

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RUSH VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2023 AT THE RUSH VALLEY TOWN HALL
52 SOUTH PARK STREET, RUSH VALLEY, UTAH
THE MEETING BEGAN AT 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor and Council Members Present: Pete Albrecht and Dana Gardner. Lacey Burrows and Jeremiah Harding were excused.

Appointed Officers and Employees Present: Attorney Rob Clegg, Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe and Fire Chief Jason Bolinder

1. Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes for 09-27-2023. Councilmember Dana Gardner made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 09-27-2023. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Sheriff's Report. Lieutenant Aranda reported that in the month of September there were six total details, two arrests and four citations. The most significant call was two subjects hunting with thermal cameras and night vision. Both were cited for night hunting violations. There was also a drug incident, but the lieutenant did not have the details.

4. Review of Business License Ordinance. Mayor Brian Johnson said as of January 1, 2024 Tooele County will no longer be taking care of our business licenses and we must get a process in place. It is state law that a person has a business license to conduct business. Most of the process begins by registering with the State of Utah where they let a person know of what inspections and licenses are required. Rush Valley Town is the last stop in the process. Mayor Johnson said that a conditional use permit will be required for all home businesses going forward and will be a one-time permit, but the business license will need to be renewed annually. Councilmember Dana Gardner asked if there are any exemptions and who determines them. We are currently being held to Tooele County's requirements. We need to determine who would be the person to inspect a business that is not operating appropriately. We also need to determine what body would refuse, suspend or revoke a license. Mayor Johnson would like the application to be attached to the ordinance, if possible. The process for revoking a license and subsequent appeal needs to be determined.

5. Consideration of Drywall Work for Clover Church. Mayor Brian Johnson said that there were very few interested in doing the work on the ceiling. They finally found someone that would do it for \$3,000 and we will provide the materials. The contractor is J.R.E. Drywall, LLC. Multiple drywall contractors were contacted, and some would not call back, one refused to come to Rush Valley and the other bid was too high. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve the \$3,000 for new drywall. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

6. **Consideration of New Fire Department Member (Ace Hymas).** Fire Chief Jason Bolinder said that Ace Hymas would like to join the fire department and has already started attending meetings and calls. Mayor Brian Johnson made a motion to accept Ace Hymas as a new fire department member. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
7. **Approval for Fire Department to Attend Winter Fire School.** Fire Chief Jason Bolinder said that he would like to take four people to winter fire school in January 2024. All of them have met the qualification standard which is attendance of 50% of 12 meetings per year and 10% of all calls (approximately 6-8). The cost is \$40 per person for the school plus per diem of \$59 for food and \$106 lodging for three nights and fuel. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve four people for winter fire school. Councilmember Dana Gardner seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
8. **Approval to Buy Coats for Qualifying Fire Department Members.** Fire Chief Bolinder would like to purchase coats for the members of the department that have been consistently coming to meetings and calls. He wants to buy 6 coats at \$140 per coat for a total of \$840. The coat will be a nicer type that is embroidered with the logo and name. Mayor Brian Johnson made a motion to approve the purchase of 6 coats for \$840. Councilman Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
9. **Approval to Spend Additional Fire Department Funds Depending on Outcome of County Grant.** Fire Chief Bolinder stated that a grant is available through the county and he is applying for \$25,000. It may be split between three departments, but that is unknown at this time. He would like to get a rapid response vehicle to run medical calls out of. It is very difficult to make the runs with the single cab truck that the department currently has. The grant will be awarded on November 15th. Jason does not know how much of the grant we will get, but he wants to get approval from the town council because depending on how much is awarded, he may need to use money from the fire department budget. Mayor Brian Johnson said that the town will not be able to contribute money towards the vehicle because they are committed to other items. Councilman Pete Albrecht said that if we get \$8,000 from the grant, we will have enough money to cover the remainder for the purchase of the truck. Mayor Johnson said that no motion is needed at this time but offered the town council's support and agreement on the purchase.
10. **Approval to Provide Quarterly Bonus to Fire Department Members.** Fire Chief Jason Bolinder said that he researched a federal act and determined that members can be paid up to \$600 per year without being taxed. He has come up with a formula based on the number of calls to compensate eligible members. Councilmember Dana Gardner made a motion to approve a quarterly bonus of up to \$150 or \$600 annually to eligible fire department members. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

11. Fire Department Report. Fire Chief Jason Bolinder said that in the last two months there were a total of 16 calls, four in town and 12 out of town. There were five car accidents, seven fire calls (includes alarm and/or fire) and four medical calls. Jason is working with the county on the new reporting system which has been difficult. He is also working on SOGs for the department as requested by the county.

12. Council Reports. Roads – Councilmember Jeremiah Harding was not present at the meeting.

Councilmember Pete Albrecht reported that for emergency management he will be attending a Mass Care training at the EOC. The county is striving to make all responsible for their own entities. Councilmember Dana Gardner asked if in the event of a mass emergency, would the fire department be able to run generators and pump water. Councilmember Albrecht said we are fortunate to have a lot of resources in our small town. At some point, he would like to procure a large generator that could support a command center, if necessary.

Cemeteries – Councilmember Lacey Burrows was not present at the meeting.

Parks – Councilmember Dana Gardner reported on Rush Valley Days saying that the total cost to the town was \$6,316 which was more than last year due to inflation. He feels that it is a great way to give back to the community. Dana got the sprinkler system and the outside bathrooms winterized.

Mayor Brian Johnson has been working on the Clover Church restoration project. The \$17,500 grant that needed to be matched is looking like it will be matched by the volunteer hours and fundraising projects so there should be no expenditures for the town. He mentioned they are always looking for help on the restoration project.

13. Safety Topic. Mayor Brian Johnson presented the safety topic.

14. Payment of Bills. Mayor Brian Johnson made a motion to accept the bills as written. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

15. Public Comments. Mayor Brian Johnson said that he received notice that the state legislature is requiring municipalities to update their subdivision ordinances by 2024. A firm reached out to him saying they have a grant to help small towns with this endeavor. Mayor Johnson thought it would be good to let them work on our ordinance because they know the requirements. Attorney Rob Clegg agreed they should be contacted.

16. Adjourn. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Brian Johnson seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:33 p.m.