prayer.

Council led the Pledge.

Council moved to Item 1 on the Agenda.

General Citizen Comment Period (No earlier than 6:00 PM)

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey invited the public to participate in General Citizen Comment.

Darrin Butler, Manager of the Sandy Library, shared with the Council the upcoming events sponsored by the Sandy Library. He also mentioned the library will be closed on June 8th-10th for repairs..

Mark Mason Taylor spoke on the concept plan for the redevelopment of Scott Cowdell Park and specifically commented on the community garden and the size of the cottage style homes which he thought would work well in this area.

Public comment closed.

Council moved to Item 2 on the Agenda.

Council Business

Informational Items

1. [26-300](#) Scott Cowdell Park Redevelopment Information

Attachments: [Historic Sandy Station Area - Scott Cowdell.pdf](#)

Mike Wilcox, Community Development, presented a proposed concept plan for the redevelopment of Scott Cowdell Park in Historic Sandy. Station Area Plans are part of the General Master Plan for Sandy City. The City was required by the State to adopt a Station Area Plan for each of the Trax stations located in the City. The overall goals for this proposed redevelopment plan for this area was to increase availability and affordability of housing, promote sustainable conditions, provide access opportunities and increased transportation choices. Reconfiguring the park allows for greater visibility, maximizes underutilized public lands, and expands open space. Mr. Wilcox showed a map of the park and RDA owned properties adjacent to the park. The total site area is 4.15 acres and is located at approximately 120 E 8960 S. The proposed concept plan included both cottage style homes, twin homes and town home units with a total of 61 housing units proposed for this development. Council questions, comments and feedback followed. Kasey Dunlavy provided additional insight on the concept plan and spoke about the Home ownership assistance program and next steps.

Tracy Cowdell and Brooke Christensen spoke about the Cowdell family's thoughts on the proposed redevelopment plan for the park and surrounding area.

Following the presentation, Council moved to General Citizen Comment.

Council Voting Items

2. [26-303](#) Utah Retirement System Tier 2 Public Safety Rate Pickup

Attachments: [Signed Resolution 26-60 URS Pickup public safety](#)
[26-60C URS CITY PICK UP FY27](#)

Katrina Frederick, Human Resource Director, presented Resolution 26-60C to the Council for consideration and action. This was presented as an information item last week. Council comments followed.

Public comment opened.
Public comment closed.

A motion was made by Aaron Dekeyzer, seconded by Brooke Christensen, to adopt Resolution 26-60C.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Alison Stroud
 Kris Nicholl
 Marci Houseman
 Cyndi Sharkey
 Brooke Christensen
 Brooke D'Sousa
 Aaron Dekeyzer

Nonvoting: 0

3. [26-302](#) Second Reading: Council Member Stroud Recommending Adding a new Section, 4-9, to the Sandy Municipal Code Requiring a General Fund Purchasing Power Analysis be Produced Annually

Sponsors: Stroud

Attachments: [First Reading Memo - Stroud](#)
[Ordinance 26-49_Combined](#)

Council Member Alison Stroud reviewed two metrics that could be used for budget comparisons, including the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and a municipal cost index (MCI/MPI). She noted that consistency in the selected metric is important and that the information would provide an additional tool for the Council during budget discussions, particularly when evaluating increased costs. Council members discussed the advantages of the different indexes and questioned which metric would be most useful. While there was general support for receiving the information, several members requested additional details, and expressed concern about requiring it through ordinance rather than as a routine informational report.

Public comment opened.

Lori Wilson, retired communications professor from BYU, stated that understanding how much of increased costs are attributable to inflation was important for both residents and the Council. She expressed support for using a municipal index rather than CPI and suggested the analysis should be presented as information and communication to the public rather than being required by ordinance.

Pat Jones stated the analysis should not be included in an ordinance and could instead be provided annually at the Council's request.

Public comment closed.

Following public comment, the Council discussed whether the analysis should simply be requested annually instead of codified in ordinance. Staff indicated the information had been requested previously and that the ordinance was intended to ensure it would be provided each year. The Mayor stated support for providing the information to the Council. The item was tabled and will return for a second reading after the Council has an opportunity to review the report and assess its usefulness.

4. [26-286](#) Second Reading: Council Member Houseman proposing amendments to the Sandy City Administrative Code Title 4 (Administrative Code) amending Chapter 4 (Departmental Organization) and adding a new Chapter 8 (Division of Communications)

Sponsors: Houseman

Attachments: [First Reading Memorandum - Houseman](#)
[Legal Memo - Communications Division](#)
[Title 4-8 Changes to First Reading Proposal](#)
[Ordinance 26-48 Combined](#)

Council Member Marci Houseman presented a revised ordinance regarding the Communications Director position, stating that the proposal would ensure the Council has access to communications functions similar to those available to the Mayor's Office. She noted that the ordinance had been revised based on Council and Administration feedback and had undergone multiple rounds of legal review. The proposal would establish the Communications Director as a division-level position subject to Council advice and consent, although creating a department was discussed as an alternative. Ms. Houseman expressed a preference for the division structure due to its flexibility but indicated she was open to either approach.

Council discussion focused on the appropriate organizational structure and the role of advice and consent. Several Council members supported establishing a Communications Division, but were open to establishing the Communications as a department. They discussed the potential impacts of creating a separate department, the budget implications of establishing a department and the importance of maintaining effective communication throughout the organization. The Mayor and Administration weighed in with comments.

Public comment opened.
Public comment closed.

Council convened a recess at approximately 8:00 pm
Council reconvened the meeting at approximately 8:10 pm.

A motion was made by Marci Houseman, seconded by Kris Nicholl, to adopt Ordinance 26-48 as amended, an ordinance amending Chapter 4-4 of the Sandy City Code to create a new department of Communications as substantially set forth in the text included in the City Council packet with minor revisions as needed to implement this motion...The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: 5 - Kris Nicholl
Marci Houseman
Cyndi Sharkey
Brooke Christensen
Brooke D'Sousa

No: 2 - Alison Stroud
Aaron Dekeyzer

Nonvoting: 0

5. [26-311](#) FY 2027 Council Member Budget Amendment Proposals

Attachments: [D'Sousa Budget Proposal - Senior Center](#)

Council Member Brooke D'Sousa, serving as the Senior Center liaison, presented a budget amendment to allocate \$5,000 annually to Senior Center equipment needs by reducing the Community Engagement budget by a corresponding amount. She highlighted the Senior Center's significant community impact, including more than 1,400 annual individual participants, 42 weekly classes, and approximately 9,500 volunteer hours. D'Sousa explained that the funding would support equipment maintenance and replacement needs and could be carried forward if not used in a given fiscal year. Staff clarified that the funds would initially be available for operating and equipment expenses and, if unspent, would roll into equipment management reserves for future capital needs. The amendment was characterized as a modest and flexible funding adjustment intended to support ongoing and future Senior Center equipment needs, including eventual vehicle replacement. Both Brian Kelley and Dustin Fratto weighed in with additional information.

Public comment opened.

Graham Tinnius had technical issues and was not able to provide comment.

Public comment closed.

A motion was made by Brooke D'Sousa, seconded by Marci Houseman, to add the D'Sousa budget proposal to the Budget Amendment Shortlist...The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: 7 - Alison Stroud
 Kris Nicholl
 Marci Houseman
 Cyndi Sharkey
 Brooke Christensen
 Brooke D'Sousa
 Aaron Dekeyzer

Nonvoting: 0

Public Hearing(s)

6. [26-306](#) Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Compensation for Elected Municipal Officials

Attachments: [FY2027 Elected Officials Compensation Public Hearing 6.2.26_Final - Copy](#)

Public Hearing: Katrina Frederick, Human Resources, reviewed compensation and allowance information for elected officials as part of the public hearing required by state code. She outlined the assumptions used in the analysis, including 2,080 annual work hours, the exclusion of Council Chair hours, and a proposed 2.5% COLA adjustment. Ms. Frederick also explained that variable benefit costs may increase based on changes in pay and benefit rates, while fixed benefits are budgeted as flat dollar amounts per employee. She noted anticipated increases in health and dental insurance costs, with no significant changes expected in other fixed benefit categories. Council comments followed.

Public Hearing comment period opened.
Public Hearing comment period closed.

Council moved to Item 7 on the Agenda.

7. [26-305](#) Continued Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Compensation for Executive Municipal Officers

Attachments: [FY2027 Executive Officers Compensation Public Hearing 6.2.26_Final](#)

Public Hearing Continued: Katrina Frederick presented salary information for executive municipal officers, including department heads, deputy division heads, and deputy directors. She reviewed the assumptions used in the analysis and noted that these employees are eligible for merit-based pay adjustments. Council members thanked Frederick for compiling the information and providing additional clarity regarding compensation. Council Member Dekeyzer expressed interest in better understanding salary disparities among deputy directors and indicated he would follow up with staff for additional information.

Public Hearing comment period opened.

Pat Jones thanked the Council. I know it is considered part time work, but you put in so much more and she expressed her appreciation.

Steve Van Marin wanted to know why the City Event Planner was on the list because he didn't know it was a department.

Craig Ulrich echoed Pat Jones's comments. He thanked the Council for their tremendous efforts and exemplary work.

Public Hearing comment period closed.

Council moved to Item 8.

8. [26-304](#) Continued Public Hearing to consider the adoption of the FY 2026-27 Sandy City Budget. This item includes:

Resolutions 26-61C and 25-62C of Sandy City, adopting a budget for Sandy City and the Alta Canyon Recreation District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; also establishing certain fees and charges in Sandy City for said fiscal year.

Attachments: [26-61C Final Budget Adoption](#)
[26-62C Final Budget Adoption - Alta Canyon](#)

Public Hearing Continued: Brian Kelley, Administrative Services Director presented the budget resolutions for Fiscal Year 2027. The Council Chair invited the public to comment. There was no public comment offered.

The Chair continued the public hearing.
The Council moved to the Consent Calendar.

Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Aaron Dekeyzer, seconded by Alison Stroud to approve the Consent Calendar...The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

9. [26-297](#) Approval of the April 28, 2026 Draft Minutes

Attachments: [April 28, 2026 Draft Minutes](#)

Item approved.

10. [26-301](#) Approval of the May 12, 2026 Draft Minutes

Attachments: [May 12, 2026 Draft Minutes](#)

Item approved.

Standing Reports

Agenda Planning Calendar Review & Council Office Director's Report

Dustin Fratto, Council Director reviewed upcoming agenda items.

Council Member Business

Council Member Kris Nicholl provided an update on the Land Development Code committee. The work group was doing an awesome job and she was supportive of the direction they were going in. She also provided an update from the Sandy Club Board of Directors meeting. Donations are down and their expenses are increasing. They also have a grant that is expiring.

Council Member Marci Houseman recently met with two residents who live near Alta High School. They reviewed possible solutions for the area traffic concerns and she had a fantastic meeting with them. She thanked the Public Works staff for their responsiveness. One resident commented on how responsive the City staff has been.

Council Member Brooke Christensen invited the Council to attend the upcoming South Valley Chamber Let's Do Lunch event honoring active service members and America 250. She thanked the Fire Department for holding the recent Ops training for Council Members.

Council Member Cyndi Sharkey provided an update from the LPC meeting. Key legislative issues include: housing, land use, water conservation, homelessness, property taxes and fees. She thanked the Parks staff for coordinating the Hiking Club. Last week they hiked to Bell Canyon Upper Falls.

Council Member Alison Stroud attended the swearing in for Police Officers. She enjoyed the Fire Ops training and thanked the Fire Department for coordinating the training. She spoke of the exemplary work of our city's first responders, who exceed the national average success rate for CPR. Our fire department first responders are ensuring the best outcome on their response to emergency calls. She also attended Food Truck night at the Amphitheater Park. The Animal Services staff were micro chipping dogs at the event for no charge.

Council Member Aaron Dekeyzer also attended the Fire Ops training and thought it was an incredible experience. He has a great deal of respect for our first responders and the work they do every day. He spoke about the great work being accomplished by the Land Development Code Committee.

Mayor's Report

No report.

CAO Report

Shane Pace, CAO, invited the Council and community to go to the Sandy Farmer's Market on Saturday. He thanked the Council for their work on creating the Communications Department. He publicly endorsed Martin Jensen to succeed him as the new CAO for Sandy City.

Adjournment

Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 pm