



UINTAH CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 29th, 2026
1:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Council Members Present: Mayor Bell, Council Member Combe, Council Member Roberts, Council Member Patterson, Council Member Sorenson

Staff Present: Weber Fire Chief Britt Clark, Deputy Fire Marshal Austin Larsen, City Recorder Michelle Mortensen, Lt. Slater

Attendees: Gordon Cutler, Don & Marilyn Pearson

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and mentioned that it is a special meeting to discuss firework restrictions.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Combe.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

3. **NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, and POSSIBLE ACTION:**

A. Firework Restrictions: Mayor Bell

- Mayor Bell distributed the proposed Stage 2 Fire Restrictions to the Council for review and explained that the Governor had implemented a statewide fireworks ban due to extreme fire danger. She noted the community's recent experience with wildfire and the importance of protecting residents. The Deputy Fire Marshal explained that under Stage 2 restrictions, devices with a shutoff valve, such as propane grills, remain permitted. He further reported that as of June 29, the entire state is under Stage 2 restrictions, approximately 30 fires are currently burning statewide, and Northern Utah is at Fire Danger Level 4. Based on current conditions, the recommendation was that Uintah City prohibit fireworks. Mayor Bell thanked him for his presentation.
- Council Member Roberts stated that with Northern Utah at Fire Danger Level 4, the risk is too great, and consideration should also be given to firefighter safety. She noted that the only potential designated fireworks location would be the city park, which is surrounded by railroad tracks and dry vegetation, making it an unsafe option.
- Council Member Patterson expressed concern that allowing residents to gather in one location for fireworks could create additional safety hazards and increase the likelihood of accidents.
- Council Member Combe stated that due to the rural nature of the community, there is no suitable location within the city park that meets the required safety distances for fireworks.
- Mayor Bell stated that the City would uphold the state's full fireworks ban and invited Lt. Slater to discuss enforcement. Lt. Slater advised that law enforcement would actively enforce the ban and was coordinating with additional agencies to provide increased enforcement during the holiday. In response to a question from Council Member Roberts, Lt. Slater explained that violations may be addressed through either criminal penalties, which may include fines and possible jail time, or civil enforcement. The Council also discussed appropriate reporting procedures, noting that 911 should be reserved for

emergencies such as active fires or life-threatening situations, while non-emergency violations should be reported through dispatch to avoid overwhelming emergency lines.

- Council Member Sorenson asked how residents would be informed of the restrictions. Mayor Bell stated that the City would use all available communication methods, including Text MyGov, social media, the City's website, and other outreach efforts to notify the public of the fireworks ban.

4. MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Council Member Roberts motioned to adjourn city council meeting at 1:13 p.m.
- Motion was seconded by Council Member Combe.
- All in favor; the motion carries.



Michelle Mortensen, Uintah City Recorder



Date