

Naples City Council

October 23, 2025

Minutes

A meeting of the Naples City Council was held October 23, 2025, 7:30 p.m., at the Naples City Office, 1420 East 2850 South, Naples, Uintah County, Utah.

DATE, TIME & PLACE OF MEETING

Council members attending were Dean Baker, Dan Olsen, Ross Morton, Kenneth Reynolds and Andrew Bentley. Robert Hall was absent.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING

Others attending were Janet Bailey, Karen England, Justin Parker, Tammy Parker, Catherine Gillund, Matt Wilber, Abigail Roberts, Sarah John, Daniel John, Justin Nielson, Cam Hunting, Melissa Hunting, Blaine Hunting, Grant Hatch, GayLynn Hatch, Darin Merrell, Nate Zilles, Gwen Harrison, Derrick Hughes, Julie Hughes, Brooks Jones, Jon Beede, Jackson Beede, Mindy Merrell, Dwight Merkley, Willis LeFevre, Stephanie Adams, Scott Adams, Szeth Simmons, Nathan Simper, Micheal Davis, and Nikki Kay.

OTHERS ATTENDING

Mayor Baker welcomed everyone and began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Kenneth Reynolds offered the invocation.

OPENING CEREMONY

Mayor Baker asked for approval of the agenda. Councilman Bentley asked for time under other matters to discuss the pickleball courts again. Dan Olsen **moved** to approve the agenda with that change. Kenneth Reynolds **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting aye.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The minutes of the city council meeting of October 9, 2025 were presented for approval. Ross Morton **moved** to approve the minutes. Andrew Bentley **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mayor Baker asked if anyone had anything they would like to follow up with from the previous meeting. Nothing was brought forward.

FOLLOW UP MATTERS

Nikki Kay presented the bills in the amount of \$52,087.40. Kenneth Reynolds **moved** to approve the bills in the amount of \$52,087.40. Dan Olsen seconded the motion. The

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Andrew Bentley	Aye
Kenneth Reynolds	Aye
Ross Morton	Aye
Dan Olsen	Aye
Robert Hall	Absent

A business license application was received for Crafted Structures Utah LLC located at 585 S Wright Brothers Drive. A memo from Dale Peterson was given to Council recommending the business for approval. Dan Olsen **moved** to approve the business license for Crafted Structures Utah LLC. Ross Morton **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

***APPROVAL OF BUSINESS
LICENSES***

A business license application was received for Iron Goat Industries LLC located at 2359 S 1500 E. Council members received a memo from Dale Peterson recommending the business for approval. Ross Morton **moved** to approve the business license for Iron Goat Industries LLC. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with all voting in the affirmative.

Karen England, with the Uintah County Library, came before the Council to explain some of the programs they offer at the Library. She stated one of their goals is to have a full fledge bookmobile, a library on wheels. Ms. England stated they currently have just a minivan and are looking for places where they can provide this service to community members inside a building during the winter. She asked Council members if they could utilize one of their buildings here, either the City building or the fire station. Ms. England said they just need a little space to set up a table and a couple of chairs to help patrons check books in and out. She said they would work around a good day and time for the staff, and it would be two times a month for about two hours. It was discussed having Ms. England reach out to the fire department, because there was no office space available in the building, but Micheal said they could try it in the foyer and if it doesn't work out they might have to try something else. Ms. England was asked to get with Micheal to discuss it. Ms. England thanked the Council for their time.

***REQUEST TO USE
OFFICE SPACE FOR
REMOTE BOOKMOBILE***

Dan Olsen **moved** to open a public hearing to discuss the 2500 S proposed road improvements. Kenneth Reynolds

***PUBLIC HEARING TO
DISCUSS 2500 S***

PROPOSED ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

seconded the motion. The motion passed with all voting in the affirmative. Brooks Jones, with Jones and DeMille, displayed two conceptual designs for the road. Option #1 was an 8' shoulder, 12' lane, 12' median, 12' lane, 8' shoulder and a 4' waterway. Option #2 was a 5' sidewalk, 2.5' curb and gutter, 8' shoulder and 12' lanes. Mr. Jones shared that the estimated cost for Option #1 would be 3.9 million and the cost for Option #2 would be 3.6 million. Councilman Bentley asked about funding for the project. Micheal stated the City has not done anything yet for funding. Councilman Bentley asked what they were doing tonight? Mr. Jones stated they wanted to find out what the property owners wanted, they were there to listen and to answer questions.

Justin Parker wanted to share some research he found and also stated he works in construction and understands the numbers they discussed. Mr. Parker stated he appreciates the service the Council gives to the community. He asked the Council to consider, as they make these decisions, do they believe the community will grow on the east side of 2500 South? Will that growth include more houses and more children along the road? Mr. Parker stated he is in favor of a sidewalk on that road. He said he no longer has little children in the home but his wife loves to go for a run and has not felt safe to do that on 2500 South. Mr. Parkers asked the Council if they believed it would be cheaper to build a sidewalk in the future? He shared that it would be 20-30 percent cheaper to build the sidewalk during the construction phase of the road, than to do it after. Mr. Parker asked if the Council was good with not providing a "guard" against human life if they decide not to do a gutter and sidewalk system? Mr. Parker stated that curbs form a vertical barrier that gives a visual and physical boundary between vehicles and pedestrians. He shared that sidewalks also help with drainage by directing stormwater away from sidewalks and providing protection against slips and falls. Mr. Parker said that research shows that curbs can deflect or slow a vehicle enough to keep it from mounting the sidewalk. Mr. Parker asked, if the funds are not there, could the decision for a sidewalk be moved back in order to provide time to build a budget for them? He said our community is growing and he would like to see the Council invest in the infrastructure for people, which is being asked for by the people.

Stephanie Adams stated she lives in The Farm subdivision and she is in favor of sidewalks and believes they bring

walkability to the community which is something businesses look at when they are considering locations. Ms. Adams stated that 8' shoulders also provide a safer area for EMS and First Responders to work in, as opposed to the 5' shoulders.

Dwight Merkley stated he is in favor of sidewalks and feels the center lane would push traffic into the walking path of pedestrians, without a sidewalk. He said he would love to see the kids out on their bikes feeling like they are part of the community and have a place for bikes or walking. Mr. Merkley wanted to know the reason they chose the north side of the street for sidewalk as opposed to the south and he also asked about street lighting. Micheal said they went with the north side for sidewalk because they had to shift the road over and felt it would work better on that side and give room for wider shoulders.

GayLynn Hatch spoke and said her only request would be to have a street light near her home because that is where the kids catch the bus. Others attending agreed with that request.

Mr. Merkley restated his question about street lighting and asked what they were doing there. Micheal asked if the decorative or street lighting is something they would like to see? Several commented they would. Justin Nielsen said it would help with the bus stop safety and general lighting safety for night.

Councilman Morton added a comment about the location of the sidewalk on the north side of the road and said it made more sense because of the kids you might have coming from subdivisions located further north, riding their bikes or walking to 7-11.

Sarah John stated she lives on 2500 South, but east of where the improvements would be. She voiced her objection to the decorative street lights. Ms. John said he loves the dark night skies and asked the City not to over illuminate the road. She stated it ruins the night sky and that is one of the reasons they love the area.

Willis LeFevre asked the Council if they have considered approaching the State for active transportation money and putting in a bike lane? Micheal stated the City currently has money for improvements on 2000 East and can't ask for any

more money until that is spent.

Darren Merrell asked if the improvements on 2500 South would extend past 2000 East to the City boundary? Micheal said they've only drawn up plans to 2000 East but if the Council chose to go beyond that it would be up to them. Micheal said they might look at curb and gutter. Mr. Merrell said he was worried about future flooding if they don't do something.

Catherine Gillund said she lives beyond 2000 East, but stated whichever option they choose to go with, she hopes they leave the speed limit at 25 mph. She also was against the center lane because it causes people to speed.

Councilman Bentley said this decision will eventually be made by other people. He stated that three of the people currently on the Council will not be there in January, so he encouraged people to vote.

Nate Zilles commented on the difference in the price of the two projects and wondered if you can put a price on the safety of the children. He said, after listening to the comments, everyone's main concern is safety and he appreciated the information that Justin Parker shared.

Cam Hunting wanted to know why the street needed to be that wide, he said he's for the kids safety, but why does it have to be so wide? He also wanted to know why they chose sidewalks on just one side of the road? Mr. Hunting said he is also against the turning lane. He wondered why just the two options?

Nate Zilles commented on the lighting and said they can address that with directional lighting and he said there is also the psychological aspect of the sidewalk helping people slow down.

Brooks Jones said the initial cost for installation of curb gutter and sidewalk is a lot and they split the middle and went with sidewalk down one side.

Nate Zilles mentioned a sidewalk that was just installed in Ballard and said when you do sidewalk on both sides, you narrow up the shoulder of the road, bringing the road almost right up to the sidewalk. Micheal said you do narrow up the shoulders.

Councilman Bentley said, this is only one road in Naples and at some point they may not have CIB funding and it might come down to higher taxes to pay for sidewalks.

Mindy Merrell stated, going back to Councilman Bentley's comments, that she would prefer to see more sidewalks throughout the City rather than double sidewalks on one road. She said she was there speaking in behalf of her mother-in-law, Donna Merrell, who lives on the road, and she said she would prefer a sidewalk on 2500 South.

Justin Parker asked Chief Simper what their findings were from the speed trailer they put out after everyone was so vocal about people speeding on 2500 South at a previous meeting. Chief Simper stated the average speeds ranged from ten to fifty miles an hour over. He said the speed trailers will temporarily slow traffic, on an average, for about seventeen days.

Mayor Baker said they will also need to consider the turnouts from the canal enclosure. He said he doesn't know if they are in the right-of-way, but they will need to look at those.

Justin Nielson asked that the City consider the high-back curb, if they do curb and gutter and sidewalk, and not the low-back like they have in subdivisions.

With no other comments, Mayor Baker thanked everyone and said they do appreciate the comments.

Andrew Bentley **moved** to go out of the public hearing. Dan Olsen **seconded** the motion. The motion passed

Councilman Bentley stated he wanted to revisit the discussion from the last meeting concerning the pickleball courts. Councilman Bentley asked Councilman Morton how long the discussions have been taking place regarding the pickleball courts. Councilman Morton said the City has been talking about making funds available for sometime and it was about two months ago that the Recreation District approved two areas for new courts, Naples being one of them. Councilman Morton said he understood both projects would start in the Spring and the only reason it was moved up was because another job fell through for the contractors. Mayor Baker said he didn't know anything about it until Cheryl Meier, with the Recreation District, contacted him and said they have control of the parks. Mayor Baker wanted to

***OTHER MATTERS OR
FUTURE COUNCIL
MATTERS***

know why it was never brought to him. Councilman Morton said the two areas were just approved and the last Council meeting was the first one he was able to attend after the District approved them. Councilman Morton said he did not know they wanted to start the project earlier until that last Council meeting. Councilman Bentley stated he felt there were better options for location of the courts than the two that were presented. Councilman Morton said he felt like the area that was presented was fine. He said it's flat and they would be removing green space that they are paying \$30,000 a month to water. He said he doesn't really care where they go, as long as they go in. Councilman Morton stated Councilman Olsen recommended another area, he feels like it would cost more money because they would have to level more ground, but he would be good with wherever they decided, he's fine with anywhere. Councilman Olsen said they are not against pickleball. Councilman Morton said, he keeps hearing that but rather than hearing how they are going to make it happen, all he's hearing is why it can't go here and why it can't go there. Councilman Bentley said they just need to agree on the spot and dedicate it for that, so when the project is ready to start again, they can move forward with it. Micheal said the Council now has time to review a location, so when the option comes up, they are ready to go. Micheal stated the contract with the Recreation District from 1997 does state they have the right to make decisions regarding construction of projects. He said they need to work with the Recreation District and it's important that they do because they are maintaining it. Mayor Baker stated it is Naples City's park and they have to have approval from the City, it does not give them total control. Micheal felt the contract read differently but it didn't really matter, they still have to work with them and they can now take the time to make that decision because the District moved with another project. Micheal said the decision to move with the project did come very fast but it didn't work so now they can decide what to do. Councilman Morton said he was able to have a discussion with Becky Evans, President of the Girls Softball and discussed with her some really cool things the USSD 1 is committed to doing for them and some good things they would like to do for them. He said they have discussed new bathrooms, concessions, a score tower, nets on the existing poles for batting practice, and pitching screens. Councilman Morton didn't feel like Girls Softball was a roadblock to the pickleball courts, he felt like they were for it. Micheal said they can now go back and look at the different areas, see what would work best, make a decision,

and have Councilman Morton take that back to the USSD 1. He said they might have missed an opportunity but they can still move on from here. Councilman Morton said, at this point, construction would take place in the Spring anyway and they've missed the opportunity to build them and get the grant. He said they can take the time discuss where would be the bet spot for them and what else they can do for the softball girls and to make it good for everyone. Scott Adams asked how much was lost with this decision. Councilman Morton stated there was a \$50,000 grant available at the time that will now go to the Ashley location instead of here.

With no other business before the Council, Dan Olsen **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Ross Morton **seconded** the motion. The meeting was adjourned by all voting in favor of the motion.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 13th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025

BY: _____

ATTEST: _____