

CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
2267 N 1500 W
Clinton Utah 84015



Date: September 22, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 2267 N 1500 W, Clinton, UT 84015

Mayor: Marie Dougherty

City Council: Spencer Arave, Jennifer Christensen, Chris Danson, Adam Larsen and Dane Searle.

Staff: City Manager Trevor Cahoon, Police Chief Shawn Stoker, Fire Chief Jason Poulsen, Public Works Director David Williams, Parks and Recreation Director Brooke Mitchell, Finance Director/Treasurer Cory Christensen, Senior Planner Keaton Jones, Deputy Recorder Amy Durrans, and Recorder Lisa Titensor

Attendees: Kirby Crowley, Terry Tremea, Scott Parke, Kathy Ostberg, Daniel Martinez, Russell Arave, Walter Ruiz, Dereck Bauer

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dougherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all those in attendance.

Councilmember Chris Danson offered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Dougherty, Councilmembers Arave, Christensen, Danson, Larsen and Searle were all present.

RECOGNITION

RECOGNITION OF FRONT-LINE STAFF FOR THEIR EFFORTS ON THE RECYCLING PROGRAM

City Manager Cahoon recognized Gwen Hansen, Jamie Pengelly and Megan Coleman of Customer Service and Utility Billing, Wade Smith of Public Works, and Alonna Foster of Public Works for their work implementing the City recycling program. He thanked them for responding to residents, coordinating cart deliveries and returns, resolving account issues, and working across departments. Ms. Hansen and Ms. Foster were recognized in person; the others were unable to attend.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS FOR THE 3RD QUARTER OF 2026

Police Chief Shawn Stoker recognized Officers Brian Larsen and Austen Rogers for five years of service to Clinton City. Both officers were present and received congratulations from the Council.

PUBLIC INPUT

Daniel Martinez expressed concern that a neighboring accessory dwelling unit overlooks his backyard. He asked the Council to consider whether a taller fence or other privacy measures could be permitted for properties next to accessory dwelling units.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Mayor Dougherty suggested changing the order of business to address the audit committee appointments before the Powerline Park playground discussion, which was expected to take longer.

MOTION: Councilmember Arave moved to suspend the rules and take the audit committee item before the playground item. Councilmember Christensen seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

RESOLUTION 23-26, CREATION OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Dougherty explained that the Council had discussed forming standing committees in July. The proposed Audit Committee would provide an additional layer of financial oversight and make recommendations to the City Council. It would include two Councilmembers and one resident with experience in finance, accounting or auditing. The proposed members were Councilmembers Chris Danson and Dane Searle and Clinton resident Scott Parke, a certified public accountant and Davis County Controller. The Mayor noted Mr. Parke's experience with the State Auditor's Office and county government finance.

Councilmember Larsen thanked Mr. Parke for volunteering his time.

Councilmember Christensen asked Mr. Parke how he would handle difficult audit findings and conversations that require firmness.

Mr. Parke said the committee's work should help improve processes and internal controls. Drawing on his auditing experience, he said members should identify weaknesses and risks, discuss them directly with staff, and work together on reasonable solutions.

Mayor Dougherty explained that the committee would supplement the City's independent audit by reviewing internal controls and the auditor's work. She anticipated that it would meet about two or three times a year. Mr. Parke said he was happy to serve and contribute to the community.

MOTION: Councilmember Larsen moved to approve Resolution 23-26, establishing the Audit Committee and adopting its policy and procedures, and to consent to the Mayor's appointments of Councilmembers Chris Danson and Dane Searle and Scott Parke. Councilmember Arave seconded the motion. On roll call, Councilmembers Arave, Christensen, Danson, Larsen and Searle voted in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF POWERLINE PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

Parks and Recreation Director Brooke Mitchell reviewed three revised playground proposals. The existing playground is aging, replacement parts are difficult to obtain, and Powerline Park is heavily used during youth sports. The Council had previously authorized up to \$250,000 in RAP Tax funds. The RAP Tax Committee recommended Big T Recreation's themed design, with a swing substituted for a slider. The playground design and any shade structure require Rocky Mountain Power approval because the site is beneath its power lines.

The Council compared Big T and Garrett on the number of play activities, cost, vendor support and accessibility. RAP Tax Committee members Russell Arave and Terry Tremea explained that the committee valued enough play stations for several children during simultaneous youth games, along with durability and long-term service. Director Mitchell said Big T had provided good service on existing City equipment and Garrett also had equipment in City parks. Councilmembers discussed choosing a design appropriate for this park without spending the full \$250,000 merely because it was available.

Shade and funding were also discussed. Big T's proposed full shade structure added substantial cost. Councilmember Christensen suggested smaller roofed play areas or shaded seating; Director Mitchell noted that peak park use often occurs later in the day. Members discussed whether extensive shade and additional amenities would be best located at Powerline Park or another City park. City Manager Cahoon reported that approximately \$42,000 received from UDOT for right of way at the park could be considered for park improvements. The Council did not allocate those funds during this item.

The Council distinguished an accessible route or surface from equipment a child can use while remaining in a wheelchair. Councilmember Searle relayed a resident's concern that the proposed features did not allow her child to play independently from his wheelchair. Members discussed adding at least one wheelchair accessible activity while retaining enough slides and other play features for the park's heavy use. They also considered whether a new playground might attract families outside scheduled sports and whether a larger group of accessible features should be planned at another park.

Director Mitchell said staff could refine the design with a selected vendor once the Council identified its priorities. Staff also needed a design for Rocky Mountain Power's review, which could take approximately two months; installation would likely occur in the spring. The Council considered separate sidewalk pricing and removing that work from the playground vendor's proposal.

MOTION: Councilmember Christensen proposed selecting a Big T structure. The proposal received no second.

MOTION: Councilmember Christensen moved to approve the Powerline Park playground replacement without specifying a vendor. Councilmember Danson seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Councilmember Arave moved to substitute direction to work with Garrett within the previously approved \$250,000 cap; seek the lowest available price, including any applicable sale pricing; consider a main structure with more play features if savings permit; include a feature usable by a child remaining in a wheelchair; and authorize Director Mitchell to choose the final design within those parameters and submit it to Rocky Mountain Power. The sidewalk bid would be removed from the playground proposal and handled separately through the City's improvement fund. Councilmember Searle seconded the substitute motion.

VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: The motion to substitute carried 4-1 by voice vote.

Councilmember Christensen voted nay; Councilmembers Arave, Danson, Larsen and Searle voted in favor. The substitute became the motion before the Council.

FINAL VOTE: The Council approved the substituted motion unanimously by voice vote. No specific shade structure was selected; any shade remained subject to Rocky Mountain Power's requirements.

CONSENT ITEMS

Dispatch fees for Police and Fire; approval of the September 8, 2026 City Council Work Session and City Council Meeting minutes; and no accounts payable item.

MOTION: Councilmember Searle moved to approve the consent items. Councilmember Larsen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Public Works Director David Williams reported that 6,987 recycling carts had been delivered and 1,689 had been returned as of September 22, representing approximately 24 percent of those delivered. He said staff were continuing to collect remaining carts and the opt-out period would close later that week.

Fire Chief Jason Poulsen reported on the upcoming request for proposals associated with renewal of the City's ambulance service license. He said the request would be issued October 1, with a presentation and anticipated award at the October 13 Council meeting, and the next four-year term would begin January 1. He also discussed the state-based ambulance rate.

Chief Poulsen also reported that Union Pacific would remove or trim trees along its rail corridor from approximately 2300 North to 800 North before a coordinated cleanup and controlled burn. The Fire Department and code enforcement staff would notify affected residents. The work was expected in October after the railroad completed its tree work.

He also noted a planned training burn at the Patterson house on October 25.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Cahoon reported that staff would bring the annexation area portion of the general plan to the Planning Commission and City Council for discussion in October. The Mayor and City Manager were also meeting with consultants to determine the remaining steps for the general plan and public review.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Christensen reported that the Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office would host an October 2 symposium on criminal justice and mental health, with in-person and virtual attendance options. She had forwarded the invitation to Chief Stoker.

Councilmember Larsen said he would attend the Public Works staff meeting the following morning and report any pertinent information at a later Council meeting.

Councilmember Arave had nothing to report.

Councilmember Searle said he would attend the Water Environment Federation annual conference and return before the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Danson had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dougherty reported that the initial budget subcommittee meetings were being arranged for October.

She asked the Council to consider options for bringing flowers or other decor back to 2000 West next year. Councilmembers discussed artificial flowers, water-wise live plants, durability, appearance and cost. Staff agreed to look into options; no selection was made.

The Mayor also asked about a Council holiday dinner. Councilmembers expressed interest in holding one; details were not set.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:54 p.m.

**Dated this ____ day of October 2026
/s/Lisa Titensor, Clinton City Recorder**