

CASTLE DALE CITY
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2025



The City Council of Castle Dale, Emery County, Utah, met in an open meeting on February 13, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.
20 S 100 E, Castle Dale, Utah

ATTENDEES

Mayor: Danny Van Wagoner

Council:

Brad Giles

Joel Dorsch

Julie Johansen

Michael Jorgensen

Emily Mills

Maintenance Supervisor: Ignacio Arrien - excused

Fire Chief: Ignacio Arrien - excused

EMS: -

Land Use Administrator: Kerry Lake

Code Enforcer-Animal Control: Terry Lofthouse

Treasurer: Carolyn Montgomery

Recorder: Jody Gerber

Others in attendance: Kate Van Wagoner, Duane Gilbert, Glen Gerber, Hunter Cornelius, Garrett Horton

WELCOME

Mayor Danny Van Wagoner was presiding and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

All City council members were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council member Giles moved to approve the minutes of January 9, 2025 City Council Meeting; Council member Jorgensen seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

UTILITY WRITE-OFF FOR WATER OVERAGE

At the addresses of 35 S 200 E and 715 N Center Street, billing errors were found. The office staff is requesting to write off the amounts of \$911.03 and \$1,560.00.

Council member Johansen moved to write off or issue a check for the overcharges; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

RETURN CHECK POLICY

It is requested to set up a return check policy. If there are 2 returned payments, residents will be put on a list and will no longer be allowed to pay with a check or EFT through their checking account.

Council member Giles motioned to accept the return check policy; Council member Mills seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

RATIFY ITRON METER READING EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Iron Meter Reading Equipment was ordered after a city council email vote.

Council member Johansen moved to ratify the meter reading purchase; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

GARBAGE RATES

Brad Giles explained that the garbage rates increase each year, and the city needs to increase the rate to the customers. The garbage collection agreement has expired past the 5-year contract. The city needs to open the opportunity for garbage collection companies to bid. This can be opened at the next city council meeting.

Council member Johansen motioned to table the garbage rates until we have a new contract; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Kerry Lake reported that the Land Use Committee went through the annexation checklist and the door-to-door salesmen ordinance and made changes to both. He recently had several calls from people that do not meet current zoning requirements. The city needs a Board of Adjustments meeting to talk about the requested variances. At the January City Council meeting he was asked

to look over 2 of the ordinances compared to the Land Use ordinance. There were minimal differences. They can discuss this at the next Land Use Committee meeting.

ANIMAL CONTROL/CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Terry Lofthouse reported that for code enforcement he was called about the new building near the post office. He checked with the County and they had been there the day before. A resident put a large amount of oil in their garbage can which caused a lot of clean up.

For Animal Control, Terry reported that a dog killed 2 goats and injured 5 others north of the elementary school. It is unknown what dog did this. There are many reports of dogs in the cemetery. New signs state that no dogs are allowed. There was a problem with a dog wandering on Center Street. When Terry confronted the owner, he was upset. Terry had to call the Sheriff's department.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Ignacio Arrien was not in attendance, but a written report was read for him. The maintenance staff installed the garage door opener at the old shop. They bought new barricades for the events this coming year. A new camera was installed for the crossing guard. Drainage was worked on at the Bott property.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Ignacio Arrien was not in attendance, but a written report was read for him. The fire department lost 1 member, but they still have 16 firefighters. They went to winter fire school and the training went well. There are 8 members, and their cards have expired. This April they will be doing a recertification. The fire department had 2 calls out since the new year with 60% of the volunteer attendance.

EMS

Danny Van Wagoner reported that there was a lot of discussion about the stipend. The Castle Dale/Orangeville garage is struggling with 1 driver, 5 EMTs. Last month 9 runs and 5 were billable. They are fully staffed at 35%, partially at 26% and not staffed at 39% of the time. Donations are getting more difficult. The weekends are when they are lowest with staffing. They are doing everything they can.

TREASURER/RECORDER REPORTS

Carolyn Montgomery reported a sales tax decrease of \$7,999.33, and a transportation tax decrease of \$729.57. After notifying customers of past due accounts there has been an increase in revenue. Compared to last year at this time, the increase is \$60,942.54. There are 140 customers who signed up for Xpress bill pay, 62 are paperless and 120 AutoPay's are set up. The city is no longer using the old system for bill payments from customers. The new meter reading Itron equipment was ordered through Hydro Specialties, and the city is waiting to hear when it will be delivered.

Jody Gerber reported the city issuing 1 new business license to Engman Builds, LLC. The county held the Bright Ideas Entrepreneur Academy, and 25 business licenses were issued to the young participants. So far there are 53 new or renewed dog licenses and the deadline is the end of the month. Upon inquiry about the donation budget, Jody reported that the city has a budget of \$2,000 with \$1,750 remaining.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Julie Johansen reported that the school building project for students will not start until 2026. They are in the process of getting everything in place.

Mike Jorgensen reported that he has given his comments to Brad Giles about the codification book. He would also like feedback about increasing the number of dogs per household. The current ordinance says 4 cats and 3 dogs. The Sheriff's office would like all the cities to do the same thing. It will be put on the agenda next month.

Brad Giles reported that the water rate increase for outside of city limits was passed January 2024. It was recently changed in the new software so those customers will see an increase on their next billing.

The maintenance crew worked on the water problem at the Bott's. It is an annual problem when the temperature drops around 0 degrees. Six people have water rights in that area. Part of the Special Service Districts projects this summer will help alleviate the burden on the city. This will remedy the problem for the water users and will no longer be the city's responsibility in the future.

The City Council members were asked to review the ordinances. The information the codification company currently has is not accurate with what our ordinances should state. Most of the rates or any dollar value was taken out. He plans to ask the codification company to create a file that has the rates for us. The city's ordinances need to be compared with the Land Use ordinances. This can be done at their committee meeting.

The annual water report from the Special Service District states that Castle Dale has the highest consumption of water in the county. The city does have a high school and a swimming pool to consider.

Brad Giles met with the high school about the street problem in front of the high school, and they agreed on changes to be made.

Joel Dorsch reported that the ice rink had 63 days of good ice skating. Now it is officially closed.

Mayor Van Wagoner stated that next month the city needs to consider if they will start a watering schedule for residents.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR SIGNATURES

Council member Johansen motioned to pay the bills; Council member Giles seconded it.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

ADJOURN

Council member Giles moved to adjourn the meeting; Council member Jorgensen seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Ayes: Julie Johansen, Michael Jorgensen, Brad Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

APPROVED: 03/03/2025