

COUNCIL MINUTES
September 9, 2026

The City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10 North Main Street, Cedar City, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Steve Nelson; Councilmembers: Robert Cox; Waldo D. Galan; R. Scott Phillips; Phil E. Schmidt; Carter Wilkey.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Paul Bittmenn; City Attorney Randall McUne; City Recorder Amber Ray; City Engineer Kent Fugal; Fire Chief Mike Phillips; Leisure Services Ken Nielsen

OTHERS PRESENT: Scotty Harville, Doug Hall, Ann Clark, Sharon Coonen, Jennifer Hunter, Tom Jett

CALL TO ORDER: Sharon Coonen, St Jude Episcopal Church gave the invocation; the pledge was led by Councilmember Galan

AGENDA ORDER APPROVAL: Councilmember Cox moved to move item #05 to the action agenda and approve the revised agenda order; Councilmember Schmidt seconds; vote unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION AGENDA – MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUSINESS; STAFF

COMMENTS: ■**Galan:** I hope that many more of us are watching today from home, from your offices, on your phones, than what we have here. I've been thinking a lot this week about the events of September 11, 25 years ago. I know that it touched all of us personally. My oldest son, at that time, was working with Army Intelligence, and he was in a task force with DEA, NSA, and a couple of other unmentionables from the federal government. He was supposed to have a meeting that morning at the Pentagon. The meeting was delayed late the night before by an hour, so he was able to not be affected personally from what happened. I remember we were visiting that morning from our home in Chile, my wife and I were going back to South America that day, and I got a phone call from him very early in the morning saying, "Dad, I'm okay." I didn't know what he was talking about until we turned on the television. We know that the entire world changed forever because of that heinous attack on civilization, not to mention our country. I wanted us to remember the things that made us great then and today, to remember those who have fallen. Chief Phillips, I wanted to especially express my gratitude to you and to all the people that serve with you. I know that it's not easy to remember your sisters and brothers in the fire departments that gave their lives that day to save many. I wanted to remind us to be better this week, as we remember everything that brought us together during that terrible occasion in our history. ■**Phillips:** I hesitate to follow that because it was so beautifully spoken. Thank you, Councilman. I think we're all with you and we all understand what you're speaking to. It's what makes America great, and that's why things like little towns and small cities like Cedar City all contribute to the greatness of our country. I wanted to remind everyone that this Saturday is the Cedar City Half Marathon. It's one of the largest events our Cedar City Events Department does. It takes hundreds of volunteers to make it happen. We'll have some youth council members up there at one of the aid stations handing out water and Gatorade, etc. I wanted to invite everyone to the Bicentennial Park for the finish line. That is where there'll be a party, music, food. Wonderful and exciting times, celebrating all the runners and all the efforts to do it. It's a major event in our city, and I wanted to give a shout-out that it's this weekend.

CONSENT AGENDA: (1) APPROVE MINUTES DATED AUGUST 19, AND 26, 2026 (2) RATIFY BILLS DATED AUGUST 26, 27, AND SEPTEMBER 2, 2026. (3) APPROVE

PURCHASE OF POLICE K-9 VEHICLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,090. JIMMY RODEN/ DARIN ADAMS (4) APPROVE PURCHASE OF SERVICE BODY FOR 2027 CHEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,266.88. MIKE PHILLIPS (5) APPROVE PURCHASE OF MASTICATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$84,850.04. MIKE PHILLIPS (6) APPROVE FIDDLERS CANYON TRAIL EXTENSION UDOT AGREEMENT. BILL MAXWELL/ KENT FUGAL (7) APPROVE PURCHASE OF BROOM SWEEPER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$372,005. ERIC WITZKE/RYAN MARSHALL

Councilmember Cox moved to approve the revised consent agenda, seconded by Councilmember Schmidt; vote unanimous.

(5) APPROVE PURCHASE OF MASTICATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$84,850.04. MIKE PHILLIPS

Chief Phillips: This morning I had an email telling us that the masticator head price went up. Not the head itself, but the attachments that hook it to the machine because of the age of the machine. **Phillips:** Even though we've agreed to purchase this, we're locked into this change? **Mayor:** That was a different machine. We quoted it on the attachment to a new. **Chief Phillips:** It's going up to \$99,987.60. I talked with Paul and Terri today, if you approve this, we'll bring it to you in a budget revision. **Paul:** It is about \$17 to \$20 thousand over his budget. If you approve the purchase of the masticator arm, we'll go ahead and do it. We have a budget revision scheduled for first thing next month. We'll have the budget revision in that packet. **Cox:** You have money in the budget? **Paul:** There's enough in the capital fund to cover. **Galan:** On a technical basis, what do they have to do? They have to change the coupling in order to fit? **Eric:** There's some hydraulic valves that would have to be switched to operate this head, which we would still have to do on a CAT. This machine, we can dedicate to the fire department, and I can't stress how beneficial to the entire business it would be. **Galan:** No question. **Schmidt:** With this change, obviously, it's a hydraulic change that you've got to do. Will this trackhoe have sufficient hydraulic PSI to operate this machine properly? **Eric:** Yes. In fact, this machine has a brand new motor in it. Motor and pump are all new. It's an older machine, but mechanically it's good. **Schmidt:** So you're just changing the valve and the hydraulic things on the attachment head to fit what the trackhoe will put out. Then it'll function at 100% capacity? **Eric:** Correct. **Terri:** The money is going to be coming from the Capital Improvement Fund, and we're going to be doing that budget opening next week. He's already got his paperwork here.

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve the purchase of the masticator in the amount of \$99,987.60; seconded by Councilmember Cox; vote unanimous

(8) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION TO CREATE COMMITTEE AND ESTABLISH BYLAWS FOR CEDAR CITY CARES. MAYOR NELSON

Phillips: I think it's a great idea. I'm glad we're doing it, and now I'm just anxious to find out who you're going to appoint. **Mayor:** I talked to Councilman Schmidt last week. **Schmidt:** I tried to put you on there, Scott. **Phillips:** No, no. I'm fine. **Mayor:** There's going to be a lot of people on the committee. The idea of this is to grow that group as big as possible. The board will facilitate selecting projects and the organization piece. **Schmidt:** I did tell the mayor that I accepted. I'd be glad to do it.

Councilmember Cox moved to approve the resolution to create committee and establish bylaws for Cedar City Cares; seconded by Councilmember Wilkey; vote as follows:

AYE: 5
NAY: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

Public Comment:

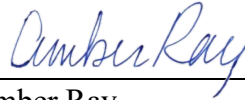
Douglas Hall: I spend a lot of time walking around this city, especially the southern end. There's two problems that have come to my attention that I think we need to do something about. Number one, the number of cars, trucks, trailers, and RVs that are parked on our city streets for months and weeks at a time is getting to be kind of unmanageable. Last time I talked to the chief of police, his guess was, probably on any given day, we have 300 violations on our city streets. The problem is one of enforcement. We've got one code enforcement officer and for him to identify a particular vehicle that's been sitting someplace for three or more days is not easy to do. I have a suggested solution to that problem. There's a number of firms that make what is called municipal parking enforcement software. That software has a number of cameras. One is a license plate reader. Another camera is what's called a millimeter GPS reader that actually does a digital marking of tires without you having to get out and do it. It can be set up with a printer so that the code enforcement officer, once he determines a violation, can print out the citation right on the spot. Especially with winter coming, and I think the street department will certainly applaud the fact that we can get more cars and trucks and trailers off of our streets. This would be a step in the right direction, but without some software and some help for the code enforcement officer, it's difficult to do. I think that software would go a long way towards solving that problem. The other one that I notice on a regular basis is a number of people, especially on residential streets, that are parked on the wrong side of the street. It's like they don't know that it's illegal to park on the wrong side of the street, and there's a danger to that. I would suggest a little police enforcement of that, the word would get around, and we wouldn't see as much of it as what we do right now. With those two things, I think we could do a lot to clean up our streets and make them safer for everybody.

Scotty Harville: I agree with him. We need a little bit more assistance for our law enforcement when it comes to parking enforcement, abandoned vehicles, and traffic enforcement. I know you guys are working on it. So keep it up. Now, as for 9/11, as the Veterans Association, we also want to stress the remembrance of 9/11 that took place 25 years ago. Remembering the first responders and those individuals and the several thousands that have been suffering from the results of it, be it the violence, or the breathing of the different chemicals, or our troops that served overseas and have lost their lives in the fight on global war and terrorism. On a good note, I want to say, on the half marathon, come join us, the Sons of the American Legion, and all us volunteers that work for the city, and come out there and help these runners. Help these runners and these people who get up early in the morning. I'll be loading buses early at 5 o'clock in the morning, so come on out, get on that bus, and run down that mountain. The barbecue party that we have coming up here for the American Legion, check it out. We have some flyers out front. We invite all veterans and families and friends to come to on September 14th, the information is out there. Come help support our veterans' programs. Thank you all for everything you do for the American Legion to support our staff and all of our volunteers.

Ann Clark: I've been thinking about things for a while, so I'm going to stand up and finally say it. I almost know exactly what Robert Cox is going to say to me, but I'm going to say this anyway. I'm really thrilled about the committee you're starting because it does matter how our city looks. My big concern is our prison/jail. When you used to go down Main Street, you would not even know a jail was there. It was set back. It was brick. You didn't notice it. The new one I really think it looks like a prison. I know it's on county land. This is why I know Robert would say, "Hey, on its county land, you can't do anything about it." But I remember sitting here in this meeting with Paul Cozzens, and our sheriff came and wanted support from the city on that prison. I do know there is some communication between the city and the county. I go by there and I think, "right,

almost in the middle of our city." It doesn't look like a jail. It looks just like a prison. I'm asking you because I don't know where to go with this, we need to talk to the county somehow. Maybe you guys have some more sway. Plant some trees. We need to plant about 1,000 trees around that thing. Wouldn't you support that, Scott? **Phillips:** I would. **Ann:** It looks terrible. **Cox:** Maybe the inmates plant them. **Ann:** I think there's some things that we can do. But we've got to do something to make it look better than it does. So I'm asking if any of you have any sway. **Phillips:** I agree with you, but let's wait until the finishing and landscaping is done because there is a landscaping plan for it. I don't know exactly what it looks like, but I know they have some lawn and curb and gutter and things. Let's wait until it's finished and take it from there. **Ann:** I agree. That's why I haven't said anything for all these months, but sometimes you wait, and wait, and you don't say anything, and then it's too late.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Phillips moved to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.; second by Councilmember Cox; vote unanimous.



Amber Ray
City Recorder