

WOODS CROSS CITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

The Woods Cross City Council held a meeting on September 1, 2026, at 6:30 P.M. The meeting took place at Woods Cross City Hall, located at 1555 South 800 West, Woods Cross, Utah.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ryan Westergard, Mayor
Julie Checketts
Jim Grover

Eric Jones
Rachel Peterson
Wally Larrabee

STAFF PRESENT:

Bryce Haderlie, City Administrator
Curtis Poole, Community Development Director
Sam Christiansen, Public Works Director
LaCee Bartholomew, Community Services Manager
Cass Hart, Risk Management/HR Director

Annette Hanson, City Recorder
Jim Bigelow, Police Chief
Tara Kinser, Parks Manager
Brian Passey, Finance Director

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:

LeGrande Blackley	Lee Ann Hansen	Michael Miller
Don Shcrader	Lois Schrader	Isa Perry
Dennis Hooper	Richelle Lloyd	Becky Gale
Kendalyn Harris	Kaylene Titcomb	Selena Tilley

Madeleine Johnson
Danny Hammon
Josh Child

INVOCATION/PLEDGE:

Ryan Westergard

SWEARING IN OF 2026 YOUTH CITY COUNCIL

The Mayor noted the members of the Youth City Council were sworn in to serve on the Youth City Council for the upcoming year. He said they are the future leaders of our city and it will be great to have them serving in our community.

SWEARING IN OF 2026 YOUTH CITY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Mayor	Jayden Dyreng	Fundraising	Ireana Harper
Deputy Mayor	Lincoln Lloyd		Ethan Garaycochea
Recorder	Tessa Lloyd	Historians	Brooklyn Anderson
Events	Camden Stowell		Ainsley Hickenlooper
	Samuel Rasmussen	Communication	Mary Keeler
	Zoe Molino	Service Coordinator	Breann Gale
		Grant Ambassador	Sammie Varney

The Mayor and Council said they were very excited to work with the new members of the Youth City Council and said how much they appreciate their service.

DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT-DAVIS LINKS

The Mayor introduced Ms. Isa Perry who gave information to the City Council regarding a program called Davis Links. Ms. Perry explained that Davis Links is a service that connects everyone in Davis County to

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essential resources and services, helping to close the gap between needs and available support. She explained that their vision is a community where everyone is connected, supported, and empowered to achieve well-being through a trusted network of care. Service categories include Basic Needs, Health & Wellness, Financial Stability, Education & Youth, Family & Relationships, Justice & Legal, Community & Enrichment, Crisis & Emergency. Services can be accessed by going to davislinks.org or by dialing 211 for help. She said they are trying to get the information out to the public so these services can be utilized.

The Mayor and Council thanked Ms. Perry for her time and said this will be a very beneficial program for Davis County.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Council reviewed the consent agenda items. Council Member Larrabee made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented, with Council Member Jones seconding the motion and all voted in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

The Council noted they would like to move the item on the consent agenda outlining a letter of support increasing sales tax for the 5th of the 5th. The Mayor explained this tax increase it is intended to .2% to be there to help fund transportation and transit. He said he went to an information session the county held that all of the Mayors were invited to attend where he received information. He said several cities have already jumped on board. He said the tax does not apply to all items sold such as food.

The Council said they would like to discuss this further, so Council Member Jones made a motion to move this item to the action/discussion portion of the meeting, with Council Member Checketts seconding the motion and all voted in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MINUTES

The minutes were approved as written through the consent agenda.

RATIFY CASH DISBURSEMENTS

The Council ratified the cash disbursements for 8/14/26-8/27/26 through the consent agenda.

CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-1012 AUTHORIZING DRAW #5 FROM THE EXCISE TAX ROAD REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2022

The Mayor noted the Finance Director had given information to the Council asking that the City reimburse itself for road project expenditures incurred during the period beginning February 2026 in the amount of \$140,775, payable from the remaining 2022 Road Bond Funds.

Resolution 2026-1012 authorizing Draw #5 from the Excise Tax Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 was adopted through the consent agenda.

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**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-1013 AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS WITH JUB ENGINEERS RELATED TO WEST LEGACY TRAIL PROJECT**

Information from the Public Works Director noted that invoice credits of \$52,000 will be applied to future JUB invoices for a settlement agreement, and the lump sum of \$28,000 will be receipted into the RAP Tax in the West Legacy Trail fund JUB 24-29-120.

Resolution 2026-1013 authorizing settlement agreement and release of claims with JUB Engineers related to West Legacy Trail Project was adopted through the consent agenda.

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 643 AUTHORIZING TITLE CHANGE FROM “CITY
ADMINISTRATOR” TO “CITY MANAGER” IN THE WOODS CROSS MUNICIPAL CODE**

Information was given by the City Administrator noting this would be a change in title only and more accurately describes the responsibilities already assigned to the position. It was noted City Code already establishes the position as the office of City Manager but is referred to throughout code as the City Administrator. This change would also align terminology with current Utah municipal law, which recognizes the position of manager and allows a municipal council to delegate executive and administrative responsibilities to that position.

Ordinance 643 authorizing title change from “City Administrator” to “City Manager” in the Woods Cross Municipal Code was adopted through the consent agenda.

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-1014 AUTHORIZING PUBLIC DEFENDER
CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

The City Manager noted that Mr. Doug Stowell with Stowell Crayk, PLLC, has requested consideration to approve the revised fee structure to be directly tied to the number and type of case assigned. He said the amendment would separately recognize the additional work required for appeals and trials. Resolution 2026-1014 authorizing public defender contract amendment was adopted through the consent agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT The Mayor then opened the meeting for public comments.

Mr. Dennis Hooper, a Woods Cross resident, addressed the Council. He expressed support for the Youth City Council and noted that two of his children had participated in the program.

Mr. Hooper then discussed public comments he had made during the Truth-in-Taxation hearing and at a previous City Council meeting. He stated that, following those comments, his supervisor at the State of Utah received an anonymous email alleging that Mr. Hooper had represented himself as speaking on behalf of the State in an effort to lend credibility to his comments. Mr. Hooper clarified that his comments were made solely in his personal capacity and did not represent the State of Utah. Mr. Hooper expressed concern that the anonymous communication had been sent through the State system and said he perceived it as retaliation for his public comments, possibly related to the August 18 City Council meeting.

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He stated that he did not want Woods Cross City to become a place where residents felt they could be retaliated against for expressing personal opinions during public comments.

Mr. Danny Hammond, of the Young Automotive Group, addressed the Council and thanked Woods Cross for their business partnership. He said they sell a lot of vehicles in the city and they appreciated the partnership. He said he also wanted the Council to know they also offer other services which include state contracted autobody repairs. He said they give the first priority to state vehicles so they can get the city employee vehicles back to them quickly. He said they have a dealer contract with fire trucks, and they can help set them up to save money. He said they will also be able to service them with their service centers in Kaysville. He also said they are doing upfitting on public works, police, and fire vehicles and they will do it at the lowest costs possible. He said they are trying to expand their services and wanted to let the city know what they had to offer.

Lee Ann Hansen addressed the Council saying she is still unhappy about the bond that was passed a few weeks ago. She said she felt like the City Council approached it as a sales pitch to the city and they weren't objective. She said she felt like everyone on the Council had already made their decision. She said she wished the City Council was a little more objective making up their mind going through Truth-in-Taxation and she felt the views that were expressed from the citizens were not taken into consideration. She said she felt like the Council should have been more objective.

Michelle Beal addressed the Council and said she was wondering if the new city building is needed. She said she wondered why there needs to be a new building because no one is ever in the building working and wanted to know what the business hours were. She said she was wondering why the city was not taking advantage of the public works building and using it. She expressed she felt no one ever there either. The staff business hours of Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 were given to Ms. Beal.

There were no further public comments, the Mayor closed the public comment period.

DRAFT OF NEW EMPLOYEE POLICY MANUAL

The Mayor gave the floor to Cassandra Hart who is the HR/Risk Management Director for the city. She noted she had been working on updating the employee policy manual for the Council's review. She said the previous Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual was last updated in 2020. She said with an ever-changing legal landscape, and as terms and policies become antiquated, it is important to have a current policy manual that employees and management can depend on. She said the updated Employee Policy Manual was developed by attorneys affiliated with Utah Local Government Trust and heavily reviewed and revised by senior staff.

Following the information given by Ms. Hart, the Council discussed some of the items in the updated policy manual and suggested items they would like to have looked at closer before finalizing the manual.

Staff said they would look at changes recommended and bring back a final draft for the Council to review.

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CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-1015 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF STAND-ON AERATOR FOR PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Mayor gave the floor to the Parks Manager, Ms. Tara Kinser. She noted the staff is proposing using funds from the RAP tax to purchase a stand-on Aerator. It was noted the RAP Tax fund has an available, uncommitted budget balance of \$385,000 after comparing FY 27 revenue and expenses. She said the aerator is an eligible use of RAP Tax funds because it supports the maintenance and preservation of public parks and recreational spaces, helping keep these community assets safe, attractive, and accessible to residents. She said this equipment will help protect the City's investment in recreational facilities while advancing the public benefit goals of the RAP Tax program.

The Parks Manager noted the parks department has two pieces of equipment they use to aerate. The first one connects to a tractor and does larger areas. The second is a stand-on machine which can be more efficient and allows quick service to all areas in the city from smaller parks to large sports fields. It also allows the person operating the machine to clearly see in front of them, helping to greatly avoid sprinkler head damage.

Distributor	Manufacturer	Cost	State Contract
Wilkinson Supply	Toro Stinger 30"	\$13,350.00	MA4726
Mountain West Power Equipment	Ryan Lawnaire ZTS	\$13,395.00	MA4731

The Council reviewed the information presented and asked a few questions on how the equipment is operated. The Parks Manager answered the questions the Council had regarding this new equipment. The Parks Manager noted the proposed new equipment would make it much quicker to get the work done. Council Member Checketts asked if there is updated equipment that could be purchased to replace the pull behind aerator. Ms. Kinser said there is newer equipment that could replace the old pull behind aerator. Council Member Checketts said she is concerned about safety using outdated equipment and would like Ms. Kinser to look into how much it would cost to replace that piece of older equipment.

Council Member Larrabee asked how often the fields are aerated and Ms. Kinser said at least two times a year and she would prefer three times to be more effective in making the parks look better.

There were no further questions or discussion, and Council Member Checketts made a motion to adopt resolution 2026-1015 authorizing the purchase for the stand on aerator for the parks department. Council Member Grover seconded the motion, and all voted in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2025-1016 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF BACKUP GENERATOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

The Public Works Director noted this item was not for the purchase of a backup generator for the public works building but was to approve funding and rewiring of the public works facility electrical system to allow the generator to be wired to power the entire building.

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The Council decided to table this item to get the correct language of rewiring the public works facility electrical system to allow the generator to power the entire building instead of it reading the purchase of backup generator for public works building.

Council Member Peterson made a motion to table this item for a future meeting so the correct language can be added and that it will be brought back for the Council's consideration to the meeting that would be held on September 15, 2026. Council Member Larrabee seconded the motion, and all voted in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE DAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RELATED TO THE 5TH OF THE 5TH SALES TAX LEVY

This item was moved to be a discussion item from the consent agenda.

Mayor Westergard noted he attended a meeting with Davis County Mayors and the County Commission in July to discuss the Local Option Sales Tax that must be adopted by the County Commission. The Mayor went over this item with the Council reading through what the Wasatch Regional Council said regarding this tax. He noted this is an opportunity for the Council to give authorization to submit a letter of support to the Davis County Commission, asking them to adopt the 0.20% "5th of the 5th" Local Options Sales and Use Tax. The Mayor noted Woods Cross City would get a portion of this sales tax of .05% which other cities also receive, and .05% goes to the county. The Mayor noted the county piece can be used for transportation and public safety. He explained further how this tax levy could be distributed and how decisions can be made on how funds can be used and where they can be directed. He said there is a .01% of funds where there is flexibility for the next three years and the county legislative body can choose where to use this part of the funds.

Following the information given by the Mayor, Council Member Jones made a motion to authorize a letter of support to the Davis County Commissioner related to the 5th of the 5th Sales Tax Levy. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion, and all voted in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

DIRECTION OF PLACEMENT LOCATIONS FOR PEDESTRIAN FLASHING SIGNS

The Mayor gave the floor to the Public Works Director who noted that During the FY 27 Budget discussion on July 7th Council meeting the Council approved \$30,000 for Pedestrian Crossing Flasher signs on 800 W. He noted the Council expressed a desire to direct staff on placement, possibly on roads other than 800 W and explained flasher signs can also be installed at school crosswalks and can be activated outside of the school zone hours.

The Public Works Director said there are three additional flashing signs that are being considered to be placed at school crosswalks that are already painted pedestrian or school crossings. He noted the signs are buttoned operated and would flash for period of time for a crossing.

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The Council discussed several possible sign locations and determined that 675 West 1500 South would be an appropriate location for a flashing sign. The Council also identified 625 West 1950 South and 1450 West 1500 South as additional areas where signs are needed.

The Council discussed 770 South 800 West as another possible location for an additional flashing sign.

The Public Works Director said he would look into pricing for signs for that area and come back with that information for the Council.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

1. The 2026 Annual ULCT conference will be in SLC on Tuesday & Wednesday, October 27- 28. We will email you information so that you can reply if you want us to register you for the conference
2. The adopted budget and truth in taxation information has been forwarded to the Utah State Tax Commission, State Auditor, and Davis County to show compliance and enact the property tax increase.
3. I attended the Legislative Policy Committee meeting on Monday, Aug. 24th. Topics included:
 - a. Threatened legislation on property taxes and tax increases.
 - b. Increase housing density via sweeping state law. Possibly reducing residential lots to 5,000 sq. ft.
 - c. A requirement to have a detached ADU ordinance adopted by Oct. 1, 2026.
 - d. Continued pressures for building inspection departments to speed up permit review and inspection schedules.
 - e. Ongoing discussions on how to lower entry level home costs.
4. Regular meetings for the city hall/Hogan Park project design. We continue to refine the floor plan and functional layout of the building.
5. Assisting with FY26 Financial Audit as needed.

The City Manager said there were a few items that came up after his report was submitted, one being West Bountiful annexation. The Mayor and Council said they would like the City Manager to let West Bountiful City know Woods Cross city's concerns and some of the opposition staff have from previous meetings with West Bountiful City.

He said the other item is for the future bonds for the city hall. He said Zion's Bank put information together for the bonds and there had been an RFP with four bids being reviewed. He said that after looking at all four bids that Farnsworth/Johnson is the one that had the best price.

QUESTIONS/DIRECTION TO CITY ADMINISTRATOR/MANAGER OR STAFF

Council Member Grover noted there is a pothole near the high school that needs to be fixed. It was noted that pothole in question was on a private road next to the Seminary building on school property and the school district would need to be contacted about fixing it.

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The Mayor noted on the road on 1450 W between 2350 S and 2400 S there were going to be some major problems that also need fixing and they should be addressed.

Council Member Checketts said there needed to be some further discussion on water projects that were being proposed.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Larrabee said there is going to be an RCon meeting that was going to be held for those in the solid waste industry and he would be attending that meeting at the end of the month.

CLOSED SESSION WITH POSSIBLE RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND ACTION

At 9:19 P.M. Council Member Jones made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to state code, with Council Member Peterson seconding the motion with Council Members Jones, Grover, Peterson, Checketts, and Larrabee all voting in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council, Council Member Grover made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 P.M. with Council Member Larrabee seconding the motion with Council Members Grover, Peterson, Checketts, Jones, and Larrabee all voting in favor of the motion through a roll call vote.

Approved by City Council September 15, 2026

