



Wasatch County Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes for August 5, 2026

The Wasatch County Council met in regular session live and online on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, in the Wasatch County Chambers located in the Wasatch County Administrative Building at 25 North Main, Heber City, Utah 84032.

A video recording of the meeting may be viewed by using the Wasatch County Public Portal (<https://wasatchcount.portal.civicclerk.com/>) and selecting the desired meeting.

Agenda

Call to Order

1. Prayer/Remarks – Colleen Bonner
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Erik Rowland

Public Comment

Public comments will be accepted in-person or via Zoom Webinar. Please limit comments to three minutes. If action is necessary, the item will be listed on a future agenda. The Council may elect to discuss the item if it is an immediate matter of concern. Email public comments to publiccomment@wasatchcounty.gov.

Summary:

No public comment

Call for Agenda Items

Summary:

Councilmember Bonner: I had someone reach out to me from Rocky Mountain GPS, and I don't know if they've made a presentation for the hockey facility. They would like some help from the county. I said the best way to do it is to give a presentation to the County Council. No decision would be made that night. Anyway, if we could put it at the work meeting in September.

Consent Items

1. Approval of June 10, 2026 Minutes – Clerk/Auditor

Summary: The council held a meeting on June 10th.

Approval was made in combined motion after item 2 on the consent agenda.

2. Approval of June 17, 2026 Minutes – Clerk/Auditor

Summary: Council held a meeting on June 17th

Action Taken: Councilmember Park: made a motion that we **approve both minutes as presented. Councilmember Murphy:** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

Council Items

1. Discussion and consideration of approving funding for Provo River Days – Nancy O'Toole

Summary: The Provo River Watershed Council is seeking participation in Provo River Days. The intent is to better educate our community about the needs facing the Provo River Watershed, we are hosting Provo River Days, a multi-site, all-ages educational event, on September 12, 2026. Our goals are to increase public awareness of watershed health and environmental stewardship, engage community members through hands-on, place-based activities, and facilitate and strengthen the partnerships that will impact our local watershed.

Nancy presented the information and the request for \$3,000. Staff recommends the council discretionary fund be used for this item.

Action Taken: Councilmember Crittenden: made a motion that **we donate out of council discretionary funds, \$3000, to help the Provo River Days Celebration.**

Councilmember Bonner: seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

2. Consideration of appointing Cristina Spicer and Gary Turner to the Library Board. – Dustin Grabau, County Manager

Summary: Per the State Code, Library Board members may serve up to two (2) consecutive four-year terms. On June 30, 2026, Board member Mitzi Nelson completed serving her second full term, and Board member Cristina Spicer completed serving her first full term. The Wasatch County Library posted these vacancies and received nine (9) applications.

The Board interviewed four (4) applicants and is recommending the reappointment of Cristina Spicer for a second term and Gary Turner for a first term.

Action Taken: Councilmember Bonner: made a motion that we **appoint Crisina Spicer for her second term and Gary Turner for his first term to the Library**

Board. Councilmember Park: seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

3. Consideration to increase the Library Board to seven members. – Heber Lefgren, Assistant County Manager

Summary: The Library Board recommends adding two seats to the Board membership, requiring a County ordinance amendment. Historically, the Library Board consisted of five (5) members. We are recommending increasing the board to seven (7) members. Expanding the Library Board increases the opportunities for public participation and community representation to assist the County Council and County Manager in matters relating to library services. This is the first reading of the ordinance.

Action Taken: Councilmember Crittenden: made a motion that we move this **Ordinance No. 26-13 amending the Wasatch County Code to increase the Library Board to seven members to a second reading on August 19th. Councilmember Bonner:** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

4. First Reading of Ordinance 26-12 establishing a Finance Department – Dustin Grabau

Summary: In the 2026 General Legislative Session the State Adopted HB 457 in which enabled the transfer of Finance Duties out of the Auditor's Office to an administrative department. After discussions with Council, Finance staff, the elected Clerk-Auditor, staff recommends proceeding with the creation of the Finance Department as an administrative department. This mirrors Summit County's organizational structure and those of most municipal governments in Utah. No staff changes are proposed, only the assignment of two existing positions with these duties to be reorganized into a new department.

Action Taken: Councilmember Park: made a motion approving Ordinance 26-12 establishing a finance department for a **first reading and setting the next reading for third meeting this month. Councilmember Bonner:** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: Luke Searle

5. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 26-12 amending Policy 125-003 Employee Leave – Dustin Grabau

Summary: During the 2026 Legislative Session, the State of Utah amended employee leave to allow for three weeks for parental leave for all parents and six weeks for parents who give birth. Wasatch County previously adopted leave for two and four weeks respectively. This amendment increases that leave to match the state at 3 weeks for all new parents and 6 weeks for birth parents and other, minor clarifications.

Action Taken: Councilmember Searle: made a motion that **we adjust the time for the non birth parent to 80 hours within the 26 weeks, change it to birth mothers, and approve this resolution 26-12 amending Policy 125-003 Employee Leave.**

Councilmember Murphy: seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

Council/Board Reports

Summary:

Councilmember Nelson: I want to mention that on the tourism side, Erik, and I was invited to go with a bunch of Heber City officials to visit a couple of community day trips at the end of September, in Southern California. I agreed to go on that. I also wanted to mention my opinion that the Midway-sponsored flags on Memorial Hill was great, and I also wanted to mention pushing for an event in September where we do fireworks in the park at the County Event Center. Also, Heber Valley Railroad is planning a New Year's Eve train with fireworks.

Councilmember Crittenden: Went to a meeting with Red Ledges. I talked to Max Covey. Max is going to have some information for us about what they are doing in Red Ledges at our next meeting. The attorney, Rob, thought it was good to meet with Matt Anderson, CEO of Red Ledges. We also got a letter from Orem from a Heber resident, Bridget Whiting. If we want to make a resolution in support of or whatever, of the Vesper project Amphitheater. Affordable housing is a special type of housing and, as such, needs special consideration. For a family of four in 1997, \$35,500 for Wasatch County. In 2026, the AMI is 80%. This is in a four-person family of \$108,960. 100% AMI is \$136,200, so it changed significantly.

Councilmember Searle: Last week I went to tour Summit County of their department to understand more of what they do. I think we have some legislative efforts. There are things we want to mention to legislators. We want to coordinate with Summit County, including SB258 and other things, just to let them know what we are doing.

Next Thursday, we will be hosting the Utah Legislator in the MIDA project area. The MWR project area had a good number of senators who have RSVP. I would hope a good portion

of us can be there also.

Manager's Report

1. Administration Building Progress Update – Richard Breitenbeker

Summary: Construction began on the WCAB project in May. Council has requested regular updates as construction proceeds. Richard presented information for discussion.

Closed Session - as needed

Closed sessions may be held in accordance with Utah State Code 52-4-205 to discuss the following: Purchase, Exchange or Lease of Property; Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation; The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual.

Summary:

6:55 P.M. went into closed session for property accusations.

Action Taken: Councilmember Park: made a motion to go into closed session. **Councilmember Crittenden:** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

Summary: Luke left out at 6:57 PM

We came out of closed session at 7:08 PM

Action Taken: Councilmember Park: made a motion to go out of closed session.

Councilmember Crittenden: seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None

Public Hearings 6:00

Adjournment

Summary:

Adjourn at 7:09 PM

Action Taken: Councilmember Nelson: made a motion to adjourn. **Councilmember Murphy:** seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Kendall Crittenden, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park, Michael Murphy

Voting Nay: None


Chair


Joey D. Granger/Clerk/Auditor

