City Council Work Meeting Minutes

Date: October 7, 2026
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Tooele City Hall Council Chambers
90 North Main Street, Tooele City, Utah

Council Members Present
Jon Gossett
Justin Brady
Ed Hansen
Melodi Gochis
Dave McCall

Staff Present:
Maresa Manzione, Mayor
Matthew Johnson, City Attorney
Nathan Farrer, Public Works Director
Patrick Buhr, Public Works Assistant Director
Darwin Cook, Parks and Recreation Director
John Perez, Economic Development Director
Adrian Day, Police Chief
Shannon Wimmer, Finance Director
Andrew Aagard, Community Development Director
Paul Hansen, City Engineer
Shilo Baker, City Recorder
Clarissa Pankratz, Deputy City Recorder
Teresa Young, Clerk/Minute Composition

Minutes Prepared by Teresa Young

1. **Open City Council Meeting**

   Chairman Brady opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

   Councilman Gossett, Present
   Councilwoman Gochis, Present
   Councilman Hansen, Present
   Councilman McCall, Present
   Councilman Brady, Present

3. **Mayor's Report**

   Mayor Manzione reminded the Council that the Tooele High School homecoming parade was rescheduled for the following day at 4:30 p.m. She mentioned that today is Energy Efficiency Day. She reported that the golf course and Cody Lopez were being recognized by First Tee Utah for their youth programs, which serve more than 200 children. She also noted that Cody Lopez had been nominated for a similar award by the PGA. She welcomed the community's recent powwow and gem show, noting strong

attendance and the opportunity for tribal leaders and community members to share their culture. She and Councilman McCall attended a ceremony at Dugway Proving Ground recognizing the transition of Command Sergeant Major Cho to Command Sergeant Major Dallas, emphasizing Dugway's importance to Tooele City's workforce and economy. Finally, she reported on the City Employees Day of Service, during which employees planted 1,600 plants at the well house near 900 South using plants obtained through a Public Works grant. The area will be developed into a demonstration garden featuring water-efficient plants, trees, shrubs, and walking paths to showcase landscaping options suitable for the local climate. The Mayor thanked the City employees who participated in the project.

4. **Council Members' Report**

Councilman McCall reported that he accompanied Mayor Manzione to Dugway Proving Ground and had also attended the previous change-of-command ceremony for the West Desert Commander. He additionally attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new tattoo shop in Tooele.

Councilman Hansen reported attending several LHC meetings and announced an upcoming public meeting scheduled for Tuesday the 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the Housing Authority building, located at 50 West, in the back-community room. He noted that the meeting would include time for public comment and training for the public. He also mentioned attending various other City events.

Councilwoman Gochis reported attending a Library Board meeting and the grand reopening of West Desert Motorsports Park with Mayor Manzione, where Governor Cox and the new owners, PV3, discussed their investment in the facility. She noted that the park is a world-class venue and expressed anticipation for future events. She also attended a Utah Transit Authority tour with the Mayor to learn about transportation improvements being planned in preparation for the 2034 Winter Olympics and the anticipated Salt Lake Temple open house in April. She shared her experience driving a 40-foot natural gas bus during the tour. Additionally, she attended an RDA executive meeting and a Tooele Women's Civic League meeting held in the City Council Chambers, where Fire Safety Month was discussed. She reminded the public that the Tooele City Fire Department would host an open house on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Councilman Gossett reported participating in the parade at Deseret Peak. He noted that he would be unable to attend the Tooele High School homecoming parade the following day and mentioned that Councilman McCall would fill in for him. He also reported resolving a resident's concern regarding garbage collection after contacting the garbage company several times to ensure her garbage can was taken to the curb for pickup and returned afterward.

Chairman Brady reported attending the North Tooele City Special Service District meeting, noting that the recent tax increase revenue was expected to become available for use and that growth in the area should generate additional tax revenue. He shared that he had received several concerns regarding the roads in and out of Overlake and had discussed them with Nathan Farrer and Mayor Manzione. He noted improvements on Frank's Drive, including the installation of light poles, and anticipated that 2000 North would be completed within the next week or so. He also participated in the Addict II Athlete 5K run, noting strong attendance and the program's support for individuals in maintaining sobriety. Additionally, he attended Kickin' Cancers Can, recognizing the community's support for individuals and families affected by cancer.

5. **Discussion Items**

a. **Septic Systems – Sewer Connection Enforcement and Fee Schedules**
Presented by Matt Johnson, City Attorney

Mr. Johnson requested Council direction regarding sewer fees for approximately 160 properties within Tooele City that use septic systems but are located within 300 feet of a city sewer line. He explained that the City currently charges these properties a sewer fee to help cover the cost of reserving sewer treatment capacity and administrative expenses, even though the properties are not connected to the sewer system. The Council discussed the financial burden of requiring property owners to connect, potential health and environmental concerns, and the costs associated with maintaining sewer capacity. After discussion of the available options, the Council expressed support for charging septic-system users the monthly sewer base fee of $12.68 without additional usage-based charges until they connect to the sewer system. The administration was directed to pursue the necessary code changes to reflect this approach.

b. **Parks Department Purchase Discussion – Articulating Lift**
Presented by Darwin Cook

Mr. Cook presented the proposed purchase of an articulating lift to assist with maintenance at City Hall, the Pratt Aquatic Center, Fire Station No. 3, and City trees. He explained that the lift would allow staff to access high ceilings, lighting, and building infrastructure that cannot be reached with standard equipment. Renting a lift can cost up to $3,000 for a short period, and availability can delay maintenance.

Three vendors submitted bids for comparable equipment. The City favored UP Equipment's lift because it was less expensive than the other options, could fit through a 36-inch doorway, had a 59-foot reach, and could operate using electricity inside buildings. The total equipment budget was $138,000 for the lift and trailer. Staff also reviewed the manufacturer's service manual, warranty, parts availability, and service support in the United States. Although some Council members expressed concern about purchasing equipment from a Canadian company with a shorter operating history, staff reported that the maintenance supervisor supported the purchase after researching the equipment. The quoted price was $91,378, including applicable tariffs.

6. **Closed Meeting**
~ Litigation, Property Acquisition, and/or Personnel

Chairman Brady Chairman Brady stated there was a need for a Closed Meeting to discuss litigation and/or property acquisition.

Motion: Councilman McCall moved to proceed into a Closed Meeting. Councilman Hansen seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Councilman Gossett, "Aye"; Councilwoman Gochis, "Aye"; Councilman Hansen, "Aye"; Councilman McCall, "Aye"; Chairman Brady, "Aye". There were none opposed. The motion passed 5-0.

The public meeting recessed at 6:22 p.m. The Council reconvened for the Closed Meeting in the Large Conference Room.

Chairman Brady called the Closed Meeting to order at 6:26 p.m.

Roll Call: Councilman Dave McCall, Present; Councilwoman Melodi Gochis, Present; Councilman Ed Hansen, Present; Councilman Jon Gossett, Present; and Chairman Justin Brady, Present.

Also in attendance: Mayor Maresa Manzione; Matt Johnson, City Attorney; Shilo Baker, City Recorder; John Perez, Economic Development Director; Adrian Day, Police Chief; Andrew Aagard, Community Development Director; Paul Hansen, City Engineer; Shannon Wimmer, Finance Director; Darwin Cook, Parks and Recreation Director; Nathan Farrer, Public Works Director; Patrick Buhr, Public Works Assistant Director.

7. **Adjourn**

Chairman Brady adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

The content of the minutes is not intended, nor are they submitted, as a verbatim transcription of the meeting. These minutes are a brief overview of what occurred at the meeting.

Approved this 4th day of November, 2026

Justin Brady

Justin Brady, City Council Chair