



Wasatch County Council Meeting Minutes

DRAFT Minutes for June 3, 2026

The Wasatch County Council met in regular session live and online on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, in the Wasatch County Chambers located in the Wasatch County Administrative Building at 25 North Main, Heber City, Utah 84032.

A video recording of the meeting may be viewed by using the Wasatch County Public Portal (<https://wasatchcount.portal.civicclerk.com/>) and selecting the desired meeting.

Agenda

Call to Order

Public Comment

Public comments will be accepted in-person or via Zoom Webinar. Please limit comments to three minutes. If action is necessary, the item will be listed on a future agenda. The Council may elect to discuss the item if it is an immediate matter of concern. Email public comments to publiccomment@wasatchcounty.gov.

Summary: No public comment

Call for Agenda Items

Council Items

1. Presentation from Intermountain Health – Amy Tuddenham and Si Hutt

Summary: Intermountain Health is required to present information on their charitable tax activities as a function of their non-profit status. Included in the attached documents are information about the programs and support that the Heber Valley Hospital and other Intermountain Health facilities and programs provided to the community at large.

2. Discussion and Consideration of Wasatch High School FFA Environthon Nationals Team support – Luke Searle

Summary: Wasatch County Council has contributed funding to the Wasatch FFA Team in support of travel to national competitions. This request would contribute \$1,000 towards this year's national conference out of the council's discretionary fund.

Action Taken: Councilmember Bonner made a motion to **give this group a \$1,000 for**

their trip from the discretionary fund. Councilmember Murphy seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

3. Recognition and thanks to developments in Wasatch County that have made significant contributions to the County Trail System by providing exceptional trails that are open to the public. – Doug Smith

Summary: Most developments in Wasatch County are required to install trails that are accessible to the public. Some developers go above and beyond to build and maintain trails that are available to the public in excess of these requirements. Staff would like to begin to regularly recognize those trail systems that invest in these community-wide benefits and discuss with the council the forms of that recognition.

No motion was needed.

4. Discussion and consideration of adopting Ordinance 26-09: Amending Wasatch County Code Title 14 to amend and establish engineering exceptions – Jed Muhlestein

Summary:

Wasatch County Code allows exceptions to engineering standards based on variance language established in Utah Code §17-79-1002 which focuses on unnecessary hardship and non-self-imposed conditions unique to a property. This language does not provide flexibility for alternative engineering solutions when no hardship or self-imposed situation exists.

UDOT and other municipalities allow engineering exceptions or alternative compliance when supported by sound engineering analysis, and the alternative protects public safety, health, and welfare. Ordinance 26-09 proposes to add a similar language, allowing flexibility in engineering exceptions. The ordinance also provides an option for waiver of frontage improvements for one- or two-lot developments under strict circumstances (more on this below).

The proposed ordinance creates three primary exception categories:

1. **Variance Exceptions** – Hardship-based exceptions consistent with state law requirements. This option is in the current code, but the language is being modified slightly to clarify that it applies to variances. This option applies when a developer encounters a hardship or other non-self-imposed condition;
2. **Alternative Compliance with Engineering Standards** – This option excludes hardship or self-imposed conditions and allows the Engineering Coordinator to approve alternative engineering solutions when equivalent or greater safety,

functionality, maintenance, and performance can be demonstrated; and

3. **Improvements to Adjacent Existing Road Exception** – Provides limited relief from requiring full frontage roadway improvements in certain small residential subdivision situations where surrounding roadways do not already meet current County standards.

The frontage infrastructure waiver is intended to address situations where a minor subdivision fronts an existing roadway that is constructed below current County standards for a substantial distance in both directions. In limited circumstances, requiring a small development to reconstruct only its portion of the roadway frontage may create isolated improvements that do not meaningfully improve overall roadway conditions or connectivity. The proposed ordinance allows the Engineering Coordinator to consider exceptions for these situations when specific criteria related to roadway width, drainage, lot count, and surrounding development patterns are met, while still requiring right-of-way dedication and ensuring public safety standards are maintained.

The proposed amendment also provides additional clarification regarding frontage improvement requirements and allows the Engineering Coordinator limited discretion to permit continuation of an existing roadway cross-section through a development when strict application of current standards would create inconsistency with the surrounding roadway network and when public safety and functionality can still be maintained. In addition, the ordinance includes some minor code cleanup and organizational revisions primarily within the trails and sidewalk section to improve clarity and administration. However, no substantive policy changes are proposed within that section.

The proposed amendments are intended to provide practical engineering flexibility while maintaining the County's commitment to public safety, infrastructure integrity, and long-term maintenance standards.

Action Taken: Councilmember Park made a motion to **approve this Ordinance 26-09 for a first reading and set the second reading for June 17, 2026. Councilmember Crittenden** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

5. Second reading and consideration of an Ordinance 26-08 enacting changes to Title 17 Government Records Access and Management Act – Dustin Grabau

Summary: Wasatch County has made changes to the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA) process to better track and manage the increasing volume of public information requests. This includes the hiring of a staff member in 2025 in the attorney's office to act as a facilitator for these duties. The proposed code change would codify the operational changes made over the last year. This is the second reading of the

proposed ordinance.

Action Taken: Councilmember Crittenden made a motion that we **approve ordinance 26-08, Government Records Access and Management Act ordinance as presented.** **Councilmember Bonner** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

6. Corridor Preservation Fund Update and Discussion – Richard Breitenbeker

Summary: Council has been collecting the vehicle registration fee associated with the Local Highway and Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund since 2006. Some parcels have been purchased using these funds. The funds were last discussed in July 2024 and Councilmember Crittenden asked that the topic be revisited. No motion was needed.

7. Discussion and Direction on Preliminary Municipalities and Legislative Engagement – Dustin Grabau

Summary: In 2024, the State Legislature passed SB 258 that amended the municipal incorporation code to establish a pilot project for Preliminary Municipalities. The process allows three or fewer owners of property with the intent of developing units that included at least 100 residences, and 10% of housing must be affordable. They must conduct a feasibility study that includes likely population, tax base, and service provision. This study must be published and reviewed at future hearings. It may also need to be supplemented if it is found insufficient in one or more areas.

If within 4 years of the first Certificate of Occupancy or six years of the petition for incorporation and if the town does not successfully incorporate, the preliminary municipality is dissolved and all infrastructure becomes the burden of the county.

In the interest of coordinating legislative outreach on the matter, staff seek input from the council on the best means to meet with state legislators on this, and other matters. No Motion was needed.

Council/Board Reports

Summary:

Councilmember Park: Public lands meeting had discussion on dryness, water level, and for now, no restriction on fire.

Councilmember Searle: Wasatch County Library is hosting this month's Wasatch History speaker series, with Dewayne Wheatley, who is a former coach and history teacher, and Easton Powell (name spelling?) who is currently the Wasatch High School history teacher. Searle also mentioned the information and dates for the Primary election.

Councilmember Crittenden: Go check out the new pump track at Southfield Park and

Heber Light and Power are having an open house on June 3rd from 5 to 7 pm.

Councilmember Rowland: SITLA discussion with attorney's office in regards to councils concerns about concessions being made.

Councilmember Murphy: Tax/Audit committee meeting discussed an RFP of \$25,000 to move forward with internal audits for higher risk areas in the County. Public Lands Representative Kennedy is proposing legislation on the federal level so the Dept. of Interior can speed the process of getting permitting done.

Councilmember Nelson: Tourism continue working on a destination development plan. We should see something from that in a couple of months. The Memorial Hill flag project is proceeding.

Manager's Report

1. Briefing on the Wasatch County 2026 Quarter 1 Financial Report - Daniel Fillmore, Manager Intern and Heber Lefgren, Assistant County Manager

Summary: The purpose of this item is for staff to present to the County Council the Wasatch County 2026 Quarter 1 Financial Report which shows financial re-estimates for Calendar Year 2026 based upon three months of actual revenue/expenditure data (January 1 – March 31, 2026) and nine months of updated re-estimates (April 1 – December 31, 2026).

Closed Session – as needed

Closed sessions may be held in accordance with Utah State Code 52-4-205 to discuss the following: Purchase, Exchange or Lease of Property; Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation; The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual.

Summary:

2:08:28 **Councilmember Bonner:** I'll make a **motion to go into closed session for property acquisition, litigation and personnel.**

Councilmember Crittenden seconded the motion.

6:26 PM: **Councilmember Bonner** made a motion to come out of closed session.

Councilmember Nelson: seconded the motion.

All voted to come out.

Adjournment

Summary: Councilmember Bonner: made the motion to adjourn

Councilmember Nelson: seconded the motion

All voted yes to adjourn.

6:26 PM

Chair

Joey D. Granger/Clerk/Auditor