

**Riverton City, Utah
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes
August 4, 2026**

**Riverton City Hall
12830 South 1700 West
Riverton, Utah 84065**

Attendance:

Mayor Tish Buroker

Councilmembers:

Councilmember Spencer Haymond
Councilmember Alexander Johnson
Councilmember Troy McDougal
Councilmember Andy Pierucci
Councilmember Shannon Smith

City Staff:

Kevin Hicks, City Manager - excused
Ryan Carter, City Attorney
Cary Necaise, Public Works Director
Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director
Jamie Larsen, City Recorder
Chief Shane Taylor, Riverton Police Department
Brook Bowen, Graphic Design & Marketing Specialist
Sheril Garn, Events and Operations Director
Stacie Olson, Assistant Public Works Director
Fire Marshal Wade Watkins, Unified Fire Authority

WORK SESSION – 4:30 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Buroker called the Work Session to order at 4:33 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Haymond, Johnson, McDougal, Pierucci and Smith were present.

Presentations/Discussions

Traffic Management/Speed Discussion

Matt Cassel, City Engineer, provided an overview of the City's traffic calming program, explaining that requests would be evaluated using criteria such as crash history, measured speeds, and pedestrian proximity, while considering impacts on police, fire, and public works operations. He outlined a proposed process that would allow neighborhood support to be demonstrated before requests advanced to higher levels of review or potential capital projects.

Councilmembers generally supported the phased approach, noting that it would provide a clear process for residents, encourage broader neighborhood involvement, and reduce decisions based solely on individual requests. Staff agreed to establish timelines for each phase, provide a publicly accessible explanation of the process, and distribute regular updates showing the status of traffic requests. Staff clarified that the program would address a variety of right-of-way concerns, not only speeding, and discussed specific examples involving Redwood Road and 13800 South. Staff also noted that requests involving UDOT roads required coordination with the agency and that the City had limited authority over private roads.

Timberline Project Discussion

Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director, reviewed the proposed rezoning and development plan for property near 13550 South and Redwood Road, noting that the proposal included an RM-8 zoning designation, a General Plan amendment, and a development agreement allowing modified lot sizes and setbacks. He explained that the development plan had undergone several revisions in response to UDOT requirements, with the current proposal providing access from Redwood Road, preserving a future connection to the property to the south, and maintaining a gated connection to 1175 West. UDOT had indicated that access to Redwood Road would not be approved unless the roadway connected to the existing and future public road network. The Planning Commission had previously recommended RM-6 zoning with specified development standards and no vehicular access to adjacent neighborhood streets. He noted that Council could either remand the revised plan to the Planning Commission for additional review or proceed with scheduling a public hearing, and explained that the gated roadway was intended to address concerns about traffic and overflow parking affecting the neighborhood to the north.

Council discussed the potential benefits of providing an alternate route for existing residents, concerns regarding future access and traffic, and the applicant's proposal to visually design the gated connection as the end of a road. Council also discussed retaining existing homes along Redwood Road as a buffer and limiting additional driveway access in accordance with UDOT preferences.

Council reviewed the proposed RM-8 layout and requested an RM-6 alternative for comparison, noting the Planning Commission's recommendation for RM-6. Parking was a primary concern, with Council discussing narrow streets, garage and driveway capacity, potential overflow parking, and options such as widening roads, eliminating lots for guest parking, and increasing garage dimensions. Staff reported that Unified Fire had indicated emergency access through a gate could be permitted, subject to final review. Overall, Council supported continued consideration of RM-8 if site-design and parking concerns could be addressed, while some members continued to favor RM-6 and/or removal of the gate.

Town Days Debrief

Sheril Garn, Events and Operations Director, provided an overview of Town Days, including the rodeo, parade, patriotic concert, car show, races, breakfast, carnival, fireworks, and other activities. The event included 21 events and 12 entertainment groups, with approximately 39,000 attendees overall. She reported approximately \$66,500 in Town Days sponsorships, an additional \$20,500 secured through elected officials, and \$125,514 in rodeo revenue. More than 2,100 people attended the breakfast, and 1,002 participated in the Independence Day races. She recognized the significant support from Police, Fire, City employees, volunteers, sponsors, and neighboring agencies.

Staff and Council discussed modifying traffic closures for 2027, including closing portions of 1300 West and 12600 South, implementing one-way traffic, and providing access for nearby residents. The impact on golf course and pool access was also discussed. Staff noted that the park was near capacity and expressed concerns about expanding the event or adding larger-name performers. Council and Staff also discussed fireworks viewing areas, tents and ropes creating potential trip hazards, and improving communication with attendees regarding securing tents during severe weather.

Staff Report

Ryan Carter, City Attorney, reported that Riverton City's first-year evaluation under the Utah Risk Management Agency (URMA), following its transition from the Utah Local Governments Trust, resulted in a score of 91.25 out of 100. URMA has higher safety and operational standards and provides new member cities three years to achieve compliance. He described the score as excellent, with remaining items primarily pending completion, and expressed confidence that the City could achieve a perfect score the following year. He also noted continued engagement with URMA through its annual training and conference and expressed satisfaction with the City's relationship with the organization.

Adjournment of Work Session

Councilmember Pierucci **MOVED to adjourn the Work Session**. Councilmember Haymond **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Buroker called for a vote; the vote was as follows: Haymond-Yes, Johnson-Yes, McDougal-Yes, Pierucci-Yes, and Smith-Yes. The motion passed unanimously. The Work Session adjourned at 6:22 PM.

COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Buroker called the Council Meeting to order at 7:01 PM and conducted a roll call. Councilmembers Haymond, Johnson, McDougal, Pierruci and Smith were present.

Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Danny Brooks offered the invocation and Fire Marshal Watkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor/Council/Staff Reports

Mayor Buroker thanked Unified Fire Authority for its guidance, advice, and support during a challenging fireworks season and expressed appreciation to Riverton residents for complying with the complete fire restrictions on July 4 and reduced fire restrictions on July 24.

Councilmember Smith reported that upcoming Friday Fun Nights on the 7th, 14th, and 28th would include presentations from the Mosquito Abatement District on mosquito control. She also attended the Battle of the Bases fundraiser supporting adaptive recreation, noted that Riverton had zero reported fires on July 24, and said she attended a ribbon-cutting for a new business on 12600 South.

Councilmember Pierucci reported attending the ribbon-cutting for Sweat Houz on 13400 South and participating with the Mayor in discussions regarding the future of transit through the "Fresh Look" initiative. He emphasized the City's commitment to investing in multiple forms of transportation to improve access and mobility throughout the community. He also thanked Chief Taylor and the Riverton Police Department for their ongoing efforts to address community concerns, including speeding and reckless driving, and recognized their proactive response and positive relationship with residents.

Councilmember Johnson reported attending the grand opening of Sweat Houz and thanked the South Valley Chamber for facilitating the event. He provided updates on preliminary traffic-calming

plans for 3200 West and offered to share the plans with affected residents. He also discussed meeting with residents regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and the potential benefits of expanding their availability given current housing costs. He encouraged residents to continue conserving water.

Councilmember Haymond reported that the sewer district continued to operate well and that Phase Two was progressing, with an engineering firm beginning design work. Phase Two is expected to provide approximately 30 million gallons per day of treatment capacity and discharge highly treated water into the Jordan River. He expressed appreciation for City staff and the public safety personnel who participated in the recent safety event, highlighting the opportunity for children and residents to interact with police, fire, and emergency medical personnel. He concluded by reflecting on the 250th anniversary of American independence and expressing gratitude for the freedoms and liberties enjoyed in the United States.

Councilmember McDougal reminded residents that school would begin within the next two weeks and encouraged drivers to remain alert and watch for children.

Citizen Comment

Mayor Buroker called for public comments;

Kent Davis, Republican nominee for Salt Lake County District Attorney, introduced himself and highlighted his military, legal, and prosecutorial experience. He emphasized the importance of communication and transparency between the District Attorney's Office and local communities, particularly regarding repeat offenders, public safety, and the impacts of Riverton's continued growth.

Dave Mobley urged the Council to maintain Riverton's 287(g) agreement with ICE and expressed opposition to efforts to end or weaken local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. He characterized such efforts as a threat to constitutional principles, border enforcement, and public safety, and criticized organizations advocating for the abolition of ICE and reduced cooperation with federal authorities.

Kenneth Lyons, a Riverton resident, spoke in opposition to the City's 287(g) agreement with ICE and encouraged the Council to end the agreement. He expressed concerns about masked and unidentifiable federal agents operating in local neighborhoods, arguing that the lack of visible identification and accountability undermined public trust and local law enforcement.

Dot Lyons shared a personal experience of leaving an unsafe home as a teenager and considering seeking asylum in another country. She expressed appreciation for the support that allowed her to remain safe and encouraged the City to prioritize safety and compassion for individuals who may need to relocate to escape dangerous circumstances.

Summer Joos described an incident in which she said her uncle was followed and arrested by ICE agents in Bluffdale after leaving for work. She stated that he was subsequently deported to Mexico and is unable to return to the United States for 10 years, separating him from family members living in California. She expressed concern that the incident demonstrated the potential impact of federal immigration enforcement on local families and questioned whether such enforcement improves community safety. She urged the City to end its 287(g) agreement and any local affiliation with ICE.

Randall Peterson questioned the process by which Riverton's 287(g) agreement with ICE was

established, stating that the agreement was executed without a City Council vote and that Councilmembers learned of it through a press release. He cited Riverton City Code regarding police service agreements with other governmental agencies and argued that such agreements should be adopted by ordinance or resolution of the governing body.

Shane Manwaring, candidate for Salt Lake County Sheriff, introduced himself and highlighted his prior service with Riverton Police, 30 years of military leadership, and current work as a local police lieutenant. He stated that his goal as Sheriff would be to strengthen the partnership with Riverton and improve jail operations, particularly reducing the time officers spend transporting and booking individuals. He also expressed concern about jail overcrowding and short stays preventing individuals struggling with addiction from accessing appropriate resources, and said he would work to address those issues.

Michael McCall expressed strong opposition to ICE and President Donald Trump.

Mayor Buroker called for additional public comments; there being none, she closed the Citizen Comment period.

Presentations/Recognitions

Gospel Hope Volunteer Recognition

Mayor Buroker recognized volunteers from Gospel Hope Church for their annual assistance with Riverton's Fourth of July celebration. She expressed appreciation for the volunteers' cheerful and positive service, noting that their support had become an important tradition and was essential to successfully managing the growing event.

Consent Items

Mayor Buroker presented the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Minute Approval: July 21, 2026; and
- b. **Resolution No. 26-39** – Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Cyvl Inc for the Cyvl Transportation Infrastructure Platform.

Councilmember Haymond **MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda**. Councilmember McDougal **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Buroker called for a vote; the vote was as follows: Haymond-Yes, Johnson-Yes, McDougal-Yes, Pierucci-Yes, and Smith-Yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing(s)/Action Items

Ordinance No. 26-16 – Majestic Home Rezone, General Plan Amendment and Rezone of approximately 3.14-acre located at 13172 South Redwood Road. Changing the General Plan Designation to High Density Residential and the zoning to RM-14

Councilmember Pierucci **MOVED to TABLE Ordinance No. 26-16 – Majestic Home Rezone to the September 1 City Council Meeting**. Councilmember Smith **SECONDED** the motion. Mayor Buroker called for a vote; the vote was as follows: Haymond-Yes, Johnson-Yes, McDougal-Yes, Pierucci-Yes, and Smith-Yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items

Fiscal Year 2026 Fraud Assessment Discussion

Nick Geer, Administrative Services Director, presented the City's annual fraud risk assessment, which is required by the State Auditor's Office and evaluates the City's ability to identify, prevent, and monitor fraud. Riverton received 375 out of 395 points, placing the City in the "very low risk" category and matching the previous year's score. He noted that the City did not receive 20 points because it does not have a formal internal audit function meeting the State's specific requirements, although internal audits are still performed.

Ordinance No. 26-19 – Amending Riverton City's Code Sections 18.150.040, 18.150.090 and 18.150.120 Regulating Window Signs

Jason Lethbridge, Development Services Director, presented proposed amendments to the City's window signage regulations for discussion only, explaining that the changes would clarify the definition of window signs, distinguish window tinting from signage, and address aesthetic and safety concerns associated with obstructed windows. The proposed amendment would continue to allow signage on up to 50% of an individual window while limiting window signage to 30% of the building's overall surface area, with an exception for smaller windows. He noted that Riverton's existing 50% limitation is generally consistent with regulations in other cities and that the Planning Commission had forwarded the proposed amendment in its current form.

Council discussed the proposed window signage amendments, with several members questioning whether restrictions on window signage were necessary beyond public safety considerations. Some Councilmembers expressed support for repealing the restrictions entirely, citing the subjective nature of aesthetic standards and the ability of businesses and customers to determine what signage is effective. Chief Taylor indicated that the existing 30% overall and 50% individual-window limitations were acceptable from a law enforcement and visibility standpoint, while other Councilmembers acknowledged the safety concerns but favored greater flexibility for businesses.

Mr. Lethbridge clarified that denying the proposed amendment would not repeal the existing regulations and stated that both options would be presented at the next meeting. He would prepare an alternative ordinance to repeal the window signage restrictions entirely, allowing Council to consider both the proposed amendments and full repeal before making a decision.

Adjournment

Councilmember McDougal **MOVED** to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Councilmember Smith **SECONDED** the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Approved: CCM 9.1.26