

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RUSH VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MARCH 26, 2025 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, Lacey Burrows, Dana Gardner and Jeremiah Harding

Appointed officers and employees present: Attorney Rob Clegg, Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe, Engineer Doug Kinsman and Fire Chief Jason Bolinder.

1. Pledge of Allegiance/roll call

2. Approval of meeting minutes for 02-26-2025. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for 02-26-2025 and Councilmember Lacey Burrows seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Sheriff's report. The sheriff's office reported that in the month of February they had four calls, none of them being emergencies. They received a request for extra patrol which resulted in 21 traffic citations during the month.

4. Mayor's Recognition Award. This award is sponsored by the Tooele County Health Department and is intended to promote community spirit. The nominees are voted on by the town council. This month's award was presented to McRae Elton.

5. Approval for payment to Kirk Huffaker for Clover Church Restoration. Mayor Johnson said that Kirk Huffaker has been helping to get the Clover Church on the historical registry. The historic property will be considered by the review committee for nomination to the National Register of Historical Places and is going to be listed as Clover Ward, LDS Meetinghouse, Rush Valley, Tooele County, Utah. Listing of a property provides recognition of its historic significance and assures protective review of federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property. Kirk Huffaker did the work and the final payment is \$1,500.00. Councilmember Dana Gardner made a motion to pay Kirk Huffaker the amount of \$1,500. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

6. Approval of grant project, if awarded. Councilmember Dana Gardner is working on a grant to get more work completed on the Clover Church restoration project, specifically to finish the back room, put heating/HVAC in, install porch steps at the back door, put a new door in the back and a flagpole. He is asking for \$20,000 but may not receive that much. He has already sought bids for some of the work and a lot of it will be done by volunteers. There will be a fundraising dinner in April for the project. Mayor Brian

Johnson made a motion to spend grant money, if approved. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

7. **Surplus of cemetery shed.** Lacey Burrows reported that there was only one bid received for the shed. The bid was for \$200 from Kris Burrows. Councilmember Dana Gardner made a motion to accept the bid from Kris Burrows for \$200. Councilmember Jeremiah Harding seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
8. **Fire department report.** Fire Chief Jason Bolinder reported that three of the new fire-fighters completed their red cards which enables the department to get paid when they respond to federal and state fires. Chief Bolinder has been getting the cooperative wildfire online system up to date. He mentioned that we need to look at Utah House Bill 48 that was recently approved and will affect our community. It is called the Wildland Urban Interface Modifications and one of the key provisions is defensible space regulations which mandates the creation and maintenance of defensible space around structures in wildfire prone areas. There are several red zones in our area. The town will be required to adopt the wildland urban interface code.

Since the last meeting, the department responded to eight calls: six medical, one fire and one traffic accident, with no calls in town and eight out of town. The department is holding weekly meetings and working on training.

9. **Council reports.** Roads – Councilmember Jeremiah Harding reported that he has been working on grading. The water pump went out on the grader, and he is trying to get that repaired.

Cemeteries – Councilmember Lacey Burrows reported there were two burials in one weekend. She did some cleaning of the cemeteries for the funerals.

Councilmember Pete Albrecht reported that he continues to support county meetings. He agreed that we need to recognize cleanup around our properties for fire mitigation. We have an opportunity to do a pod test, where the county would help with a point of delivery to where every person would know, in the state of an emergency, where to come and gather and how we could get a flow of distributing goods for our point of distribution. Pete would like to get this set up for the town and asked the town council to plan this for the summertime. The council agreed this would be beneficial.

Parks – Councilmember Dana Gardner reported that he has been working on the grant for the restoration of the Clover Church.

Mayor Johnson has been working on getting the Clover Church on the historical registry. He has been talking about flood mitigation meetings with the county.

10. Safety topic. Councilmember Lacey Burrows presented the safety topic on heat stroke and exhaustion.

11. Payment of Bills. Councilmember Dana Gardner made a motion to pay the bills for March 2025. Councilmember Lacey Burrows seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

12. Public Comments. Councilmember Lacey Burrows said that group has been created in Rush Valley for the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. They are hoping to get a group of people to help manage the museum. The group will be meeting on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 at the town hall.

Glenna Matekal mentioned that she had cleared sagebrush from ditch banks and said that she could provide the hours and price that she paid so that the fire department could get credit for fire mitigation.

Chief Jason Bolinder said that burn season officially opens on March 30 through May 30. Permits must be obtained on the website tooelewildfire.org. Every year the town gets assessed for what they should have to pay into the mitigation fund, but can use mitigation projects to get credit rather than paying money. If we had a catastrophic wildfire in our town, the state would help pay for the large amount of money that could result. The fire department also attends many trainings to meet the mitigation fund requirements. Councilmember Pete Albrecht reminded residents that any type cleaning around their properties can be counted towards mitigation credit. Residents can provide Pete or Chief Bolinder with the amount of time and costs that were spent clearing their properties.

13. Adjourn. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Jeremiah Harding seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:43 p.m.