

PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday September 16th, 2026, 6:00 PM

Providence City Office Building, 164 North Gateway Drive, Providence UT

To view the video recording of the meeting please visit our YouTube channel found [HERE](#).

HR. MIN. SEC. above agenda items are timestamps of the YouTube Recording.

Opening Ceremony:

Call to Order: Mayor Alder

Roll Call of City Council Members: Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Kirk

Opening Remarks/Prayer: Council Member Kunz

5 MIN. 40 SEC.

Council Reports: Items presented by the City Council Members will be presented as informational only; no formal action will be taken.

- Council Member Campbell reported on the city's America 250 days of service activity, which involved volunteers cleaning up the corner at Main Street and Center Street near the library, as well as planting fifteen sizeabl trees at two city parks. He expressed appreciation for the turnout of volunteers, noting that he had been concerned about staffing the tree-planting effort in particular; but that it was a great turnout. The event was considered a strong success by all involved, with Council Member Campbell joking that a few participants came away with sunburns.
- Council Member Speth reported that his prior two weeks had been significantly disrupted due to a family bereavement. Despite this, he attended a League of Cities and Towns zoom meeting and noted that he had submitted a written letter regarding the Connect Transportation board and its representation. He indicated he would provide a fuller report on the Connect Board at the next meeting.
- Council Member Sealy reported that the Legislative Policy Committee had resumed its work in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. She noted that the Utah Senate would be receiving new leadership following Senate President losing in the primary election, and that House of Representatives seats are up for election this cycle, which is expected to result in considerable leadership change at the Capitol. Anticipated legislative topics include artificial intelligence, data centers, property tax, education, GRAMA and fireworks, among other topics. Council Member Sealy also reported that she had reviewed the Cache County School District board meeting from September 3rd, at which district officials addressed policy updates and expressed confidence that transportation challenges from the new school boundaries were improving. On a personal note, she acknowledged the youth council leadership and their September 11th commemorative project and expressed pride in the experience they gained through the grant application and execution process.
- Council Member Kirk reported that the Youth Council's September 11th project was a highlight of the month. A team of youth council members wrote and received a federal grant, through which they organized a community event that drew approximately two hundred attendees and collected and sent a large number of letters to first responders. She noted that the grant administration process proved to be a

significant learning experience, including the many conditions and reporting obligations that come with federal funding. A video of the event was produced in collaboration with Just Serve and she expressed hope it would be shared on the Providence City social media channels. Council Member Kirk also noted that another youth council committee was already organizing a service project for the following month.

- Council Member Kunz reported on two items from the Cache County Mosquito Abatement Board, noting that incidents of citizens physically stopping or running off abatement trucks had occurred again, and that the board's manager had decided to involve law enforcement and pursue prosecution in future incidents. He also noted that West Nile virus had been detected in the valley and that abatement efforts were ongoing. Council Member Kunz also relayed an encounter with a community member who had spent considerable time collecting goat head weeds along neighborhood sidewalks, filling a neighbor's garbage can in the process — which had not been well received. Council Member Kunz suggested channeling that kind of effort into an organized Just Serve project going forward. He concluded by sharing his anticipation of getting to operate the city's street sweeper the following week, and noted that Mayor Alder had been offered the opportunity to ride along.
- Mayor Alder reported on a busy month focused on sidewalks, water infrastructure, and community cleanup. She highlighted the cleanup of the corner near the service station, volunteer weed-eating efforts near the old Watkins building, and a commitment from a tenant of that building to clean up the back parking lot. Mayor Alder praised the Sauerkraut Festival as a success based on reports she received, and recognized Nicole Bone for her leadership in organizing the event. She expressed particular pride in the growth of the Youth Council, which has expanded from around six members when Council Member Kirk began leading it to fifty members receiving certificates at that evening's meeting.

Approval of the Minutes:

- **Item No. 1 Approval of the Minutes:** The Providence City Council will consider for approval the minutes of August 19th, 2026. [\(MINUTES\)](#)

- The Council considered approval of the minutes from the August 19th, 2026, meeting. No corrections or discussion were offered.

Motion to approve the minutes of August 19th, 2026, was made by Council Member Sealy and seconded by Council Member Kunz.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved

18 MIN. 15 SEC.

Presentations/Public Hearings:

➤ **Item No. 2 Cache County Sheriff's Office Deputy Introduction.**

- Mayor Alder introduced Chief Deputy Bartschi of the Cache County Sheriff's Office, who appeared and introduced the city's new STAR Deputy — an acronym standing for Sheriff's Town and Area Representative. Chief Deputy explained the purpose and philosophy behind the STAR Deputy program, describing it as a cornerstone of how the Sheriff's Office operationalizes its three-part mission: community protection, crime prevention, and cooperative engagement with the citizens it serves. He emphasized that for the Sheriff's Office, community-oriented policing is not a special program but simply the standard way of doing business. He further described how the program places deputies in challenging situations — including working with legislative bodies and navigating complex inter-agency relationships — to broaden their perspective and effectiveness.
- Chief Deputy then introduced Deputy Aaron Priest as the newly assigned STAR Deputy for Providence City. Deputy Priest shared that he has eleven years of law enforcement experience, nine of which were in a correctional setting, with two years in patrol. He noted that he had already had interactions with Providence residents regarding intersection safety concerns and graffiti at the skate park. Deputy Priest invited all council members and residents to approach him freely whenever they see him in the community and expressed enthusiasm for building relationships across the city.
- Mayor Alder took a moment to recognize the outgoing STAR Deputy Wallentine for his consistent attendance at council meetings and his strong service to the city. She also reminded attendees and residents that reports of speeding should be made by calling the Sheriff's Office directly and in real time, rather than reporting after the fact by email, as prompt response requires immediate notification.

➤ **Item No. 3 Swearing in of the new Providence City Youth Council.**

- Council Member Kirk presided over the swearing-in ceremony for the new Providence City Youth Council. Members were called by name, received certificates, and were administered the oath of office collectively by Mayor Alder. Mayor Alder noted that having fifty young people voluntarily commit to community service and civic learning represents a meaningful source of hope for Providence's future.

Resolutions/Ordinances:

35 MIN. 15 SEC.

➤ **Item No. 4 Res. 10-2026 Hungry for History Grant - Sauerkraut Marker Placement Location:**

The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on a resolution for the potential placement of a Sauerkraut Dinner historic marker from a grant that the Historic Preservation Commission is applying for. [\(RES. 10-2026\)](#)

- Brendan Lee, Vice Chair of the Providence Historic Preservation Commission and history instructor at Utah State University, presented a proposal to apply for a grant to fund a historic

marker celebrating the origins of Providence's Sauerkraut Days tradition. He noted that while the commission originally intended to apply under the William G. Pomeroy Foundation's "Hungry for History" food history program, the requirement to include a recipe on the marker led the commission to pivot to the Foundation's "Hometown Heritage" program instead, which focuses on local history without a recipe requirement. The Foundation provides fully funded grants for qualifying historic markers, and similar markers have already been placed in the region in Montpelier, Bear Lake, and Mendon.

- Mr. Lee presented three draft examples of marker text, each attempting to tell the story of Providence's founding through the lens of immigrant groups — Danish, Welsh, English, and Swiss German settlers — whose shared sauerkraut dinners are credited with uniting the early community. He acknowledged the challenge of communicating this story within the marker's strict character limits: fifteen characters for the title and five body lines of twenty-seven characters each. He noted that the title "Sauerkraut Days" fits exactly within the fifteen-character limit.
- Council discussion included input from staff in attendance with historical expertise who clarified the sequence and composition of the original settling groups, noting that the earliest settlers were primarily Campbell and Matthews families of Danish, Welsh, and English heritage, with Swiss German settlers arriving later. Council Member Sealy expressed a preference for draft example two, which emphasized community unification. Council Member Kirk suggested the possibility of incorporating a QR code on the marker to link to a more detailed historical record and encouraged compiling the research being gathered into an accessible format. A suggestion was also made to time the marker unveiling to coincide with Sauerkraut Days the following August, which Mr. Lee confirmed was feasible given the grant timeline. The application letter of intent is planned for early October, with the full application due November 9th.

Motion to approve Resolution 10-2026 for the Hometown Heritage Grant for the Sauerkraut historic marker placement was made by Council Member Kirk and seconded by Council Member Sealy.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, Resolution approved.

Agreements, Contracts, Bid Awards:

53 MIN. 10 SEC.

- **Item No 5 Suncore Construction Special Variance Request (Noise Variance):** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on a special variance request from Suncore Construction regarding sewer work on SR-165 and 1200 South. **(REQUEST)**

- City staff provided an update on the Suncore Construction sewer project along SR-165 and 1200 South. The Council had previously approved a noise variance for a single day of after-hours work, but the project scope and timeline had evolved. Staff explained that the nature of the

intersection tie-in work requires nighttime construction, and that Suncore was seeking an updated variance to cover approximately two nights of work rather than one. The project's contracted completion date of September 15th had passed, and staff indicated the work was now expected to be fully complete by the end of October.

- Discussion centered on how to appropriately scope the variance approval to avoid an open-ended authorization while still providing Suncore with the operational flexibility needed to complete the work. Council Member Speth proposed language specifying an end date, and the group settled on conditioning the variance through the end of October. Staff confirmed that Suncore has been actively communicating with nearby businesses throughout the project via a public information officer and weekly impact notices, and that the affected area — approximately one hundred to two hundred feet inside the city boundary — is in the commercial zone rather than a residential area.

Motion to approve the amended special variance request for Suncore Construction, authorizing after-hours noise for the SR-165 and 1200 South intersection work through the end of October 2026, was made by Council Member Speth and seconded by Council Member Campbell.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, special variance approved.

1 HR. 00 MIN. 55 SEC.

Plans and Other Business:

- **Item No. 6 300 S Rd Dedication Agreement/Purchase:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on a dedication agreement with Wayne and Madeline Barlow. **(AGREEMENT)**

- City staff presented a dedication agreement and purchase arrangement with Wayne and Madeline Barlow to acquire the necessary right-of-way along 300 South for planned street widening and sidewalk improvements on both the north and south sides of the road. Staff indicated that the city offered and the Barlow's accepted compensation based on the taxable assessed value per square foot of the acquired frontage, which staff characterized as a fair and consistent valuation basis. The Council was asked to ratify the agreement.

Motion to approve the 300 South Road dedication agreement and purchase with Wayne and Madeline Barlow was made by Council Member Sealy and seconded by Council Member Speth.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, agreement approved.

➤ **Item No. 7 300 S Rd Dedication Agreement/Purchase:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on a dedication agreement with Jason Allen. [\(AGREEMENT\)](#)

- Staff presented a second dedication agreement for the north side of 300 South, this time with property owner Jason Allen. The needed right-of-way acquisition in this case was described as a relatively narrow sliver — approximately one to four feet — needed to achieve the full eighty-foot right-of-way required to accommodate the planned street and sidewalk improvements. The same taxable value per square foot compensation was offered and accepted. Staff confirmed that Mr. Allen was aware of and had consented to all associated impacts, including removal of a fence (to be replaced in kind by the city), removal of decorative pillars, and removal of trees on the property. Staff noted meeting with Mr. Allen that morning to confirm his understanding and agreement.

Motion to approve the 300 South Road dedication agreement and purchase with Jason Allen was made by Council Member Kunz and seconded by Council Member Sealy.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, agreement approved.

1 HR. 04 MIN. 40 SEC.

➤ **Item No. 8 BRAG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The Providence City Council will review, discuss and may take action on the proposed BRAG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. [\(PLAN\)](#)

- City staff presented the Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG) Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for council approval. Staff acknowledged the plan's substantial length — over one thousand pages — and provided a summarized overview. The plan covers the Tri-County region and identifies potential natural hazards, supports coordinated regional planning, and is a prerequisite for certain federal grant programs.
- Staff noted that the city had recently attempted to apply for a grant to install backup generators at city well houses and was informed that the regional hazard mitigation plan needed to be updated before the city could be eligible. Adoption of the updated plan will enable the city to pursue that and similar mitigation grants going forward, and ensures Providence's priorities are included in the broader county and regional planning framework.

Motion to approve the BRAG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was made by Council Member Speth and seconded by Council Member Kunz.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously

1 HR. 08 MIN. 05 SEC.

Public Comments: Citizens may express their views to the City Council on issues within the City's jurisdiction. The City Council accepts comments: by email providencecityutah@gmail.com, and by text 435-752-9441.

- Mayor Alder opened the floor for public comment.
- A resident who identified himself as David Rollins, a recent newcomer to Providence living on 300 South, addressed the Council regarding the installation depth of the city's fiber internet lines. Mr. Rollins described nearly severing a fiber line while replacing sod at his property, discovering the line was buried only approximately two inches below the surface. He expressed concern that routine lawn maintenance activities such as aeration could inadvertently damage fiber lines, potentially leaving residents responsible for repair costs while the original installer would be paid again to correct work that was done improperly. He raised the issue as one of broader citywide concern — not limited to his own property — and asked whether residents should be calling 811 before aerating their lawns. He also asked for clarity on who bears financial responsibility when a city utility is damaged during normal residential maintenance.
- Mayor Alder directed Mr. Rollins to meet with City Manager Ryan Snow to discuss the matter further and work toward a resolution. Staff acknowledged the concern and agreed to follow up directly with the resident.

1 HR. 11 MIN. 25 SEC.

Staff Reports: Items presented by Providence City Manager and/or Staff will be presented as information only.

- City Manager Ryan Snow provided updates on several ongoing city projects and initiatives.
- Regarding the 1st East Sidewalk project, staff reported that all concrete had been poured and a final walk-through was scheduled for the following day. Over the course of the project — which had been in progress for nearly six years — the anticipated scope of tree removal was substantially reduced through careful design and field coordination, ultimately resulting in zero trees being removed. Staff noted that the sidewalk includes a slight wave in certain sections by design, to accommodate both flood irrigation crossings and tree root systems, and confirmed that the finished product meets ADA compliance standards.
- For the 2nd East sidewalk project, staff reported that tree removal had been coordinated with affected homeowners, and that in one instance a homeowner who had initially agreed to save a tree later formally requested its removal. Construction on that segment was expected to begin the following week.
- Staff also noted that Cache County had performed chip seal work on 2nd West shortly after school began, which generated community feedback. Staff indicated they are working with the county to ensure the roadwork aligns with the Safe Routes to School program.
- On fire service matters, staff briefly noted that significant activity is ongoing at the fire board level, with meetings occurring weekly or more frequently. Providence's fire coverage contract with Logan City is locked in for at least the next four years. A feasibility study on future fire station needs has been returned, and staff anticipated returning to the Council within one to two months with a proposed strategy for next steps.
- Regarding pedestrian safety improvements, staff confirmed that pedestrian signal lights have been installed at 3rd West and Center Street at Fuhrman Drive, and that work on the roundabout and the 3rd East and Spring Creek Parkway intersection is ongoing.

- Staff also highlighted progress on water conservation efforts, noting that the city's new water monitoring system has enabled identification of significant leaks and high-usage properties, and that the largest water users have been substantially reduced. A resident volunteer has been assisting staff with data mining efforts using the system.
- Staff noted that the annual car show had been cancelled for this year due to logistical challenges, but confirmed plans to reinstate the event the following year.
- City Planner Scarlet closed staff reports by relaying an unsolicited compliment received that morning during a Cache County planners meeting, in which representatives from another city held up Providence City's Youth Council as a model for engaging younger generations in civic processes.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Speth and seconded by Council Member Kirk.

Vote:

Yea- Council Members Kunz, Kirk, Sealy, Speth & Campbell

Nay-

Abstained-

Absent-

Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned.

Next city council meeting will be October 21st @ 6 pm.

Minutes approved by vote of council on 21st day of October 2026.

I swear these minutes are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Ty Cameron, City Recorder