

MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP HELD JANUARY 15, 2026 AT THE HYRUM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 60 WEST MAIN, HYRUM, UTAH.

**CONVENED:** 5:30 P.M.

**CONDUCTING:** Mayor Steve Miller

**ROLL CALL:** Councilmembers Steve Adams, Rebecca Foulger, Michael Nelson, and NaLyn Nelson. Councilmember Rasmussen arrived at 6:20 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** There being four members present and four members representing a quorum, Mayor Miller called the meeting to order.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Treasurer Todd Perkins, City Planner Tony Ekins, City Engineer Matt Holmes, and eight citizens. City Recorder Stephanie Fricke recorded the minutes.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Miller welcomed everyone in attendance and invited audience participation.

**AGENDA ADOPTION:** A copy of the notice and agenda for this meeting was emailed to The Herald Journal, posted on the Utah Public Notice Website and Hyrum City's Website, provided to each member of the governing body, and posted at the City Offices more than forty-eight hours before meeting time.

**ACTION**

**Councilmember Adams made a motion to approve the agenda for January 15, 2026, Workshop, as written. Councilmember NaLyn Nelson seconded the motion and Councilmembers Adams, Foulger, Michael Nelson, and NaLyn Nelson voted aye. The motion passed.**

5. AGENDA ITEMS

- A. To review the Hyrum City Council Rules of Order and Procedures for City Meetings.
- B. Hyrum City, Ordinance Amendment - An ordinance amending Title 17 Zoning of the Hyrum City Municipal Code Sections 17.44.080 and 17.45.150 Gas Service Station Criteria to establish requirements and regulations for gas service stations, fuel dispensing, and fuel storage tanks; and amend 17.04.070 Definitions to define and include "Fuel Dispensing", "Fuel Storage Tank", "Fuel Storage Tank Aboveground" and "Gas Service Station".
- C. City Administrator instead of City Manager.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

**AGENDA ITEMS:****TO REVIEW THE HYRUM CITY COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURES FOR CITY MEETINGS.**

Mayor Miller asked the City Council to review the Council Rules of Order and Procedures for City Council Meetings. Utah State Code 10~3~606 directs municipal legislative bodies to adopt procedures to facilitate business, ensure equal opportunity, and encourage ethical behavior in civil discourse. In June 2024 the City Council, at that time, approved the rules of order and procedures that help govern City Council Meetings. He will be following the rules and procedures outlined in the policy including the time limits.

**HYRUM CITY, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 17 ZONING OF THE HYRUM CITY MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 17.44.080 AND 17.45.150 GAS SERVICE STATION CRITERIA TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR GAS SERVICE STATIONS, FUEL DISPENSING, AND FUEL STORAGE TANKS; AND AMEND 17.04.070 DEFINITIONS TO DEFINE AND INCLUDE "FUEL DISPENSING", "FUEL STORAGE TANK", "FUEL STORAGE TANK ABOVEGROUND" AND "GAS SERVICE STATION".**

City Planner Tony Ekins said the proposed amendments to Title 17 of the Hyrum City Municipal Code Sections 17.44.080 and 17.45.150 Gas Service Station Criteria to establish requirements and regulations for gas service stations, fuel dispensing, and fuel storage tanks; and amend 17.04.070 Definitions to define and include "Fuel Dispensing", "Fuel Storage Tank", "Fuel Storage Tank Aboveground" and "Gas Service Station". These conditions need to be in place to help protect our water and environment. The State of Utah has asked him if it can use the ordinance he has created as a model ordinance for other communities in Utah. This ordinance will help make sure there are requirements for existing gas stations and new gas stations that will help with containment incase of a spill.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR INSTEAD OF CITY MANAGER.**

Mayor Miller said he wanted to share some thoughts he has been having and is asking for honest opinions and feedback, as these matters have been weighing heavily on his mind. He has enjoyed

outlining a vision for Hyrum, and if the City hires a City Manager the City Manager may not at first have the knowledge and passion to accomplish his same vision. He has only been in the role for ten days and does not feel fully ready yet, but what he is discovering is that he truly enjoys serving and being part of meaningful change and the continued betterment of the city. As he has reflected on this, he proposes that the city search for and hire a City Administrator who would work closely with him and report to the City Council, rather than hiring a traditional City Manager. He believes the City Administrator would collaborate directly with the Mayor on projects and forward progress. While he understands the role of a City Manager, he is concerned that a newly hired City Manager may not have the same knowledge of the City and its residents needed to see certain initiatives through over the next four years. He feels that a City Administrator could be given multiple responsibilities and function similarly to a City Manager, with the key difference being that this individual would work closely with the Mayor on day-to-day operations and projects. He believes this structure would allow the City to be more efficient and productive, while still ensuring the City Council remains an integral part of all decisions. He has no intention of circumventing the City Council in any way and fully respects its role. Since stepping into the position, he has already encountered challenges, including discovering a software purchase made two years ago that hasn't been used. Due to limited time and manpower, the software was never fully implemented. He has since spoken with the software company and reviewed the available options. One option involves purchasing a limited version as a learning tool, though he feels that is not the best approach. Another option allows the City to bring representatives on-site to train staff and fully implement the system, which was the original intent when it was purchased and paid for two years ago. He has learned that the software has since been updated and that the city still retains access to all upgrades. These experiences have reinforced his belief that the city would benefit from a Mayor who is actively involved in day-to-day operations rather than serving in a primarily ceremonial role. He wants to be engaged, to participate in decisions, and to ensure the best interests of the city's citizens are being served. He believes his familiarity with the community gives him an advantage and that, at this point, bringing in a City Manager who lacks that familiarity may not be the best path forward. Ultimately, he wants to express his willingness to do the work, to be involved, and to contribute fully. He is seeking feedback and open discussion as the city moves forward. He would rather be a working Mayor than a ceremonial

Mayor. He wants to be involved in the day to day decisions and ensure the best interest of citizens are taken care of. He wants to help guide the City Administrator.

Councilmember Adams said the residents of Hyrum voted Mayor Miller into office and the residents would want to speak with Mayor Miller rather than City Manager if Mayor Miller was available. Hiring a City Administrator that works under the direction of the Mayor would be a better solution for Hyrum. Having Mayor Miller be an active Mayor with a City Administrator will help ensure that things that are important to the Mayor and City Council but may not be important to a City Manager will still be accomplished. Mayor Miller should be involved in every decision that is made in this City, he was elected by the citizens, and they will hold him accountable.

Councilmember NaLyn Nelson asked why a City Administrator rather than a City Manager.

Mayor Miller said a City Administrator will work closely with the Mayor closely on the budget, grants, and working with various departments, but work more on special assignments and projects from the Mayor. This will give him a greater ability to accomplish more.

Councilmember Foulger said Mayor Miller has the background, knowledge, understanding and the respect of the people, and if he wants to take a more active role as the Mayor, she would support him in his request for a City Administrator rather than a City Manager.

Councilmember NaLyn Nelson asked if the City Administrator would be accountable in any way to the City Council.

Mayor Miller said the City Administrator is more accountable to the Mayor than the City Council but would work to accomplish the goals of the City.

Hyrum City resident and Providence City Manager Ryan Snow said he thought the City was making a huge mistake by hiring a City Administrator rather than a City Manager. A City Manager has a greater benefit to the City than a City Administrator. He recommended Mayor Miller come visit Providence City so he could see inside a good operating city.

Mayor Miller said he appreciated Ryan Snow's comments, but he was elected by the citizens to represent Hyrum City. He has the energy and vision to take Hyrum City in the direction that it needs to go and the citizens elected him for the vision that he shared with them. He doesn't want to let the voters down and can see that a City Administrator that works with him would be more beneficial than a City Manager. When he was campaigning, it was to hire someone to help manage the city. A City Administrator will be similar to a City Manager except for as the Mayor he will be able to offer his vision, energy, and leadership in conjunction with a City Administrator. Hyrum is unique and there is a vast difference between Hyrum City and other cities due to the number of utilities Hyrum City has. He feels strongly that he wants to move forward with hiring a City Administrator over a City Manager.

Councilmember NaLyn Nelson asked what doesn't appeal to him about hiring a City Manager.

Mayor Miller said it takes a lot of the decision making away from the Mayor and removes him one step further from the citizens that trusted him and voted for him as Mayor. A City Manager has the ability to make decisions that may not be in alignment with the Mayor, and a City Manager reports strictly to the City Council. He has spoken with the City Attorney, and the City Attorney said the City does not have to change its form of government that Hyrum City has already operated with a City Administrator. City Manager and City Administrator are interchangeable titles in some cities, and most job descriptions are similar but a City Administrator gives the Mayor the right to be more involved in day-to-day operations.

Councilmember Michael Nelson said he supports Mayor Miller in hiring a City Administrator rather than a City Manager. The citizens elected Mayor Miller and trusted his vision and will want to see him in more of the day to day operations.

Councilmember Rasmussen arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Mayor Miller said he does not want to be less accessible to the citizens, that is not why he ran for office. He was on board with hiring a City Manager until he had a lengthy discussion with the City Attorney about the differences. He wants to be a hands-on Mayor with a vision for Hyrum City and hire a City Administrator to help share the load and accomplish great things. The City Administrator will still report to the City Council and help the

