City of Green River
460 East Main Street, Green River, Utah
City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2026

ATTENDING: Mayor Larry Packer; Council Members: Guy Webster, Stephanie Crabtree, Tonya Bigelow; Employees: Edward Bennett, Julie Spadafora, David Wilson, Bryan Meadows, Kerry Bigelow, Janet Smoak, Gayna Salinas; Citizens: Karen Richards, Shaylee Richards, James Saunders, Jo Anne Chandler, Katrina Stansfield, Mick Robinson, Sandi Silliman, Phillip Stubbfield, Ben Coomer, Frank Vetere Jr., Conra Weber, Michael Silliman, Dorothy Carter, Chalyn Francis, Brayden Liechty, Candice Cravins, Anne Elliott, Greg Winn, Lance Erwin, Josh Opp, Mistie Bastian, Julie Steuer, Darrel Mecham, Diane Smith, Kathy Ryan, Christine Sheeter; Utah Inland Port; Jenna Draper.

CONDUCTING: Mayor Larry Packer, the meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

ABSENT: Kent Nelson and Bo Harrison asked to be excused.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The Pledge of Allegiance as directed by Stephanie Crabtree.

New Business:

1. Presentation from Ensign Engineering regarding Broadway Redesign Plan

   Curtis Nelson of Ensign Engineering, joined by Shawn Elliott of Hales Engineering, walked the Council through the preferred concept —Concept 2 for the Broadway redesign. The plan focuses on improved pedestrian sidewalks, angled parking (targeting ~89–90 spaces), strategic drainage solutions, street lighting, tree planting, bump-outs and bulb-outs at intersections, a mid-block crosswalk, and a potential roundabout at the south end near 100 South. The team noted Broadway's nearly flat grade (0.3% slope, well below the minimum 0.5% needed for drainage) as the primary engineering challenge, and discussed creative solutions like perforated cisterns, bioretention in planter strips, and using a ridges-and-valleys road crown to manage stormwater. Access to the Melon Vine grocery store was addressed, with a proposed dedicated entry off Broadway and exit onto 100 South. Council and residents raised questions about parking counts, truck/RV access, and ADA compliance, all of which the engineers committed to refining in the next design phases (70%, 90%, and 100% bid sets). Curtis Nelson also noted significant grant funding opportunities through UDOT and state/federal sources.

2. Presentation of House Bill 48; Wildland Urban Interface Modifications

   Utah House Bill 48 (2025) requires municipalities to adopt building standards addressing wildfire risk in order to maintain their existing MOU with BLM and DNR — which currently guarantees free wildfire suppression assistance. It was noted that Green River is not located within any mapped Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) zone, so the practical building-code impact on residents is essentially nil at this time. The proposed ordinance adopts the 2024 International Fire Code wildfire provisions and includes a resolution confirming no current WUI-mapped locations within city limits, with a commitment to adopt further requirements by resolution if that ever changes. This item was presented for discussion only; it will return for formal adoption at next month's meeting.

3. Presentation of the Sidewalk Management, Maintenance, and Inspection

   David Wilson presented a sidewalk inspection and prioritization program requested by the Utah State Trust (the city's insurer), warning that failure to adopt some form of plan could result in increased insurance premiums. The program uses a four-tier priority system based on the severity of sidewalk displacement (ranging from under ¼ inch — no action needed — up to 2+ inches — immediate repair required). Guy Webster raised the broader point that half the city lacks sidewalks or curb and gutter altogether, and that a master drainage plan should precede detailed sidewalk enforcement. Questions also arose about whether repair responsibility falls on the city or adjoining property owners — a question that remains unresolved.

4. Presentation from Commission Keven Jensen regarding Green River Municipal Landfill.

   County Commissioner Keven Jensen presented an idea to leverage the county road department's TRT-funded employees stationed in Green River to help operate and maintain the city's municipal landfill — particularly for burying dilapidated structures and construction/demolition debris — on a scheduled basis (e.g., 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month). He clarified this would not involve demolition work, only maintenance and burial operations. Commissioner Jensen noted the Travel Bureau has already voted in support of moving this idea forward. Edward Bennett noted the city is also actively working an RFP for private landfill management and has received interest from a large private waste management firm proposing a rail-car transfer solution, as well as a private individual developing a construction debris landfill near Cisco. During public comment, Ben Coomer strongly urged the Council to pursue a collection-and-transfer model rather than re-opening a municipal landfill, citing permanent environmental liability concerns.

5. Presentation from Council Member Tonya Bigelow regarding City-Sponsored Fourth of July Celebration Breakfast.

   Tonya Bigelow proposed a city-sponsored patriotic breakfast on the Fourth of July at approximately 8:00 AM, featuring pancakes, eggs, sausage, and hash browns, along with the national anthem and a display from the John Wesley Powell River History Museum commemorating the nation's 250th anniversary. Mayor Larry Packer and other Council members expressed support. The event would not conflict with existing kids' activities and would leave the evening open for family gatherings and fireworks.

6. Public Comment:

   Darrel Mecham raised concerns about city employee accountability and the absence of a work-from-home policy.

   Ben Coomer urged the Council against reopening a municipal landfill and stressed the need for a comprehensive drainage plan before pursuing projects like the Broadway redesign.

   Kathy Ryan raised issues about drainage from new construction onto neighboring properties, a resident living without utilities near the new baseball fields, and general code compliance concerns.

   Gayna Salinas thanked participants in a recent shade tree seminar, requested that the city install American flags on Main Street light poles, flagged the broken water buggy needing repair, and raised water conservation concerns.

   Dorothy Carter announced a Green River Business Alliance roundtable, a Kids Business Fair on July 22nd, a business training on July 8th at the senior center, and thanked volunteers who helped clean up the senior center.

   Tom Hansen, a candidate for County Clerk-Auditor, spoke about his platform.

Mary Winters raised an unresolved drainage issue on Long street where a city drain sits higher than her property, causing yard flooding and plant loss.

Old Business:

7. Discuss/Approve/Deny Broadway Redesign Plan

   Edward Bennett recommended approval of the concept plan as presented, clarifying that approval does not lock anything in stone but authorizes Ensign Engineering to proceed to the 70% design phase

   MOTION: Tonya Bigelow made a motion to approve Broadway Redesign Plan. Guy Webster seconded the motion**. VOTE:** Guy Webster, Stephanie Crabtree and Tonya Bigelow voted aye. The motion carried.

8. Discuss/Approve/Deny Code Compliance Letter to be presented to Main Street and Broadway Property Owners

   Edward Bennett presented a letter previously introduced last month intended to notify Main Street and Broadway property owners of upcoming code enforcement activity. Stephanie Crabtree raised concerns about the timeline and the potential for a blanket letter to frustrate compliant property owners. The city manager noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to hold a work session on Tuesday, June 14th at 5:30 PM to develop a prioritization rubric for code violations and recommended the Council table this item pending that work. Guy Webster agreed, emphasizing that cleanup needs to happen but that a thoughtful, non-discriminatory approach is essential.

   Stephanie Crabtree moved to table the Code Compliance Letter, following the Planning and Zoning Commission work session. The motion was seconded by Tonya Bigelow. **VOTE:** Guy Webster, Stephanie Crabtree and Tonya Bigelow voted aye. The motion carried.

Standing Items:

9. City Council, Mayor, and/or Employee Comments and Concerns

   Bryan Meadows reported that diffuser replacement work on the lagoon aeration chains is underway (approximately 1.5 of 7 chains completed), cautioned about heat conditions for the crew, and noted the new granular activated carbon (GAC) filters at the water treatment plant have dramatically reduced trihalomethane levels from near the state limit of 80 down to 8. He also noted FEMA floodplain remapping is proposing to significantly expand Green River's flood zone — potentially up to Long street and that he is pushing back in the process. Sewer lift station and water pressure reducing station contracts have been awarded to JCI, with work expected to begin around July 5th.

Tonya Bigelow reported a missing Hastings Road sign has been replaced (though faded) and asked staff to audit other faded or missing street signs. She also noted the city's required Travel Bureau board seat has been vacant since left, and the city manager volunteered to fill it pending a formal appointment letter from the mayor.

Janet Smoak announced that the Friends of the John Wesley Powell River History Museum received a $250,000 commitment (at $50,000/year over 5 years) from Denver Spares, and the Friends board voted to donate $40,000 to the museum's budget this fiscal year — a $10,000 increase over last year.

Stephanie Crabtree announced a free public CPR certification class on Tuesday, June 16th at 7:00 PM at the Public Safety Building (minimum age 15), reported all 6 participants in the recent EMT class passed their skills testing, and provided an update on the Public Safety Building security upgrade RFP.

Guy Webster provided an update on efforts to increase EMS on-call compensation to improve recruitment and retention.

10. Discuss/Approve/Deny Consent Agenda

- Financial Report April 2026
- Payment Approval Report June 2026
- Treasurer Report May 2026
- City Council Special Meeting Minutes May 4, 2026
- City Council Regular Meeting Minute May 12, 2026

MOTION: Guy Webster made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Stephanie Crabtree seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Guy Webster, Stephanie Crabtree and Tonya Bigelow voted aye. The motion carried.

11. Closed Session, if necessary, pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-205

No meeting was necessary.

12. Adjourn, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

MOTION: Tonya Bigelow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Guy Webster seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Guy Webster, Stephanie Crabtree and Tonya Bigelow voted aye. The motion carried.

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Larry Packer, Mayor Julie Spadafora, City Recorder

Approved: July14, 2026