# Council Meeting Minutes

June 02, 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 Council Member Tye Hoffmann.

3. **Roll Call**

   Council Member Roll call as follows:

   Erik Stromberg: Present

   Jared Hamner: Present

   Tye Hoffmann: Present

   Scott Wardle: Present

   Kendall Thomas: Excused

   Also, present were Nathan Harris- Deputy Attorney, Andy Welch- County Manager, Brittany Lopez- Assistant County Manager, and Nicole Rash- Chief Deputy Clerk.
   Staff in attendance were Alison McCoy- Auditor, Paul Wimmer- Sheriff, Brian White- Deputy Sheriff, Jason Sparks- Facilities Director, Jamie Zwerin- Health Department, Cari Mausling- Auditor's Office, Grant Sunada- Health Department Director
   Guests in attendance were Scott Degelbeck- Tooele City, Tyler Guy- Tourism Tax Advisory Board Chairman, Chris McCormick- Tourism Director, Mike Rapich- Stockton City

   Chairman Jared Hamner congratulated Auditor Alison McCoy on the birth of her grandchild.

4. **Public Comments**

   No Public Comment

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

   a. **2026 Health Department Annual Report, Grant Sunada**

      Grant Sunada, Health Department Director, presented this item. He provided the Council with an onscreen presentation and a hard copy of the presentation as well. He recognized the

team at the Health Department and community partners. He shared the Director's Message which states that everyone deserves dignity, the opportunity to learn, to act, and to innovate. He introduced the Board of Health members. He reviewed the Health Department's 2025 financial report, stating total revenue was $6,885,175, and expenses were $6,698,313. He clarified that Aging Services and Transportation is not included in expenses; they have separate budgets. Director Sunada advised that a community health assessment is conducted every 5 years. In 2020-2022, obesity, depression and smoking were highlights of the assessment. He reviewed info for the years of 2024 & 2025 in the following categories: environmental health inspection numbers, vital records numbers, WIC numbers, Aging Services numbers, prevention services, community nursing, emergency services, healthy smiles, and health promotions.
Council Member Scott Wardle asked about why prevention services numbers have declined, specifically in mental health trainings. Director Sunada stated that much of the decline is due to lost funding and turn-over in the Health Department. Jamie Zwerin, Health Department Deputy Director, stated that collaboration with the Human Services Department has been very beneficial.
Director Sunada stated health priority areas include promoting healthy living, improving mental health, preventing suicide and reducing substance abuse. He also reviewed cause of death data and emergency department visit data.
Council Member Erik Stromberg thanked Director Sunada and thanked the Council for the budget to hire a PIO (Public Information Officer) for the Health Dept.

6. **Minutes**
   a. **May 19, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes**
   b. **April 7, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes- Draft 2**

      Council Member Erik Stromberg motioned to approve the April 7, 2026 and May 19, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes. Second by Chairman Jared Hamner. All in favor. The motion passed.

7. **Contracts**
   a. **Planned Service Agreement with Johnson Controls, Jason Sparks**

   This is a 3-year PSA with Johnson Controls to service the Health Department's HVAC controls and equipment. This service would be provided quarterly and the contract is renewed annually.

      Jason Sparks, Facilities Director, presented this item as outlined above, stating this is a preventative maintenance agreement that renews automatically every 3 years.

      Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve the Planned Service Agreement with Johnson Controls. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. All in favor. The motion passed.

      Council Member Kendall Thomas arrived to the meeting at 6:34 pm.

8. **Resolutions/Ordinances**
   a. **Resolution 2026-14 - Amending (Increasing) the 2026 Tooele County Budget, Alison McCoy - PUBLIC HEARING**

   This resolution increases the Human Services Fund by $8,500.

      Alison McCoy, Auditor, presented this item as outlined above, stating the adjustment is for $8,500.00 for the Human Services Department to replace furnaces at a Vine Street property. Additional revenue from the Department will cover this.

      Council Member Erik Stromberg motioned to open a Public Hearing. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

      No comment

      Council Member Erik Stromberg motioned to close the Public Hearing. Second by Council Member Scott Wardle. All in favor. The motion passed.

Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to approve Resolution 2026-14. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. All in favor. The motion passed.

9. **Action Items**

a. **Approval of 2026 Tax Sale Parcels, Alison McCoy**

Council to approve parcels sold at tax sale on May 7, 2026.

Alison McCoy, Auditor, presented this item as outlined above, stating this was the largest property tax sale. She advised the tax sale list started with 69 parcels; 33 parcels paid, 14 parcels sold, 9 parcels deferred, 11 parcels were pulled from the list for corrections, and 2 parcels were pulled for other reasons. She advised that 68% of the parcels were either paid or pulled, but interestingly, those parcels only make up 5% of the delinquent balance. The deferred US Magnesium parcel makes up 93% of the delinquent balance. She advised that $4.3 million will be returned to taxpayers who own the parcels. Auditor McCoy stated that 1 parcel near the Burt Brothers Motor Campus sold for over $3 million. It has a rail line that goes through it and was sold to the Romney Group. 1 home was sold, but the property owner will receive the excess proceeds. Auditor McCoy stated that in an effort to notify property owners, the tax sale notice was published in the newspaper 6 times, the list was presented at Council Meetings, letters were sent to property owners and the list was posted online. Chairman Jared Hamner asked about the properties that did not sell. Auditor McCoy stated that 2 parcels that did not sell have been struck to the County; these parcels will come to the Council to declare as surplus in future meetings.

Council Member Kendall Thomas motioned to approve the 2026 Tax Sale Parcels. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. All in favor. The motion passed.
Auditor McCoy thanked her staff and the staff in the Tax Roll Offices for their collaborative efforts.

b. **Review and Approval of 2026 Tourism Grant Recommendations, Chris McCormick**

Chairman Jared Hamner stated that TTAB (Tourism Tax Advisory Board) chairman, Tyler Guy, and TTAB member, Chris McCormick, were available to present this item. He recommended going through the applications one by one. Council Member Kendall Thomas suggested not discussing these items one at a time as they were presented to the Council in a previous meeting.
Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to adopt the Tourism Tax Advisory Board recommendations except UMC, Rush Valley Town, Historic Wendover Airfield, and the Tooele County School District Ophir Town site applications. Second by Council Member Kendall Thomas. Roll call vote: Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye, Council Member Kendall Thomas- aye, Council Member Erik Stromberg questioned the difference between NASA and UMC applications. Council Member Scott Wardle explained that NASA is an event, and UMC is the facility. Council Member Erik Stromberg- aye, Chairman Jared Hamner- aye, Council Member Scott Wardle- aye.

UMC's application was for $200,000. TTAB recommended $100,000. Council Member Scott Wardle asked if metrics for success were provided and how many events will be held next year. Chris McCormick stated that no metrics were provided, but a list of proposed events was provided verbally. Council Member Scott Wardle stated the funds are awarded post performance, and since UMC is under new ownership he wants to help them get on their feet. However, he wants metrics that include how many events are currently contracted, advertising metrics showing a measure of success, and how many end-of-season ticket holders came from outside of Tooele County. He stated he wants to measure how many stays in local hotels are from out-of-county visitors and metrics of food purchased at local restaurants.
Council Member Scott Wardle reiterated that "sponsored by Tooele County" needs to be present on every event advertisement. The Council and TTAB members both agree that training needs to be provided prior to the application process to help educate applicants on expectations. Council Member Erik Stromberg also voiced his feelings of how important it is

to be able to show local restaurant and hotel visits and out-of-county attendance metrics. Chairman Jared Hamner motioned to approve $50,000 with the conditions that metrics and post-performance requirements be met. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. Council Member Scott Wardle stated he is okay with $75,000 and that he feels the County needs to show faith in this new group. Roll call vote for $50,000 motion; Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye. Council Member Kendall Thomas- nay. Council Member Erik Stromberg- nay. Chairman Jared Hamner- aye. Council Member Scott Wardle- nay. The motion failed. Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to approve $75,000 with previously stated stipulations. Roll call vote for $75,000 motion; Council Member Scott Wardle- aye. Council Member Kendall Thomas- aye. Council Member Erik Stromberg- aye. Chairman Jared Hamner- nay. Council Member Tye Hoffmann- nay. The motion passed.

Tooele County School District Ophir Town site- Chairman Jared Hamner advised that this application was denied as the building is not being accessed and there is no ADA access. Chris McCormick stated the application was for repair and upkeep expenses. The difference between this application and the Rush Valley Church application is the Church has visiting hours. The Ophir building is a closed museum. Council Member Scott Wardle clarified that there is no business plan and the application for TTAB funds was just for operations and maintenance so the building doesn't fall apart. Chairman Jared Hamner stated this is disappointing as records show that Ophir is the 2nd most visited site in the County. Chris McCormick stated he met with the applicant last week, and they feel that their hands are tied due to State Code and they don't have the funds to put into this property. Council Member Kendall Thomas invited Scott Degelbeck, a previous Ophir Town Council Member, to share his opinion on Ophir. Mr. Degelbeck stated when he served on the Ophir Town Council there was an Ophir Historic District that was staffed by volunteers and the sites were open on weekends. The School District showed the sites until funding ran out. He feels that any funding provided would be diverted to the park instead of the historic sites. Council Member Scott Wardle feels the School District should maintain their assets and stated he is happy to sit down with the School District to help find funding. Chris McCormick stated he provided funding sources to the School District for the Ophir site. Council Member Kendall Thomas feels the Ophir Historic Park should be operated by the County, not the School District. Council Member Scott Wardle stated the School District has never reached out to set up an MOU (memorandum of understanding) for the County to maintain the site. The consensus of the Council is to deny the application.

Rush Valley Historic Church- Chairman Jared Hamner confirmed that this building is on the National Registry of Historic places in Utah, and stated the application is for $60,000. TTAB recommended $50,000. Chairman Jared Hamner proposed funding $125,000 over a 10-year period while the applicant continues to raise funds. John Cluff, the applicant, stated that proposal does not work. He stated they are about 1 month away from opening. Meetings are being held in the building and the Daughters of Utah Pioneers will be operating the museum. They just need to do some masonry repairs on the old brick. He expects the bid to be around $50,000-$60,000 for the repairs and the contractor stated he will donate the labor hours. Chairman Jared Hamner motioned to approve $50,000. Council Member Tye Hoffmann asked about capital improvement qualifying for TTAB funds. Council Member Scott Wardle motioned to table until legal counsel can investigate State Code to confirm. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. All in favor. The motion passed.
This item was brought back after the Historic Wendover Airfield discussion. Attorney Nathan Harris stated in Utah State Code Title 17, section 78, it reads, "A County Legislative Body may expend revenue generated by the Transient Room Tax, imposed under this section only, (B) to pay for tourism-related facilities in the county, including maintaining museums."
Chairman Jared Hamner motioned to approve $50,000. Second by Council Member Wardle. Roll Call Vote: Council Member Scott Wardle- aye. Chairman Jared Hamner- aye. Council Member Erik Stromberg- aye. Council Member Kendall Thomas- aye. Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye. The motion passed.

Historical Wendover Airfield- Council Member Tye Hoffmann feels this project should be fully funded. The application was for $24,475 and the TTAB recommended $15,000. The application was to promote the airfield to the public through billboards, magazines, tiktok, and PBS radio. TTAB member Tyler Guy stated the applicant has received funding through other

sources, so that is why TTAB did not approve full amount. Council Member Erik Stromberg motioned to approve the full amount of $24,475. Council Member Scott Wardle stated he wants the motion to include stipulations that they adhere to all county policies.Council Member Scott Wardle shared concerns with how buildings are being managed at the airport. Council Member Erik Stromberg expressed concern about how the county will track policy adherence. Discussion between Council Members about if funding can be used to force policy adherence. Council Member Erik Stromberg did not include the stipulation in the motion. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. Roll Call Vote: Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye. Council Member Kendall Thomas- nay, Council Member Erik Stromberg- aye. Chairman Jared Hamner- aye. Council Member Scott Wardle- nay. The motion passed.

Council Member Scott Wardle excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

c. **Request to Apply for the CO OP Grant Through the Office of Tourism, Brittany Lopez & Chris McCormick**

A request for County approval to apply for a Cooperative Marketing (CO-OP) Grant through the Utah Office of Tourism. The grant application is intended to support tourism promotion efforts and leverage matching funds to enhance visitor outreach and economic development opportunities within Tooele County.

Brittany Lopez, Assistant County Manager, and Chris McCormick, Tourism Director, presented this item as outlined above. Assistant Manager Lopez stated they are asking the Council's permission to apply for the 2027 Tourism Co-Op Grant. She stated they are asking for a match of $215,000. The total grant will be $430,000 to invest in tourism. Assistant Manager Lopez reviewed how this grant has been used in the past. She stated the plan for 2027 is to build upon existing plans. Chris McCormick stated with the Olympics coming in 2034, this is a great opportunity to build a presence and to bring in more tourism to Tooele County. Assistant Manager Lopez pointed out that these matching funds will come from the TRT (Transient Room Tax) funds, and with the new restaurants and hotels in the county, budget projections are trending up. Council Member Erik Stromberg stated he appreciates the foresight in planning for the Olympics. Chairman Jared Hamner also expressed appreciation for Chris McCormick's efforts on behalf of all cities and municipalities in Tooele County. Council Member Kendall Thomas motioned to approve the request to apply for the Co-Op grant. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. All in favor. The motion passed.

10. **Boards & Committees**

a. **Board Vacancies**

The Council on Aging has 1 vacancy.

The Historic Preservation Commission has 2 vacancies.

The Housing Authority has a vacancy for an Attorney and a vacancy for a Financial Services Representative.

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

The Human Services Advisory Commission has 1 vacancy for a Student Services position.

Council Member Kendall Thomas motioned to appoint Heather Castagno to the Human Services Advisory Commission for an interm term. Second by Council Member Tye Hoffmann. All in favor. The motion passed.

11. **Council Update**

Council Member Tye Hoffmann provided a WIR (Western Interstate Region) update, stating there is a lot of talk about fires in Hawaii and California. He advised that leaders in Hawaii regret not utilizing emergency services fully during the fire in Lahaina, specifically the tsunami warning to evacuate residents. They encourage counties to utilize all available services during an emergency. Another issue is that insurance companies are still denying claims due to properties being under insured. Recommendations have been made to double-check insurance policies. Other recommendations include ensuring pre-position contracts are in place for recovery efforts. Homeland Security recommends

preparation for more cyberattacks. Lastly, a recommendation was made to set aside money for disaster relief for short, medium and long-term events.

Council Member Kendall Thomas did not have an update.

Council Member Erik Stromberg recognized Assistant Manager Brittany Lopez for participating in the firefighter challenge. He also spoke about the Lantern Fest, stating it was a great event attended by around 10,000-11,000 people. He thanked the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) for their work at the Lantern Fest with the windy weather. He also stated that Saturday is the last fly-in for the summer at the Wendover airport.

Chairman Jared Hamner did not have an update.

12. **Manager Update**

    County Manager Andy Welch stated that the County will receive the 2025 Distinguished Budget Award for the third year in a row. He stated this award reflects the county's commitment to transparency, sound financial planning and ensuring the public is provided with accurate information. He thanked all county staff. He also advised that the Economic Development website has a Nuclear Campus tab and a Data Center tab that compiles data on these two hot topics. He stated that an ordinance is in the works that outlines the application process in case an application comes in for either of these items.

13. **Informational - Public Transparency**

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

14. **Manager Update: Ratifications**

    a. **3 MVA's**

       Refund on Motor Vehicle

    b. **Ratification of Utah Weed Supervisor Association and Tooele County Weeds**

       Ratification of Utah Weed Supervisor Association and Tooele County Weeds

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

    Council Member Tye Hoffmann motioned to adjourn and go into a closed session to discuss personnel issues. Second by Council Member Erik Stromberg. Roll Call vote: Council Member Tye Hoffmann- aye. Council Member Kendall Thomas- aye. Council Member Erik Stromberg- aye. Chairman Jared Hamner- aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:47pm

    THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE APPROVED:




Tracy Shaw, County Clerk