



Twin Falls City Council Minutes

Monday, March 31, 2025, 5:00 PM

Council Chambers
203 Main Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho

1) Call Meeting to Order/Confirmation of Quorum

Present: Mayor Ruth Pierce, Vice Mayor Jason Brown, Council Members Craig Hawkins, Christopher Reid, Spencer Cutler, Cherie Vollmer & Grayson Stone.

Absent:

Staff Present: City Manager Travis Rothweiler, Deputy City Managers Mitch Humble & Gretchen Scott, City Attorney Bruce Castleton, Deputy City Clerk Amy Luna, Administrative Assistant Rachael Long, Fire Chief Mitchell Brooks, Parks and Recreation Director Wendy Davis, Planning and Zoning Director Jonathan Spendlove, Police Chief Craig Kingsbury, Public Information Coordinator Joshua Palmer

Mayor Pierce called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. A quorum was present.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pierce invited all present, who wished, to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3) Consent Calendar

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- a) Request to approve City Council 2025 March 17, Minutes.
- b) Request to approve City Council March 19, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes.
- c) Request to approve Accounts Payable for March 13-26, 2025.
- d) Request to approve March 26, 2025, Travel Requests.
- e) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of Engage in Education.
- f) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Rotary District 5400 Celebration.
- g) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Living Nativity.
- h) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Rotary's 14th Annual Ice Cream Funday.
- i) Request City Council approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the "Strengthening Families to Prevent Child Abuse" event.
- j) Request City Council approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Walk A Mile in Her Shoes event.
- k) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Wednesdays at Webb Farmer's Market.
- l) Request City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the 4th of July fireworks display.
- m) Request for approval of a Final Plat for Clubhouse 12 at the Preserve consisting of 16 lotson 8.26 (+/-) acres on property located at the northeast corner of Cheney Drive East and Clear Springs Loop c/o Jennifer Zung on behalf of Mark Kelly. (PZ25-0030).

4) Items of Consideration

- a) Request to confirm the City Manager's appointment of Mitchell Brooks II to the position of Fire Chief for the City of Twin Falls. Upon confirmation, Mayor Pierce will issue the Oath of Office.
City Manager Rothweiler requested to confirm the City Manager's appointment of Mitchell Brooks II to the position of Fire Chief for the City of Twin Falls. Upon confirmation, Mayor Pierce will issue the Oath of Office.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Stone: Spoke in favor of this appointment.

MOTION: Council Member Stone moved to approve the request to confirm the City Manager's appointment of Mitchell Brooks II to the position of Fire Chief for the City of Twin Falls. **Vice Mayor Brown** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

Mayor Pierce issued the Oath of Office to Fire Chief Brooks.

- b) To confirm the appointment of Rui Gomes, and reappointment of Todd Rambur and Kelly Herrgesell, to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Planning and Zoning Director Spendlove requests to confirm the appointment of Rui Gomes, and the reappointment of Todd Rambur and Kelly Herrgesell, to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Discussion ensued on the following:

MOTION: Council Member Vollmer moved to approve the request to confirm the appointment of Rui Gomes, and the reappointment of Todd Rambur and Kelly Herrgesell, to the Planning and Zoning Commission. **Vice Mayor Brown** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- c) Consider a Request to Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Steve Hayes and reappointment of Deb Van Engelen to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Parks and Recreation Director Davis requested to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Steve Hayes and reappoint Deb Van Engelen to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Vollmer: spoke in favor of these appointments.

MOTION: Council Member Vollmer moved to approve the request to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Steve Hayes and reappointing Deb Van Engelen to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. **Vice Mayor Brown** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- d) Recognize Kirk Melton for his service on the Parks and Recreation Commission

Parks and Recreation Director Davis recognizes Kirk Melton for his service on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mayor Pierce thanked Mr. Melton for his service.

- e) Request the City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Cirque Italia Circus event.

****This is being entered as an action item under Items of Consideration due to the event organizer requesting to attend the meeting via Microsoft Teams.****

Sergeant Coronado requested the City Council to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Cirque Italia Circus event.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Stone: Is this the same group that put on the Halloween event? Can you give additional information on this event?

Council Member Reid: Spoke in favor of this event

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the request to approve the Special Event Permit for the organizers of the Cirque Italia Circus event. **Vice Mayor Brown** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- f) Consideration of Resolution R-2025-002 creating a policy to allow for an invocation to be

delivered at the beginning of Twin Falls City Council meeting.

City Manager Rothweiler requested consideration of **Resolution R-2025-002** creating a policy to allow for an invocation to be delivered at the beginning of the Twin Falls City Council meeting.

Discussion ensued on the following:

One citizen email was received against this request.

Vice Mayor Brown: Wants to make sure that we are not opening the door for this to become a place of solicitation. Who will control the list going forward? Should the situation arise, would the council have the right to stop the meeting if it were to get out of hand?

Council Member Cutler: Spoke about what this could be and is not in favor of the resolution. **Council**

Member Vollmer: Spoke about the consequences of this resolution. Would you recommend a moment of silence or a city employee make a comment to open the meeting. **Council Member**

Hawkins: Spoke in favor of the prayer at the beginning of the meeting but that it could be abused.

Council Member Stone: Are elected to be stewards of the four doors in the room and this could open a pandora box that could be abused.

Council Member Reid: Spoke in favor of this and acknowledges that this could be abused but should be embraced.

Council Member Stone: Asked if we are currently doing this with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pierce: Spoke in favor of giving this a shot.

Vice Mayor Brown: Spoke that if we need to take a step back at some point that we can have Confidence in the staff to navigate through this.

Council Member Vollmer: Should this pass, and we want to make changes down the road, what is the process?

Council Member Reid: Could a citizen use the Public Input section of the council meeting?

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the request to approve **Resolution R- 2025-002** creating a policy to allow for an invocation to be delivered at the beginning of the Twin Falls City Council meeting. **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 4 to 3.

- g) Request to use Water enterprise funds in the amount of \$3.5 million for the construction of City of Twin Falls South Well #5.

City Manager Rothweiler requested to use water enterprise funds in the amount of \$3.5 million for the construction of City of Twin Falls South Well #5.

Discussion ensued on the following: None

MOTION: Council Member Reid moved to approve the request to use water enterprise funds in the amount of \$3.5 million for the construction of City of Twin Falls South Well #5. **Council Member Stone** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- h) A request to use up to \$6 million in sewer reserves to fund the City's share of the expansion of the Northeast Sewer Line in Pole Line Road, from the corner at Eastland to Blue Lakes Boulevard.

City Manager Rothweiler requested to use up to \$6 million in sewer reserves to fund the City's share of the expansion of the Northeast Sewer Line in Pole Line Road, from the corner at Eastland to Blue Lakes Boulevard.

Discussion ensued on the following: None

MOTION: Vice Mayor Brown moved to approve the request to use up to \$6 million in sewer reserves to fund the City's share of the expansion of the Northeast Sewer Line in Pole Line Road, from the corner at Eastland to Blue Lakes Boulevard. **Council Member Stone** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

5) General Public Input

Citizen John Jacobson would like to invite the community to participate in the Hands-off Protest On Saturday, April 5, 2025, in City Park.

6) Advisory Board Report/Announcements

Mayor Pierce called for a short break at 6:20 pm and the council reconvened at 6:30 pm.

7) Public Hearings

- a) Request for a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10. Items to include regulations pertaining to Chapter 2, Zoning Districts. (PZ24-0130)
Planning & Zoning Director Spendlove & Senior City Planner Klaver requested a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10. Items to include regulations pertaining to Chapter 2, Zoning Districts. (PZ24-0130)

Discussion ensued on the following:

Council Member Stone: Asked for clarification on the Central City option.

Vice Mayor Brown: Asked for additional clarification on the proposed zones. It looks like we are trying to streamline these.

Mayor Pierce: Which areas are in the city limits?

Council Member Stone: Asked what the height is of the 160 building.

City Manager Rothweiler: The height of the 160 buildings is 85 feet.

Council Member Hawkins: Would like to see the commercial height higher than the current 50 feet.

Vice Mayor Brown: How many have asked to push the 50 feet? Not interested in upping that at this time.

Council Member Stone: Gave some clarification on the C1 multifamily zones

Vice Mayor Brown: What would 55 feet look like? Would it hamper very much to stay at 50 feet?

Council Member Cutler: Asked for clarification on the CSI heights and setbacks?

Public Hearing Opened: 7:07 pm.

Public Hearing Closed: 7:08 pm.

MOTION: **Vice Mayor Brown** moved to support the request for a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10. Items to include regulations pertaining to Chapter 2, Zoning Districts. (PZ24-0130) **Council Member Hawkins** seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

- b) Request for a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10, focusing on Chapter 6 "Landscaping Regulations". (PZ24-0134)
Planning & Zoning Director Spendlove and City Planner Klaver requested a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10, focusing on Chapter 6 "Landscaping Regulations". (PZ24-0134)

Discussion ensued on the following:

Mayor Pierce: Asked if the city even has a tree committee any longer.

Council Member Cutler: Which districts allow duplexes and triplexes?

Vice Mayor Brown: What would the alternative be?

Mayor Pierce: Is this because we don't have the follow-up portion?

Council Member Cutler: Are there many residential areas that have a need for this?

Mayor Pierce: What is the feedback that you are getting from the developers?

Council Member Stone: Is there a reason that they chose a certain one to be excluded? **Council**

Member Vollmer: Verified that we are a Tree City USA and are there requirements to remain?

Deputy City Manager: Gave clarification on the Tree City requirements.

Council Member Vollmer: Has artificial turf been talked about?

Vice Mayor Brown: Maybe we need to have more conversations with the community on the ground cover.

Council Member Hawkins: Commented that this is a lot to think about.

Council Member Cutler: Would be in favor of increasing the width to 25' in parking areas.

Council Member Stone: Will you be having a meeting with the development community before this is approved?

Council Member Vollmer: Is there some kind of assistance with this? Financially?

Public Hearing Opened: 7:58 pm.

Citizen Gerald Martin: gave some insight from the development committee and would like to work more with staff before going forward.

Citizen Fran Florence: would like the council to expand the area around the presidential streets and the tree streets

Public Hearing Closed: 8:07 pm.

Discussion ensued on the following:

Mayor Pierce: Asked for additional directions from the council on how to proceed.

Council Member Vollmer: Spoke in favor of the development community participating in this. Addressed the certificate of occupancy issue.

City Manager Rothweiler: Gave some direction.

Vice Mayor Brown: Agreed with the directions that City Manager Rothweiler gave.

Council Member Reid: Spoke in favor of what has been presented and voiced some hesitations.

Mayor Pierce: would like to see the development conversation happen sooner rather than later.

MOTION: Council Member Stone moved to support the request for a Zoning Title Amendment to repeal and replace Title 10, focusing on Chapter 6 "Landscaping Regulations". (PZ24-0134).

Council Member Reid seconded the motion. The roll call vote showed all members present voted in favor of the motion, 7 to 0.

8) Executive Session

- a) Request to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(c) To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency.
Executive Session will be moved to next week.

9) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 08:16 PM



Amy Luna, Deputy City Clerk

****If you wish to have a full accounting of this meeting, please listen to the recording that is located on our website. **** [Tfid.org](https://www.tfid.org)

