The following are the approved minutes of the Centerfield City Council meeting held July 1, 2026 in the Centerfield City Hall. Those in attendance; Mayor Travis Leatherwood, Brittney Fisher, Jon Hansen, and Bart Hammond. Absent Sherry Frasier and Ryan Smith.

Other employees in attendance: Stewart Jensen, Jonah Christensen, Lacey Belnap & Randi Hunt
Meeting is being conducted by Mayor Travis Leatherwood
Meeting opened at 7:00 PM.

1- Roll Call
2- Pledge of Allegiance - Mayor Leatherwood
3- Invocation -Councilwoman Fisher

Minutes of June 17, 2026
Councilwoman Fisher moved to approve the minutes from June 17, 2026. Seconded by Councilman Hammond. Carries 3-0.

Mayor 250th
The Mayor recognized the upcoming Independence Day and the nation's 250th anniversary by reflecting on the significance of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. He encouraged residents and council members to take time to read and appreciate these founding documents and remember the sacrifices made to secure and preserve the nation's freedoms.

The Mayor shared a quote from George Washington emphasizing the importance of educating future generations about republican government and expressed appreciation for the City's Youth Council as an example of fostering civic understanding. He encouraged everyone to help teach and preserve the principles upon which the country was founded.

He also highlighted five key constitutional principles: that governmental authority originates with the people; the division of powers between the federal government and the states; the separation of powers among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches; the protection of individual rights through constitutional limits on government authority; and the rule of law over any individual. He noted that these principles provide important checks and balances and safeguard the freedoms enjoyed by all citizens.

The Mayor concluded by encouraging respectful civic engagement, emphasizing the importance of peaceful expression of differing opinions while respecting the rights of others. He expressed gratitude for those who have defended the nation's freedoms throughout history and invited everyone to reflect on the blessings of liberty and give thanks as the community commemorates this historic anniversary.

A&M Builders- Mike Wanner & Albert Parks- Danish Meadows Phase 1 Lot 3- Building Permit 50 North 200 East

Mike Wanner from A&M Builders is in attendance to discuss a building permit in the Danish Meadows Subdivision, Phase 1 Lot 3 50 North 200 East. Setbacks were adjusted on the sides to be 30' 4" on the south side, north side 20' 3". Mike will make the adjustment on ZipFlow.

Councilman Hansen made a motion to approve a building permit for A&M Builders in the Danish Meadows Subdivision, Phase 1 Lot 3 50 North 200 East. Seconded by Councilwoman Fisher. Carries 3-0.

Chief Adamson- Gunnison Valley Police Department Report

Not in attendance.

Councilwoman Fisher- Main Street Flag Designs

Councilwoman Fisher presented the final design. An additional bottom bracket will be all that is needed to hang the flags. Due to this, the budgeted amount will be less than originally planned. Recommendation was made to also get banners for veterans in the future.

Secondary Water Discussion

The Council discussed the current status of the secondary irrigation water supply and reviewed available water levels. It was reported that conditions remain very dry, and waiting another week to resume irrigation would likely provide little additional benefit, as inflow to the ponds remains minimal and the ponds are not expected to fill under current conditions.

Public Works employee Stewart Jensen recommended turning the secondary irrigation system back on during the first week of July to provide residents and local farmers with a limited amount of water. Council discussed operating the system for a short period before shutting it off again to allow the ponds to recharge, if possible. This approach was viewed as more beneficial than continuing to wait for the ponds to fill.

It was noted that the secondary irrigation system had been shut off on June 19, and inflows have remained relatively unchanged since that time. Council acknowledged that water deliveries would be very limited, and emphasized the importance of conserving the available supply.

Staff will notify residents of the limited water availability through the City's text notification system and encourage users to conserve water as the City continues to monitor conditions and adjust operations as needed.

Farm Lease Contract Adjustment Discussion

The Council discussed the renewal of the City's farm lease following the expiration of the initial 10-year agreement. The Mayor and Councilman Hansen met with the current lessee, David Beck, to review the existing contract and clarify its terms. During the discussion, it was determined that the lease language could be interpreted in different ways regarding whether the annual lease payment included water shares. After reviewing the agreement, it was concluded that the annual lease payment included the water allocation, and the City had received ownership of the irrigation pivot at the end of the initial 10-year term as provided in the agreement.

Council reviewed the recent increase in the City's irrigation water rental rate, which raises the annual lease payment from $15,000 to approximately $17,700. Staff also noted that the lease agreement will be updated to reflect the revised annual payment and clarify the contract language. The lessee agreed to bring past-due payments current by November 1, 2026, and future annual lease payments will be due by March 1 as specified in the agreement.

The Council also considered the lessee's request for relief due to drought conditions, including waiving the $2,700 increase for 2026 and providing additional consideration to offset the significant cost of leasing supplemental water shares. Council acknowledged the difficult conditions affecting agricultural producers but expressed concern that granting an exception would be inconsistent with the City's treatment of other water users and could negatively impact funding needed for the secondary water system.

Following discussion, the consensus of the Council was to apply the full adjusted lease payment of $17,700 for 2026.

Marci Childs- Harvest Moon Festival

Marci Childs provided the Council with an update on planning for the upcoming Harvest Moon Festival and requested consideration for an increase in the City's annual contribution to the event. She reported that the committee generated approximately $3,200 in revenue last year while expenses totaled about $3,400, with more than half of the budget dedicated to advertising. She noted that the committee is working to increase fundraising opportunities, including adding a 5K event, with the long-term goal of making the festival financially self-sustaining and purchasing equipment such as tables or a stage.

Council discussed the City's current budget for the festival and explained that the budget was established with the expectation that festival revenues would largely offset expenses. Staff also noted that a separate budget line item has been created to better track festival revenues and expenditures.

The Council discussed ways to reduce advertising costs while maintaining community awareness, including increasing the use of social media, evaluating the effectiveness of newspaper and radio advertising, reusing banners from previous years, and printing some promotional materials in-house. Council acknowledged the festival's continued growth and

positive community response and encouraged the committee to remain within the approved budget while continuing to seek additional fundraising opportunities.

The discussion also included ways to expand volunteer participation. Council suggested involving community organizations that receive City support to assist with festival activities. It was noted that the Youth Council, local cheerleaders, and other community groups have assisted in previous years, and additional volunteer partnerships will be explored for this year's event. No formal action was taken.

Banner Sponsorship for GVHS Football Team

Max Mower is in attendance from the Gunnison Valley High School Football Team to ask for a donation for a banner for $300. Each year the renewal cost will be $250.

Councilman Hansen made a motion to donate to the Gunnison Valley High School Football Team banner fundraiser for $300. Seconded by Councilman Hammond. Carries 3-0.

Unfinished Business/Report of Council Members

Mayor Leatherwood-

Mayor Leatherwood provided an update regarding the Hatch subdivision. A quitclaim deed has been prepared and signed for the boundary adjustments. The County advised that it could not record the pat map because the City does not currently have a minor subdivision ordinance. To address the issue, staff will present a proposed minor subdivision ordinance for Council review at the next meeting, followed by the required public hearing process. The Council's goal is to adopt the ordinance as soon as practical to provide a clear process for future minor subdivisions and allow the Hatch subdivision to move forward. No formal action was taken.

Brittney Fisher-

Councilman Fisher updated on the skate park. She spoke to Kevin Daniels who had researched potential liability associated with constructing a skate park. Based on case law, the attorney advised that a skate park would not create greater liability than other recreational facilities, such as a baseball field. He recommended installing signage stating that the City is not responsible for injuries, lost items, or damaged property and will provide suggested wording. The attorney also recommended contacting another community with a skate park to determine whether it resulted in increased insurance costs. He noted that communities offering recreational opportunities for youth often experience positive outcomes by providing constructive activities.

Council expressed support for continuing to explore the project. It was noted that grant funding opportunities are available, and staff will continue researching potential costs, funding sources, and design.

Jon Hansen-

Secondary irrigation deliveries remain extremely limited.

The City's spring production has declined by approximately 130 gallons per minute, requiring continuous pumping to maintain the culinary water supply. Council discussed the ongoing drought conditions and expressed hope that future storms would improve water availability.

Public works employee Jonah Christensen reported that irrigation meters are at 75% installed, leaving 121 left to be installed.

Councilwoman Fisher made a motion to go into a closed session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and/or purchase, exchange, or lease of real property at 7:56 PM. Seconded by Councilman Hansen. Carries 3-0. Roll call vote yea- Councilwoman Fisher, Councilman Hansen and Councilman Hammond.

Councilwoman Fisher made a motion to go out of a closed session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and/or purchase, exchange, or lease of real property at 8:33 PM. Seconded by Councilman Hammond. Carries 3-0. Roll call vote yea- Councilwoman Fisher, Councilman Hansen and Councilman Hammond.

Back in the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:33 PM. The Mayor reported that during the closed session, the council discussed a few possible or reasonable imminent litigation and property.

Councilman Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Hammond. Carries 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Lacey Belnap _____ Lacey Belnap, City Recorder

Travis Leatherwood _____ Travis Leatherwood, Mayor

July 15, 2026 _____ Approval Date

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