



MONROE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 7:00 pm
MINUTES

7:00 p.m.

1. The regular meeting of the Monroe City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnny Parsons at 7:00 p.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Jason Bagley. Mayor Johnny Parsons offered a prayer.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Johnny Parsons

Councilmembers:

Jason Bagley

Candice Barney

Ryan Johnson

Michael Mathie-absent

Perry Payne

Public Works Director John Draper

City Recorder Allison Leavitt

Water Foreman Darrell Payne

4. Consider a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held July 28, 2026

Councilmember Ryan Johnson moved to approve the July 28, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes as submitted. Councilmember Jason Bagley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Bagley, Barney, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 4-0

5. Citizen input -Limit of 3 minutes per comment

6. Approval of July 2026 warrant register, cash disbursements, and adjustment journal.

Councilmembers reviewed and signed the July 2026 warrant register, cash disbursements, and adjustment journal.

7. Business

a. South Sevier Senior Center Board Report

Mary K. Outzen, President of the South Sevier Senior Citizen Advisory Board, reported on the following:

Fundraiser Success: The 24th of July breakfast and lunch fundraiser generated over \$2,000, and the board expressed gratitude to the Council for their support in making it successful.

Facility Maintenance: President Outzen thanked the Council for the chair lift being fixed by Public Works Director John Draper. Water Foreman DaRell Payne reported that a pump line to the air conditioner had cracked and caused a minor water leak inside the Senior Citizen building and stated that it would be fully repaired tomorrow.

Private Donation: The board received a \$3,000 private donation toward the construction of their new building.

Grant Research: President Outzen shared information about a grant research platform called "Candid," and a family member with grant-writing expertise offered to assist in identifying opportunities once the new building plans are finalized.

Social media: The board noted it had taken down its Facebook page due to undesirable posts and is exploring transitioning to a website instead.

b. Consider donation for Magnify Monroe Mural and Magnify Monroe Update -Angie Card

Presented by Angie Card and Joelle McCarthy

Angie Card opened by welcoming Paula Roberts as the new Magnify Monroe Organization treasurer and acknowledged outgoing treasurer Kathleen Schoemig for her contributions to the organization.

Joelle McCarthy presented details on the recently completed mural. She explained that the market value of a mural of that size would have been approximately \$32,000 through a commercial process; however, local artist Ellie Woolsey agreed to complete it for \$5,200, which the Council acknowledged as an extraordinary contribution. After fundraising through the Magnify Monroe organization, a remaining balance of \$2,884 owed to the artist prompted the request for a City donation.

Mayor Johnny Parsons expressed that the mural looks great but noted his concern about the process, stating that he would prefer Magnify Monroe come before the Council at the beginning of future projects rather than after completion, when the City is left in the position of covering a

funding gap. Councilmember Perry Payne echoed this sentiment, expressing frustration that the group had proceeded without prior Council notification.

Councilmember Ryan Johnson raised a question about whether the Main Street program funds could be applicable to a project of this nature. Ms. Card and Ms. McCarthy explained that the City had only recently received approval in April to begin applying for Main Street grants, and those funds are still a ways off.

Ms. Card provided a Magnify Monroe quarterly update, reporting volunteer hours and monetary donations contributed to Main Street projects during the second quarter. Ms. Card explained that documented volunteer hours, and monetary donations, are vital to have when applying for grants through the Utah Main Street program. Councilmember Candice Barney clarified that even local youth groups work, such as painting the curb strips before the 24th of July celebration, would fit the grant criteria. Ms. Card stated yes if it is documented.

Ms. McCarthy noted an upcoming grant opportunity opening September 14th, requiring only a 20% match from the City while the state funds 80%, and requested a meeting with Mayor Johnny Parsons to discuss ideas before the application is submitted. The Council expressed receptiveness to that conversation.

Councilmember Candice Barney raised the observation that the back portion of the building remains unpainted and expressed a preference that future mural planning consider covering the full visible surface. There was also brief discussion about registering this and future murals as protected works of art with the state, so that the work cannot be altered without the consent of both the artist and property owner.

Ms. Card spoke passionately about the mission behind the mural program, explaining that the murals are an intentional, non-direct approach to letting youth know they are valued by the community. Future mural sites planned include the back wall of the old fire station facing the elementary school art room and the back wall of the Lion's Park stage.

Ms. Card also noted that on September 25th, the State Historic Preservation Office will hold a regional hub meeting in Monroe for Utah Main Street communities, at the Greystone building.

Councilmember Candice Barney acknowledged the difficulty of the full \$2,884 request given that the City did not have prior notification and noted that past donations to similar projects have ranged between \$500 and \$1,500. Councilmember Perry Payne stated he would approve to donate \$1,500, noting that while he appreciated the mural's quality, the lack of advance coordination was a concern.

Councilmember Perry Payne moved to approve a \$1500.00 donation to the Monroe Mural Project located at 52 N Main. Councilmember Candice Barney seconded the motion. A roll call

vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Bagley, Barney, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 4-0

- c. Consider Water Foreman Darrell Payne to apply for Rural Water Association of Utah (RWAU) board member position

Mayor Johnny Parsons introduced the item, noting that our former Public Works Director Devin Magleby had previously held this position for the City and had spoken well of Water Foreman DaRell Payne as a successor. The Council expressed support for Water Foreman Darrell Payne's willingness to take on the role, acknowledging the time commitment it requires and the benefit it provides to the City.

Councilmember Jason Bagley moved authorize Water Foreman Darrell Payne to apply for a board position with the Rural Water Association of Utah. Councilmember Ryan Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Bagley, Barney, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 4-0

- d. Consider cancellation of August 25, 2026 -Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Johnny Parsons noted that both he and Councilmember Perry Payne would be attending UAMPS meetings in Logan on August 25th, making it impractical to hold the regular Council meeting that date.

Councilmember Perry Payne moved to cancel August 25, 2026, regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Jason Bagley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was called. Voting yes: Councilmembers Bagley, Barney, Johnson, and Payne. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried. 4-0

8. Other Business

- a. Staff Reports

City Recorder Allison Leavitt –

***Pickleball Courts Update:** Reported that the City staff met with the contractor for the pickleball court project. The group discussed the possibility of building three sets of courts in the future but ultimately determined that the spacing would be too tight to accommodate adequate gating and safe access between courts. The plan will revert to one set of courts initially, with one more set planned in a future phase. The contractor may shift the courts approximately 10 feet to the north to improve access to playing fields on the south end. Construction is expected to begin in approximately one to two weeks. City Recorder Allison Leavitt noted that if weather becomes a limiting factor, the contractor indicated he could apply a first coat to allow play in the spring and return to complete the final coat later.

City Recorder Allison Leavitt reported ongoing coordination with the high school regarding a proposed sidewalk along the project area. The Council expressed support for pursuing that coordination while the contractor is on site, noting that doing so could be more cost-effective and better address drainage elevations than completing the work separately. Mayor Johnny Parsons stated that, if the school district is willing to proceed with the project now, the City would consider a 50/50 cost share for the sidewalk.

A question arose regarding gates for the courts. The Council discussed concerns raised by another jurisdiction about gate placement and reliability and agreed that gate details should be reviewed further before finalization.

Public Works Director John Draper –

No further business.

b. Department Business-Council

Councilmember Perry Payne –

*Received compliments from residents on how well the City and Sevier County handled the recent flooding due to the Monroe Canyon Fire burn scar.

Brodie Bagley, Sevier County Road Supervisor, stated that Monroe City workers had responded exceptionally well during the recent flood event and had handled the bulk of the problem before county crews arrived. Mayor Johnny Parsons affirmed the City's appreciation for its staff.

Councilmember Jason Bagley –

*Mayor Johnny Parsons noted that the City's secondary water system has been a significant advantage during the current drought conditions. He credited the City's text notification system with helping residents conserve water, observing that the irrigation pond refills measurably when conservation requests go out. Both Otter Creek and Piute reservoirs were reported at approximately 5–6% capacity.

Upper hydro units were confirmed to be offline.

A discussion followed about improving the reach of the utility text notification system, with several Councilmembers noting they had not been successfully added to it. City Recorder Allison Leavitt stated that we have experienced some technical issues which are being worked through and that she will update all City Staff, Councilmembers, and residents requesting their contact information be updated to the new texting program.

Councilmember Candice Barney –

*Reported that Park Foreman Rhett Colby had completed welding on the library ramp, and the project is now 100% finished. She expressed appreciation for the quality of the work.

Councilmember Ryan Johnson –

*Extended thanks to Mayor Johnny Parsons, and City staff for the significant effort put into the 24th of July “Pioneer Day” celebration.

Mayor Johnny Parsons –

*Well drilling update. Drilling has begun and Public Works Director John Draper and Water Foreman Darrell Payne will be meeting with the drilling crew on bi-weekly Wednesday mornings. The Council asked if they could change these meetings to either Monday or Tuesday morning so they could report to the Council with a current update.

*Brief discussion confirmed that the Public Power Picnic is scheduled for August 31st. City Recorder Allison Leavitt will send information to Councilmembers on their assignments as the event gets closer.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Perry Payne moved the Regular Council Meeting to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Candice Barney . The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.4 -0

The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 starting at 7:00 p.m. at Monroe City Office.

Approved this 8th day of September 2026.



Allison Leavitt
Monroe City Recorder



Johnny C. Parsons
Mayor