

City Council Meeting

May 20th, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m.

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

Present:

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

Others:

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

Approval of Agenda:

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the agenda as written. Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve the May 3rd, 2026 minutes as corrected. Councilmember Brady Shultis seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Approval of Bills:

Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve and pay bills in the amount of \$117,992.40 with \$84,165.30 being miscellaneous bills and \$33,8727.10 being payroll. Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Oath of Office-K-9 Officer Dina:

City Clerk Michelle Singleton administered the oath of office to K-9 Officer Dina. Officer Sam Wallentine and K-9 Officer Dina were also presented with their K-9 certification certificate. Officer Wallentine and K-9 Officer Dina gave a presentation to the City Council regarding the K-9 program. The Mayor and City Council welcomed K-9 Officer Dina and congratulated Officer Sam Wallentine on obtaining the K-9 certification.

P&Z Recommendation-Cole & Katava Bartschi Conditional Use Permit:

Colleen Humpherys from Planning and Zoning was present to discuss the recommendation approved by Planning and Zoning for a conditional use permit for Cole and Katava Bartschi at 564 N. 2nd for a shipping container. Colleen read the Planning and Zoning recommendation letter, including the conditions and the requirement to meet those conditions within thirty (30) days. The mayor asked Katava if they had started working on any of the conditions. Katava stated that she had contacted Rocky Mountain Power and was informed that the shipping container needs to be at least three (3) feet away from the power poles. She said they would move the shipping container to meet that condition, and that moving it would place the container approximately one (1) foot away from their shop. Katava asked the City Council when the thirty (30) days would begin, whether from the Planning and Zoning meeting or the City Council meeting. The City Council informed her that the thirty (30) days would begin from the City Council meeting date, giving them until June 20, following the May 20 meeting, to meet the recommended conditions. After further discussion, the Council agreed to approve the Planning and Zoning recommendation with thirty (30) days to meet the conditions set by Planning and Zoning.

Councilmember Quin Pope moved to approve the conditional use permit for one shipping container for Cole and Katava Bartschi at 564 N. 2nd, with thirty (30) days to meet the conditions set by Planning and Zoning. Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Ordinance Fresh Water at RV Dump-Review and Approve for Public Hearing:

The mayor explained to the City Council that this ordinance had been discussed at the previous council meeting and that changes needed to be made before moving forward to a public hearing. The mayor noted that the City Clerk had made the requested changes to the ordinance. The Mayor and Councilmember Shane Johnson read the Fresh Water at the RV Dump Station

Ordinance in full. After the ordinance was read, the Mayor and Councilmembers discussed the ordinance and agreed to move forward with a public hearing for the Fresh Water at RV Dump Station Ordinance.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve moving forward to a public hearing for the Fresh Water at the RV Dump Station Ordinance as written.

Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Discover Area Guides-Jack Johnson:

Jack Johnson from the Discovery Area Guide met with the councilmembers to discuss a potential advertising opportunity for the city. He proposed a two-page advertisement that would appear in both editions of the Discovery Area Guide. The ad would reach approximately 3,000 residents, be placed in local hotels, and be distributed throughout the Bear Lake area. Mr. Johnson stated that the total cost for the city's participation would be \$750.00 for the two-page layout. In addition, he shared new historical and informational maps about Bear Lake and introduced their newly launched website, discovery.com, which will feature content covering the region from Burley, Idaho, to Star Valley, Wyoming. The mayor read the minutes from May 7, 2025 where Councilmember Dan Fisher expressed the view that this type of promotional effort should be managed by the Chamber of Commerce, and the mayor agreed with his statement. Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt stated that she would be okay with the city funding it for this year, but beginning next year, the Chamber should be responsible for the advertising in the Discovery Guides. Councilmember Quin Pope agreed with the Mayor and Bobbi Leonhardt and stated that he believed this was more appropriate for the private sector rather than City amenities. After thorough discussion, the Mayor and Councilmembers reached a consensus that the City would fund the advertisement for this year; however, beginning next year, the Chamber of Commerce would be responsible for managing and funding this advertising opportunity.

Councilmember Shane Johnson moved to approve the Discover Area Guide advertising for \$750.00 for a two-page layout for one more year. Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The voting unanimous in the affirmative.

Idaho Gem State Grant-Approval Funds:

The mayor explained that the Montpelier Community Foundation applied for the Idaho Gem State Grant to fund restrooms at Heritage Park. The City Council needs to approve the \$50,000 in awarded grant funds, which requires a \$16,000 matching contribution. Steve Allred, President of the Montpelier Community Foundation, was present and stated that Molly Beseris wrote and submitted the grant application on behalf of the city and the Foundation. He informed the Council that the Foundation is currently \$1,750 short of the required matching amount for the Heritage Park restroom project. The mayor informed the City Council that the city would be responsible for paying the upfront costs of the project but would be reimbursed up to \$50,000 through the grant. Any costs exceeding the grant amount would be the responsibility of the city.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the Idaho Gem State Grant.

Councilmember Shane Johnson seconded. The voting unanimous in the affirmative.

❖ **Councilmember Dan Fisher joined the City Council meeting.**

Maverik-Temporary Certificate of Occupancy:

Paul Haywood, the Project Manager for Maverik, was present at the City Council meeting requesting approval for a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) for the Maverik project. Mr. Haywood presented a PowerPoint presentation showing what the Maverik location will look like once construction is complete and the business is open. Mr. Haywood explained there is an issue with the detention basin area. While the majority of the project will be completed, the detention basin portion of the design will not yet be finished. Maverik is requesting permission to open temporarily prior to completion of that area. Mr. Haywood stated Maverik will implement a temporary solution by relocating a catch basin and using a temporary stormwater collection system with an electric pump that will discharge onto Hwy 89. Once the remaining construction and inspections are complete, the construction fencing will be moved around the detention basin area for safety until that portion of the project is finalized. Mr. Haywood explained that once the construction fencing is removed, traffic will again be able to enter Maverik, and the traffic patterns will remain the same as they were prior to construction. He stated there have been no changes to the ingress and egress of the property. He also explained that the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy would only allow Maverik to open the gas dispensers. Mr. Haywood further explained that if the TCO is granted, Maverik would provide a bond equal to 110% of the remaining construction costs. Upon completion of the remaining construction work, the City would release the bond. Mr. Haywood stated that by June 11th all construction and inspections would be complete except for the detention basin area. Mayor Slivinski stated he had spoken with Mason Garbett, Bear Lake County Building Inspector, who indicated he would follow the City's recommendation regarding the TCO request. Mr. Garbett would be the individual responsible for issuing the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, and if approved, the City would provide a letter to Mr. Garbett documenting the City's approval.

Mayor Slivinski also stated that he and the City Council had received a letter from Georgie McKinnon's attorney outlining concerns regarding the project. The mayor read portions of the letter, including references to City code concerns and concerns related to the intersection of Hwy 89 and Hwy 30. The mayor also noted the City received a complaint from Ms. McKinnon's son regarding vehicles blocking the driveway and rear alley access to their property. Mr. Haywood responded to the concerns raised in the letter and reiterated that Maverik did not alter the ingress or egress of the property, and that the plans had been approved by the ITD. Mr. Haywood also noted that the canopy was angled to improve safety for vehicles entering and exiting the Maverik property. Councilmember Dan Fisher stated that if the ingress and egress remain unchanged, he did not see an issue with the intersection. Councilmember Quin Pope noted that ITD had approved the plans and suggested the city may be able to assist with a plan to help address parking concerns. After thorough discussion, the Mayor and City Council agreed to approve the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for Maverik.

Councilmember Quin Pope moved to approve a letter to be sent to the Bear Lake County Building Inspector recommending approval of a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for Maverik. Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Shane Johnson:

Councilmember Shane Johnson reported that the Oregon Trail Center will be conducting several fundraisers. He stated that a Dutch oven dinner and show will be held on July 2 in conjunction with the 250 Celebration, and that the organization is also working on implementing mobile tours. Councilmember Johnson also informed the City Council that the Oregon Trail Center would like to lease the cabin located at Wells C. Stock Park.

Bobbi Leonhardt :

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt provided an update on behalf of Councilmember Ray Henrie regarding the Bear Lake Senior Citizen Center, noting that the raffle for the Henry rifle is still ongoing. Councilmember Leonhardt also provided an update on the Montpelier Irrigation water share allocation. She stated that one share will equal one hour of water at the standard 5 CFS stream for flood irrigators. Shares using sprinkler systems will equal 3.66 hours at 600 gallons per minute and 1.83 hours at 1,200 gallons per minute. She also noted that ANH is continually seeking foster volunteers and donations.

Quin Pope :

Councilmember Quin Pope informed the City Council that the Parks & Recreation Department's boys Little League baseball and girls softball programs have one week remaining in the season. He also reported that registration is currently being accepted for the Coach Pitch and T-Ball programs, which will begin soon.

Mayor Ted Slivinski adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 3rd, 2026 at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Singleton
City Clerk