

Garland City Corporation City Council Meetings and Public Hearings September 17, 2025

Members Present:

Jeanette Atkinson
Sharla Nelson
Tena Allen
John Losee
Linda Bourne, Mayor
Kristal Edwards, Recorder
Steve Brooks, City Attorney

Members Absent

Josh Munns

City Council Work Session

Mayor Bourne called the work session for September 17, 2025, to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Garland City Building. The following Department Heads were present: Emergency Preparedness Director Lanette Sorensen, Police Lieutenant Skyler Gailey, Fire Chief Steve Harrington, and Code Enforcement Officer RaeAnn Bott.

Lanette expressed that her meetings with Box Elder County have been rescheduled for October. She reported that she has received many donations for the emergency preparedness storage and will begin inventory and organizing the storage unit. She noted that for Preparedness Month, she did a presentation with Rocky Mountain Power and will be sharing those documents when they're ready. Additionally, she reported that she will be conducting reviews for those who participated in the EOC and Peer Support meetings.

Steve reported that the department has renewed vehicle licenses that are required every two years. He noted that he needs to get the fire engine to Rosenbauer for maintenance on the A/C unit. He reported that they received a grant that will be utilized to restock medical supplies. He reported that Kirby Grow, an experienced firefighter, has joined the department. In addition, he reported that their department has been very busy with recent events and accident calls received, noting that on September 16, 2025, they received five call-outs. A discussion ensued, and Steve expressed how an ambulance for Garland would be beneficial to the department and residents, especially noting the impact of delays caused when the Tremonton ambulances are dispatched on calls. Lastly, Steve noted that there is an upcoming Big Box Training this fall.

Skyler reported that their department received a \$4,500 grant that will be utilized to fund medics for the SWAT Team for Special Function Officers Certifications. He reported that the AEF grant opportunity is available, and if received, he would like to use those funds for dash cameras. He suggests that the city should consider a Traffic Advisory Board to help improve road safety and evaluate the impact of new developments on traffic patterns, etc. He expressed his appreciation to Council Member Atkinson for helping with the recent police interviews. He noted that they are seeking qualified, experienced police officers to join the department and will reopen the police positions. Additionally, he expressed that he would like to provide the council with new police vehicle numbers for the near future. He reported that the Ford Explorer will be around \$45,000, and the estimated cost to equip the vehicle is around \$18,000. It was noted that the Trunk or Treat will be held on Friday, October 31st.

RaeAnn reported that she has toured the town and has been able to identify several compliance issues. She informed the council that she is reviewing the current city ordinances and noting any necessary changes. As an educational approach, she has created a courtesy note to encourage non-compliant residents to come into compliance before the issuance of any fines.

Linda King reported that she would like to challenge the city council to participate in the Bean Stack Challenge, noting that there will be a prize giveaway. This is an app challenge to bring awareness to the Library Chef program.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m. by consensus of the Council.

City Council Meeting

Mayor Bourne called the September 17, 2025, City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Garland City Building. Council Member Losee offered a thought and prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Nelson.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the agenda. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the minutes for September 3, 2025. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

Open Comments

There were no open comments.

Mayor Bourne called the public hearing to order.

Public Hearing, Discussion and Possible Action on Police One-Time Retention Incentive

Laura McKee inquired what this public hearing is about. Mayor Bourne and Council Member Nelson provided clarification.

RaeAnn Bott expressed that she believes this is so important for the police department to retain and recruit officers in our town. She expressed her appreciation to all of the police officers who were involved during the gunfire incident at her home in Hyrum a few months ago.

Jim Hall expressed that he is in favor of the retention and incentive. He noted that when officers receive this bonus, we should require some sort of commitment to have them stay with the department.

Jason Frandsen noted that he agreed with the previous open comments made. He expressed that the Garland officers should be paid the same as Tremonton's pay scale. Mayor Bourne reported that they are being paid the same.

Nate Peterson appreciates the service of all of our police officers and is in favor of the bonus and pay scale.

Rex McKee expressed that the pay scale is not enough for what our officers do for our community. He is in favor of this bonus and pay scale and agrees with Jim Hall that if we give a bonus, we need some type of commitment from the officer to stay with the department.

Jon Powell reported that he recently had to call a police officer and had a great experience, noting that it all comes down to the leadership. Lastly, he noted that he also agrees with Jim Hall.

Merrilee Gardner said she is in favor of this bonus and pay scale, and she appreciates all of our police officers.

Donnie Howell expressed that the police department upholds the highest standard from the top down and expressed that this is a way to retain and keep the culture. Lastly, he noted that he is proud to wear the badge.

There were no additional comments. Mayor Bourne closed the public hearing.

Skyler reported that the bonus agreement is a one-year retention bonus and will be equal to \$5,000 after tax withholding. He expressed his appreciation for all of the public comments and support.

Council Member Nelson expressed that no amount of money will be enough but shared that this is a token of appreciation for the courage of our officers and hopes that they all feel the gratitude.

Council Member Atkinson motioned to pass Resolution R-25-18, a one-time retention bonus payment of \$5,000.00, after tax withholdings, to police officers of the Garland Police Department, subject to a retention commitment. Mayor Bourne noted that this will begin on September 22, 2025. Council Member Nelson would like to clarify with an amendment for the record that we have amended the section one-time retention bonus payment to specify that the city will pay all taxes and deductions so that the officers will receive the full \$5,000.00 to begin on September 22nd. Council Member Losee seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Mayor Bourne called for a roll call vote:

Jeanette Atkinson – yes
Sharla Nelson – yes
Tena Allen – yes
John Losee – yes
Josh Munns – absent
Resolution, R-25-18, passes.

In addition, Mayor Bourne reported that Ordinance O-25-09 is to adjust the pay scale for police officers, necessary to ensure competitiveness, promote retention, and provide fair compensation, and will not affect the current budget. Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve Ordinance O-25-09, an ordinance of the city of Garland, Utah, adopting a new pay scale for Garland City Police Officers. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. Mayor Bourne called for a roll call vote:

Jeanette Atkinson – yes
Sharla Nelson – yes
Tena Allen – yes
John Losee – yes
Josh Munns – absent
Ordinance, O-25-09, passes.

Mayor Bourne called the public hearing to order.

Public Hearing, Consideration and Possible Action on the Adoption of City Engineering Standards

Valerie Claussen, City Planner, provided a brief explanation of why the engineering standards are necessary.

Mayor Bourne called for any open comments.

Donnie Howell questioned how this would affect grandfathered trees in parking strips if they need to be replaced. He expressed that trees should be allowed based on certain requirements. In addition, he reported how his peach trees in his parking strips have positively affected the community.

Thane Winward asked if the council would answer Donnie's question. Valerie reported that the engineering standards would only apply to new subdivisions. Thane noted that the standards need more clarification as it does not mention grandfathered trees. Additionally, Thane expressed his concerns with the limited proposed standards and if residents maintain the trees in the parking strips, they should be allowed to plant whichever trees as long as it does not cause harm or any hazards. Lastly, he noted that the standards should apply to everyone, not just new subdivisions.

Nate Peterson noted that he has trees in his parking strip and does not like the division with the new subdivisions and grandfathered trees in the park strip. He expressed that he would rule out specific trees as a better approach.

Jon Powell acknowledged that he understands both sides but disagrees with each. He described this as a starting point, noting that he would approve the current standards and then build upon them with additional criteria.

Laura McKee noted that she has trees in her park strip, which can add aesthetic value, beauty, shade, and impact a home's property value. She provided a brief summary of the Providence and Ogden restrictions for park strips. She would accept the standards that included acceptable trees.

Nate Peterson noted that it would be beneficial to visit around the town to see which types of trees are causing damage and create a list to ban those types of trees within the standards.

There were no additional comments made. Mayor Bourne closed the public hearing.

Mayor Bourne reported Paul's comments from his report regarding the city's engineering standards. In his report, he noted that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on September 2, 2025, regarding the City Engineering Standards, which also recommends support and approval of these standards, except section C park strip portion until further review is completed.

Council Member Losee motioned to accept Ordinance, O-25-08, however, excluding all of the stuff in item C, under park strip and landscaping. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion and emphasized the purpose of these standards to ensure the safety of the citizens, and noted items to consider to include in the standards for types of tree conditions. She agrees that the standards should apply to existing homes and new subdivisions. Council Member Atkinson noted that she appreciates all of the research and public comments made. A discussion ensued. Council Member Losee noted that he does not agree with the park strip tree list and would like the Planning Commission to come up with additional suggestions. Mayor Bourne called for a roll call vote:

Jeanette Atkinson – yes
Sharla Nelson – yes
Tena Allen – yes
John Losee – yes
Josh Munns – absent
Ordinance, O-25-08, passes.

Mayor Bourne closed the public hearing. Mayor Bourne called the regular meeting back to order.

Old Business

Discussion on the Potential Trail between Tremonton & Garland

Mayor Bourne briefly reported that Lakeshore will need to maintain the trail because of the easement.

New Business

Discussion and Possible Action on the Trunk or Treat at Garland City Park

Mayor Bourne reported that the Trunk or Treat will be held on Friday, October 31st at the Garland City Park. She noted that the best decorated trunk will win a prize, and, if possible, please bring some candy to share.

Discussion and Possible Action on Sander and Snowplow Blade Quotes

Mayor Bourne reported that Travis provided quotes for a sander and snowplow blades to prepare for the upcoming winter season. A discussion ensued. Council Member Atkinson motioned to accept the quote from Reading Truck in the amount of \$21,871.22. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

Mayor and City Council Reports

Mayor Bourne provided an update that was given by Paul regarding the 1400 Magnolia Farms Siphon bids. She noted that Paul has three contractors who must submit a bid by September 26, 2025. In addition, she reported that the Mosquito Abatement spray was completed yesterday evening, September 16th. She reminded the council and the public that the Meet the Candidate Night will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at the Garland City Armory beginning at 7 p.m. She reported that the Special Olympics approached her to inquire about planting a tree, and she would like the council to decide on the location for the tree. She noted that Linda at the library will be applying for a grant that will allow self-help books to be available to anyone. There would be two locations, one at the Wellness Garden and the other in front of the city office. Lastly, she reported that the Frosty Fest will be held on December 5th at the city armory from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Council Member Atkinson reported that department heads need to connect with Randi or Linda at the library to upload content for the city app so it can go into effect as soon as possible.

Council Member Losee reported that football is going well and the playoffs are coming up quickly. He reported that the park issues have recently decreased.

Council Member Allen did not have any reports.

Council Member Nelson did not have any reports.

Financial Review – Approval of Payroll and Accounts Payable

Council Member Atkinson motioned to approve the coding for payroll and accounts payable. Council Member Allen seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

Requests for Future Agenda Items

- Magnolia Farms Siphon Bids

Council Member Nelson motioned to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Council Member Losee seconded the motion, with all council members present voting in favor of the motion. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. by consensus of the Council.

The undersigned, duly acting and appointed Recorder for Garland City Corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes for the City Council Meetings and Public Hearings held on the above-referenced date.



Kristal Edwards, Recorder