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City Council Agenda Information

To: Mayor Miller and City Council
From: Jami Van Huss, Museum Director
Date: February 12, 2026
Subject: Elite Hall Discussion

Summary: Under the direction of the city administrator, city council, and mayor, we have been working over the last ten year toward making the Elite Hall a more sustainable, functional, accessible, and energy efficient community space. The museum director, along with the Hyrum Historic Preservation Commission and Hyrum Heritage Foundation---both groups of Hyrum's citizens---have conducted community surveys, worked with the state historic preservation office (SHPO) and other community partners, and hosted a variety of fundraisers and free community events to determine the appropriate trajectory for restoration based on best practice and citizen opinion.

As we commence 2026, they city has budgeted \$200,000 and received \$180,000 in RAPZ grant funding to build an annex, which will increase the Elite Hall's accessibility and make it more functional for the types of events desired by community members. At the request of the Hyrum City Mayor, the Museum Director Jami Van Huss will discuss the attached Elite Hall Progress and other Data 2026 sheet, and provide any needed context, additional information, and answer questions so the city council can determine the best course of action to pursue.

Community members from the Hyrum Historic Preservation Commission and Hyrum Heritage Foundation will be present to answer any questions as needed.

Recommendation:

Museum Director Jami Van Huss is recommending the city council determine the best course of action to take with the restoration of the Elite Hall so she can proceed with both the work and spending the RAPZ funding within the required timeframe.

City Council Meeting Details:

- Meeting Date: February 19, 2026
- Council Role: Information, discussion, possible vote

Attachments:

1. Elite Hall Progress and other Data 2026

Hyrum City's investment in Elite Hall since 2015

2015	CLG Grant match for Feasibility Study	\$9,100
2015	Survey of Hyrum residents regarding usage	\$150
2015	Rendering of restored exterior	\$300
2017	New parking lot with handicap-accessible stalls, which allows for construction of annex	\$250,000
2017	Paint strip tests of exterior masonry	\$1,250
2017	CLG Grant match for architectural drawings of annex, club room, and restrooms	\$10,000
2019	CLG Grant for modifications to architectural drawings per SHPO	\$8,600
2022	Asbestos removal and portico demolition	\$4,977
2022	Exterior paint removal and masonry repair	\$405,850
2022	Tank rental and electrical costs	\$15,000
2024	CLG Grant for floor repair and resurfacing	\$20,000
2025	CLG Grant for new front windows and doors	\$20,000

TOTAL \$745,227

Investments in Elite Hall from other sources since 2015

2015—2025	Volunteer hours of Hyrum citizens	\$82,652
2015—2025	Donations made directly by Hyrum citizens	\$9,845
2015—2025	Donations received through fundraising events	\$15,237
2015	CLG Grant for Feasibility Study from SHPO	\$9,100
2017	CLG Grant for architectural drawings from SHPO	\$10,000
2019	CLG Grant for architectural drawings from SHPO	\$8,600
2019	Cache RAPZ funding for exterior masonry	\$125,000
2023—2024	Engineering work paid by Hyrum Heritage Foundation	\$2,031
2024	CLG Grant for floor repair and resurfacing from SHPO	\$20,000
2025	CLG Grant for new front windows and doors	\$20,000

TOTAL \$302,465

\$1,047,692 has been invested into restoring the Elite Hall since 2015!

\$125,000	Cache County
\$109,765	Hyrum's Citizens/Community
\$745,227	Hyrum City
\$67,700	Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



Over the last ten years, **Hyrum City and community members have demonstrated significant investment** following decades of minimal usage and maintenance, which demonstrates widespread support for an updated community cultural center

Major Accomplishments

Exterior Masonry

Before



The Goal
(rendering)



After

Floor

The Goal
(rendering)



Before



After

The NEXT Goal

Annex

- Accessibility
- Large Flex-Space
- SHPO-approved plans

Cost \$700,000

- Hyrum City Budget \$200K
- RAPZ Grant \$180K
- Private Donors \$170K
- **Remaining amount \$150K**

These numbers are not yet included in the investment data



(rendering)

Elite Hall Public Event Attendance

2015—2025 (No paid promotion/marketing)

Event	Date	Attendance
Elite Hall Art & Quilt Show	2015--2018	482
Jazz Nights at Elite Hall	2016--2025	5232
Fall Festival at Elite Hall	2016--2019	1527
New York New Year's Eve	2016--2024	1068
Free Family Movie Night	2017--2025	1749
Grand Old Flag	2017--2024	4650
Patriotic Big Band Swing Dance	2018--2019	204
Community Dance	2024	126
Unquantified Events:		
USU Big Band Swing Dances	2016--2025	
Morning Winter Walkers	2016--2025	
Free Community Exercise Classes	2021--2025	
	TOTAL	15,038*

**Please note that this number does not include the unquantified events listed above as well as hundreds of private reservations including dance lessons, family parties, weddings, church meetings, and other cultural events. We conservatively estimate the number of users over the last decade exceeds 50,000 community members.*

In 2015, we conducted a community survey to determine the desired usages of Elite Hall. Data over the last decade continues to support the survey results, which indicate our community values having a space available for both public and private functions:

2015 Elite Hall Survey Results		
<i>What do you want to do at Elite Hall?</i>	Percentage	Rank
Family Reunions/Parties	79%	1
Weddings/Receptions	78%	2
Themed Dances	74%	3
Indoor Walking	74%	4
Holiday Parties	73%	5
Company Parties	69%	6
Dance Lessons	69%	7
Recitals/Musical Events	67%	8
Aerobics/Exercise Classes	61%	9
Indoor Movies	61%	10
Youth Dances	60%	11

