



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers at City Hall and Online

MINUTES

Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present included Art Adcock, Travis Keel, Lynn Mecham and Jeff Siddoway.
Absent Brian Del Rosario

Others present included City Manager Norm Beagley, Assistant City Manager Jason Bond, City Recorder Stephanie Christensen, City Legal Counsel Brett Rich, City Engineer Jon Lundell, Finance Director Shannon Hoffman, Digital Content Specialist Molly Warnick and Jessica Miller

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Manager Norm Beagley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT

Mayor Olson offered an invocation

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Community Action Services and Food Bank Presentation

Jessica Miller from Community Action Services introduced herself to Council. She is the Chief Impact Officer at Community Action Services and Food Bank. Community Action is the second largest food bank in the state of Utah and has served Utah, Wasatch and Summit counties for 59 years. The organization's mission is to foster self-reliance in individuals, families, and the community by stabilizing people and providing educational resources and skill-building programs. Ms. Miller stated the organization conducts an assessment every 3 years to ensure programs meet community needs. She stated they have identified 2 priority areas, housing insecurity and lack of affordable housing, income gap and rising cost of living and food insecurity. Housing affordability has been a growing issue over the last five to six years. Rising home prices and interest rates have increased mortgage payments. Utah ranks ninth in the nation for foreclosures, with a 17% increase since December 2024. Ms. Miller reported rental costs have also increased significantly, with two-bedroom apartment rent doubling since 2020. Evictions are higher than pre-pandemic levels. She defined affordable housing as costing no more than 30% of gross monthly income. Utah County saw a 34% increase in homelessness from 2024 to 2025. Contributing factors include mental illness, domestic violence and substance use.

Ms. Miller explained that inflation has significantly increased living costs. Ten dollars in January 2021 has the same buying power as \$12.62 in March 2026, a 26.2% increase. Wages have not kept pace, and the gap between average wage and living wage has widened. She said food insecurity was defined using

the USDA definition. Common signs include skipping meals, limiting grocery purchases, and attending free events for food. There are programs for food assistance, financial literacy and economic mobility coaching aimed at helping families reach 200% of the federal poverty level. Ms. Miller reported the Santaquin data showed 141 individuals served, 41% children, 2% seniors, 60% renters, 20% homeowners, 7% homeless, 36% employed, 30% unemployed, 10% disabled and a third did not have a high school diploma. Councilor Art Adcock asked, who brings the lunches to the park? Ms. Miller stated she wasn't sure. Councilor Adcock also asked if they interface with Mountain Land Associates of Government? Ms. Miller said they partner with them, but she is not familiar with a program they have for that service at the park.

Mayor Olson discussed transportation barriers for residents traveling to Provo. Questions were raised about bus routes and accessibility. The possibility of expanding transportation options and mobile pantry services was discussed. Ms. Miller noted that Community Action would be interested in exploring a mobile pantry or partnership opportunities with the City. She stated that funding, staffing, and space are current barriers to establishing a physical location in Santaquin. Mayor Olson suggested coordination with UTA to get additional stops in Santaquin. City Manager Norm Beagley stated that there are a few existing programs like Tabitha's Way that are in the area of Santaquin, Goshen and Genola. Ms. Miller thanked the Mayor and Councilors for their time and will take the feedback back to her team.

2. Follow Up Discussion Regarding Approved Tentative Budget and Forthcoming Interim Budget

Finance Director Shannon Hoffman stated that since the last meeting she has some updates for the tentative budget. The City explored new insurance options and proposed moving from a small market to a mid-level market plan. This removes the 9% increase while maintaining or improving benefits and the City will continue to pay 100% of the premiums. Finance Director Hoffman reported that other adjustments that were needed to change were increased costs for liability, property and vehicle insurance. A few minor departmental increases such as phones and fuel. Also, RAP tax funding rolled over for unused fitness equipment. Finance Director Hoffman stated that sales tax updates were pending and they won't come out till tomorrow.

City Manager Norm Beagley wanted to restate that if we go into a bigger market, we will not be able to go back (to a small market). This current proposal will keep the same network and same doctors going into a bigger market if we choose to make this change.

Councilor Travis Keel addressed the Council with his strong opposition to the skate park project. Councilor Keel stated that he had stopped several times at the skate park in Payson on different varied days and has always seen the same things. Councilor Keel observed significant issues including graffiti, trash, vandalism, gang activity, and substance abuse. He presented photos to the Council from his personal observations. He stated when he stopped today there were 2 police officers there and they said their data shows they had 27 incidents in 2025. Councilor Keel feels skate parks attract crime and inappropriate behavior and questioned if that's what we want to bring to the City. Councilor Art Adcock reported he has wrestled with the skate park since the trip to Payson City and I said I was against it. He stated he then talked to some folks and felt like there was some sentiment in favor of it. I think I've changed my mind again and I'm not in favor of it. I think we need to kick this down the road a year and see if we get a data center or some income, some money that would warrant spending money on a want instead of something we need.

Councilor Keel stated he has had a lot of experience with this skate park and he is said, it's just a different group people. Councilor Keel said if we are going to stick this skate park in the dark corner of a high-density neighborhood, what's going to happen when our kids go over there and ask what these words mean. I don't want to explain that to my kids. There is also a lot of gang graffiti. The pictures that were presented showed trash and broken glass, vape pens and lots of garbage. While he was at the skate park, he talked to a few of the kids and their language was awful. He turned his camera on for 42 seconds and in those 42 seconds he heard the f-word 7 times. The kids that he talked with are from Santaquin and Payson. Councilor Keel said we really have to ask ourselves the question, is this what we want? And if it is, then we just have to acknowledge that this is acceptable, and this is what we're going to build. Councilor Keel stated that even if we do get a grant, he thinks it needs to be ranked where we are not going to fund it. If it were up to him, he would have it removed from the master plan, but it's not up to him and he know there won't be support for that.

Councilor Lynn Mecham supported Councilor Keel's concerns. He stated he had similar experiences from working in schools near skate parks including skipping school and they couldn't keep kids in school. That is where the kids went to get drugs and other things against school policies. Councilor Adcock stated he is not in favor of the skate park and I wouldn't want it at the Centennial Park.

Councilor Jeff Siddoway stated he has had several residents asking about getting a skate park. He also stated he had taken his kids to skates parks and they were not like that and the kids had a lot of fun and were used widely.

City Manager Norm Beagley stated that if 2 or more members ask for it to be put on as an agenda item for the next meeting, we will do that.

3. Other Business

Nothing to report at this time.

4. Upcoming Agenda Items

City Manager Beagley informed the Mayor and Council that there will be 2 sets of minutes and city expenditures to approve. Ordinance 05-01-2026 will be discussed. Assistant City Manager Jason Bond informed the Council that this ordinance is to add an alternative member to the ARC. It gives more coverage in case someone is unable to attend. Councilor Art Adcock clarified it's 5 regular members and one alternate and it's a three-year term. Assistance City Manager Bond said that is correct. Councilor Adcock asked what are the thoughts about having a non-resident? Assistant City Manager stated he is okay with that because people who are going to be on the ARC are going to be people who have either professional design experience, a professional architect and people that have an eye for it. City Manager Norm Beagley stated the next item on the agenda is the ordering of a new fire truck. Next, will be the discussion on Grey Cliffs mass grading permit renewal. The Planning Commission gave their recommended approval. The last item will be a discussing on awarding a contract for Solid Waste and Recycle. It will be a wholesale change out of all the containers. Waste Management came out the lowest cost and also highest in the rankings as far as their capabilities.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Lynn Mecham made a motion to adjourn the City Council Work Session. Councilor Jeff Siddoway seconded the motion.

Councilor Art Adcock	Yes
Councilor Brian Del Rosario	Yes
Councilor Travis Keel	Yes
Councilor Lynn Mecham	Yes
Councilor Jeff Siddoway	Yes

The motion passed.

The City Council Work Session Meeting adjourned 7:43 p.m.

ATTEST:



Daniel M. Olson, Mayor



Stephanie Christensen, City Recorder