



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers at City Hall - 1123 W. Lake St. Sandpoint, Idaho

Call to Order

Mayor Jeremy Grimm called the regular meeting of the Sandpoint City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in Council chambers at City Hall, 1123 W. Lake St., Sandpoint, Idaho.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Jeremy Grimm
Councilor Deb Ruehle, Council President
Councilor Joel Aispuro
Councilor Kyle Schreiber
Councilor Pam Duquette
Councilor Joe Tate
Councilor Joshua Torrez

As required by the City's adopted Code of Ethics and Civility, as the presiding officer, Mayor Grimm identified law enforcement personnel serving as sergeant-at-arms for the meeting: Police Chief Corey Coon.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Grimm led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Reports

1. Presentation: Community members Suanne and Kodiak Ellis provided a presentation on "International Dark Sky Week 2026". Information only; no Council action.
2. Mayor's Proclamation: International Dark Sky Week
Mayor Grimm read aloud his proclamation recognizing the week of April 13 through April 20, 2026, as International Dark Sky Week in the City of Sandpoint.
3. Mayor's Proclamation: Arbor Day 2026
Mayor Grimm read aloud his proclamation recognizing April 25, 2026, as Arbor Day in the City of Sandpoint.

Mayor Grimm provided instructions for members of the public who wished to speak during the Public Comments portion of the meeting, Councilors provided reports from the meetings of the citizen advisory boards on which they serve, and department directors provided updates on the activities and projects in their respective departments.

Public Comment

Mayor Grimm recited the rules and procedure for public comments during the meeting and offered an opportunity for members of the public to speak on items included on the Consent Calendar and Old and

New Business topics on the agenda or other general matters not relevant to the business of the City of Sandpoint.

Consent Calendar

Mayor Grimm recited for the record the amount of bills for payment approval. Councilor Duquette removed item 8, The Festival at Sandpoint Agreement (A26-1970-3), and Councilor Schreiber removed item 7, 2026 Farmer's Market Agreement (A26-1970-4), and item 9, Stormwater Management Study Agreement with J-U-B Engineers (A26-3400-3), which were all moved to Old Business after agenda item 11. The Consent Calendar was then unanimously approved as amended.

Motion made by Councilor Duquette, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.

Voting Yea: Councilor Torrez, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Tate

4. The minutes from April 1, 2026, meeting were approved as presented.
5. The bills presented were approved for payment in the amount of \$451,770.28.
6. **Resolution 26-024** Memorandum of Understanding for Amendment to the 2024-2027 Article 22 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Association of Firefighters Local 2319 - approved
7. *(removed from Consent - see Old Business)*
8. *(removed from Consent - see Old Business)*
9. *(removed from Consent - see Old Business)*

Old/Unfinished Business

10. **Ordinance 1437** Approval of Amendments to Sandpoint City Code 3-2-9 Open Container Law

Mayor Grimm introduced the item and stated that a request had been submitted to revise the ordinance to include the months of July and August, thereby allowing one permitted event with alcohol at City Beach Park during those months. He noted that the current ordinance permits one such event per month throughout the year, with the exception of July and August.

At the Mayor's request, the clerk read aloud the title of the ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANDPOINT, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, AMENDING SANDPOINT CITY CODE TITLE 3, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 9, OPEN CONTAINER LAW; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilor Ruehle made a motion that the Ordinance pass its first reading by title only, and that the Summary is approved, seconded by Councilor Aispuro, and passed as follows:

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Aispuro.

Voting Yea: Councilor Tate, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Torrez

Voting Nay: Councilor Duquette

Councilor Duquette made a motion that the rules requiring three separate readings, once in the Ordinance's entirety, be suspended and that the Ordinance pass its second and third readings under suspension of the rules, seconded by Councilor Aispuro, and passed by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Duquette, Seconded by Councilor Aispuro.

Voting Yea: Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Torrez, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Tate, Councilor Duquette

Mayor Grimm announced that the motion had passed, and the Ordinance was considered read, passed and adopted under suspension of the rules.

11. Update on Wastewater Treatment Plant Reconstruction

Public Works Director Holly Ellis and Kyle Meschko with Keller Associates provided a presentation on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Reconstruction and fielded questions from Councilors. Information only; no Council action.

8. **Resolution 26-026** The Festival at Sandpoint Lease of War Memorial Field (City Agreement #A26-1970-3) - *removed from Consent*

Councilor Duquette questioned the pesticide provisions contained within the lease agreement. Following discussion, the Agreement was approved as presented by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.

Voting Yea: Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Tate, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Ruehle, Councilor Torrez

7. **Resolution 26-025** 2026 Farmers' Market License Agreement (City Agreement #A26-1970-4) - *removed from Consent*

Councilor Schreiber requested more information about tree roots being damaged at the Market. Following discussion, the Agreement was approved as presented by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Schreiber, Seconded by Councilor Aispuro.

Voting Yea: Councilor Duquette, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Tate, Councilor Torrez, Councilor Ruehle

9. **Resolution 26-027** Professional Services Agreement with J-U-B Engineers, Inc. for a Stormwater Management Study Project (City Agreement #A26-3400-3) - *removed from Consent*

Councilor Schreiber had questions regarding the agreement. Following discussion, the Agreement was approved as presented by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion made by Councilor Schreiber, Seconded by Councilor Ruehle.

Voting Yea: Councilor Tate, Councilor Torrez, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Ruehle

Mayor Grimm called for a brief recess at 7:22 p.m., with the meeting reconvening at 7:27 p.m.

12. Update on Boyer Traffic Assessment

Public Works Director Holly Ellis provided an update and presentation on the Boyer Avenue Cross Section Evaluation, and fielded questions from Council members. Information only; no Council action.

New Business

13. Schedule FY 2027 Budget Public Hearing Date

Finance Director Sarah Lynds provided a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget calendar and noted the need for the Council to establish a public hearing date in order to meet the April 30, 2026, deadline for filing the required notice with the County.

Councilor Ruehle made a motion to set the City of Sandpoint Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Hearing Date for August 19, 2026, seconded by Councilor Schreiber, and passed by a unanimous vote of Council as follows:

Motion made by Councilor Ruehle, Seconded by Councilor Schreiber.

Voting Yea: Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Torrez, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Tate, Councilor Aispuro, Councilor Ruehle

14. Heritage Tree Categories and Definitions

Following an introduction, Councilor Schreiber provided an overview of the Heritage Tree categories and definitions. He expressed a desire to advance the item in accordance with the communication policy. It was noted that legal review is required prior to further consideration, and the item will be placed on a future agenda following completion of that review.

Councilor Tate made a motion to advance the Heritage Tree categories and definitions to staff and legal for further consideration, seconded by Councilor Torrez and passed by a unanimous vote of Council as follows:

Motion made by Councilor Tate, Seconded by Councilor Torrez.

Voting Yea: Councilor Ruele, Councilor Schreiber, Councilor Tate, Councilor Torrez, Councilor Duquette, Councilor Aispuro

Adjourn

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that the foregoing minutes, prepared by the City Clerk, were approved by City Council during their meeting held _____, 2026.

Jeremy Grimm, Mayor

Attest: Meri Jane Bohn, City Clerk