

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 1, 2025
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
WORK MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 56 NORTH 100 WEST**

Mayor Melani Torgersen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Blaine Porter, Sally Orme, Lenza Wilson, Marlene Stowe, City Attorney Barry Huntington and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Also present were Bill Weppner, Terence Tontlewicz and Julie Brugger.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Council member Wilson moved to adopt the agenda as written. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2025 MEETING

Council member Stowe moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2025 meeting as written. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Orme, Stowe and Porter voting aye. Wilson abstained due to not being present at the June 17, 2025 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

PLANNING AND ZONING UPDATES

There were no Planning and Zoning updates at this time.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

RESOLUTION 2025-09 FINAL TAX RATES

City Recorder Steed explained Resolution 2025-09. Council member Orme moved to adopt Resolution 2025-09. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.

Council member Lyman arrived at this time.

SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA)

Council member Porter explained the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA). Council member Porter said he has checked with other companies to get bids but everyone that

would bid on this would have to use Dorsett Controls due to them being the only one in this area providing this service. Council member Porter explained that the \$70,000 system would automate tank monitoring, reduce manual labor, and comply with state regulations, with a monthly service charge. Council member Wilson suggested exploring the possibility of using impact fees to offset the costs. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Porter moved to move forward with the SCADA contract with Dorsett Controls. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council member Orme, Stowe, Porter, Wilson and Lyman voting aye.**

UTAH RETIREMENT SYSTEM DISCREPANCY

Mayor Torgersen explained Jared Dunton was certified in the wrong Utah Retirement System (URS) fund during his employment with Escalante City. City Recorder Steed said Mr. Dunton worked for Escalante City as Chief of Police from November 1, 2005 through January 27, 2012. City Recorder Steed said Mr. Dunton was certified as a Public Employee instead of Public Safety and the two systems have a different retirement rate and requirements. City Recorder Steed explained for Mr. Dunton to be able to retire at his full retirement the City will need to pay the difference in his rate to the URS. Council member Lyman asked how much it would be to pay for the missing years. City Recorder Steed said the missing years with interest is estimated at around \$60,000.00. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Porter moved to move forward and pay the necessary amount to make it right due to Jared Dunton being certified in the wrong Utah Retirement System fund during his employment as Chief of Police from November 1, 2005 through January 27, 2012. Council member Lyman seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Stowe, Orme, Porter and Lyman voting aye.**

RESOLUTION 2025-09 ESCALANTE CITY SUPPORTING AMERICA 250UTAH AND RECOGNIZING AND APPROVING OF THE ESCALANTE UTAH250 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Council Member Stowe explained Resolution 2025-10 and read it. Council member Stowe explained some of the events to take place in 2026. **Council member Lyman moved to adopt Resolution 2025-09. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Stowe, Lyman, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS **ADMINISTRATIVE**

City Recorder Steed said the budget and financial reports are available for review.

City Recorder Steed said the City received the Christmas Light Grant from the County to put up another snowflake swag and additional lights on Main Street.

City Recorder Steed reported on the Business License conference at SUU and thanked the Council for sending her.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

BILL WEPPNER

Mr. Weppner said the entire state of Utah is under fire restrictions and under restrictions for fireworks. Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department will not do fireworks on the Fourth of July and they do not know about the Twenty Fourth of July.

Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department would rather prevent a fire than suppress a fire. Mr. Weppner said last week the Fire Department got a call from a Flying V worker who was checking hay bales on the ranch and detected they were hot. Mr. Weppner said the Fire Department stationed E1 there just in case something happened while they took the hay bales apart. Mr. Weppner explained the incident and said the Fire Department would rather take precautions and will provide this service to any of the farmers in the area.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGENSEN

Mayor Torgersen said she would like to remind everyone of the Open House on July 10 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the new Dental Office and Wellness Center.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON

Council member Wilson said he has received the materials for new electrical outlets on the North side of the Fire Station to use in the park for events throughout the year.

Council member Wilson explained with the heavy rainstorms at the Airport the City needs to find a source of boulders to rebuild the barrier where all the water drains from the east end of the runway into the wash for flood control.

COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER

Council member Porter had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said to remind everybody when taking refrigerators, freezers, anything with freon to the landfill needs to be checked in with a city worker. Council member Orme explained they must be set aside and tagged, marked and recorded so that the city can make sure that the refrigerant is evacuated by a certified individual.

UNPAID BILLS

Council member Porter moved to pay the unpaid bills. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Orme, Lyman, Wilson and Porter voting aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session needed at this time.

Council member Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Torgersen called the work meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Escalante City Council Chambers.

Present at said work meeting were Mayor Torgersen, Council members Stowe, Wilson, Lyman, Orme, Porter and City Recorder Steed. City Attorney Huntington was excused.

There was no one else present.

The work meeting was to work on Policies and Procedures, Employee Benefits and the City Fee Schedule

The work meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

/s/ Stephanie Steed
Stephanie Steed, MMC, UCC
City Recorder

Date minutes approved: 7/15/2025