

**CITY OF EUHARLEE
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 03, 2026 – 6:00 PM**

Mayor Craig Guyton called the meeting to order with the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present: Mayor Craig Guyton, Council Members Tim Abbott, Greg Free, Jayson Frederick, City Manager James Stephens, and Community & Economic Development Director Katie Gobbi. Council Member Joe Turner was not present.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Greg Free made a motion to revise the agenda and remove the line item for the chairs from the agenda. Council Member Jayson Frederick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Health Insurance Renewal - Parnick Jennings, Insurance Representative

Parnick Jennings, Insurance Representative, presented the health insurance renewal options for the city. He explained that the current carrier, UnitedHealthcare, proposed a 22% increase. After going to market, he identified Arlo as a new carrier option that could provide significant savings.

Key points discussed:

- UnitedHealthcare renewal showed a 22% increase.
- Arlo offers a different approach using importation of FDA-approved medications from Canada. One medication identified could save approximately \$120,000 annually (from \$30,000 every 3 months to \$1,100).
- Employees can choose between Canadian importation (lower cost) or local pharmacy (higher copay).
- Maximum out-of-pocket expense would be \$4,000 annually.
- Arlo plan includes copay options and deductible options.
- Potential savings of nearly \$200,000 with the deductible option.

Council Member Jayson Frederick expressed concerns about the complexity of the Canadian medication importation process; waiting to receive medication in the mail with hopes to receive it on time, instead the medication being called into the pharmacy and picked up, He understands it may be cheaper but would prefer receiving it from the pharmacy. Mr. Jennings explained that employees would not be required to use the Canadian option but would pay higher copays for local pharmacy use. Council Member Frederick stated his comments are not towards Mr. Jennings, but towards the absurdity towards the industry that we have to deal with. Council Member Tim Abbott stated the one thing this country has not excelled in is the health industry. The important matter is insurance for the city staff and the decision the council will make. City Manager James Stephens confirmed he had thoroughly vetted Arlo and recommended proceeding with their plan based on the significant cost savings and after having employees verify their providers were in the network.

Distilled Package License Fee - Jayson Frederick

Council Member Jayson Frederick proposed reducing the distilled package license fee from \$5,000 to \$2,500. He argued that the current fee is excessive for businesses operating on approximately 20% margins and creates an unfair burden compared to other city fees and criminal fines. The current fee of \$5,000 is significantly higher than other business license fees and was compared to criminal trespassing fine of \$212. There is no influx of pouring license applications that occurred when that fee was reduced to \$1,500.

Council Member Tim Abbott expressed support for keeping the initial license fee at \$5,000 but agreed to consider reducing the renewal fee to \$2,500. Mayor Craig Guyton stated that the high initial fee serves as appropriate cost of entry and noted the significant staff work required for new applications.

The council did not reach consensus on the proposal and agreed to continue discussions at a future meeting.

Public Comments

No public comments were made during the work session.

Executive Session – Litigation

Council Member Greg Free made a motion to move the Executive Session for Litigation and Personnel after the council meeting. Council Member Jayson Frederick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The work session was adjourned at 6:40pm.

**CITY OF EUHARLEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 03, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

Mayor Craig Guyton called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

Recognition - Euharlee Elementary Robotics Team

The Euharlee Elementary School MechaCats robotics team was recognized for their outstanding achievements. The team of 11 students recently finished first place in robot performance and earned overall grand champion at the Bartow Robotics Showcase. They also earned first place for their innovation project at the First Logo League qualifier with their Archeodrone project.

The team has qualified to compete at the World Championship in Houston, Texas against students from 65 countries. The cost for the trip is approximately \$20,000, with \$7,500 raised to date. The team is accepting donations to help fund their travel expenses. Team members spoke about their pride in teamwork and how the group has bonded throughout the season. Council Members praised the students' accomplishments and presentation skills. The council discussed the possibility of making a city donation to support the team's travel expenses.

Public Comments

No public comments were made regarding agenda items.

CTI Engineer Presentation - Tom and Joe Byrne from CTI Engineers

CTI Engineers presented the concept design for Osborne Park Renovation Phase 3, funded by a Local Water and Conservation Fund grant. The presentation included detailed plans for:

- 800 feet of gravel trail connecting to existing park phases.
- Four exercise stations with timber retaining walls (16x8 feet each).
- Fishing pier with cantilever design extending 12 feet over water.
- Timber boardwalk with ADA-compliant access.
- Floating dock with kayak launch capability.
- Rock stabilization for stream bank.
- Lighting plan with 10-foot masts and 3-foot bollards.

Key features discussed:

- 5-foot-wide gravel trail with timber rails and edge drainage.
- Exercise equipment required by grant (chin-up bars, push-up bars, sit-up benches, dip bars).
- 22-foot-long fishing pier designed for 10,000-pound load capacity.
- ADA-compliant boardwalk and ramp system.
- Kayak launch accommodating 11-foot kayaks.

Council Member Jayson Frederick questioned whether alternative equipment more suitable for families could be substituted for traditional exercise equipment while remaining grant compliant. Council Member

Greg Free mentioned bodyweight exercise equipment as an option. The engineers indicated flexibility in equipment selection within grant requirements.

Grant Project Resolution - Brielle Shinall

Brielle Shinall presented the grant project resolution for approval. The resolution authorizes CTI Engineers to submit the approved design to the Corps, complete construction-ready plans, and perform necessary engineering services. It also authorizes city leadership to execute all required documents for the grant-funded project. Council Member Jayson Frederick made a motion to accept the grant project resolution authorizing the City of Euharlee's selection of the final engineering design for Osborne Park and submission to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for review. Council Member Greg Free seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Health Insurance Renewal - James Stephens

City Manager James Stephens recommended insurance renewal with the Arlo Clear 2 Cigna PPO plan and renewal with The Standard for the dental, vision, life, short-term and long-term coverage. Council Member Greg Free made a motion to accept the Arlo Clear 2 Cigna PPO plan for annual cost of \$382,943 and to renew dental, vision, life, and short and long-term disability with Standard for annual cost of \$33,954.40. Council Member Jayson Frederick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session – Litigation & Personnel

Council Member Greg Free made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of litigation and personnel. Council Member Tim Abbott seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The council entered executive session at 7:36 pm. The council returned from executive session from litigation and personnel at 8:30 pm. There were no votes, no actions taken, and no official action to be taken by the city following the executive session.

Adjournment

Council Member Jayson Frederick motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Greg Free seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.