MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 22, 2026

Regular Meeting Attendance and Call to Order:
Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Archived audio is at www.utah.gov/pmn and video is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=oV2fyFXVzeU&t=2s. Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Tawny Knutson-Boyd, Colin Topper, Jason Taylor, Kaitlin Myers and Miles Loftin attended. Also in attendance were City Manager Michael Black, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Parks, Recreation and Trails Director Patrick Trim, City Engineer Marc Jolissaint, Utilities Director Obe Tejada, Public Works Director Levi Jones, Administrative Sergeant Scott Finlayson, Assistant Engineer Didar Charles, Attorney Nathan Bracken and three members of the public. Councilmember Loftin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Department Update:
Parks, Recreation and Trails Director Trim presented an update to Council. He described the divisions of his department and involvement with the Public Works department, the Recreation Special Service District, TrailMix and the Recreation, Arts and Parks (RAP) tax committee. Trim described new purchases for the pool and fitness center and repairs that involve a pool closure and locker room maintenance. He reviewed progress on planning for the ballpark improvements and fall sports. He reviewed arts programs including the Red Rock Arts Festival and the new Jeep sponsorship. Statistics for special events and other programs were presented, as well as signage improvements and the Lions Park river access feasibility study. He acknowledged low use of the bike skills park and noted some improvements and repairs due to flooding. Trim responded to a question about the pool repairs. Councilmember Myers asked about public feedback received regarding planning for the ball fields.

Consent Agenda:
Councilmember Myers moved to approve bills against the City of Moab in the amount of $1,898,359.37. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with Councilmembers Taylor, Knutson-Boyd, Topper, Myers and Loftin voting aye.

General Business:
Recreation, Arts and Parks (RAP) Tax Advisory Committee (TAC) Changes—Approved
Presentation and Discussion: Mayor Langianese briefly explained the proposed changes to the appointment process and Councilmember Topper stated committee members supported the changes.
Motion and Vote: Councilmember Topper moved to approve **Ordinance 2026-22**: an ordinance amending Moab Municipal Code Chapter 2.88, Moab Recreation, Arts and Parks Tax Advisory Committee (RAP TAC), specifically sections 2.88.020 appointment process, and 2.88.040 committee responsibilities and meeting schedule. Councilmember Knutson-Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Drinking Water System Planning and Rate Study Change Order—Approved
Presentation and Discussion: City Engineer Jolissaint and Utilities Director Tejada presented a task order proposal regarding preparation of the drinking water master plan update. Jolissaint explained it would be the first major update in ten years and would include an analysis of rates. Councilmember Myers asked about the funding source and the nature of the task order. City Manager Black explained the costs and the existing work with the vendor.
Motion and Discussion: Councilmember Loftin moved to approve a task order with Hansen Allen & Luce in the amount of $186,500 for a drinking water system master plan, impact fee analysis, and rate study. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Loftin acknowledged the need for the work in view of the changing climate. Taylor stated it was important to analyze the costs and revenue streams for the water tank project and other needs. Councilmember Myers noted the project was over budget yet supported the proposal and appreciated the history with Hansen Allen & Luce. Councilmember Knutson-

Boyd mentioned the rate study was timely.
Vote: The motion passed 5-0 with Councilmembers Taylor, Knutson-Boyd, Topper, Myers and Loftin voting aye.

Resolution to achieve zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries—Approved
Presentation and Discussion: Assistant Engineer Charles explained the City's work regarding Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and the proposed resolution's implications for grant applications and future street design and traffic safety considerations. Councilmember Taylor asked about financial implications in the current budget year. Councilmember Topper spoke in support of the resolution.
Motion and Vote: Councilmember Taylor moved to approve **Resolution 16-2026:** a resolution committing to a goal to significantly reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries in the City Of Moab among all road users by 2040, with an ultimate goal to achieve zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Speed Limit Changes—Approved
Presentation and Discussion: City Manager Black made a brief presentation of the speed limit change proposal. He discussed the process and made recommendations for changes. He said one proposal pertains to changing the speed limit on 100 West from 25 miles per hour (mph) to 20 mph. He said another element of the proposal is to change Mill Creek Drive from 400 East to Sand Flats Road from 25 mph to 20 mph. He said the proposals are consistent with the code and were reviewed by public works, police and community development staff. He mentioned the proposed advisory signage for all terrain vehicles (ATV) at 15 mph. He explained the timeline and budget for the project and enforceability of the advisory ATV speeds.
Motion and Discussion: Councilmember Taylor moved to approve speed limit changes to 100 West. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. Councilmember Taylor spoke about relative speed limits in Moab and the many variable speed limits in town. He said feedback from residents supported lowering speeds on 100 West but not on Mill Creek Drive. Councilmember Topper said he was in favor of 20 mph on Mill Creek, but the timing was not right. He said lowered speed limits and differential speed limits create a heated environment. He said the redesign of Mill Creek Drive was paramount. Councilmember Loftin said he drove Mill Creek Drive to assess the speed limits. He said the variable speeds were an issue, and most of the pedestrians he witnessed were near 400 East. He said some drivers exceed the limit no matter what. He said 100 West was a clear win. Councilmember Knutson-Boyd concurred and stated she also tried 25 and 20 mph on Mill Creek Drive and supported 20 mph on 100 West. Councilmember Myers expressed her surprise at the motion. She said her own survey brought 427 responses, with positive remarks regarding lowering 100 West to 20 mph, and other proposed changes were met with mixed sentiments. She said she supports lowering the speed on Mill Creek Drive to 20 mph as part of a larger street improvement project.
Vote: The motion to approve speed limit changes to 100 West passed unanimously.
Discussion: City Manager Black pointed out the prima facie (default) speed limit within the City is 20 mph. He added that the discussion surrounding lowering the speed limit on Mill Creek Drive was not only about pedestrian safety but also about reducing traffic noise. He acknowledged that, from an engineering perspective, 20 and 25 mph are similar enough that the recommendation would not change. He mentioned speed limit consistency and the variable speed limits on 300 South. There was no motion to approve speed limit changes on Mill Creek Drive. Councilmember Topper commented that he felt he represented the whole Council when he stated the Council is still concerned with noise remedies to help specific locations and roads. City Manager Black presented an advisory speed management memorandum and spoke about vehicle speed and pedestrian safety as it relates to street design. Councilmembers Myers and Topper asked about prospects for upgrades to 400 East and timing for Mill Creek Drive redesign. Signage and wayfinding were brought up by Councilmember Myers.

Position Statement on the Moab Area Transit (MAT) and the Arches Shuttle—Approved
Discussion: Mayor Langianese reviewed the timeline of recent efforts regarding City perspectives on the Arches National Park shuttle. She requested approval of a position statement that she planned to

present to the City's federal lobbyist and State and County officials.
Motion and Discussion: Councilmember Myers moved to approve a position statement on the Moab Area Transit and the Arches Shuttle. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding funding for the MAT, critical transportation needs for residents met by the MAT and timeline.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Annexation Policy Plan—Discussion
Mayor Langianese briefed Council and the public on the purpose of proposed amendments to the annexation policy and map. She said it will protect the Moab area from new cities establishing inside the new boundaries. She said it will enable the City to be involved in any proposed municipalities. She said it does not preclude such proposals but gives the City leverage. She added that it will ensure coordination or orderly transfer of public services and infrastructure as development or annexations occur and memorializes current and anticipated land uses in the Moab Valley area to ensure adequate services are developed and distributed to the public. She noted it does not annex any properties automatically, impose municipal property tax or rezone properties, which are all subject to the existing robust annexation process. The Mayor cited the recent rezone request for the Steen property at Sand Flats. She said it was in the City's annexation plan, and the City was not notified, and when the City became involved everything changed. She clarified the plan does not propose urbanization of the Moab Valley and noted the timeline for public input and approval and referenced Utah code 10-2-083 sections 4-7.

City Manager Update:
City Manager Black reported his staff was working on messaging regarding the annexation updates. He said bike parking was being developed on Center Street. He brought up a previously awarded Arbor Day Foundation grant that was defunded and noted the City's grant writer Veilleux was able to secure another grant for arborist certification for staff. Black mentioned a partnership with Science Moab to promote heat map research. He mentioned staff public outreach efforts regarding the water conservation plan and the Lions Park river access evaluation. The downtown master plan progress was mentioned, and Black noted new elements such as a jail complex were being considered in addition Main Street. Black updated Council on improvements to 400 East and 100 North. He spoke about retaining an on-call civil engineering firm. He mentioned progress on water tank and noted contractor repairs adjacent to the Abbey subdivision. The 300 South bridge was discussed.

Mayor and Council Reports:
Councilmember Taylor reported on Emergency Medical Services (EMS) statistics, a Chamber of Commerce candidate meet and greet and Chamber board meeting. He stated he met with the Mayor and Councilmember Knutson-Boyd.
Councilmember Knutson-Boyd reported on a meeting with the mayor and Councilmember Taylor as well as a meeting with museum staff. Knutson-Boyd mentioned recent tragedies in the community and brought up the upcoming Out of Darkness walk and spoke about the 988 crisis line.
Councilmember Topper reported he met with a County Commissioner, the Sheriff, and Councilmember Myers to discuss the public safety building. He also reported on the Mud Springs trail ribbon cutting. He said he played in the Children's Justice Center kickball tournament, and toured the jail, the dispatch office and the Sheriff's office. He said he met with the Mayor and Councilmember Myers, the state Treasurer and Auditor, and attended the Mill Creek Parkway safety working group meeting and a solid waste meeting.
Councilmember Myers reported on a local homeless council meeting, veteran vouchers from the Housing Authority, heat mapping with Grand County Emergency Management, and an Olene Walker housing loan fund meeting. She said she met with officials regarding the proposed public safety complex and toured the jail and public safety facilities. She said she met with the Mayor and Councilmember Topper and attended a meeting with the state Treasurer and Auditor. She said she attended Pride week events, the Chamber candidate meet and greet and Councilmember Loftin's candidate meetings She thanked him for his efforts.
Councilmember Loftin said he went hunting and when he returned he had several things to report on.

He updated Council on the Utah renewable communities program, he said he met with the Mayor, attended a Planning Commission meeting regarding annexation, and a Grand Water and Sewer Service Agency meeting.
Mayor Langianese mentioned the Out of Darkness walk, the 25th anniversary of Rim-to-Rim restoration and a harvest festival. She said she met with officials from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) concerning a traffic light at Uranium Avenue and Main Street, near City Market, and she brought up consideration of a pedestrian crossing at Dogwood and Main. She disclosed that the Arches shuttle was partly funded by UDOT hotspot funding, for which she said the City would have applied if it was known. She praised the meeting with the state Auditor and Treasurer. She mentioned discussion with the City's federal lobbyist about funding for transit and redevelopment funds such as for Walnut Lane. She reported on a meeting of the Utah League of Cities and Towns. She said delegations from the City and County would meet to discuss joint applications for funds.

Adjournment:
Councilmember Knutson-Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Loftin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____
Joette Langianese, Mayor Sommar Johnson, City Recorder