

**ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 2, 2026
REGULAR MEETING/ELECTRONIC MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
ESCALANTE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 65 NORTH CENTER STREET**

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 Sally Orme, Tara Woolsey, Marlene Stowe, Ryan Cottam and City Recorder Stephanie Steed. Council member Chad Lyman arrived at 6:03 p.m. City Attorney Barry Huntington was excused.

Also present were Bill Weppner, Margie Weppener, Julie Brugger and Chad Cottam.

Mayor Torgersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2026 MEETING

Council member Orme moved to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2026 meeting as written. Council member Stowe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Woolsey, Orme, Stowe and Cottam 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

GARFIELD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CARE FOUNDATION

Council member Stowe asked what the City has done in the past regarding the Garfield Memorial Hospital Care Foundation. City Recorder Steed said the City typically contributes \$320.00 to sponsor a table for eight at the event. **Council member Orme moved to sponsor a foundation dinner table. Council member Woolsey seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council members Stowe, Cottam, Orme and Woolsey voting aye.**

WATER SERVICE OUTSIDE MUNICIPAL LIMITS

Council member Lyman arrived at this time.

Council member Lyman explained this item. **Council member Lyman moved to move this item to a public hearing on June 16, 2026. Council member Woolsey seconded the motion.**

Motion carried with Council member Orme, Stowe, Cottam, Woolsey and Lyman voting aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

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

City Recorder Steed reported the pickleball courts are done and awaiting the final walk through.

City Recorder Steed explained the airport apron reconstruction and construction has been advertised, and the bids are all due by June 10, 2026 by 12:00 noon.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Chad Cottam said the public works has been preparing to chip seal with the county but it has been delayed for a couple of weeks.

Mr. Cottam said the public works has been working to fine tune the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) alerts. Mr. Cottam explained the water flow into the sewer lagoons and why the SCADA system is sending alerts.

Mr. Cottam said there have been a couple events and the splashpad is ready to go for the annual splashpad day.

Council member Lyman asked about water usage with the restrictions in place. Mr. Cottam reported that despite consistent tank levels, there is currently minimal overflow. Mr. Cottam explained that the water flow from the chlorinator to the town has decreased to 165 gallons per minute, down from the typical rate for this time of year of 180-190 gallons per minute.

Council member Cottam reported that Jay Brooks, from the county road crew, indicated they would return in approximately two weeks to complete the chip sealing process on the city roads.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

BILL WEPPNER

Mr. Weppner reported that since the previous meeting, there was one call-out to assist 506 which required a driver. Mr. Weppner said the department continues to search for water sources for fire protection. Mr. Weppner expressed uncertainty about obtaining a high volume of water regarding the school well. Council member Cottam asked Mr. Weppner to get with him for further discussion and to explore possibilities with the school well for water protection.

Mr. Weppner said without a change in the water situation, the department cannot make commitments regarding the fireworks display.

Mayor Torgersen reported speaking with Fire Chief Don Porter about fire restriction. Mayor Torgersen said Chief Porter is currently coordinating with Chance Stewart to have those restrictions implemented shortly.

COUNCIL REPORTS

MAYOR MELANI TORGENSEN

Mayor Torgersen said the annual splashpad day is this Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mayor Torgersen invited the Council to assist with the festivities, which will feature hot dogs, snow cones, popcorn, games, and music.

Mayor Torgersen said the Heritage Days events last weekend were a success.

COUNCIL MEMBER CHAD LYMAN

Council member Lyman said he appreciates the community complying with the water restrictions.

COUNCIL MEMBER TARA WOOLSEY

Council member Woolsey had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER RYAN COTTAM

Council member Cottam had nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARLENE STOWE

Council member Stowe commented on Heritage Days, noting that the organizers were easy to work with and did a great job. Council member Stowe said she was impressed with the thorough cleanup. Council member Stowe explained this will be the Heritage Days final year unless someone else steps up to take on the event.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY ORME

Council member Orme said she conducted further research into the possibility of contracting out landfill services. Council member Orme explained due to complex state regulations, she determined that this option is not currently feasible.

UNPAID BILLS

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

Mayor Torgersen adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

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

Date minutes approved: 6/16/2026