# Minutes of the
# BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL
August 11, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Official notice of the City Council Meeting was given by posting an Agenda at City Hall and on the Bountiful City Website and the Utah Public Notice Website and by providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: The City Journal and Standard Examiner.

## Work Session – 6:00 p.m.
## City Council Chambers

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| Present: | Mayor | Kate Bradshaw |
| | Councilmembers | Mille Segura Bahr, Dan Bell, Beth Child, Richard Higginson, Matt Murri |
| | City Manager | Gary Hill |
| | Asst City Manager | Tyson Beck |
| | City Attorney | Brad Jeppsen |
| | City Engineer | Lloyd Cheney |
| | Planning Director | Francisco Astorga |
| | SDMFD Chief | Jeff Larsen |
| | Chief of Police | Ed Biehler |
| | Asst Chief of Police | David Gill |
| | Recording Secretary | Maranda Hilton |

Mayor Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

**SOUTH DAVIS METRO FIRE POLICY CHANGES – MR. GARY HILL**

Mr. Gary Hill gave a presentation about the history and creation of the South Davis Metro Fire District and the factors involved in how their governance structure and financial operations were set up. He explained the conditions placed upon the district when it became a taxing entity in December 2015, and how those have evolved over time. He explained that this is being discussed now because the district has grown, they now have their own finance staff, and some feel the current governance structure should be changed to accommodate them better, and to reduce unnecessary stress to leadership and employees. He asked the Council for their thoughts on how the member cities can still maintain some oversight with the district, but create a culture that helps them attract and keep the best talent, ensures that the district has reliable funding, and that they can offer a high level of service to our residents.

Mayor Bradshaw offered her perspective as someone who was tasked with investigating the district after the tragic death of Chief Stewart, and how she felt that the current governance structure was contributing to unnecessary stress for leadership and dissuading people from working there. She said her committee spoke to many other districts and found that South Davis is the only district that is set up with both an Administrative Committee and a Board of Directors, and she felt it should be further examined.

Councilmember Higginson said that he felt the unique nature of the structure of the district alone was not enough of a reason to change anything and asked if Mayor Bradshaw felt it was out of balance and needed to be changed. She answered that she does think it should be changed, especially if they can find a way to keep benefiting from the budgetary expertise of the city managers without needing to rotate the chair of the Admin Committee every year. Councilmember Higginson asked what Bountiful would gain if it makes certain concessions, or if it will just lose some of the control it fought for when the District was established. Mayor Bradshaw said she felt Bountiful's residents would gain better service from Chiefs who stay longer and a bigger hiring pool for firefighters and other District staff.

Mr. Hill explained that in 2015 Bountiful's top interests were to:

i. Enjoy the economies of scale of a regional service but maintain meaningful influence over the District's finances
ii. Ensure each city's financial position and needs are considered in the development of the budget, not just during its consideration by the Board
iii. Incentivize a meaningful connection between each member's city council and the District
iv. Build a governance structure that will protect Bountiful beyond today's leaders

Mr. Hill asked the Council if these interests were still important and relevant to them now.

Councilmember Murri said he still feels these issues are relevant, but he thinks the Council should investigate changing the practical application of them if it can help the district. He pointed to the City's relationship with the Recreation District as an example.

Councilmember Child said she felt similarly to Councilmember Murri, and that they should try to make changes that would alleviate the strain of an annual change in budget officer while still letting city managers be key players.

Mr. Hill said he felt that rotating the chair over a three-year period could be a beneficial change that could help alleviate some of that strain, similar to how the Handcart Days Committee functions.

Councilmember Bahr said she feels that the onus of making sure tax dollars are being spent wisely at the District should be placed on the elected officials rather than on city employees, and since the Board of Directors has representatives from each city council, that may be enough; the Administrative Committee could be dissolved. The District could use their own finance staff to create their budget, like other districts do.

Councilmember Bell said he agreed with Councilmember Higginson, that we should carefully consider what Bountiful will gain or lose with any of the proposed changes. He acknowledged that the District has grown since 2015, and has greater abilities, but he would like to be surer about what they are actually capable of doing for themselves. He also said he was open to looking at ways the District can be improved but cautioned that any new structure put into place will need to be able to accommodate new "versions" of the Board as people come and go and have differing amounts of time and energy to devote to that assignment.

Mr. Hill thanked everyone for having a good conversation.

Mayor Bradshaw said she has appreciated her time getting to know Chief Larsen and apologized for running out of time before they could hear from him on this subject. She expressed her appreciation for the people who are so willing to do these very big jobs in our community.

The work session ended at 7: 06 pm.

**Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.**
**City Council Chambers**

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| Present: | Mayor | Kate Bradshaw |
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| | City Manager | Gary Hill |
| | Asst City Manager | Tyson Beck |
| | City Attorney | Brad Jeppsen |
| | City Engineer | Lloyd Cheney |
| | Planning Director | Francisco Astorga |
| | Parks Director | Brock Hill |
| | Power Director | Allen Johnson |
| | Senior Planner | Amber Corbridge |
| | Electrical Engineer | Luke Veigel |
| | SDMFD Chief | Jeff Larsen |
| | Chief of Police | Ed Biehler |
| | Asst Chief of Police | David Gill |
| | Recording Secretary | Maranda Hilton |

**WELCOME, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND THOUGHT/PRAYER**

Mayor Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm and welcomed those in attendance. Mr. Francisco Astorga led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Pete Shay offered a thought encouraging people to be involved in their local governments.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The time for public comment was opened at 7:12 pm.

Mr. Michael Christensen (Syracuse resident) introduced himself as the director of the non-profit "Go Unite" and explained that they work to foster civic engagement in Davis and Salt Lake counties.

Mr. Ron Mortensen (resident) said he thinks the governance structure of the Fire District needs to be completely revised, allowing the district to be fully independent, with a voter-elected Board of Directors. He said the Board would hold the Chief accountable for operations and the budget and everything.

Mr. Gary Davis (resident) offered "No Name Committee" as a suggestion.

The time for public comment was closed at 7:15 pm.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 23RD, 2026**

Councilmember Bell asked if "land use code" on page one, line 43 of the minutes should be corrected to "city code." Mr. Brad Jeppsen confirmed that it should be "city code."

Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve the minutes with the edit on line 43 as noted, and Councilmember Higginson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**BCYC REPORT**

No one was present to give a report.

Councilmember Murri said the BCYC will have their new officers in place after their next meeting.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilmember Higginson did not have a report.

Councilmember Murri did not have a report.

Councilmember Child (Mayor Bradshaw thanked Councilmember Child and her husband, Matt, for the hours of work they put into the Handcart Days events this year, saying it was an incredible 2-day festival.) Councilmember Child said thank you, and expressed her gratitude for both the City staff and the many volunteers who made it all possible. She reported that the BDAC's Summerfest event took place and announced that the Freedom's Light Festival will take place in September. She announced the Toast fundraising concert happening at WXHS on September 4th, and thanked Mr. Richard Watson for all he does to facilitate the summer concerts.

Councilmember Bahr did not have a report.

Councilmember Bell reported that the Main Street Merchants are already planning their Christmas season, and announced that the Tree Lighting Festival will take place on November 23rd this year, along with the grand opening of the Ice Ribbon at Town Square. He reported that the SDRD had 563 participants in their Handcart Days Race, which is up from 513 participants in 2025. He then stated that their next event will be the Labor Day Triathlon. He reported that the SDRD movie nights in the park have concluded and it was a successful program thanks to their sponsor, Lucky Slice Pizza, and the RAP Tax grant. He reported that unfortunately the interlocal agreement with the school district is still not in place, but they are still hopeful it will happen before the first day of school. He announced that the 50th anniversary of the Copper Cup ice-skating competition is taking place at the recreation center this week.

Mayor Bradshaw updated the Council about a new local sales tax resource at the county level (5th 5th). This, if adopted by Davis County, would allow the flow of funds to its cities, and could help fund some of the regional projects that Bountiful has been involved with, like the Greenway Project and the Bamberger Bridge Project. She encouraged the Council to engage with the County Commissioners about it. The Councilmembers voiced their support of sending the County Commission a letter

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF:**

a. **EXPENDITURES GREATER THAN $1,000 PAID ON JULY 8TH, 15TH, 22ND, AND 29TH, 2026**
b. **JUNE 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Councilmember Bahr made a motion to approve the expenditures and the June 2026 Financial Report, and Councilmember Child seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL AND SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR**

**ALPHAGRAPHICS LOCATED AT 1579 N MAIN STREET – MS. AMBER CORBRIDGE**

Ms. Amber Corbridge explained that this is for a new building for AlphaGraphics to be located at 1579 N Main Street, currently a vacant lot. The Planning Commission reviewed this application on July 21st and forwarded a 5-1 positive recommendation. The applicant will need to comply with lighting and signage standards in the code for final approval, and the Planning Commission suggested the applicant remove 3-4 parking stalls in the NE corner to add more landscaping there, and add an East-facing entrance to the building.

Councilmember Higginson made a motion to approve the architectural and site plan review for AlphaGraphics located at 1579 N Main Street, including the three conditions of approval and the two suggestions from the Planning Commission, and Councilmember Murri seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECURAL AND SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR THE BOUNTIFUL LIBRARY REMODEL LOCATED AT 725 S MAIN STREET – MS. AMBER CORBRIDGE**

Ms. Corbridge explained that this is a request to remodel the library in Bountiful, including improvements to the building and landscaping and changes to site access. The plan was reviewed and forwarded with a positive recommendation by the Planning Commission on August 4th. The plan meets all code requirements and adheres to the objectives of the general plan.

Mayor Bradshaw expressed her excitement that this important building was being updated and will be able to serve our residents in new ways for many year.

Architect Trent Smith talked about some of the changes being made to the building and the site.

County Commissioner Lorene Kamalu expressed her excitement for this project and her pride in the team who made it happen, and thanked the City Council for their support during the this process.

Councilmember Bahr made a motion to approve the architectural and site plan review for the Bountiful library remodel and Councilmember Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF FOUR POLICE VEHICLES FROM YOUNG AUTOMOTIVE GROUP AND EUROSPORTS UTAH IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF $208,326 – ASST CHIEF DAVID GILL**

Assistant Chief Gill clarified that this item is for the purchase of five total vehicles; two (2) Dodge Durango's, one (1) Chevy Travers, one (1) Ford F150, and one (1) BMW motorcycle R1300. The first 4 vehicles will be purchased from Young Automotive Group, and the motorcycle will be purchased from Eurosports Utah. The Police Department plans to sell 4 of its older vehicles through auction, but will keep the 2013 BMW motorcycle and upgrade it for training purposes.

Councilmember Higginson asked what upgrades will be added to the 2013 BMW motorcycle. Assistant Chief Gill answered that the plastic parts on the sides of the motorcycle will be removed, and they will add metal braces to the frame that help protect it from damage.

Councilmember Higginson made a motion to approve the purchase of five police vehicles from both Young Automotive Group and Eurosports Utah, and Councilmember Murri seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF TWO CREW WORK TRUCKS FROM YOUNG FORD IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF $119,750 – MR. BROCK HILL**

Mr. Brock Hill explained that one of these trucks is for use in the Parks Department and the other is for the Government Buildings Department. The Parks Department truck will replace a 2009 Dodge and the Government Buildings truck will replace a 2015 Dodge 2500. Those vehicles will go to auction. He added that staff sought bids from Young Automotive Group, who has the state contract, and they were able to find Ford 150's that met our needs. The Parks truck will need to have work boxes added at a later date, but they are planned for in the budget as well.

Councilmember Bahr made a motion to approve the purchase of two trucks from Young Ford and Councilmember Child seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

Councilmember Higginson asked Mr. Brock Hill if the London Plain Trees (large sycamores) at Town Square are savable or not. Mr. Brock Hill answered that they are savable, and that staff has an arborist working on a plan for those trees.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A VARIABLE FREQUENCY DEVICE FROM CODALE ELECTRIC IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF $25,884 – MR. ALLEN JOHNSON**

Mr. Allen Johnson explained that the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) is the starter motor for the Taurus Generator; it gets the generator up to speed slowly and slows it down slowly ensuring that the generator shaft does not warp from the heat. He added that the VFD failed at a critical generation time, so staff got approval from the City manager to purchase a new VFD and get it installed immediately.

Councilmember Bell made a motion to ratify the purchase of a VFD and Councilmember Murri seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

At the request of the City manager, Mr. Johnson gave an update about the Echo Hydro transmission line. He showed a map of the area affected by the wildfire, saying that roughly 48 structures (about 70 poles) have been burned so far. He said crews are hopeful they will be able to hold the line at Franklin.

Chief Larsen gave an update about which fires the SDMFD firefighters have been dispatched to help with lately, listing the Rocky Canyon Fire which was moving toward Henefer, a fire in Box Elder County, and fires in eastern Washington State.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AWARD OF SCHEDULES 1 THROUGH 5 OF THE 2026 STORM DRAIN PROJECTS TO MC GREEN & SONS AT THE UNIT PRICES IDENTIFIED IN THE BID TABBULATION – MR. LLOYD CHENEY**

Mr. Lloyd Cheney explained that this is for schedules 1-5 of the 2026 storm drain project. It will include two projects that did not get done in the last fiscal year and need to be completed. Staff recommends awarding the contract to MC Green & Sons.

Councilmember Higginson made a motion to award schedules 1-5 of the 2026 storm drain projects to MC Green & Sons, and Councilmember Murri seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting "aye."

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECCOMMENDATIONS FOR MAIN STREET – MR. LLOYD CHENEY**

Mr. Cheney explained that following staff investigations into the conditions on Main Street via a speed study and an accident review, the Traffic Safety Committee met and discussed recommendations for increasing safety in the downtown zone. The committee is recommending the installation of painted “25 MPH” pavement messages located at 200 S (northbound lane) and 200 N (southbound lane), and the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) to the pedestrian crosswalks located in the blocks between 200 S and 100 S. They also recommend upgrading those crosswalk markings to diagonal “zebra style” markings.

Councilmember Higginson asked how many accidents have occurred at those mid-block crossings. Mr. Cheney answered that no accidents have occurred there. Mayor Bradshaw asked if these upgrades are to help encourage more people to use the crossings and hopefully decrease the number of accidents happening at other locations. Mr. Cheney said that was correct. Councilmember Bahr added that the committee feels adding the RRFBs at these locations will help alert drivers to be more careful the entire length of downtown Main Street.

Councilmember Bell said that having a social media campaign is part of the committee’s’ recommendations as well.

Mayor Bradshaw asked if Mr. Cheney thought we could get a grant from the County for these RRFBs like we are receiving for the ones being installed at 400 N and 500 S. Mr. Cheney answered that he is not confident we can get additional funding for these, but that he would ask.

Councilmember Child voiced her support of these recommendations, saying she believes they will be a comfort to the family of one of the accident victims.

Councilmember Higginson said although he does not see any data that supports the midblock crossing updates, he would be happy to vote for them.

Councilmember Bahr made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Traffic Safety Committee for Main Street and Councilmember Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting “aye.”

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 2026-07, AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE BOUNTIFUL CITY CODE – MR. BRADLEY JEPPSEN**

Mr. Bradley Jeppsen recapped what was discussed in the work session that took place on July 14, 2026. He noted the changes that were made at the request of the Councilmembers and explained that this ordinance was approved by the Planning Commission, the City manager and the Planning Director.

Councilmember Bell asked if streetside stands (selling lemonade, vegetables, flowers or pets, for example) were businesses as defined in the city code, and if they needed to have business licenses or not. Mr. Jeppsen answered that according to the current code, they do require a business license to operate, but he said that staff will look into that when they review Chapter 12 which deals with temporary licenses, and probably make the suggestion to change that rule. Councilmember Bell and Mayor Bradshaw said they were glad it will be looked st soon.

Councilmember Bell made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2026-07 and Councilmember Higginson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting “aye.”

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember Murri made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilmember Child seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bahr, Bell, Child, Higginson, and Murri voting “aye.”

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

*Mayor Kate Bradshaw*

*City Recorder*

BOUNTIFUL, UTAH
CORPORATE SEAL
INCORPORATED A.D. 1892