



TOWN HALL MEETING MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSION AND EDUCATION ON THE 2026 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE INVESTMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Tuesday, July 28, 2026
5249 South 400 East
Washington Terrace, UT 84405
801.393.8681
www.washingtonterrace.gov

1. WELCOME

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Mark Allen welcomed the residents to the town hall educational meeting. He took a moment to discuss the large grass fire that occurred yesterday in the Terrace. He stated that the fire was brutal and the wind sent it to the west and shifted it back the other way. He stated that the fire spread to a house, trailer, and unfortunately a gentleman was in his backyard. He stated that two Sheriff Deputies and two Roy Deputies helped to pull out the gentleman. One of the officers was injured and unfortunately the resident did not survive. Mayor Allen paid respect to the Burrell family for their loss. He thanked all the fire department involved.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING

Mayor Allen gave an overview of the meeting, stating that this town hall is to provide educational information on the proposed tax increase. He stated that we will have staff and the Weber County Sheriff Office explain the use of the money for which we are asking.

3. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: HOW PROPERTY TAXES WORK

- City Manager Tom Hanson

Hanson stated that the Tax Impact Statement and the Combined County Wide public Hearing notice is posted on the screen behind him, as well as handouts on the sign in table.

Hanson stated that the tax increase is a 6.7% increase, estimated annual increase of 25.33 to a primary residence of \$430,699 and \$46.05 to businesses valued at \$430,699.

Hanson explained that taxes are based on home value and explained taxable value calculations stating that the percentage of the multiplier goes down on the distribution. Hanson stated that some property taxes are raised and some goes down, noting that the multiplier stays the same. He stated that the multiplier stays the same so that the city does not receive any extra money.

Hanson stated that new growth is new revenue options for the general fund.

43 Hanson stated that state law requires a Truth-in-Taxation process to collect more than last year in taxes.
44 Hanson stated that the city is not immune to inflation. Hanson stated that the city works to maximize as
45 many grants as possible to help lessen the burden on taxpayers. Hanson stated that the city has received over
46 \$20 Million in grants over the last 20 years, lessening the burden on taxpayers. He stated that the city is
47 mindful of the burden to residents.

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49 Hanson stated that the current rate for taxes is .001590. The proposed rate is 0.001697. He stated that this is
50 estimated that a \$25.33 increase will be for primary residential homes. He stated that businesses are
51 estimated at \$46.05 increase (this would be for rentals or second homes).

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53 Hanson stated that the Town Hall tonight is to promote transparency and prevent hidden taxes. He stated that
54 it helps keep local control and allows careful consideration of real needs and priorities.

55 Hanson stated that if we were to do our own law enforcement services it would cost three times as much as
56 contract services, same as if we partnered with fire districts.

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58 Hanson stated that property taxes is used for services.

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60 Hanson opened up the town hall for any questions concerning the TnT Process.

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62 Hanson stated that the county evaluates the property value of a home, noting that market values will ebb and
63 flow. Hanson stated that residents can petition the county if they disagree with their estimate.

64 Hanson stated that apartment buildings are considered primary residence, stating that they are taxed with the
65 discounted rate. He stated that they pay for the value of the entire building, not individual apartments.

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67 **4. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE IMPACT**
68 **STATEMENT**

- 69
 - City Manager Tom Hanson

70 Hanson read the Impact Property Tax Increase Statement (attached at the end of the minutes) in its entirety.
71 It was project on the screen during the meeting along with the county combined public hearing notice. There
72 are handouts of both items on the sign in table.

73 Hanson noted that when the Terrace had their own police services in 2003, the cost was 1.2 million. He
74 stated that 23 years later, the cost of law enforcement is still 1.2 million through the contract with the Sheriff
75 Office. He stated that if we has our own police service, the cost would be over three times as much due to
76 overhead. He stated that contracting services is the best way to consolidate services and save taxpayers
77 money. Hanson stated that the city pools funds with other contract cities for the Law Enforcement Services.

78 Mayor Allen noted that all Council Members are present in the audience.

79 There was a five-minute break at 6:53 p.m.
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81 **5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: THE USE OF THE TAX INCREASE**

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 - Weber County Sheriff Office- Sheriff Arbon, Lt. Sean Endsley, Chief Josh Guard

83 Sherrif Arbon spoke about the reasons for the increase in the Sheriff Office. He stated that it is a pooled
84 service. He stated that the cost per officer was \$134,000 when he took office in 2019. He stated that cost
85 per officer now is \$194,000. He stated that there were wage wars and staffing issues. He stated that part of

the challenge of getting increased staffing came from the County Commissioners not approving the requests. He stated that they have approved staffing increases this year. He stated that he asked the Commission for an addition 10 officers, totaling around 2 million dollars. He stated that the Terrace share of that is around \$98,000.

Lt. Endsley (Command Level Supervisor for Washington Terrace City), spoke to the residents, thanking everyone for their cooperation during the emergency yesterday.

He stated that the city has an obligation to provide law enforcement services to their residents. He stated that it is cost effective to contract with the Sheriff Officer. He stated that the funding is established by a ration of calls of service to population. Lt Endsley stated that the enforcement numbers have dropped since 2013 from 97 officers to 78 deputies currently. He stated that 46 of the deputies were for the contract services. He stated that the population of the contract cities increased by 20,000 people. He stated that they cannot do more with less and provide the same or higher level of services to the residents without more deputies. Lt. Endsley stated that more calls for service mean more enforcement on the streets. He stated that fewer deputies has meant temporary reassignments to help cover heavy workloads in other bureaus. He stated that insufficient staffing contributes to backlogs of cases, longer response times and reduced proactive enforcement, among issues with officer safety and backup.

Lt Endsley stated that the 10 new full-time employee positions moves deputies per resident from .57 to .72 per 1,000. He stated that some deputies receive specialized training and units. He stated that body cams, tasers, and other tools are necessary and important. He stated that they are expensive to equip and maintain but they are necessary to provide a higher level of service.

Chief Guard stated that the Sheriff is an office, not a department. He stated that the Commission controls the budget of the Sheriff Office. He stated that everyone pays the general fund amount and receives the services. He stated that the contract cities pay their rate and are supplied with 56 bodies for their services. Chief Guard stated that the 56 bodies include deputies, detectives, lieutenants, and officers. He stated that a driving factor for more staffing is the safety of the officers as well as level of service for contract cities. He stated that General Fund monies are services provided to the entire county, and contract cities pay into the contract services fund for their additional deputies. He stated that the contract cities lose 9 bodies for nine months of the year for SRO services.

The city pays for contract services as well as general fund services. General funds services cover search and rescue, drones, ICAC detectives, armored cars, and other resources and services. Lt. Endsley stated that the contract cities are paying for direct services from the patrolmen, investigations, and full law enforcement services. Lt Endsley stated that the city pays for our portion of the shared contract services. He stated that staffing numbers fluctuate based on where each person is. He stated that if something happens in one city, resources will shift to those cities. He stated that there are not a set number of deputies per city.

Lt. Endsley stated that there was a compensation study completed in 2025 and it showed that the deputies were 17 percent behind market rate. He stated that this has been corrected and has helped with retaining staff, as well as picking up very good laterals from other agencies as the pay is equal to well respected services.

Lt. Endsley stated that the flock cameras in the area do not have facial recognition. They only recognize license plates and vehicle make. He stated that they are all within public roadways. He stated that a public road way does not violate a reasonable expectation of invasion of privacy. He stated that Weber does not

131 have facial recognition capabilities.

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133 Sheriff Arbon stated that there are many flock cameras throughout the county, state and nation. He stated
134 that there are 29 Sheriffs in the state. He stated that drones are phenomenal tools. He stated that drones do
135 not surveil and are recorded. He stated that he has very strict rules on that type of technology. He stated
136 that he has rules to hold people accountable. He stated that the drones are response drones and not patrol
137 drones. He stated that there are different types of Flock Cameras. He stated that he wanted to be clear that
138 the plates read the numbers and state. It does not tie it to an individual or information. He stated that there
139 are other officers who have access to identity to who the plates belong to.
140 He stated that they have Flock Set up that only supervisors and some detectives have access to the
141 information. He stated that there is limited access as to who can access the information or image. He
142 stated that there are strict controls as to who can access. He stated that there are quarterly audits to manage
143 the use of Flock cameras to make sure there is not misuse. He stated that they do not sell the information
144 and the information dumps in 30 days. He stated that he cannot speak for what Flock does with the
145 information, but Weber County has strict agreements. Chief Guard stated that they have strict agreements
146 on where the information is disseminated or they will be fined and fired. He said that there are many
147 restraints on their use in the county.

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149 Sheriff Arbon stated that Washington Terrace, Unincorporated Weber County, and West Haven are the
150 largest call volumes that they have, stating that 60 percent of calls are attributed to those three. He stated
151 that Washington Terrace is a hub for the Sheriff. He stated that around 23 percent of the calls are for
152 Washington Terrace, noting that it doesn't mean there are violent crimes, but there are more vin checks
153 etc.

154 155 **6. MEETING WRAP UP**

- 156 • Final discussion and questions- Mayor Allen

157 Mayor Allen stated that The Sheriff's Office has an open door policy. He stated that we need to support
158 the officers.

159 He stated that Tom Hanson also has an open door policy and encouraged residents to contact him for
160 questions on the Truth-in-Taxation.

161 162 163 **7. ADJOURN THE MEETING**

164 The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

8:00 P.M.

WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY, UT

2026 Proposed Property Tax Impact Schedule

WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY will consider an increase to its property tax rate from **0.001590** to **0.001697** to generate an additional \$98,100. The following information is intended to provide decision makers and the public with an explanation of how the City's operations would be affected if the proposed property tax increase is adopted.

WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY'S 2026 Certified Property Tax Rate	0.001590
WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY'S 2026 Certified Property Tax Revenue	\$1,458,777
Proposed Property Tax Revenue with Tax Change	\$1,556,877
Proposed Property Tax Rate with Tax Change	0.001697
New Property Tax Revenue to WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY	\$98,100

Estimated Increase to WASHINGTON TERRACE CITY Property Tax Rate	6.7%
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Estimated Annual Increase to a primary residence of \$430,699	\$25.33
Estimated Annual Increase to a business valued at \$430,699	\$46.05

<u>Affected</u> <u>Department</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget without Tax</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Change</u>
Police	\$1,300,314	\$1,202,214	\$98,100

Impact of Tax Increase - To fund contractual increases for law enforcement services entered into with the Weber County Sheriff's Office.
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