

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SUGAR CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

Presiding: Mayor Steven Adams
Meeting Via Internet and at City Hall Convened at 6:30 p.m.
Prayer: Councilwoman Ball
Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Steven Adams

Present at City Hall and Online: Mayor Steven Adams; Councilors Joy Ball, Glenn Dayley, Catherine Nielsen, and Carter Stanford; Clerk-Treasurer Wendy McLaughlin; Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson; Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert and Chairman Spencer Haacke; Citizen Bert McLaughlin, and others who may have joined electronically but not identified.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

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

- **Grants:** Mr. Jacobson attended a meeting with the Planning and Zoning to get feedback on sidewalk placement for the TAP Grant application due in January. He will also meet with other public entities for their feedback. Possible locations discussed:
 - Fort Henry development connection
 - Disc Golf expansion and paths
 - South side of 3rd North
 - Pro Peat area
 - Business Park areaThe sidewalks can either be constructed of 5-foot-wide cement or 6–10-foot-wide asphalt. The city has received money from various other grants this year for sidewalk extensions, crossing lights, ADA ramps and infrastructure development. The Transportation Plan is also being updated.
- **Moody Bridge** – completed and open to the public next week. Pavement will be laid next spring.
- **Vialytics Software:** a 15-minute presentation is planned for the next council meeting in January. Vialytics Software tracks road and sign maintenance as well as Work Orders using Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- **Groomers:** the city bought a groomer for cross country skiing paths around Sugar City.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT: Planning and Zoning Chairman Spencer Haacke reported on the following items:

Public Hearing: scheduled for Thursday, December 18 for a proposed zone change from R1 to R2 in Teton Island Estates subdivision.

Parks and Paths: the commission has been working with the Public Works Director Arlynn Jacobson for best path placement with grant money. Peregrin Park in Old Farm Estates is still not complete despite assurances. Possible solutions were discussed such as:

- Fines
- No more building permits until resolved

The mayor asked that the item be placed on the agenda for the next couple of meetings to follow through progress.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert reported on the following items:

Henry's Fork Watershed Meeting: an all-day meeting to discuss the Upper Valley watershed on the Henry's Fork River will be held Tuesday, December 16 at the Fremont County Annex Building. The meeting should be very informative and the council and mayor are encouraged to attend.

Riverbend Development: a proposed schematic plat has been submitted to Planning and Zoning for the Riverbend property. There is a large commercial element, water feature, and large mixed housing units.

Pro Peat Air Quality: Mr. Hibbert has contacted DEQ about the "smoke emissions" from the Pro Peat Plant. He would like to see an emissions sample report. Pro Peat is waiting on emission equipment to be installed. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) said there was no eminent threat to public health and safety. However, Mr. Hibbert reported feeling sick after being in the vicinity for a short time. Mr. Hibbert will give a report at the next Council meeting after following up with DEQ.

Area Growth: Local News 8 reported on the growth in the area of Sugar City which sparked negative comments on the Sugar City News Facebook page. The report was accurate and positive overall. The mayor will give an official response from the City to answer any concerns or questions the public has. He will give more frequent official comments as the city grows.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No report.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Urban Renewal Per Diem:

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilman Dayley to approve the adoption of the Urban Renewal Board Compensation Resolution (see attachment #1); motion carried.

Personnel Policy Change: the council discussed the idea of relaxing the paid holiday schedule to allow for the mayor's discretion on holidays that land in the middle of the week to take advantage of longer weekends.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilwoman Nielsen and seconded by Councilwoman Ball to approve the holiday revision to the Personnel Policy (see attachment #2); motion carried.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Christmas Tree Lighting: the event went well again this year. About 180 children saw Santa. Free ice skating was offered that night as well. One suggestion for next year is to have Santa come after the children sing.

Christmas Dinner: the food and venue were great! The city will consider using The Aisle and caterer again for next year.

Public Service Report: Councilwoman Nielsen reported that the Red Cross checks residential smoke detectors as a public service. They check batteries and replace up to three smoke detectors per residence. All you need to do is call the Red Cross and get on their list.

Boise Meetings: Mayor Adams reported on attending the Association of Taxpayers and Legislative meetings last week in Boise. The state is experiencing a state budget shortfall due to legislative tax cuts and federal tax changes. Strong reserves offer options that will more than likely correct the situation by next spring.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Signed: _____
Steven Adams, Mayor

Attested: _____
Wendy McLaughlin
Clerk-Treasurer