

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN HOME, ELMORE COUNTY, IDAHO,
HELD ON JUNE 10TH, 2025, AT 5:00 P.M.
AT MOUNTAIN HOME CITY HALL CHAMBERS
MOUNTAIN HOME, IDAHO

22394 CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ESTABLISH A QUORUM

22394 RECOGNIZING PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

22394 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.

22394 BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

- 1) Domestic Violence – Program Coordinator for ECDVC – Xochil Perez
- 2) Visitor Center - Coordinator at the Desert Mountain Visitor Center
- 3) Arts Council – Chris DeVore, Executive Director

22394 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- May 27, 2025
- B. Bills from 5/28/2025 to 6/10/2025 in the amount of \$627,185.81
- C. Payroll for the period ending 4/22/2025 to 5/21/2025 in the amount of \$759,469.28
- D. Approve the City Liquor license for B's House located at 175 North 2nd East, requested by Shaun Brazell
- E. Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all required documents for grant application 2024/25-017

22395 OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding dispatch agreement with Elmore County.
- 2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding MHC 6-6-17(D)(7), with regards to the quantity of hens allowed on one parcel of property.

22396 NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Items removed from Consent Agenda
- 2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Staff's recommendation for Idaho Power's easement request.
- 3) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Staff's recommendation for Idaho Power's request to use City property as a "laydown yard".
(Pulled from New Business at the request of Idaho Power)
- 4) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision to adopt resolution 13-2025R regarding the objections to the assessment roll for LID #1 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign.
- 5) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision to adopt ordinance #1805 confirming LID #1 assessment roll and making final determination of regularity, validity, and correctness of the roll and assessments and finding that each lot/parcel is benefited to the amount of the evaluation thereon. Assessments are due within 30 days of the ordinance's adoption.
- 6) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding the Request for Proposals for the bid package for LID #1 prepared by Clearwater Financial, and authorize the distribution of the bid package to the public.

22397 ORDINANCE

Ordinance 1805 – Confirming LID #1 assessment roll and making a final determination of the regularity, validity, and correctness of the roll and assessments, and finding that each lot/parcel is benefited to the amount of the assessment thereon. Assessments are due within 30 days of the ordinance's adoption.

22397 FINAL COMMENTS

22398 ADJOURN

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN HOME, ELMORE COUNTY, IDAHO,
HELD ON JUNE 10TH, 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 June 10th, 2025. A quorum was established with, Councilwoman Garvey, Councilwoman Wirkkala, Councilman Brennan, Councilman Harjo and Mayor Sykes being present.

Mayor Sykes requested to remove New Business Item #3 at the request of Idaho Power and add Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(f) to Executive Session.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to remove New Business Action Item #3 and to add Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(f) to Executive Session. Councilman Brennan 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.

RECOGNIZING PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

- Rod Dudley came forward to speak regarding public records requests and his website.

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.

- Councilman Brennan said that he received an email from Nicolas Gatejen, Allen Bump, Rod Dudley, and Karen Chandler about the topic of signing over the remaining \$19,000 of the Military Liaison budget.
- Councilman Harjo, Councilwoman Wirkkala, and Councilwoman Garvey all confirmed that they received the same emails.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS – CIVIC GROUPS

Domestic Violence – Program Coordinator for ECDVC – Xochil Perez

Xochil Perez and Connie Powers spoke to the Council and advised that they were seeking \$7,000 from the City this year to support the goals of the Domestic Violence Shelter.

Visitor Center – Coordinator at the Desert Mountain Visitor Center

Shaun Brazell, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Council and advised that they were asking for \$8,000 this year in donations from the City, as well as gaining access to Fiber at a discounted rate, if available.

Arts Council – Chris DeVore, Executive Director

Chris DeVore, Executive Director of the Arts Council, spoke to the Council and requested a donation in the amount of \$7,000, the amount they received the previous year.

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 – May 27, 2025
- B. Bills from 5/28/2025 to 6/10/2025 in the amount of \$627,185.81
- C. Payroll for the period ending 4/22/2025 to 5/21/2025
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- E. Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all required documents for grant application 2024/25-017

Councilwoman Wirkkala asked for clarification on Item E relating to "equipment" and if the Fire

Chief was present.

Councilman Harjo said that this grant was only learned about on June 4, 2025, and that any grant money is good money.

Mayor Sykes offered to call the Fire Chief and called a brief recess at 5:26 P.M.

Meeting resumed at 5:28 P.M.

Mayor Sykes said that it was for a "myriad of tools".

Councilman Harjo made a motion to pass the consent agenda as printed. Councilwoman Garvey seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding dispatch agreement with Elmore County.

Councilman Brennan said that he liked most of the edits in yellow, would like to see a couple more changes for clarification.

There was a discussion between Councilman Brennan and Legal on renewal terms.

Mayor Sykes said that his request for this going forward was to table it until the next City Council meeting, as the Sheriff said that he'd like to get the new Chief of Police in on the discussion.

Councilwoman Wirkkala made a motion to table the deliberation/decision regarding the dispatch agreement with Elmore County to the next City Council Meeting on June 24, 2025, along with any new edits. Councilman Brennan seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding MHC 6-6-17(D)(7), with regards to the quantity of hens allowed on one parcel of property.

Councilman Harjo said that he had discussed with Lt. Larson that the Police Department and Animal Control both agreed that, as long as the increase did not create a nuisance, that increasing the number of hens from, say three to five would be reasonable.

Councilman Brennan said that the language should specify 'chicken hens', as there are other birds that fall under the 'hen' category. He also pointed out that the code stated you could have three dogs, two cats, three hens, two rabbits, etc., and that at some point, it would become a nuisance.

Councilwoman Wirkkala said that she had looked up the land use regulations on animals for Boise, Nampa, and Caldwell, which are much larger cities than ours. She noted that Boise for example, residents were allowed up to six chickens (excluding roosters), four ducks, six rabbits and other small animals. She stated that she supported the increase in the number of hens.

Councilwoman Wirkkala made a motion to approve the quantity of chicken hens allowed on one parcel of property to go from the number three to the number five. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion.

Councilman Harjo stated that there was other verbiage in the code that may need to be changed as well, section d, number 4 and 5, regarding non-venomous and non-toxic.

Councilwoman Wirkkala added to her motion to change non-poisonous to non-venomous for reptiles and non-poisonous to non-toxic for amphibians. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion.

Councilman Brennan asked that if every reference of hens could be changed to chicken hens and exclude other types.

Councilwoman Wirkkala agreed. She also asked about the section that discussed the number of cats and dogs in multi-family dwellings. She said that she didn't know if that is being enforced and asked if was something that needs to be brought back when the cat issue was brought back.

Tiffany Belt, City Clerk, said that if the Council wanted to amend the ordinance, it needed to address all changes now, and that it would come back next time for a reading.

Councilwoman Wirkkala asked what the other Council members think of Section C.

Councilwoman Garvey said that Section A didn't make sense, and that was kind of redundant.

Tiffany said that it was in place because, prior to November 4, 2009, there was no ordinance for chickens, so residents were allowed to keep their hens if they had more than three.

Councilwoman Wirkkala amended her motion regarding MHC 6-6-17(D)(7), with regards to the quantity of hens allowed on one parcel of property, to allow the number of hens to go from three hens to five chicken hens, and also change the verbiage of Number 4 from non-poisonous to non-venomous and Number 5 from non-poisonous to non-toxic, and strike out section A. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Items removed from the Consent Agenda

There were no Items removed from the Consent Agenda for consideration.

2) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Staff's recommendation for Idaho Power's easement request.

Councilman Harjo said that the conflict with the City's master transportation plan was a significant issue. He said that he did not want to outright deny the request but thought it would be beneficial to schedule Idaho Power to appear at a City Council meeting to discuss.

Councilman Brennan said that he didn't have any objections with that. He stated that the City could tell them upfront it was not going to grant the request to the East, as it conflicted with existing plans, and ask them to come up with an alternative proposal.

Tiffany Belt, City Clerk, asked that the record reflect that she had been very transparent with her goals and these requests. She said that the concern was the road build-out and its width, and that if a truck route were to be established to the east it would lead to an old, existing landfill on City property. She noted that the building a road through that area might never be feasible. She continued, stating that this was the Staff's concern and that they had expressed this to Idaho Power.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to table the deliberation/decision regarding City Staff's recommendation for Idaho Power's easement request until June 24, 2025. Councilwoman Wirkkala seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding City Staff's recommendation for Idaho Power's request to use City property as a "laydown yard".

Removed at the request of Idaho Power.

4) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision to adopt resolution 13-2025R regarding the objections to the assessment roll for LID #1 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to adopt resolution 13-2025R. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Garvey asked for clarification on if these people requested to opt in and if they received services, but not paying for it.

Tiffany Belt said that all citizens that are hooked into LID #1 had been paying maintenance and operations since the moment their homes were plugged in, and they had been paying their ISP provider, which is a third-party vendor. She continued to explain that what was being approved was the assessment to the property for the construction costs of the entire project.

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

5) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision to adopt ordinance #1805 confirming LID #1 assessment roll and making final determination of regularity, validity, and correctness of the roll and assessments and finding that each lot/parcel is benefited to the amount of evaluation thereon. Assessments are due within 30 days of the ordinance's adoption.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to adopt ordinance #1805. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Wirkkala; nay, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye. The motion passed by a majority vote.

6) Action Item: Deliberation/Decision regarding the Request for Proposals for the bid package for LID #1 prepared by Clearwater Financial, and authorize the distribution of the bid package to the public.

Councilman Brennan made a motion to approve the Request for Proposals for the bid package for LID #1 prepared by Clearwater Financial. Councilman Harjo seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE

Ordinance 1805 – Confirming LID #1 assessment roll and making a final determination of the regularity, validity, and correctness of the roll and assessments, and finding that each lot/parcel is benefited to the amount of the assessment thereon. Assessments are due within 30 days of the ordinance's adoption.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to approve Ordinance 1805 and suspend the three-reading rule and hear the reading for its one and only reading time. Councilwoman Garvey seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The City Clerk read the Ordinance for its first and final reading.

Mayor Sykes asked, "Does the Council wish this ordinance to pass."

The vote goes as follows: Councilwoman Garvey; aye, Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; nay, Councilman Harjo; aye. The motion passed by a majority vote and given #1805.

FINAL COMMENTS

Councilman Harjo said there was water in the pool and that he was super happy and proud of the Staff. He thanked them and he was glad they were nearing the finish line.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1) Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(a) – To consider the hiring of a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(a) and Section 74-206(1)(f). Councilwoman Wirkkala seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye, Councilwoman Garvey; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The Council went into Executive Session at 6:03 P.M.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 6:57 P.M.

2) Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(f) - To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

Councilman Harjo made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(a) and Section 74-206(1)(f). Councilwoman Wirkkala seconded the motion. The vote goes as follows: Councilman Brennan; aye, Councilman Harjo; aye, Councilwoman Wirkkala; aye,

Councilwoman Garvey; aye. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The Council went into Executive Session at 6:03 P.M.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 6:57 P.M.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 P.M. by orders from Mayor Sykes.



Rich Sykes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tiffany Belt, City Clerk