Application Packet for City Council Vacancy

Name: **Wayne D. Pennington**

Contents (provided in order listed on Vacancy Announcement):

Campaign Finance Statement 2
Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement 3
Exhibit A: Application 7
Exhibit B: Responses to Questionnaire 8
Statement of Interest 17
Resumé 18
Three letters of Recommendation: 19
- Mayor Chris Hart 19
- Resident Chris Haddad 20
- Resident David Williams 21

CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL REPORT

To

City Recorder Kari D. Jimenez of Ivins City, State of Utah

For

Full name of candidate Wayne D Pennington

Street Address

City: Ivins, Utah Zip Code: 84738

Name of office: City Council

Contributions

1a. Aggregate total of contributions under $500.00 $ 0

OR

1b. Itemized total of contributions totaling $500.00 or more $ _____

(Form "A" total from other side of this sheet)

Expenditures

2a. Aggregate total of campaign expenditures under $500.00 $ 0

OR

2b. Itemized total of campaign expenditures $ _____

(Form "B" total from other side of this sheet)

3. Balance at the end of the reporting period $ 0

(Difference between lines 1 and 2)

Date 03 December, 2025.

Signed Wayne D Pennington

(Candidate)

NOTE: If a candidate receives $500 or less and spends $500 or less, he or she can report the *total* amount of all contributions and expenditures.

NOTE: Utah election code 10-3-208 states that all municipalities shall adopt an ordinance establishing campaign finance disclosure requirements for candidates running for city or town office. You should check with your city recorder or town clerk for the disclosure requirements which pertain to your municipality.

IVINS CITY

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' ETHICS ACT

(Utah Code Annotated Section 10-3-1313, 20A-11-1604(6), and 10-3-301.5

Wayne D Pennington
Regulated Officeholder/Candidate (Print Name)

Candidate or Officeholder for the following Office:
☒ City Council

1. The name and address of each current employer and each employer during the preceding year including a brief description of the employment, occupation, and job title.

Current Employer(s):

Employer Name	N/A	Occupation	
Employer Address		Job Title	
Brief Description			
Employer Name		Occupation	
Employer Address		Job Title	
Brief Description			

Preceding Year Employer(s):

Employer Name	N/A	Occupation	
Employer Address		Job Title	
Brief Description			
Employer Name		Occupation	
Employer Address		Job Title	
Brief Description			

2. The name of the entity in which the regulated officeholder/candidate is or was an owner or officer during the current or preceding year including a brief description of the type of business or activity conducted by the entity and position.

☐ Check if not applicable

Entity Name (current)	PCAT LLC	Position	Sole Proprietor
Brief Description	Pennington Consulting and Training (Geophysics)		

IVINS CITY

Entity Name (preceding year)	PCAT LLC	Position	Sole Proprietor
Brief Description	Pennington Consulting and Training (Geophysics)		

3. The name of each individual or entity, including a brief description of the type of business or activity, from which the regulated officeholder/candidate has received $5,000 or more in income during preceding year.

☐ Check if not applicable

Individual/Entity Name	Poynter Law Group
Brief Description	Consulting (Expert Witness, cases in Texas and Oklahoma)
Individual/Entity Name	
Brief Description	

4. The name and brief description of each entity in which the regulated officeholder/candidate holds any stocks or bonds having a fair market value of $5,000 or more as of the date of this disclosure statement or during the preceding year (excluding funds managed by a third party, including blind trusts, managed investment accounts, and mutual funds).

☒ Check if not applicable

Entity Name	
Brief Description	
Entity Name	
Brief Description	

5. The name of each entity or organization **not** listed above in which the regulated officeholder/candidate currently serves, or served in the preceding year, in a paid leadership capacity or in a paid or unpaid position on a board of directors including a brief description of the business or activity and position held.

☒ Check if not applicable

Entity Name		Position	
Brief Description			
Employer Name		Position	
Brief Description			

6. (Optional): Description of any real property in which the regulated officeholder/candidate holds an ownership or other financial interest that the regulated officeholder/candidate believes may constitute a conflict of interest including a description of the type of interest.

IVINS CITY

☒ Check if not applicable

Real Property	
Type of Interest	
Real Property	
Type of Interest	

7. The name of the regulated officeholder/candidate's spouse and the name and address of each current and preceding year employer if the regulated officeholder/candidate believes the employment may constitute a conflict of interest.

☒ Check if not applicable

Spouse	
Employer (current)	
Employer (preceding year)	

8. The name of any other adult residing in the regulated officeholder/candidate's household who is **not** related by blood, including a brief description of their employment or occupation if the regulated officeholder/candidate believes the adult's presence may constitute a conflict of interest.

☒ Check if not applicable

Other Adult	
Employment description OR Occupation	
Other Adult	
Employment description OR Occupation	

9. (Optional) A description of any other matter or interest that the regulated officeholder/candidate believes may constitute a conflict of interest.

☒ Check if not applicable

_____

_____

Check if applicable:

☐ Under UCA 20A-11-1604(7)(a), I claim that I am an at-risk government employee as defined in UCA 63G-2-303(1)(a) and that my employment under Item 1 be redacted.

IVINS CITY

☐ Under UCA 20A-11-1604(7)(a), I claim that my spouse is an at-risk government employee as defined in UCA 63G-2-303(1)(a) and that my spouse's employment under Item 7 be redacted.

I, the regulated officeholder/candidate, believe the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 03 December 2025

Wayne D P

Regulated Officeholder/Candidate Signature

Privacy Notice

- The personal data collected in this form will be available to the public under 63G-2-301.
- Any personal data redacted in accordance with 20A-11-1604(7)(a) is not considered a public record under 63G-2-301. This data will be used for administrative purposes and will not be displayed to the public. This information is required under 20A-11-1604. Violation of this section may result in a class B misdemeanor and a $100 fine. The information, unless specified, will be publicly available on the disclosures and possibly other election-related websites. Personal data collected on the website will not be sold. The personal data will be included in the record series GRS 1911.

IVINS CITY

EXHIBIT A TO RESOLUTION NO. 2025-24R
Application for City Council Mid-Term Vacancy Seat
Term expiring in January, 2028
Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 19, 2025

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name: Wayne D Pennington

Address: _____

State Zip Code

Telephone Number: _____

QUALIFICATIONS:

I certify the following:

I am a Citizen of the United States.	[X] Yes	[ ] No
I am a registered voter in Ivins City.	[X] Yes	[ ] No
I have been a resident of Ivins City for the previous twelve (12) months.	[X] Yes	[ ] No
Have you been convicted of a felony, treason, or a crime against the elective franchise?	[ ] Yes	[X] No

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING.

I certify that all statements made in this application are true and complete. I understand that any misrepresentation of material fact in this document, or during an interview, may subject me to disqualification.

I understand that information provided on this application is a public record and I authorize Ivins City to release the information contained herein.

Wayne D Pennington

Applicant's Signature

03 December 2025
Date

On or before December 19, 2025, interested individuals who are qualified by law to serve as City Council Members known as "Candidates" shall submit their name, campaign finance statement and conflict of interest disclosure statement to **Ivins City Recorder Kari D. Jimenez at 85 North Main Street, Ivins, Utah or via email to** [redacted] and may complete and submit additional materials consisting of the application, written answers to the questions, a statement of interest, a resume, and up to 3 letters of recommendation. No Candidate is required to submit any items of additional information but submission is highly encouraged so that the City Council will have additional information to consider for each Candidate before the interviews. No other materials will be considered. All materials submitted by Candidates will be public records available with the agenda for the Vacancy Meeting, except that home addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses will be redacted.

EXHIBIT B TO RESOLUTION NO. 2025-24R

Ivins City Council Mid-Term Vacancy Candidate Questionnaire

(Please feel free to use additional pages as needed)

1. How long have you lived in Ivins, and describe your current and past involvement with Ivins committees, Ivins programs, and Ivins events?
2. What is your current or former occupation/profession and how has this prepared you for public office/city council?
3. Why are you interested in serving on the Ivins City Council, and provide a short statement on your vision for Ivins City for the next 5-10 years (150-250 words).
4. What do you believe are the most important issues currently facing Ivins and what are 1-2 solutions you offer to help (150-250 words)
5. How should the City Council engage with residents when making key decisions?
6. How do you define effective leadership in a community setting and what unique perspective or skills would you bring to the City Council?
7. The Council meets regularly and occasionally for workshops or special sessions. Can you commit the necessary time to prepare for and attend all meetings?
8. Do you have any current or potential conflicts of interest that may impact your ability to serve?
9. How would you approach situations where your personal opinions differ from the majority of residents or fellow Council members?
10. Briefly share your thoughts regarding the Ivins City General Plan (150-250 words)

Responses are provided on the following pages.

1. **How long have you lived in Ivins, and describe your current and past involvement with Ivins committees, Ivins programs, and Ivins events?**

I have lived in Ivins since April 2000, over 5 ½ years. In that time I have been deeply involved in a number of Ivins activities, listed below:

- Ivins Dry Wash Study Group: investigated the possible implications of the proposed Dry Wash Reuse-Water Reservoir. As a group, we published a comprehensive assessment of implications for the City of Ivins. Independently and as a contributor to the group, I provided a thorough technical assessment of aspects of the reservoir, following my principal: "I am not sure that we actually need this reservoir, but if we are going to have one, let's make sure that it's the best possible reservoir for the site." I pointed out that the reservoir would annually expose 47 acres of bare soil to wind, after having precipitated an unknown amount of reuse-water chemicals (PFAS, arsenic, salts, etc) into the ground surface. Others pointed out the health risks that this might present to the downwinders in Ivins. The Water District eventually determined that the reservoir was not needed at this time. My reports are all online, including my proposals for improved reservoir design.
- Desert Preservation Initiative: I was involved with the formation of this group, and have been active in the years since its creation. We attempt to remove tamarisk and other invasive water-sucking plants from washes and other locations in an effort to restore the natural environment and reduce wasteful water consumption.
- CERT – Community Emergency Response Team: I joined CERT and obtained certification in January 2023. I feel strongly that neighborhood preparedness is the most-effective way to manage the immediate response to a large-scale disaster, based on my personal experiences in large earthquakes and my research into the subject during time at the US State Dept and USAID.
- Emergency Preparedness: Following my CERT certification, I frequently heard about the committee addressing emergency preparedness issues for the City of Ivins, and decided eventually to attend a meeting. I was hooked. It is a very active group, working on HUB boxes, radio communications, and seminars to advise the public. I have participated actively in this group for the past 1-2 years, and continue to be increasingly active in it.
- The arts: My wife and I are members of the Kayenta Arts Foundation, and attend nearly every function put on by this premier establishment in Ivins City.
- Talkabouts: I was a panel member of one of the first Talkabouts (on water), presented on the Dry Wash reservoir at another, and have spoken up at additional such events when my input or queries were appropriate.
- Heritage Days: I had a booth for Heritage Days in 2025, as did other candidates in the General Election for City Council.
- City Committees: I often attend Planning Commission meetings, and occasionally speak up on issues relevant to my knowledge and experience. Likewise for City Council meetings, where I presented many findings on Dry Wash and assisted with resolutions to some thorny issues (often associated with math).

2. **What is your current or former occupation/profession and how has this prepared you for public office/city council?**

Although I have spent most of my professional career in academics, I also spent nine years in industry and have maintained a consulting business on the side. In addition, I have held high-level positions in professional and scientific organizations.

- Academics: I have worked as a research assistant/associate, as a tenure-track faculty member, as a department chair, and as a dean of an engineering college. All of these positions involved managing large budgets (my research projects were often in the $1 million range; the college budget was tens of millions), large staffs (up to more than a hundred people), and complex issues (unions, regulations, and oversight, including local, state, and federal governments). I have been on both sides of management, and generally sought common ground as a resolution to issues that could, or did, lead to conflict.
- Industry: My time with a large company was spent in research, not management, but because of the cutting-edge aspects of work I was engaged in, I learned a lot about the driving forces leading commercial enterprises. I learned to ensure that management could understand the financial reasons behind the research I conducted, even without understanding that research other than in broad terms. Collaboration between competing groups (service companies, competing firms, etc.) was important to further the basic aspects of the research, and this has helped me to understand how to deal with, say, the WCWCD, the county, developers, commercial enterprises, and so on.
- Consulting: My consulting has consisted of two aspects: training and expert witness testimony. Training for industry has taken me around the world, where I learned to respect other cultures and to fit in as best possible, in order to assist the participants on the courses to master the subject material. As a witness in civil cases, I always make sure that any potential client understands that I will study the problem and come to my own conclusions, which may or may not support their interests; this is a useful approach to municipal government as well.
- Leadership in organizations: As president of the American Geosciences Institute (representing 250,000 professionals in 50 professional/scientific societies), collaboration was key. Frequent visits to Congress and federal scientific agencies helped forge an appreciation for the goals of both elected officials and career officers. As vice-president of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, I was more closely engaged in the operation of the large and diverse organization, spanning continents and disciplines.

3. **Why are you interested in serving on the Ivins City Council, and provide a short statement on your vision for Ivins City for the next 5-10 years (150-250 words).**

I have been involved in City affairs for a few years, and have come to realize that the skills and interests that I possess are generally of benefit to the City. It only makes sense that I bring these activities to the next level, and act more efficiently and effectively within the structure of the City governing body, rather than as an outsider.

The residents of Ivins City represent a broad range of visions for the future, but all agree on one thing: continue to make Ivins a wonderful place to live. Their interpretation of that statement varies from "no more housing" to "allow any expression of property rights." My vision is one of balancing those interests by closely examining the regulations, modifying them as appropriate, and listening to the residents, particularly those most affected by any proposal or ordinance.

We need to find ways to allow young families or couples to move here, and not become exclusively a retirement community. This will first require modifying the Land Use Plan classifications, the Zoning classifications, and their relationship to each other. Then it will require modifying the Land Use map, with City officials engaged in conversation with developers, residents, and existing and potential future commercial enterprises, to identify optimal small-city-feeling neighborhood designs. Everybody in Ivins moved here (whether from another city or from their parents' homes) in order to live in small city with a neighborhood feeling; we need to keep it that way in the face of growth.

4. What do you believe are the most important issues currently facing Ivins and what are 1-2 solutions you offer to help (150-250 words)

Growth and Water.

Growth: Examine and modify the Land Use plan, the Zoning classifications, and modify them to fit the City's current situation and needs. As I proposed months ago, one of the first steps will be to separate modestly more-dense housing from townhomes and condominiums in the Land Use classification, allowing developers to propose smaller homes and/or two-family homes on modest-sized lots without the fear that a subsequent developer would put townhomes on that site. Additional modifications would follow, along with revised maps, generated with input from all stakeholders.

Water: Ivins' water policies are among the best in the state, and need little modification. I had spoken at a public hearing in favor of removing the "purple-pipe" requirement, which has been enacted, but a new examination of the tiered pricing schedule is perhaps due. Very steep pricing should be in place for those whose lawns are flagrantly depleting our common resource, but it should not affect large-family households who simply require more water for hygienic or culinary purposes. The challenge will be in parsing the data required to establish those tiers. Data analysis is a strength of mine, and I look forward to tackling this problem. In addition, I hope to become involved more directly with the WCWCD as a City Council member.

5. How should the City Council engage with residents when making key decisions?

A common problem in city governance is that the residents do not feel that their voices are being heard. This will always be the case, but there are some steps that can be taken to minimize this complaint.

The City Council has already begun modifying its approach to addressing residents attending meetings, by speaking directly to the "audience" and providing background information that may be useful. I applaud this and would encourage expansion of the concept to include "does everyone here understand the issue at hand?" and other such statements.

But it shouldn't stop there. As the recent kerfuffle over taxes showed, the City Council needs to adopt a "pause" before voting on ordinances (etc.) against which residents spoke during a public hearing. That is, after a hearing such as the one on taxes, the Council should have delayed the vote until the following session (I know the timing this year did not allow that, but this simply demonstrates that the hearing should have taken place earlier). Once the volatility of the issue became apparent, the Council could have asked the residents at large to provide additional comments via email to supplement those made at the public hearing, and taken all of these comments – from the hearing and from the emails – into consideration prior to the vote.

6. How do you define effective leadership in a community setting and what unique perspective or skills would you bring to the City Council?

Leadership in a community requires adopting the principles of "politics" in its strict meaning: of finding a means of collaborating and living together in a way that avoids authoritarian approaches or unpleasant conflict. In a city of our size, this means that the community leaders must represent the community writ large, and not just their own smaller groups of people, no matter what those groupings may consist of. In turn, this requires stepping outside of their comfort zones and interacting directly with any and all residents, regardless of their positions on issues. The majority may rule on those issues, but for domestic tranquility, the rulings must be sensitive to the needs and desires of the minority. This involves setting aside pride and allegiance, both of which are difficult.

My experience in leading a large college with thousands of students, scores of faculty (all highly opinionated, as they tend to be), and interacting with leaders of other colleges at the university, has led me to understand how to gather input, and when and where to compromise. There simply are very few hills worth dying on.

7. The Council meets regularly and occasionally for workshops or special sessions. Can you commit the necessary time to prepare for and attend all meetings?

Yes. In fact, I already attend most work sessions and meetings, and have done so long before running for Council. When family obligations or other events require me to be out of town, I will return to Ivins for the meetings. On rare occasions, I may request attendance by remote connection, but do not expect this to happen except in true emergency situations.

8. Do you have any current or potential conflicts of interest that may impact your ability to serve?

No. I have no current, potential, nor anticipated conflicts of interest.

- I accepted NO financial support during my campaign, and ensured that any potential supporters (such as the Board of Realtors and Builders Association) were well aware of that stance before they began deliberations of support.
- I am not involved in any commercial activities involving local enterprises.
- My consulting activities have never involved a case in Utah, and are not expected to in the future.

9. How would you approach situations where your personal opinions differ from the majority of residents or fellow Council members?

Listen, discuss, repeat.

Eventually find a compromise, or admit defeat. Period.

Make sure that you end the day feeling good about each other, like the advice to newlyweds: never go to bed angry.

10. Briefly share your thoughts regarding the Ivins City General Plan (150-250 words)

The Ivins City General Plan was a masterpiece of collaboration and inclusion. As such, it accurately reflects the feelings of a majority of the population, and it also covers the sentiments of the minorities on many of the issues.

There are 40 items listed as "General Plan Action Steps" (Appendix D). Some of these are aspirational (e.g., power-line burying) but most are practical, given the wherewithal and ambition of the Council and the residents of the City. All are consistent with maintaining the uniqueness of Ivins; sometimes, this involves a change in our immediate environment (e.g., bike paths, cemetery expansion, roundabouts) in order to accommodate the inevitable growth of our city. Everyone wants that empty lot bordering their back yard to remain empty, but unless they own that lot, this is unlikely; it is incumbent on the City Council to ensure that the development of that lot is consistent with the City's goals as outlined in the General Plan.

Some unfinished business of the General Plan is, as has been stated repeatedly in my responses here, the revision of the Land Use Plan, the Zoning classifications, and their association with each other. This should be a first order of business for the new Council.

The residents of Ivins City have clearly stated that they want the City to retain its small-town charm, its respect for the environment, and its secure sense of well-being. Meeting these requirements as the City inevitably grows will be a challenge for the next Council.

Statement of Interest for City Council Position
Wayne D Pennington

I am seeking the position of City Council member for three reasons:

1. I have been active in City affairs for years, and would like to intensify that activity;
2. I believe that I have skills and interests that would benefit the City of Ivins; and
3. I would like to help my adopted home town be a place where residents, old and new, will continue to live, proudly and happily, in the face of inevitable growth.

It has been my observation that for the City Council to function well, the members need to be proactive in their approach and seek additional information on any and all issues that come before them, and not rely solely on the statements of those pleading their case. Those coming before the Council are almost certainly truthful, and are stating their honest opinions; but these are not necessarily complete, and independent observations are required. As an applied scientist and senior member of management, I have spent most of my life making independent observations and drawing conclusions, which then must be tested. I think that this approach will serve the City of Ivins well.

I am best known locally for my work on the Dry Wash reservoir proposal, which was originally poorly designed and likely unnecessary. But over the years, I have contributed to City Council and Planning Commission discussions on many issues, ranging from the near-trivial (for example, interpolating offset-height building guidelines) to the controversial (such as whether to allow two-family homes on quarter-acre lots). In general, if I found a problem with a proposal as stated, I offered a possible solution; sometimes, that solution even found traction among the Council members.

Rather than continue to select isolated issues that warrant the time and effort to make comments as a citizen/resident at a Public Hearing or to request a future Agenda Item, it makes sense to me that I join the Council and take a more formal part in all issues presented to the City. I hope that the Voting Quorum of the Council agrees.

Resumé

Wayne D Pennington

Dean and Professor Emeritus — Pennington Consulting and Training LLC
Research Professor of Geophysical Engineering.
Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931

Education:

A. B. (1972) Princeton University, *with Honors* (Geology and Geophysics)
M. S. (1976) Cornell University (Geophysics and Geology)
Ph.D. (1979) University of Wisconsin - Madison (Geophysics and Geology)

Appointments (1974-present):

2018-present:	Dean and Professor Emeritus; Research Professor of Geophysical Engineering, Michigan Tech
2019:	Fulbright Senior Scholar and visiting faculty at Curtin University, Perth, Australia
2020-23:	Adjunct Professor, Curtin University, Perth, Australia
2014-2018:	Dean, College of Engineering and Dave House Professor, Michigan Technological University
2013-2014:	Interim Dean, College of Engineering, Michigan Technological University
2003-9,10-13:	Chair, Dept of Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences, Michigan Tech
2009-10:	Jefferson Science Fellow, USAID (Agency for International Development) and Dept of State
1994-present:	Professor of Geophysical Engineering, Michigan Technological University
2004-7:	Honorary Professor, Inst. of Petroleum Engineering, Heriot-Watt University (Scotland)
2001-2:	Visiting Scientist, Schlumberger Cambridge Research (Cambridge, UK)
1985-1994:	Advanced Senior Geophysicist, Marathon Oil Company
1993:	Adjunct Professor, Colorado School of Mines, Geophysics
1979-1985:	Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Austin, Dept. of Geological Sciences.
1974-1977:	Research Assistant, Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University

Major Research Areas:

In situ properties of rock, under varying conditions of stress and fluid saturation, and their dependence on scale of measurement. This general interest is manifested in these specific applications: oil and gas exploration and development; induced earthquakes; and tectonic (natural) earthquakes. Also: public policy and the application of science and engineering in economic development, disaster response, and risk reduction.

Short Biography:

A geophysicist, Pennington's research is centered on the response of Earth materials to changes in physical conditions, such as stress, saturation, and temperature. The applications of this work are found in induced seismicity and oil and gas exploration and development.

He has worked in both academia and in industry and has conducted fieldwork at sites around the world. In the 1970s, he studied tectonic earthquakes in Latin America and Pakistan. In the 1980s, at the University of Texas at Austin, he studied the relationship of earthquakes to oil and gas production. Beginning in 1985, he worked at the research laboratory for Marathon Oil Company, studying and developing novel techniques to improve the identification of, and production from, oil and gas reservoirs.

Since 1994, he has been at Michigan Tech, teaching and conducting research into geophysical observations of oil and gas production. He spent several years as the Chair of the Department of Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences, and became the Interim Dean of the College of Engineering in 2013, moving to the permanent position in 2014. Retiring from active administration and teaching in 2018, he continues to be engaged in research projects involving oil and gas reservoir characterization and monitoring. He provides services including training and consulting to the industry and governmental agencies.

Pennington has served as the President of the American Geosciences Institute (2012) and as the First Vice President of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (2003). He was a Jefferson Science Fellow at the US Department of State and the US Agency for International Development (2009-2010) and was a Fulbright Senior Scholar (2019). He has published dozens of peer-reviewed papers and coauthored one book with two of his students.

Chris Hart: Letter of 21 October 2025:

Dear Ivins Residents,

I've only known Wayne Pennington for a couple of years but have come to respect him highly both for his brilliance and, perhaps even more importantly, for his genuine interest in serving Ivins City. I saw both on full display while we were dealing with the Dry Wash Reservoir issue. The Water District's proposal left many residents with serious concerns over the impacts it would bring including, among other things, dust and insects. The contouring of the District's proposed reservoir created a lengthy stretch of "beachfront" that would become increasingly exposed as summer irrigation drew down the water level contributing to both of those aforementioned concerns. While the District moved forward with their planning process Wayne, utilizing his engineering and thoughtful problem solving skills, came forward with an alternative design for the reservoir in full detail. I was stunned. He had sculpted a reservoir with a smaller footprint eliminating the flat beach areas and increasing the slope of the embankments, all of which reduced the promulgation of irritating insects and actually captured much of the blowing dust that would occur on a windy day along its edges. It was brilliant! I shared his plan with the Water District and, explaining that Ivins City had taken on the responsibility for mitigating the dust and insect problems among others, I urged them to have their design engineers review Wayne's plan and implement his concepts which they did. Had the reservoir actually been built it would have been the new and improved version proposed by Wayne Pennington.

I had received a number of emails from Wayne and had spoken with him from time to time prior to that experience. I listened to him voice his concerns over different issues like I try to do with everyone. But with him they almost always came with proposed alternative solutions, usually good ones. That was uncommon. Usually the serious problem solving part of major issues is left up to the Council and Staff but not with Wayne. As he began to attend City Council Meetings sharing his thought and ideas along the way I thought to myself, Wayne would make a great City Council Member. When he announced his candidacy for a seat on the Council I realized that I continued to feel that way about him, so I thought I ought to share these experiences with you as you make your choices this election.

Chris Hart

Ivins City Mayor

Update of 04 December 2025:

Wayne,

I appreciate your approach to City Government Wayne. I have observed the way you have studied and digested issue after issue before offering your thoughtful comments almost always with suggestions and realistic solutions attached. I also appreciate your support for our recently updated General Plan and your ideas and comments expressed both during the development process and since. As I stated before the recent election, I feel that you would be an exceptional City Council Member and support your application to be appointed as such.

Chris Hart

Chris Haddad

Ivins City, Utah Resident since 2017
Email:
Date: 5 December 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I feel that as a resident of Ivins who has been going to Planning Commission and City Council meetings pretty regularly for the last 8 years and as one who had worked on the Ivins City Survey from it's beginning to the it's end results would have some idea of who would be a good choice to add to our present City Council.
I would like to make a recommendation to the Mayor Elect and present City Council Members in support of Wayne Pennington, who I have only known for less then a year, but have had the opportunity to witness his strong sense of community involvement especially that concerning the City's WATER situation. The presentation he gave on the Secondary Reservoir was a tremendous source of information that we residents have been talking about ever since!
I have been to all the recent Candidates Forums, 2 Meet & Greets for Wayne and his attendance at the Kayenta Art Festival where for 3 days(he had a Booth). He educated a lot of folks about issues that were not only of the Water concerns, but he spoke to the City Tax Referendum and why we needed it and explained plainly to people about how little the increase really was going to be. I've been very impressed with his ability to talk about many issues concerning Ivins with out a script, because he does his homework! Wayne did not accept any monetary help to support his running for City Council. For a small City like Ivins it's great to know we have residents like Wayne who want give back using their talents and time for our beautiful City!

David Williams

Ivins City Council
85 North Main Street
Ivins, UT 84738

RE: Interim City Council Position; Letter of Recommendation for Wayne Pennington

Dear City Council Members.

I currently serve as a volunteer for the City of Ivins, both as chair of the Ivins Emergency Preparedness Committee (IEPC) and manager of Ivins CERT. While serving in these positions, I have come to know Wayne Pennington, as a member of CERT and the IEPC since 2022. Wayne is a valued member of both these groups, attending and contributing to planning as well as participation in our activities.

Wayne's background and education as a seismologist gives him a unique understanding of current issues facing Ivins such as water resources, open space and future development.

During one of our IEPC meetings, Wayne related experiences he had while working in Mexico, Pakistan and Haiti after major earthquakes. Wayne was able to set up a preparedness seminar on earthquakes in June this year which provided residents insight into our local geology and how an earthquake would impact this area.

Wayne also volunteers with the Desert Preservation Initiative, Friends of Snow Canyon and the Dry Wash Study Group. Wayne is a hard-working volunteer who shows up for all training and exercises in CERT and IEPC, and is someone I know I can depend on. His concern for, and dedication to the community of Ivins, along with his education and professional background, make him an outstanding candidate to serve on the Ivins City Council.

I spent my career in law enforcement, having worked for both city and county government. I spent the last twenty years in management, retiring as captain. During that time, I had the opportunity to work with many elected officials. Based on those interactions, and my time with Wayne, I believe Wayne is a team player who will work well with both city staff and the public. Without reservation I recommend Wayne Pennington for the position on the Ivins City Council.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Williams