

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

Presiding: Mayor Adams

Meeting Via Internet and at City Hall Convened at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer: Mayor Adams

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Dayley

Present at City Hall and Online: Mayor Steven Adams; Councilors Joy M. Ball, Glenn Dayley, and Catherine Nielsen; Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson; Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert; Senator Doug Ricks; House Representative Britt Raybould; Educator Maren Nichols; Salem Residents Reese Emma and Lizzie Westfall; St Anthony residents AJ and Erika Balls and Brynlee Balls, and others who may have joined electronically but not identified. Councilman Stanford was excused.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to approve the Consent Agenda; motion carried.

IDAHO DISTRICT 34 STATE AND HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES:

Senator Doug Ricks: Senator Ricks is the Local Government and Taxation Chair for Idaho. He spoke of his work in the Senate summarized below:

- \$400 Million Tax Cuts for 2026 – includes no tax on military retirement income, no capital gains on gold or bullion, increases grocery tax credit from \$120 to \$150, and \$100 million in property tax relief
- HB 37 Method of Execution – reinstates the firing squad for capital punishment
- HB 380 New Lewd Conduct Penalties for Minor Children – Mandatory fixed-term imprisonment for aggravated sexual abuse of minors under 16. The death penalty added for aggravated sexual abuse of children 12 and under.
- HB 93 Parental Choice Tax Credit – refundable tax credit (up to \$5,000) to families for school choice educational costs
- HB 1210 Medical Freedom Bill – revises provisions for prohibited medical mandates from the Coronavirus Stop Act

Representative Britt Raybould: serves on several different committees. She spoke about several different legislative topics summarized below:

- Boise adopts Pride Flag as one of the official flags despite Idaho HB 96
- Urban Renewal Districts – bill gives cities ability to dissolve districts except financial obligations
- Water Legislation - \$30 million toward water banks, infrastructure, conversion, and storage
- Local Option Tax – explore more ideas
- School Funding – salary and benefit increases for teachers
- Teton Dam – under the Bureau of Reclamation, possible reconstruction, a study is being done
- School Choice Funding – accountability, set standards. Funds are not available for home

schooling which rejects government involvement.

Representative Jon Weber: was excused for a conflicting schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Little Libraries: Lizzie Westfall of Salem and Brynlee Balls of St. Anthony, students from Kershaw Intermediate School spoke to the Council and Mayor about the benefits having Little Libraries around town. The mayor and council encouraged the idea and asked that they meet again with Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson to map and plan the Little Libraries.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

50th Anniversary Teton Dam Flood Community Event: the city plans on holding Sugar Days in conjunction with the Teton Dam Community Event next year on Saturday, May 30. Activities planned are listed below:

- Community Breakfast
- Vendors
- Bouncy houses, games, entertainment
- Flood bus tours
- Flood Memories – That Day in June movie, shared memories
- Flood Web Page Link – link for walking tour on official website

Sugar City Area Historical Society Silent Auction: the Historical Society will be holding a silent auction in conjunction with this year's Sugar Days Event. Many businesses in Sugar City and Rexburg have donated prizes. Private families and individuals have also expressed interest

Fremont County Pioneer Day Parade: the council decided not to participate this year.

4th of July Parade: the council will participate with the mayor's razor again this year. The theme is Why I love America.

Sugar Days Awards:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilman Dayley and seconded by Councilwoman Nielsen to nominate Kevin Miyasaki as Distinguished Citizen and Lynsey Bean as Public Servant awards; motion carried.

Toyota Sponsorship Contract:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Ball and seconded by Councilwoman Nielsen to approve the Toyota Sponsorship Contract with the changes and authorize the mayor to sign the contract. Thereupon, the clerk called roll upon the motion.

Those voting aye: Councilors Ball, Dayley, and Nielsen

Those voting nay: None

Councilman Stanford was excused.

Thereupon, the Mayor declared the motion passed.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert reported on the following items:

Stillwater Planned Unit Development (PUD): The commission held a public hearing just prior to the council meeting. The development will have 62 new homes – all single-family townhomes or twin homes. All concerns were addressed. A Homeowners Association (HOA) will provide snow removal and other services to the residents. Parks, pickleball courts, and walking paths are planned amenities.

Derik Taylor Resignation: Planning and Zoning Chairman Derik Taylor resigned this week.

Spencer Haacke was appointed as the new chairman. A special thanks was extended to Mr. Taylor for his service and taking on a difficult task. Mr. Taylor will stay on long enough to help get the Urban Renewal District organized.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson reported on the following items.

Rexburg Grant for Sewer Line: Rexburg received the grant for the sewer line project. The grant will lower Sugar City's cost share of the line. Budget numbers have not been received yet.

Sugar Days Climbing Wall: the wall was reserved for the second half of Sugar Days. It was unavailable again for the first half.

Teton Island Estates Phase 2: sewer line has been installed.

Child Safety Pedestrian Grant: the sidewalks are mostly complete. The crossing lights will be installed in a few weeks. The city is still waiting for permission from the railroad and Century Link.

Additional Public Works Employee: three high school and one college students were hired for the summer help. Mr. Jacobson is looking at August or September for an additional full time Public Works employee.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Sugar Days: on track for Saturday, June 21.

Cert Training: Council President Nielsen asked that Jon Corpany be given some time at the next council meeting to explain the Cert Training Program. She completed the program and feels it would benefit the community. The newsletter could also have a write up to notify the public of the classes.

Sewer Billing: there have been complaints about the sewer billing process. The mayor will have Public Works Director look at possibly revising it.

Teton Dam Reconstruction: signatures are being gathered in support of the reconstruction of the Teton Dam for water storage.

City Ham Radio Equipment: the mayor is in the process of buying three sets of ham radio equipment for the city. The cost is well within the City Emergency Fund budget.

Motion was made for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Signed: _____
Mayor, Steven Adams

Attested: _____
Wendy McLaughlin, Clerk-Treasurer