

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN HOME, ELMORE COUNTY, IDAHO,
HELD ON JULY 22nd, 2025, AT 5:00 P.M.
AT MOUNTAIN HOME CITY HALL CHAMBERS
MOUNTAIN HOME, IDAHO

- 22421 CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ESTABLISH A QUORUM
- 22421 RECOGNIZING PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE
- 22421 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION
Has any Council Member received information pertaining to, or otherwise had any contact with any person regarding any items on this City Council agenda? If so, please set forth the nature of the contact.
- 22421 CONSENT AGENDA – All matters listed within this Consent Agenda section require formal Council action, but are typically routine or not of great controversy and will be enacted by one motion. Questions for the purpose of clarification may be asked about a particular item before the motion is voted on. However, for lengthy discussion or separate motion a Council member or citizen may request an item be removed from the Consent Agenda section and placed on the Regular Agenda. ALL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW ARE ACTION ITEMS.
- A. Approval acceptance of minutes:
 - a. Regular City Council Meeting- July 8, 2025
 - B. Bills from 7/9/2025 to 7/22/2025 in the amount of \$927,912.30
 - C. Treasurer's report for the period ending 6/30/2025
 - D. Set a public hearing on August 12, 2025, for the proposed fee increase for the Park and Recreation program and facility fees.
(Pulled from the Consent Agenda and move to New Business)
 - E. Pass resolution #14-2025R authorizing the destruction of surplus property and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign
 - F. Approve agreement with Azuga and authorize the Mayor to sign
(Pulled from the Consent Agenda due to legal)
- 22421 OLD BUSINESS
- 1) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding donation of 2026 Season Golf Pass to the Women's Golf Association, and authorize staff to create a gift certificate.
 - 2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding the Emergent Service Agreement and Mountain Home Fire Department, and authorize the Mayor to sign all required documents.
- 22422 NEW BUSINESS
- 1) Items removed from Consent Agenda
 - 2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding Hubble Homes' request for the City to take Ownership of Silverstone stormwater ponds, after the final plat has already been approved.
 - 3) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Council request to reconfigure the Impact Fee Advisory Committee and the Planning and Zoning Committee.
 - 4) Non-Action Item: City Council budget work session continued.
- 22424 FINAL COMMENTS
- 22424 ADJOURN

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN HOME, ELMORE COUNTY, IDAHO,
HELD ON JULY 22nd, 2025, AT 5:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Mountain Home, Elmore County, Idaho, met at the Mountain Home City Hall Chambers, 160 South 3rd East, Mountain Home, Idaho on July 22nd, 2025. A quorum was established with Councilwoman Garvey, Councilwoman Wirkkala, Councilman Brennan, Councilman Harjo and Mayor Sykes being present.

RECOGNIZING PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

- Decker Sanders spoke regarding the budget sessions and his recommendations on how future decisions could be made.
- Don Gust spoke regarding pumps and some information that he had picked up.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Has any Council Member received information pertaining to, or otherwise had any contact with any person regarding any items on this City Council agenda? If so, please set forth the nature of the contact.

- All Council Members received the same email from Nicholas Gatejen regarding the recently added verbiage to the agenda for recognizing persons in the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed within this Consent Agenda section require formal Council action, but are typically routine or not of great controversy and will be enacted by one motion. Questions for the purpose of clarification may be asked about a particular item before the motion is voted on. However, for lengthy discussion or separate motion a Councilmember or citizen may request an item be removed from the Consent Agenda section and placed on the Regular Agenda. ALL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW ARE ACTION ITEMS.

- A. Approval of Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting – July 8, 2025
- B. Bills from 7/9/2025 to 7/22/2025 in the amount of \$927,912.30
- C. Treasurer's report for the period ending 6/30/2025
- D. Set a public hearing on August 12, 2025, for the proposed fee increase for the Parks and Recreation program and facility fees.
- E. Pass resolution #14-2025R authorizing the destruction of surplus property and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign.
- F. Approve the agreement with Azuga and authorize the Mayor to sign.

Mayor Sykes stated that he wanted to pull Item F as it was back and forth between legal. He continued to say that Azuga couldn't get their legal to look at it in time for today.

Councilman Brennan requested to pull Item D and add to New Business.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to pass the consent agenda after pulling Item D for New Business and completely pulling Item F. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding donation of 2026 Season Golf Pass to the Women's Golf Association, and authorize staff to create a gift certificate.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to award the 2026 Season Golf Pass to the Women's Golf Association and authorize staff to create a gift certificate.

Councilwoman Garvey asked for clarification on if they were awarding a season pass or if they were refunding.

Councilman Harjo said that he last recalled that the Council was mostly in agreement that it would be valid for one unit regardless of cost for the 2026 Season.

Councilwoman Garvey seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding the Emergent Service Agreement and Mountain Home Fire Department, and authorize the Mayor to sign all required documents.

Councilman Harjo said that this item had been tabled for future discussion to remove non-relevant language from a rather wordy service agreement. He continued by saying that the service agreement remained unchanged, with the software costing \$285.00 annually, and that he would like to see it approved.

Paul Fitzer, City Attorney, explained that the agreement wasn't available as a Word document and it would

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have been a waste of money for a \$285.00 payment for him to fix the agreement as it would have been incredibly time consuming.

Councilman Brennan asked if anything was fixed or stripped out of the agreement.

Councilman Harjo said that nothing language wise was stripped out of it, there was phrasing in the agreement that would not pertain to the Fire Department's usage, but there were functions of the software that were specifically for Fire Department use.

There was a discussion between the Council, Legal, and Fire Chief Mark Moore regarding contract length and the potential for auto-renewal.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to approve the Emergent Service Agreement with the Mountain Home Fire Department. Councilwoman Wirkkala seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Items removed from the Consent Agenda

Item D: Set a public hearing on August 12, 2025, for the proposed fee increase for the Parks and Recreation program and facility fees.

Councilman Brennan said in previous years, he had raised a concern about the lack of non-resident fees for Parks and Recreation use, noting that the City does have non-resident fees for the Library. He explained that his concern stemmed from the fact that Mountain Home residents pay taxes to support these services, while non-residents who use the facilities are essentially receiving them at a discounted rate, as they do not contribute to the tax base. He asked that the Council consider implementing a non-resident fee for Parks and Recreation.

Councilwoman Wirkkala asked for confirmation that if they were to change these fees, it would require a public hearing, which she would be happy to hear what the public would say.

Councilwoman Garvey said that she believed there were some issues that might need to be worked through, for example, at the pool, children would be asked whether they are residents of the City of Mountain Home. She said that for swimming lessons, it might make sense, but noted that some situations are easier said than done, especially when it involves asking children such questions.

Councilman Harjo said that he would support having a discussion with Department heads to formulate that and have it brought back as a matter of the public hearing.

Councilman Brennan said that ultimately he'd like to table this and not hold the public hearing on August 12, 2025 and have a discussion on potential fees for Parks and Recreation.

Tiffany Belt, City Clerk, said that the purpose of this was to establish fees for swimming pool passes. She noted that if a public hearing was going to be held, they might as well update all the fees at once. She added that if the process were delayed until August, by the time the public hearing for the pool passes was noticed and completed, the pool would likely be closed. She asked whether they could at least move forward with the public hearing for the pool passes alone.

Councilman Brennan asked when the pool was set to close.

Tiffany Belt said on October 12, 2025, but it would be based on weather and staffing.

Councilman Brennan said that he was open to holding a public hearing for that item only and then bring everything else back, including pool passes in the future.

Tiffany Belt clarified that it would be four items regarding the pool for the public hearing: themed pool parties, individual season pool pass, family pass for four people, and additional family member add-ons.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to hold a public hearing on August 12, 2025 at 5:00 P.M. for a new fee for themed pool parties by the Recreation Department, individual season passes, family passes for four people, and additional family member add-ons. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Councilman Brennan asked Tiffany Belt if a date could be set to discuss with the Council and the Department heads to discuss the rest of the Parks and Recreation fees and get it onto the next agenda.

2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding Hubble Homes' request for the City to take ownership of Silverstone stormwater ponds, after the final plat has already been approved.

Councilwoman Garvey said that she doesn't want the City to take on another something to take care of

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as it cost a lot of money. She continued to say that coming forward, these new subdivisions need to have a provision in place to take care of these.

Tiffany Belt said for the record that this plat was approved far beyond the current staff's time, back in 2016. She added that she agreed with Councilwoman Garvey.

Councilwoman Garvey said that she understood, she was making the statement that going forward the new subdivisions will need to be held accountable.

Councilwoman Wirkkala said that she had spoken with Brenda Ellis, Senior City Planner, who had provided valuable insight on the topic, but noted that she did not appear to be in attendance. She went on to explain that the issue involved an item that was included in the construction plan but was not reflected on the preliminary or final plat. She added that she had questions for the developer, Hubble Homes, but they were also not present. She concluded by saying that she would follow the City staff's recommendations.

Tiffany Belt said that she did not tell the gentleman from Hubble Homes that he needed to appear before the body; she only informed him that the matter would be brought before the body.

Paul Fitzer, City Attorney, said that he took offense to the email stating that a buildable lot would never have been voluntarily given up unless it was required. He firmly stated that it absolutely was required, explaining that the entire purpose of a storm pond lot is to collect rainwater displaced by the construction of homes in that area.

Councilman Brennan read the email out loud for the public to hear.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to not allow the City to take on Hubble Home's stormwater plat. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Council request to reconfigure the Impact Fee Advisory Committee and the Planning and Zoning Committee.

Councilwoman Garvey wanted to clarify the wording of this action item, as she did not feel that this was not at the City Council's request, it was just a conversation that was had.

Councilman Brennan said that as he understood it, the two committees were having a hard time finding a quorum the meetings.

Mayor Sykes said that they just had an Impact Fee member resign, Marshall Carruthers.

Councilman Brennan said that, if for no other reason, they should consider streamlining the two committees into essentially one group of personnel operating both advisory committees.

Councilwoman Wirkkala stated that the Impact Fee Advisory Committee was a volunteer position, while the P&Z Committee was a paid position. She asked if this would mean that a budget would be needed to transition those individuals. She continued by noting that the Impact Fee Committee conducts a significant amount of research, often on their own time, and said she had no problem with compensating them.

Mayor Sykes asked Paula Szafranski, City Treasurer, whether all members of the P&Z Committee were already included in the budget, so that if the committee were fully staffed, it would already be accounted for.

Paula Szafranski asked Legal whether there was anything in the Idaho Code requiring that, if P&Z members are paid, a 1099 must be issued to them at the end of the year.

Paul Fitzer said that he did not believe it was a statutory requirement and that he was not aware of any specific provisions regarding payment.

Paula Szafranski said that they were budgeted to have two meetings a month for the full board.

Mayor Sykes said that they just changed the meetings to one meeting a month now, but they had plenty budgeted for in that.

Councilwoman Wirkkala and Legal had a conversation about how many members they could have up to and if they brought over the Impact Fee Committee if they would still be under that number.

Councilwoman Wirkkala stated for clarification, they would not be dissolving any committee, but that they would be reconfiguring committees. She continued that if it would essentially be two jobs in one now, she felt like they should be getting paid more than \$60 per meeting. She asked how to bring this to the Council for discussion to potentially increase wages.

Mayor Sykes and Legal had a discussion on amending the ordinance or doing it via resolution.

Councilman Harjo and Legal had a discussion on the appointment of members, term limits, and how to proceed.

Councilman Brennan asked whether the Impact Fee Advisory Committee was unable to operate due to the recent resignation of a member, and whether there was any immediate need to dissolve the committee until it could be absorbed by the P&Z Board.

There was a discussion between the Council and Legal about how to proceed and what guidelines to follow and what next steps would be if approved.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to direct City staff to start getting the ball rolling on a combined Planning and Zoning and Impact Fee Committee, as well as starting the necessary steps to follow for ordinance changes and resolution creation. Councilwoman Garvey seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman; aye, Councilman; aye, Councilman; aye, Councilman; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

4) Non-Action Item: City Council budget work session continued.

Mayor Sykes suspended Robert's Rules of Order in order to continue the Golf Course and Streets Department budgets discussions with City staff and the Council.

FINAL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Wirkkala asked for an update on the status of the TNR topic.

Councilman Harjo said that the matter was on his plate and that it would likely require about two weeks of legal work. He added that it probably would not be ready for the next meeting but for the one after that.

Tiffany Belt said that she was told by Legal that it would be back on August 26, 2025.

Councilwoman Wirkkala asked if the pool flotation device situation had been resolved.

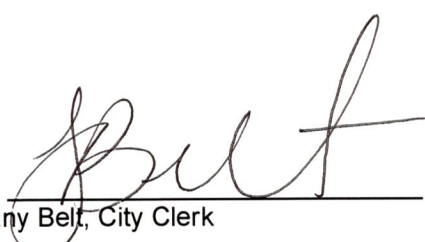
Dennis said that Bryanna Strom, Pool Operator, had been out of town, and he did not want to make a final decision without her input. He added that once she returned, they would sit down and hopefully decide what was best for the community.

Councilman Harjo mentioned that the Summer Reading Program at the Library was very successful, with 622 children participating and collectively reading over 676,000 minutes between May 19, 2025, and June 30, 2025.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 P.M. by orders from Mayor Sykes.

ATTEST:


Tiffany Belt, City Clerk


Rich Sykes, Mayor

