

City Council Meeting

July 15th, 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-excused
Brady Shultis
Quin Pope
Bobbi Leonhardt
Dan Fisher

Others:

City Clerk Michelle Singleton
Police Chief Blake Wells
Superintendent Chris Bruce

Approval of Agenda:

Mayor Slivinski amended the agenda to remove Deloy Romrell from the agenda.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the agenda as amended.

Councilmember Brady Shultis seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Approval of Minutes:

Correction under Councilmember Dan Fisher should be projected to drop.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the July 1st, 2026 minutes as corrected.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Approval of Bills:

Councilmember Quin Pope moved to approve and pay bills in the amount of \$50,177.87 with \$12,312.06 being miscellaneous bills and \$37,865.81 being payroll.

Councilmember Brady Shultis seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

P&Z Recommendation-Chad & Sierra Cada Conditional Use Permit :

Isaac Tafoya, representing the Planning and Zoning Commission, appeared before the City Council to request approval of the Commission's recommendation for a conditional use permit submitted by Chad and Sierra Cada. Mr. Tafoya reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on July 9. Following the hearing, the Commission unanimously recommended approval of the conditional use permit, finding that the Connex storage container meets all required setback requirements. The container is located at 808 Ethel Street, at the rear of the property, and will be used for storage. Mr. Tafoya noted that the Commission's recommendation included one condition: that the Connex container be painted. Sierra Cada informed the Council that the paint has already been purchased and that the container will be painted as soon as possible.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for the conditional use permit submitted by Chad and Sierra Cada, with the condition that the Connex storage container be painted. Councilmember Quin Pope seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

P&Z Recommendation-Bill Tillotson Conditional Use Permit:

Isaac Tafoya, representing the Planning and Zoning Commission, was in attendance to recommend that the City Council approve the Conditional Use Permit submitted by Bill Tillotson for the property located at 332 N 8th. Isaac reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on July 9th regarding Mr. Tillotson's request to place a shipping container on his property. He stated that the shipping container had already been placed on the property prior to the public hearing, has been painted, complies with all required City setback regulations, and will be used for storage purposes.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for the conditional use permit for a storage container submitted by Bill Tillotson. Councilmember Quin Pope seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Police Department Grant-Live Scan Grant:

Chief Blake Wells was present to inform the Mayor and City Council that the Police Department had been contacted by the Idaho State Police regarding the opportunity to apply for the Live Scan Grant. He stated that Brooke submitted the grant application, and the Police Department was approved for the grant. Chief Wells explained that the grant would allow the Police Department to purchase a Live Scan fingerprint system, which would enable officers to digitally capture and submit fingerprints to the appropriate database, as well as process applicant fingerprinting services. The grant provides reimbursement for up to \$30,000; however, because it is a reimbursement grant, the city would not receive reimbursement until July 1, 2027, after the equipment has been purchased. Chief Wells expressed concern about the ongoing maintenance costs after the first year, when the warranty expires. He stated that annual support, repairs, replacement of failed parts, and software maintenance would cost approximately 12% to 14% of the system's list price. Due to these anticipated annual expenses, Chief Wells stated that he was uncertain whether to proceed with the grant and planned to obtain additional information and quotes from other vendors before making a recommendation. The City Council agreed with Chief Wells approach and supported gathering additional information regarding the long-term service and maintenance costs before making a decision.

Councilmember Quin Pope moved to table the Police Department's Live Scan Grant to allow Chief Wells additional time to gather more information regarding the system and its long-term maintenance costs.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Police Vehicle Purchase:

Police Chief Blake Wells reported to the Mayor and City Council that at the previous City Council meeting he had been asked to obtain an estimate for a K-9 kennel and related equipment for a new police vehicle. Chief Wells stated that the estimated cost for the kennel, equipment, and installation is \$32,202.28. He explained that the Ford Expedition is equipped with a ventilation system that can be integrated with the K-9 kennel to provide ventilation and forced air for the K-9. The system also includes a temperature monitoring alarm that will activate if the interior of the vehicle becomes too hot, causing the vehicle's windows to automatically roll down. The Council asked whether the \$32,202.28 estimate included complete installation of the equipment. Chief Wells confirmed that it was a full installation and that the estimate also included the police vehicle decals. He noted that the only items not included were the radio and radar equipment; however, the Police Department has existing equipment available for use, and Premier will install those items as well. Councilmember Quin Pope asked how long the Police Department typically keeps its patrol vehicles. Chief Wells responded that the vehicles are generally

phased out after 10 years of service. The City Council discussed funding the purchase over Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027. The budget includes \$25,000 in each fiscal year, for a total of \$50,000 budgeted toward the purchase of a new police vehicle. The estimated total cost of the Ford Expedition, K-9 kennel, equipment, and installation is approximately \$90,000. After discussion, the City Council agreed that the City's K-9 unit would benefit from the additional space provided by the Ford Expedition.

Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt moved to approve the purchase of a new police vehicle
Councilmember Quin Pope seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Tentative Approval FY 26-27 Budget:

The mayor informed the City Council that the City Clerk had received the final renewal figures for the City's employee health insurance. At the previous Council meeting, the projected increase had been estimated at 15%; however, the final increase came in at only 4%. The mayor stated that after adjusting the budget to reflect the lower insurance increase the City had an additional \$19,000 available for allocation. The City Clerk recommended allocating an additional \$10,000 to the Streets Department budget. The mayor also noted that the proposed budget includes a 4% wage increase for City employees. After these adjustments, approximately \$26,399 remains unallocated and may be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to tentatively approve the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budget and authorize its publication for the required public hearing.
Councilmember Bobbi Leonhardt seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative

Dan Fisher:

Councilmember Dan Fisher reported that the Bear Lake Regional Commission has scheduled its Legislative Rendezvous for Friday, August 21, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the State Marina. He also encouraged Mayor Slivinski to attend the event.

Brady Shultis:

Councilmember Brady Shultis reported that the first concert sponsored by the Montpelier Community Foundation will take place this Friday at Heritage Park. The featured performers will be Saddle Strings, and the event will also include the unveiling of the new Butch Cassidy Bench.

Mayor Ted Slivinski adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting on August 5th, 2026 at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Singleton
City Clerk