

**Rockville Town Council
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
Rockville Town Hall
June 12, 2024 – 6:00 pm**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** Mayor Leach called the meetings to order at 6:00 pm. Michael Evenson, Robin Smith, Megan Honer-Orton, Mayor Pam Leach and Jeff Ballard were in attendance. Town Clerks, Shelley Cox and Vicki Bell, recorded the meeting.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Leach led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Jeff Ballard **SECONDED** the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH AN AGENDA ITEM:** No conflicts were declared.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Layney DeLange introduced herself and lives at 47 Bridge Road. As everybody on this panel and in this town knows Bridge Road traffic is out of control with speeders. She said she is actually just here to request that if there is any possible way the town could get one of those solar signs that do the flashing, [of speeds]. She said she realized they really do work a lot better than the regular signs. She said the traffic coming from the South to the North, as soon as they get off the bridge, they just blaze it to Main Street and if there's a possibility to put it in the budget, if not, do some kind of donation thing to buy one. She said she did price them and they are from \$1000 to \$5000 depending on, you know, what kind you want. She said she thinks it's just, it's really with the Crybaby Hill being graded, with the wedding venue out there and just more people, just more people, period. It's just out of control and they do not care. People are just speeding with guiding companies going up that way. Now it's just Taco trucks and buses and all kinds of things that are just not doing the speed limit anymore. She had seen with those signs, those flashing signs really do tend to work because you do see the ones coming into town. Everybody always slows down on their brakes. As soon as they are passed the sign, they go over the speed limit. And then they just put another one down there in Hurricane. And where you go down the back way to Walmart at this 500 West, they put one there recently and she said she had actually seen so many people slow down now there too. So I would just like to suggest it, request it, put a consideration on it. You're welcome to put it in front of my house if that's a problem. If somebody doesn't want it in front of their house. **Mayor Leach** said one issue on Bridge Road is finding a spot where it gets sun all day just because we've run into that problem with the police department's speed trailer. But this could be considered and at least looked at it. **Layne DeLange** said yeah, it could be put right in front of my house in that little ditch. Kind of to put it in that area. I think it's town property. Anyway, that gets a lot of sun, so if we could just, I just wanted to put it out there. Maybe consider it because it's just really, really bad we've already had two cats and a dog killed in the last year. It's just people are just I mean literally doing 50 to 60 miles an hour. She said she lives at 47 Bridge Road, but there's a really long area that's not used for parking or anything and gets a lot of traffic. She requested it [the sign] face the bridge because that's what seems to be the more traffic people come off the highway and they're pretty good until they get past the bridge and then, you know, pass your house. But coming off the bridge, man, they just gun it to Main Street for some reason. They don't go slow past my house that's too long of a straight away. I just thought it could be considered in the budget. **Mayor Leach** thanked Layney DeLange for her suggestion and asked if she had any information, please forward it on to her.

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DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. **REPORT ON HURRICANE VALLEY FIRE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT:** Mayor Leach reported Rockville had three calls for May, one fire, 2 EMS. Springdale had 29 calls, 22 EMS and seven other calls. Hurricane Valley Fire District had a total of 538 calls for the month. Mayor Leach then introduced Chief Decker, the Hurricane Valley Fire District Chief. She thanked Chief Decker for the amazing response to the fire last Friday and the Council and the public gave him a round of applause. Mayor Leach said we all worry that there's going to be an incident like this, and it will just get out of control and run right down through town and the attention we received was just incredible. Thank you. And a thank you to all of the agencies that worked with you. She said she understood there was an Idaho Hot Shot group that happened to be here and came in to assist with 20 guys and all of the air support was amazing. Please make sure you let anybody and everybody that needs to know that we really appreciated it.

Chief Decker said he had a presentation he would provide the Council via email and then they can discuss the fire. Chief Decker thanked the Council for letting him come up as he tries to get out into all the communities the District serves. He said the fire that occurred last Friday, unfortunately a catastrophic event, was bound to happen sometime, we never say "if", we always say "when" that happens. So the final acreage on that fire was 74.5 acres. He reported dispatch received the call at 2:26 pm and dispatched the first engine at 2:28 pm. The first engine arrived on scene at 2:33 pm, within five minutes of the dispatch, the first engine was there. The second engine was on scene at 2:37 pm and the third at 2:45 pm, fourth was at 2:46 pm, and the 5th was at 2:48 pm. So within 20 minutes, we had five full engines trying to suppress that fire. We did what's called structure protection to try to take care of the homes up on the hill. Then as our federal partners and our state partners came in, we started to get a handle around the fire and had it knocked down fairly good for the night. He reported in all we had 15 fire engines. We had two sets of air attacks, the single engine air tankers, 2 lats, which are the large air tankers, along with 2 helicopters for the two air attacks.

Chief Decker reported the first night when they finished their operational period at 10:00 pm, we had 103 firefighters on scene. We tried to get the fire corralled. The fire was not 100% contained until just, I believe, two days ago. But we still have firefighters on the incident, even though it's contained, we still have internal hotspots that we're trying to take care of.

Chief Decker reported he had just been in Springdale to give this same report and to thank Springdale PD, as they helped tremendously closing down Hwy. 9, which was not fun. He said all of our law enforcement partners did a phenomenal job. He said he couldn't ask for any better partnerships of what we do. The Council commented on the large tour buses and questioned how they ever got turned around. Chief Decker mentioned the next time this issue arises turning traffic around in LaVerkin at the SR 9 turn off would be the best method to manage traffic. The road was opened again as soon as possible but there were many unhappy travelers.

Michael Evenson stated every news report says the fire was human caused and everyone wants to know where the source was. He asked how this works, protocol wise, in terms of collecting insurance money and claims. He was involved and his insurance is requiring specific information for him to file a claim. Chief Decker explained in these types of fires, we delegate that fire to the state. We are all part of what's called the Wildland Mutual Aid Community Compact that helps pick up the cost. By doing that it refers any prosecution to the State Office. He said he would not name names, but the person involved was cited. This will start the process of being able to file claims, not just private property claims, but also claims from the State for the cost of suppression. Chief Decker said he would be willing to share all this information with the Town to enable it to be passed onto the affected individuals once it becomes available. Michael Evenson asked typically, what kind of amount of time does that take. Chief Decker said it's fairly quick. This information will come from the State Department of Natural Resources. He said for this situation unfortunately, insurance money will go fast and for Friday alone, the cost was close to \$600,000. Megan Honer-Orton said she heard that someone saw somebody strike the match and start the fire. Chief Decker stated it wasn't a match that started it. Mayor Leach said let's not spread rumors and wait till we get the report.

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Chief Decker asked if he could answer anything else. He said they enjoy being the fire department for your community and anything we can do to help you in that, we would be more than happy to. Our office is open to anybody who would like to come in, see what we have or talk about anything you'd like to.

Planning Commission Chair Tyler stated that there were two young boys that saw the fire start and called 911. He asked if the Town could recognize these boys in some form, whether it be a type of certificate or acknowledgement. Mayor Leach asked the names of the boys. Chair Tyler said it was Gage Oler and Ryker Anderson. They actually called 911 and then called again when the fire jumped the river in order to inform the fire department of the seriousness of the situation. He encouraged the Council to do something to commend these young people for their help.

2. **REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION:** Planning Commission Chair Tyler reported at last night's Planning Commission meeting there were 5 building permits approved. Three permits were approved for John and Nancy Lowe's at 128 West Grafton Road, a home, a garage and a pool house. Another permit for Skylar and Danielle Davis at 302 East Main, for a home to replace the existing home. Another approval was given on Grafton Road for Jacob Anderson for a home. Chair Tyler said each permit had conditions for approval that must be followed before the building permit is issued. There were no questions from the Council.
3. **REPORT ON THE PLANNING OF THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROCKVILLE BRIDGE:** Mayor Leach reported Dan McGuire is out of town but had presented a concept for the Council to consider for celebrating the 100th year birthday of the historic Bridge. Dan McGuire would like to include the Piano Guys in the celebration and has sent them an email invite. Dan McGuire has been appointed committee chair. The adjacent property owner has agreed to allow us to use their property for the celebration. Various dates were discussed, beginning in July. The Council discussed how hot that time of year would be and suggested moving the celebration to the fall nearer to Rockville Daze. Mayor Leach said new t-shirts have been discussed. Initial thoughts on who should be invited, included Superintendent Bradybough, who wants to be part of the celebration, possibly the Grand Canyon Superintendent, the Washington County Historic Society Representative, Brad Last who helped with appropriation funds to retro fit the bridge, a representative from UDOT who over saw the retro fit. Any other suggestions besides the local community would be considered. Mayor Leach will report this to Dan McGuire when he returns home.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ITEMS

1. **OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED TOWN OF ROCKVILLE 2024-25 FINAL BUDGET:** Michael Evenson **MOVED** to open the public hearing to receive public comments on the Town of Rockville 2024-25 Final Budget. Megan Honer-Orton **SECONDED** the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

Mayor Leach asked if there were any comments. No comments were made.

2. **ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING:** Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to adjourn the public hearing considering the final budget for 2024-25. Michael Evenson **SECONDED** the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye

Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

3. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 24-0612-01, A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2024-25 FINAL BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE:** Mayor Leach asked if there were any discussion from the Council. Clerk Bell stated these are the same numbers on the final budget as presented on the tentative budget. Jeff Ballard MOVED to approve Resolution # No.24-06-12-01 adopting the final budget for 2024-25 for the Town of Rockville as presented. Megan Honer-Orton SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

4. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 24-0612-02, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2024 CERTIFIED TAX RATE FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE:** Mayor Leach said the proposed tax rate is .001179 with the maximum amount allowed by law being .007. Clerk Bell explained that yearly the County will send out the Certified Tax rate for the Town Council to approve. This year the rate remains the same as last year of .001179 for a total amount of taxes generated as approximately \$85,436.00. Megan Honer-Orton MOVED to approve the tax rate for 2024 at .001179, bringing in approximately \$85,436.00 in revenue for the Town. Robin Smith SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2024, PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING:** Michael Evenson MOVED to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2024 public hearing and regular meeting. Robin Smith SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

6. **APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2024:** Megan Honer-Orton asked why there were two payments to Utah Geological Society in May. Clerk Bell explained that the first payment was for services billed in April and the second payment was for services billed for May, as they are billed monthly for the septic permit study. Jeff Ballard MOVED to approve the expenditures for the month of May 2024 as listed. Robin Smith SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

7. **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:** Mayor Leach MOVED to approve the May 2024 Financial Statements as presented. Robin Smith SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITEMS

8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ORDINANCE NO. 24-0612-01 AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING OPEN FIRES AND THE USE OF FIREWORKS WITHIN THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE DURING THE REMAINDER OF 2024 DUE TO HIGH FIRE RISK.** Mayor Leach explained this resolution is the same as the Council adopted the previous year. She pointed out this was on the agenda even before the fire last week. This resolution [ordinance] would be in effect until the end of 2024. Jeff Ballard MOVED to approve ordinance 24-0612-01 to prohibit open fires and the use of fireworks within the Town of Rockville for the remainder of 2024, due to the high fire risk. Robin Smith SECONDED the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor Pam Leach stated the Wildland Fire Chief Steve Harris has offered their chipper to help residents remove combustible materials around their homes along with trees burned in last week's fire. Just let us know and we can ask that they come assess and do what is needed. She again thanked the Fire Department for the response regarding the fire and saving the homes in the affected area.

She said that the State of Utah is celebrating 100 years of films and movies made in the State. They are looking to do a Utah Film Trail. Since Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid was filmed in Grafton, they are asking for the Town's approval of this project which would include placement of Trail information signs at designated locations containing a QR code for access to online information. The plan is for the sign placement to be done late Fall until the end of the year. She has reached out to the Grafton Heritage Partnership for their thoughts and whether they would give approval.

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Mayor Leach said for our elected officials, she had just received from Greater Zion an invitation to next week's premier showing of Horizon, AN American Saga, Chapter 1, the Kevin Costner movie filmed here. The tickets are for Tuesday, June 25, at 6:00 pm at Pineview Megaplex theater should any of the Council wish to attend let her know. A word of thanks again for the amazing response to the recent fire in Rockville. I understand we had crews from Zion National Park, Hurricane, and a Hot Shot crew from Idaho. Thank you to all those who assisted.

Michael Evenson thanked the Fire Department again for the help and resources for last week's fire, as they saved his home. He reminded everyone that this fire was preventable, as are most human caused fire. Please be cognoscente of what you need to do to keep yourself and your neighbors safe. He had nothing to report from the mosquito abatement.

Robin Smith reported Chief Decker had provided her report and nothing new from waste management.

Megan Honer-Orton stated we need to talk about power in the Town office. She came down to the Office during the recent fire to field calls and make calls to make sure residents were notified about the evacuation or to answer any questions residents might have had. Once we lost power she no longer had telephone service from the office, only her cell phone. She would like to suggest we look at getting either a cell phone or back-up generator for the office during emergencies. She wanted to reach out to residents, but many on the phone tree list at the Office are no longer working numbers. She asked that an email be sent out requesting updated contact information in case of the next emergency. Mayor Leach stated that an email had been sent out requesting residents to provide current contact information such as cell number or email address. Megan also wished to thank Vicki for opening up the Town office to help her contact as many people as possible.

Jeff Ballard reported the weeds at the Cemetery were sprayed again last week. The company that sprayed guaranteed their work and when the weeds came back, they sprayed again. He said many of the thistle are already dying.

2. **Staff Report as needed.** There were no reports.
3. **ADJOURNMENT:** Michael Evenson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

Vote on Motion:

Michael Evenson - Aye
Robin Smith - Aye
Megan Honer-Orton - Aye
Mayor Leach - Aye
Jeff Ballard: - Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Minutes prepared by
Shelley D. Cox, Town Clerk
Town of Rockville

APPROVED

Mayor Pam Leach

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*The foregoing was posted in the foyer cabinet of the Rockville Town Office by Vicki S. Bell
at approximately 10:00 AM on 11 July 2024, on Rockville's Website and the Utah
Public Notice Website.*

Vicki S Bell



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Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
Rockville Town Hall
June 12, 2024 6:00 p.m.**

PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR THE RECORD

NAME	ADDRESS
Danielle Davis	302 E Main St. Rockville
Layne Delano	4 Bridge Rd
Bailey Soschak	ROCKVILLE