

# City Council Meeting

## February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was conducted by Mayor Ted Slivinski at 7:30 p.m. from Montpelier City Hall.

**Present:**

Ray Henrie  
Shane Johnson  
Brady Shultis-excused  
Quin Pope  
Bobbi Leonhardt  
Dan Fisher

**Others:**

City Clerk Michelle Singleton  
Fire Chief Ed Preston  
Superintendent Chris Bruce

**Approval of Agenda:**

The mayor amended the agenda to add the P&Z recommendation for Brandon Newman's conditional use request for shipping containers to the beginning of the agenda.

**Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve the agenda as amended.**

**Councilmember Bobbie Leonhardt seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Correction: Under Steve Allred – Montpelier Community Foundation – Gem State Grant, documentation must be provided to show proof of 20% matching funds.

**Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 minutes as corrected.**

**Councilmember Quin Pope seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

**Approval of Bills:**

**Councilmember Quin Pope moved to approve and pay bills in the amount of \$77,990.02 with \$46,047.41 being miscellaneous bills and \$31,942.61 being payroll.**

**Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

**P&Z Recommendation-Brandon Newman Conditional Use Permit for Shipping Containers:**

Sam Burdick, P&Z Chair, was present to ask the councilmembers to approve the Planning & Zoning recommendation for Brandon Newman's conditional use permit for shipping containers. Sam stated that the P&Z held a public hearing on February 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. There was one written comment submitted by a member of the public opposing the conditional use permit, and during the public hearing there were no verbal comments made either for or against the request. Sam explained the permit is for two storage containers on parcel no. 01254.00, located on North 6th Street and zoned R-4. The conditional use permit was approved by P&Z with the following conditions:

1. The containers must be painted neutral colors, weather permitting.
2. No storage of combustibles is allowed.
3. If one of the properties is sold, the containers must be moved to the current lot and adhere to the required setbacks for the property.

**Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve Brandon Newman's conditional use permit for two shipping containers with the listed conditions. Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

**FY 2024-2025 Audit-Matt Regen:**

Matt Regen was unable to attend the meeting due to the winter storm and has requested to be added to the March 4th agenda.

**Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to table the FY 2024-2025 audit with Matt Regen.**

**Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

### **Austin Budge Industrial Park Dispute:**

Austin Budge was present at the City Council meeting. At a previous meeting, the councilmembers had asked Mr. Budge to return with a business plan for the lot at the Industrial Park. Mr. Budge presented his building plans for North Park Storage, which includes constructing nine storage unit buildings with 12 units per building, for a total of 108 units. He stated that he would not require the city to provide water or sewer services for the project. Mr. Budge asked the City to consider entering into a lease agreement with him for the property. The mayor and councilmembers stated that they do not feel comfortable entering into a lease agreement at this time due to the legal charges filed against Mr. Budge and the pending outcome of those charges. Mr. Budge explained that he is working with the prosecutor and that the situation was a misunderstanding, and he expects the charges to be resolved in March. The council decided to table the discussion and have the matter placed on the April 1st agenda.

**Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to table Austin Budge Industrial Park Dispute until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.**

**Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

### **Bear Lake Middle School Trevor Keetch-Adams Park Track -Paint Lanes:**

Trevor Keetch, Bear Lake Middle School Track Coach, was present to ask the councilmembers for permission to paint the track at Adams Park. He stated that the middle school will purchase the paint and complete the painting themselves. He explained that adding proper lines and markings will help the track athletes during this year's track season. The councilmembers agreed that it would be acceptable for the school to paint the track.

**Councilmember Quin Pope moved to approve the Bear Lake Middle School to paint the track at Adams Park.**

**Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

### **Clover Creek Inn-Off Premise Alcohol(beer) Catering Permit:**

Tosh Pope from the Clover Creek Inn was present to ask the City Council to approve an off-premise catering permit. She stated they will be catering the Bear River Friends of NRA Banquet on March 21, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. The event will be held at the National Oregon California Trail Center. She also requested a three-day grace period to allow time for setup and cleanup.

**Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve the Clover Creek Inn off-premise alcohol (beer) catering permit for March 21, 2026. Councilmember Dan Fisher seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative, with Councilmember Quin Pope abstaining.**

### **Georgie McKinnon-Maverick Fuel Canopy Replacement and Fence Plan:**

Georgie McKinnon attended the meeting to discuss the Maverik fuel canopy replacement and fence plan with the mayor and councilmembers. She explained that she lives at 427 Washington, a property that borders Maverik, and expressed concerns about the proposed expansions. Her primary worries involve her health due to the new pumps, canopy, and underground fuel storage tank being located so close to her home. She requested that the city contact her or include her in any communications the city has with Maverik. Councilmember Dan Fisher clarified that the city is not responsible for providing information directly and that it is the responsibility of the property owner to submit a public records request to the city. Georgie also noted that she has legal counsel and that Maverik has not contacted her about any of the planned changes. Mayor Slivinski advised that any communication regarding legal matters should be handled through her attorney and that it is not the city's role to intervene. Georgie further raised concerns about unresolved property line issues, stating that there has been no additional discussion with Maverik on the matter. The city clerk explained that Maverik has completed two surveys, and Georgie was expected to have her own property surveyed but has not yet done so. The mayor reiterated that the city does not get involved in property disputes between private property owners and that such issues would need to be resolved between Georgie and Maverik. The council also stated that Maverik will be required to obtain permits from the DEQ and will be held to high standards regarding the new pumps and underground tanks. The mayor and council thanked Georgie McKinnon for attending the meeting and sharing her concerns.

**Councilmember Quin Pope moved to table Georgie McKinnon-Maverick Fuel Canopy Replacement and Fence Plan.**

**Councilmember Dan Fisher seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

### **Ray Henrie:**

Councilmember Ray Henrie stated that the Senior Citizen Center will be holding a free Mother's Day breakfast on May 9, 2026. He also shared that on June 12, 2026, they will hold the drawing for the gun raffle. Raffle tickets are available for \$5.00 each or six tickets for \$25.00.

### **Dan Fisher :**

Councilmember Dan Fisher reported that the Bear Lake Regional Commission canceled their February meeting.

**Shane Johnson :**

Councilmember Shane Johnson mentioned that the Oregon Trail Center held a Saddle Strings concert on February 7, 2026. He reported that they had a good turnout. He also stated that they will be hosting a Radio Days fundraiser to support roof repairs. In April they will be hosting Authorpalooza.

**Quin Pope :**

Councilmember Quin Pope updated the council on the Park & Recreation Committee, stating that he is working on it cautiously.

**Superintendent Chris Bruce :**

Superintendent Chris Bruce mentioned that he has ordered the picnic tables for Heritage Park. He stated that Steve Allred from the Montpelier Community Foundation informed him that the foundation will assemble the picnic tables. He also updated the council that the water project on 4th Street is currently out for bid.

**Fire Chief Ed Preston:**

Fire Chief Ed Preston updated the councilmembers that the fire department would like to explore the possibility of acquiring a ladder truck for the city. He explained how a ladder truck would benefit the community, including improved response capabilities for multi-story structures, enhanced firefighter safety, and expand rescue and fire suppression operations. Chief Preston also asked if a councilmember could attend the upcoming LAPC meeting on Friday, stressing that they would like council representation present. Councilmember Quin Pope volunteered to attend. In addition, Chief Preston discussed the mutual aid agreement with the Forest Service and the BLM, noting that the agreement will be different moving forward. They would also like council representation at those meetings. Councilmember Shane Johnson agreed to attend.

**Mayor Ted Slivinski adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 7:30p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michelle Singleton*

Michelle Singleton  
City Clerk