

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 15, 2025  
REGULAR 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 and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman was excused. City Attorney Barry Huntington joined electronically.

Also present were Bill Weppner, Fred Spencer, Terence Tontlewicz, Kim Porter, Victory Crawford and Lawrence Barnes.

Ashley Coombs joined electronically.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 1, 2025 MEETING**

**Council member Wilson moved to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2025 meeting as written. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Stowe and Porter voting aye.**

**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**

**RACHEL CARTER COATES - COUNTY WATER METER - 791 N RESERVOIR ROAD**

Council member Porter explained this meter could be hooked up to an existing line and will be the last one on the line due to capacity. Council member Porter said the existing line can accommodate up to four meters on a 2-inch line and has three meters at this time. Council member Porter said Ms. Coates will have to run the water line from the road to their property.

**Council member Porter moved to approve the new water meter for Ms. Coates. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Porter, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

**LAZY SEVENS WESTERN, LLC - BUSINESS LICENSE - 39 W. MAIN STREET**

City Recorder Steed explained this Business License has all the required paperwork and has paid all the fees. **Council member Orme moved to approve the business license for Lazy Sevens Western, LLC. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council member Orme, Stowe, Porter and Wilson voting aye.**

**KIM PORTER - REMOVE TREE - 180 EAST 200 NORTH**

Mr. Porter said he is concerned about a large tree on his property that extends into the City right-of-way, making it difficult to determine property lines and right-of-way boundaries. Mr. Porter explained his efforts to get a survey done but has faced challenges due to the lack of a city surveyor and the high cost of private surveys. City Attorney Huntington stated his concerns about liability and the need to know if the tree is on city land before deciding on removal. The Council agreed to have Council members Porter and Wilson assess the tree's location before making a decision on removal.

**KIM PORTER - REPAIR SEWER CLEANOUT - 180 EAST 200 NORTH**

Council member Porter explained that the city is only responsible for the main sewer line, not the lateral lines that connect to individual properties. This item was discussed at length. **Council member Orme moved to not repair the sewer cleanout due to it not being the City's property. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Porter, Stowe, Orme and Wilson voting aye.**

**APPOINT APPEAL AUTHORITY**

Mayor Torgersen explained during the work meeting after the last city council meeting City Recorder Steed reported on other municipalities' practices and found Kaden Figgins to be an impartial choice for the Appeal Authority due to his lack of local connections. **Council member Wilson moved to appoint Kaden Figgins as the Appeal Authority. Council member Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Wilson, Orme and Porter voting aye.**

**FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS**

City Recorder Steed explained the potential amendments for the Appeal Authority fee to \$250.00 plus mileage, implementing mailing fees for rezoning applications, increasing annexation fees to \$500.00 for the first property and \$100.00 for each additional property. **Council member Wilson moved to approve fee schedule amendments as presented. Council member Orme seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Wilson, Orme, Stowe and Porter voting aye.**

City Recorder Steed said it was also discussed during the work meeting to increase the utility late fees to \$15.00 a month but would need to go through a public hearing to move forward. The Council would like to schedule a public hearing for August 5, 2025.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS****ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Administrative Department had nothing to report at this time.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The Public Works Department was not present at said meeting.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**BILL WEPPNER**

Mr. Weppner reported on recent fire department activities, including a call to fight a wildland fire on federal land, and discussed plans to seek reimbursement for firefighting costs. Mr. Weppner explained the Fire Department missed a mass casualty training session with the County due to lack of information.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**MAYOR MELANI TORGERSEN**

Mayor Torgersen reported on the open house for the new dental office, Wellness Center, and physical therapy area. Mayor Torgersen said the Wellness Center will be available to the public starting August 1, 2025. Mayor Torgersen said City Employees and members of the Fire Department will be free of charge with the general public paying \$25.00 per month.

Mayor Torgersen said the 24th of July is coming up a week from this weekend, so be prepared for lots of people and fun.

**COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN**

Council member Lyman was not present at said meeting.

**COUNCIL MEMBER LENZA WILSON**

Council member Wilson reported on the new outlets and power on the back of the Fire Station and his plan to put in a lightning arrester.

**COUNCIL MEMBER BLAINE PORTER**

Council member Porter said the City is running the well and struggling to keep the water tanks full.

**COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE**

Council member Stowe reported the company that put in the awning over the playground hit two waterlines and the public works employees have been working on repairing them. Mayor Torgersen asked Council member Stowe to call and let the Company know so they can address it with their employees.

Council member Stowe explained the need for more chips around the playground which Terry Olsen will look for a supplier.

**COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME**

Council member Orme had nothing to report at this time.

**UNPAID BILLS**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session needed at this time.

**Mayor Torgersen adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.**

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

Date minutes approved: 8/5/2025