

City Council Meeting

March 18th, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m.

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

Present:

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

Others:

City Clerk Michelle Singleton
Fire Chief Ed Preston
Superintendent Chris Bruce
Deputy Clerk Seilina Gull
Chief Blake Wells

Approval of Agenda:

**Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the agenda as written.
Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Approval of Minutes:

**Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the March 4th, 2026 minutes as written.
Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Approval of Bills:

**Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve and pay bills in the amount of \$50,365.30 with \$17,367.89 being miscellaneous bills and \$32,997.41 being payroll. Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded.
The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Fire Chief Ed Preston- Approval and Funding for a Fire Engine Ladder Truck:

Fire Chief Ed Preston addressed the councilmembers to request approval for the purchase of a ladder fire truck to improve the departments capabilities. Chief Preston stated that the department would retain the current fire rescue truck rather than sell it. The ladder truck under consideration is a 2005 American LaFrance 65' Telesquirt, a 65-foot engine with an aerial ladder. It has approximately 43,000 miles (about 3,500 hours) and is capable of pumping 2,000 gallons of water. The cost of the truck is \$50,000, with an additional \$13,000 for shipping from New Jersey. Necessary suction hoses, appliances, and tools are estimated at \$15,000. Chief Preston noted that he conducted a virtual walk-around of the truck and confirmed that it has been certified annually. He also stated that the seller will ensure both the ladder and pump are fully certified prior to the city completing the purchase. Mayor Slivinski asked whether the ladder truck would fit in the fire station garage and what the plan would be for storing the rescue truck. Chief Preston responded that the ladder truck will fit, explaining that Garden City previously brought in a similar ladder truck of the same type to confirm clearance. He added that the rescue truck will be winterized and stored outside. Councilmembers asked whether acquiring the ladder truck would improve the city's ISO rating. Chief Preston explained that while it would not directly improve the rating, it would contribute positively toward the department's overall points. Following discussion, the City Council agreed that funding for the ladder truck purchase would come from the Fire Department Reserve savings account.

**Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to purchase the 2005 American LaFrance 65' Telesquirt ladder fire truck not exceeding \$78,000 with funding out of the Fire Department Reserves.
Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Sunrise Engineering/ Superintendent Chris Bruce- Water Project bid review and award:

Superintendent Chris Bruce and Addison Ochsenbein from Sunrise Engineering were present to request council approval of the bid award for the Well #1 waterline abandonment project. Chris Bruce reported that four bids were received, with the highest bid at \$109,000.00 and the lowest bid at \$59,926.91. He stated that Reeder Excavating submitted the lowest bid and noted that this is the same company that previously completed the Crystal Drive water project for the city. Chris further explained that if the city awards the bid to Reeder Excavating in the amount of \$59,926.91, along with a \$1,000.00 contingency, the total cost could

increase, if necessary, through approved work orders. He added that, upon approval, the project could begin in the second week of April and is expected to take approximately 14 days to complete.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the bid from Reeder Excavating for the Well #1 Waterline Abandonment project in the amount of \$60,926.91. Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Executive Session-Idaho Code 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. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement;

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to go into Executive Session: Idaho Code 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. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement; Councilmember Ray Henrie seconded.

Roll call vote was taken:

Bobbi Leonhardt-yes Dan Fisher-yes Ray Henrie-yes Quin Pope-yes Shane Johnson-yes Brady Shultis-yes
The motion passes unanimously.

Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to close the Executive Session and moved back into regular session. Councilmember Dan Fisher seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Bobbi Leonhardt:

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt provided an update on Montpelier Irrigation, reporting that a meeting was held on March 16, 2026. She stated that the joint meeting between Montpelier Irrigation and the Forest Service went well, and the parties reached an agreement regarding the cost of water for the water board at the Montpelier Reservoir. At this time, there will be no cost but the amount could increase to as much as \$350.00 in the future.

Brady Shultis:

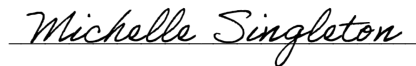
Councilmember Brady Shultis stated that the Montpelier Community Foundation is approximately \$3,000 short of the required matching funds for the Gem State Grant. He also noted that Molly Besseris has already submitted the application for the Gem State Grant on behalf of the foundation.

Sunrise Engineering Addison Ochsenein:

Addison Ochsenein of Sunrise Engineering addressed the City Council regarding the need to secure an easement for an additional water tank. Ochsenein explained that acquiring the easement is a critical step in supporting future water system capacity and ensuring reliable service for anticipated growth.

Mayor Ted Slivinski adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 1st, 2026 at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Singleton
City Clerk