Council Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2026
Council Chambers
6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**

   Chairman Jared Hamner called the Council Meeting to order at 06:00 PM. The time, place, and agenda of the meeting had been provided to the Tooele Transcript Bulletin and to each member of the governing body by posting the notice and agenda at least two days before on the Tooele County website and emailing them a link.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

   The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jed Bell, Roads Director.

3. **Roll Call**

   Council Member Roll call as follows:

   Erik Stromberg: Absent

   Jared Hamner: Present

   Tye Hoffmann: Present

   Scott Wardle: Present

   Kendall Thomas: Absent

   Also, present were Scott Broadhead- Attorney, Andy Welch- County Manager, Brittany Lopez- Assistant County Manager, and Tracy Shaw- Clerk.

   Staff in attendance were Nathan Harris- Deputy Attorney, Brian White- Chief Deputy Sheriff, Paul Wimmer- Sheriff, Corey Bullock- Parks and Recreation Director, Rachelle Custer- Community Development Director, and Jed Bell- Roads Director.

   Guests in attendance were various residents and Tim Gillie with the Tooele Transcript.

4. **Public Comments**

   4 public comments:

   Amber Einerson of South Rim had comments regarding the gravel pit in South Rim that is currently in litigation, stating that if it does begin operations, she wants to see it done responsibly. She stated she would like to see that employees, contractors and truck drivers are required to use the Mormon Trail for entry and exit. She stated that congestion is already a concern. She stated she'd like to see traffic safety be a priority, including a traffic study being done, speed limits being enforced, restricted haul hours, and clear signage. She'd like to see dust and air quality controls, noise limits and advance notice of blasting.

She also stated that she feels the company should stop until litigation is resolved.

Carrie Mann of South Rim stated she is opposed to the gravel pit. She stated she is concerned about air pollution and the ripple effect of costs. She stated that property values in surrounding areas drop and so does the long-term tax pace. She stated she is concerned about heavy trucks and wear and tear on the roads with ongoing maintenance. She stated she shares similar concerns with Ms. Einerson. She stated decisions like this shape trust, and she is hoping the county leaders will choose to protect the residents.

Roy Peterson of South Rim stated he appreciates the service of Council members. He also feels that the gravel pit creates health and safety problems. Southern winds will carry dust toward kids utilizing the community park. The natural beauty of South Rim is amazing, and he feels it will be ruined by voting for this pit.

Jim Johnson of South Rim also expressed concerns about the gravel pit, stating the pit isn't a pit. He asked how many Council Members have seen it and if they know that the company set up equipment last Thursday. He asked the Council to step up and do the right thing.

5. **Recognitions, Presentations, & Informational Items**

   a. **America 250 Tooele County Update, Brittany Lopez**

   Tooele County, in collaboration with community partners, has been coordinating countywide celebrations. This agenda item provides an update on ongoing efforts and highlights upcoming community events.

   This item was presented by Brittany Lopez, Assistant County Manager. She thanked the Council for providing funds to take part in the National Celebration. She provided an update on upcoming events, stating that all local communities have been participating, including school districts and municipalities. She advised the State has provided funding and toolkits to help make the best use of the funds. Assistant Manager Lopez outlined strategic focuses, which include Walk 250, Serve 250, America's Field Trip and countywide events. She highlighted the countywide Goose Chase scavenger hunt, the Ready to Play festival on April 12th, 2026, and the Sparkle and Splash Event on June 26 & 27.

   Chairman Jared Hamner stated he is overwhelmed by all that is going on, and encouraged others to share on social media.
   Council Member Tye Hoffmann stated it looks good!
   Council Member Scott Wardle stated it is great how the communities throughout our county have come together.

6. **Minutes**

   a. **March 3, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes**

   Council Member Tye Hoffmann noticed his name was missing from the roll call.

   Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve March 3, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes with a correction to the roll call to include his name. Second by Council Member Scott Wardle. All in favor. The motion passed.

7. **Contracts**

   a. **Contract for Asphalt Sealcoating Services w/ AP4, Jed Bell**

   An IFB was issued to select a contractor to sealcoat approximately 900,000 square feet of County roads with AP4 surface treatment. As a proprietary product manufactured by Andersen Asphalt, only Andersen Asphalt submitted a bit. Their bid matched their State Contract price of $0.25/sqft. Anderson's price was determined to be fair and reasonable based on comparison of bid price to the pricing of other sealcoating solutions, and through comparison to previous prices paid for the service. The proposed award amount to Andersen Asphalt is $241,284.25.

   Jed Bell, Roads Director, presented this item as outlined above.
   He stated only one bid was received for this project. The bidder holds the State Contract, and this bid came in at State Contract pricing. He stated the bid estimate came in as expected.

Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve the contract for Asphalt Sealcoating Services with AP4. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

b. **Contract for Road Striping Services, Jed Bell**

An Invitation for Bid was issued to award a contract for road striping services. Four bids were received. They ranged from $45,641.78 for the initial contract term ($138,958.68 over three years) to $97,617.90 ($292,853.70 over three years). As the lowest bidder, Clear Line Striping was selected for award in the amount of $45,641.78 for the intal contract period with two additional option years that would bring the total contract amount to $138,958.68 if all options are exercised.

Jed Bell, Roads Director, presented this item as outlined above.
He advised that 1/3 of line striping on county roads is completed each year. Four bids were received for this project. Clear Line was the lowest bidder. He stated he is bringing this for approval because the 3-year contract raised the total above $100,000.

Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve the Contract for Road Striping Services. Second by Council Member Scott Wardle. All in favor. The motion passed.

c. **Contract for Road Micro Surfacing and Crack Sealing, Jed Bell**

An IFB was issued for micro surfacing and crack sealing of County roads. Two bids were received ranging from $135,735.00 to $162,189.31. As the lowest bidder, Asphalt Preservation, LLC was selected for award in the amount of $135,735.00.

Jed Bell, Roads Director, presented this item as outlined above.
He stated two bids were received. Asphalt Preservation LLC was the lowest bidder. Director Bell stated that Purchasing Director, Daniel Folks, reviewed the state contract and this bid came in lower than state contract.

Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve the Contract for Road Micro Surfacing and Crack Sealing. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

d. **Contract for Landscape and ADA Ramp Construction at 47 S Main St, Brittany Lopez**

An RFP was issued to construct an ADA ramp and landscape redesign at the County's 47 S Main St. address. Three proposals ranging from $444,756.61 to $688,025.00 were received. Aarrow Landscape Construction, LLC was selected for award in the amount of $444,756.61 as the highest scoring proposal.

Brittany Lopez, Assistant County Manager, presented this item as outlined above.
She clarified that during budget season, the ADA ramp was not included in the budget for this item. She advised this contract includes both the landscape redesign and ADA ramp. She stated a line item adjustment will be forthcoming in a future meeting. Andy Welch, County Manager, explained that it's very confusing for citizens to come to the front parking lot and then realize there is no ADA access at the front of the building.
Council Member Tye Hoffmann stated he is in favor of putting an ADA ramp in the front of the building, but he doesn't like spending this much money on landscaping.
Assistant Manager Lopez stated that the timing of this project is important. There will be construction in the back parking lot with the old jail demolition, so the back of the building may be inaccessible during that time. It's important to have ADA access in the front.

Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve the Contract for Landscape and ADA Ramp Construction. Second by Chairman Jared Hamner.
Roll Call Vote: Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye. Council Member Scott Wardle- aye. Chairman Jared Hamner- aye.

e. **SPE Architects Jail Demolition Project Contract (Sole Source), Brittany Lopez**

Request for approval of a sole-source contract between Tooele County and ANR/SEP Architects. This firm has already been procured by the State of Utah for the new Sally Port project. In order to maintain the established project schedule and ensure continuity of services, Tooele County is requesting sole-source approval for this demolition management contract.

Brittany Lopez, Assistant County Manager, presented this item as outlined above.
She explained this is a sole source contract as ANR/SEP Architects is already working on the Sally Port project. They will work as project managers for the demolition of the old jail as it goes hand in hand with the Sally Port project.

Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve SPE Architects Jail Demolition Project Contract as a Sole Source Contract. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

8. **Resolutions/Ordinances**

a. **Resolution 2026-07 - Declaring the Intent of the Tooele County Council to support the State in a RFI response for a Energy Lifecycle Innovation Campus Within Tooele County, Nathan Harris**

This resolution formally expresses the Tooele County Council's support for the State of Utah's response to a Request for Information (RFI) concerning the potential development of an energy campus within Tooele County.

Nathan Harris, Deputy Attorney, presented this item as outlined above.
Jake Garfield, Deputy Director of the State Office of Energy Development, was invited to the podium. Attorney Harris explained this resolution is the next step towards bringing new energy sources to Tooele County. Mr. Garfield stated the US Department of Energy is working on a project called the Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus Initiative. This is only a response to a request for information, meaning that if the Department of Energy decides to explore options in Utah, this part of the process is already complete. He advised the state believes that if Utah is selected for an innovation campus, it will be a major economic driver, bringing higher-paying jobs, tax revenue, inside capital and infrastructure development. The Tooele County location makes sense and the existing Energy Solutions area is ideal for an energy campus.

Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve Resolution 2026-07. Second by Council Member Scott Wardle. All in favor. The motion passed.

b. **Resolution 2026-08 - Amending the Tooele County Fee Schedule to Revamp Fees Charged by the Parks and Recreation Department, Nathan Harris**

Tooele County Parks and Recreation is requesting updates to its fee schedule to accommodate new rental spaces and to better align its fees with those of comparable public amenities.

Nathan Harris, Deputy Attorney, presented this item as outlined above.

Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve Resolution 2026-08. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

c. **Resolution 2026-09 - Renaming and Amending Section 6.7, Annual Performance Evaluation, of the Tooele County Personnel Policy Manual, Nathan Harris**

This resolution provides policies and procedures for managers and employees related to annual performance evaluations and merit increases by amending Section 6.7 of the Personnel Policy Manual and renaming it to "Annual Performance Evaluation and Merit Increases."

Nathan Harris, Deputy Attorney, presented this item as outlined above.
Attorney Harris advised this has to do with the merit increases that are determined at annual performance evaluations. He advised that he and County Manager Welch have been working on this item for several months and have received input from Department Heads and Elected Officials.
Attorney Harris explained the current system and pointed out data spikes in numbers which

show anomalies that didn't work as intended. He stated the goal of this is to seek meaningful evaluations. The new evaluation system still allows the Council to set the merit increase amounts each year. But rather than the merit increases being awarded based on a scoring number, the merit funds will be given to each department individually in a lump sum. This will allow the Department Heads to award the pool of funds as they see fit, hopefully resulting in a more natural bell curve. This system allows for bonuses to be awarded based on special achievements as long as it stays within the allocated pool.
Andy Welch, County Manager, clarified that Department Heads and Elected Officials will have a separate pool and will not be eligible to receive funds from the Department pools.
Council Member Scott Wardle commended the Department Heads for their feedback and their efforts to ensure employees are recognized appropriately.

Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve Resolution 2026-09. Second by Chairman Jared Hamner. All in favor. The motion passed.

9. **Boards & Committees**

   a. **Board Vacancies**

   The Historic Preservation Commission has 2 vacancies.

   The Housing Authority has 1 vacancy for an Attorney.

   The Planning Commission has 1 vacancy for an alternate.

   The Recreation Special Service District has 1 vacancy for an alternate.

   The Rush Valley Water Conservation District has 1 vacancy.

   The Tourism Tax Advisory Board has 1 vacancy. Applicants must represent cultural attractions, hotels, restaurants, recreational facilities, convention facilities, or museums.

   The Board of Health has 1 vacancy. Applicant must be a Professional Health Provider.

   The Lake Point Cemetery and Parks Special Service District has 1 vacancy.

   Chairman Jared Hamner presented Katherine Filler to serve on the Career Service Council. He stated Manager Welch met with her, and she has been recommended to serve a 3-year term, expiring June 30, 2028.
   Andy Welch, County Manager, stated that due to the nature of the Career Service Council, someone with legal experience is needed. As Ms. Filler is an attorney, she meets those needs.
   Scott Broadhead, County Attorney, explained the purpose of the Career Service Council. He stated it is a 3-member council who would hear employee appeals and needs understanding for help navigating legal matters.

   Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to appoint Katherin Filler to the Career Service Council. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

10. **Council Update**

    Council Member Scott Wardle passed on updates.
    Council Member Tye Hoffmann passed on updates.
    Chairman Jared Hamner passed on updates.

11. **Manager Update**

    Andy Welch, County Manager, shared the following updates:
    The Roads Assessments will be finishing up next by the end of April.
    Construction on the Ibapah Road is expected to begin in June and finish in October.
    Engineering on the Mormon Trail will begin this year, and construction is to begin next year.
    He pointed out where contracts can be found on the Clerk's page on the county website and provided a walk-thru on how to navigate that. He advised that all contracts are now appearing on the agenda to allow for better filing and tracking.

    Brittany Lopez, Assistant County Manager, shared the following updates:
    Settlement Canyon will open on April 1.
    Middle Canyon typically opens over Memorial Day weekend, but due to lack of snow, it will open on April

17th, up to White Pine, with limited hours between 12-7pm
She gave a shout-out to the Parks & Recreation team for improvements to the Motocross tracks. The tracks opened over the weekend with 190 riders.

12. **Informational - Public Transparency**

    Audit Reports
    Boards and Committees
    Budgets
    Check Register
    Code
    GRAMA Request
    Public Meetings
    Resolution and Ordinances

13. **Manager Update: Ratifications**

    a. **1 MVA**

    Refund on Motor Vehicle

    b. **1 Commission Adjustment**

    Remove taxes, penalties, and interest on these inactive accounts.

    c. **Transcript Bulletin Publishing Co. Agreement with Tooele County**

    This contract is for the 101 Fun things to do in Tooele County magazine.

    d. **Contract for Sheriff Building Study, MOCA Service**

    e. **Utah State Grant Application and Agreement for Tractor Mower Accessory**

    The State of Utah has approved a grant to pay 50% of the cost for a tractor mower accessory. The cost is $29,014. The grant is for $14,507. The airport's share is also $14,507 and is included in the budget.

    f. **Concessions Kitchen Renovation at The Peak**

    An RFP was issued to obtain proposals to renovate The Peak's kitchen in the concessions building. Three proposals ranging from $79,736.56 to $218,000.00 were received. Outlook Contracting was selected for award in the amount of $79,736.56 as the highest scoring and lowest cost proposal.

    g. **2026-2029 Food Pantry Lease Agreement with Switchpoint**

    The lease agreement between Tooele County and Friends of Switchpoint for the Food Pantry site was due for renewal. The attached agreement, if ratified, would be effective for a period of 3 years (January 1, 2026 — December 31, 2029) and establishes the general terms and conditions of a triple-net lease.

14. **Adjournment - Closed Session if needed**

    Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to adjourn with a 7-minute break and then go into a closed session to discuss the attorney litigation update and potential litigation.

    Roll call vote:
    Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye
    Council Member Scott Wardle- aye
    Chairman Jared Hamner- aye

    The public meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm

    THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE APPROVED:



Tracy Shaw, County Clerk