

Town Council Meeting

June 18, 2025

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Neil Brown, Councilmembers: Grant Lundberg, Eric Hazelet, Curtis Thomas

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston, Planning Chairman Avery Fitzgerald, City Attorney Josh Nielsen, Fire Chief William McMullin, Chief Rod Hurst

Public Present:

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

a. Wiley Thomas gave the opening prayer.

b. Corey Carter led the pledge of allegiance.

2. **Appoint a replacement for a vacancy on the Town Council. Letters of Interest were due by Tuesday June 17th, at 5:00pm.**

a. Mayor Brown explained that the process for filling the vacancy was accepting letters of interest that were received the Town received 4 letters of interest each candidate was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and then the council were given opportunities to ask questions of each candidate.

i. **Corinne Aagard** – She was able to give an introduction about herself stating that she is interested in the position because they moved here 8 years ago and she wanted to live in a place where it is was quiet and she wanted to be in a small community. She is worried about having too much regulation and having too large of government. She has a grave concern regarding protecting the farmland and not allowing the government to take control of the land. The council was then given the opportunity to ask questions. Councilman Thomas stated that the first time that he met her, she introduced herself and a constitutional conservative. He would like her to explain that a bit and how that applies to Genola and Genola Politics. She stated that a constitutional conservative is a small government minded person and God-fearing person. She says that she hears a lot in other communities and in our community as well that we need to look at what other communities are doing but she believes that we need to not do that. That we need to just do what the constitution says. Mayor Brown stated that each council member is given an assignment for different areas of responsibility to the Town including roads, water, recreation, Town Celebration, Fire Department, Rodeo etc. He asked what area of expertise or skills could you bring and what area would you like to help in? Mrs. Aagard responded that she is good at planning and organizing, and when there are things that she doesn't understand she is willing to learn. She stated that she is not a college educated student but that she continues to learn all the time. Councilman Hazelet asked what experience she could bring from other aspects in her life including things like church, community groups, etc. She stated that she had worked with the children in some church responsibilities, but she hasn't really done anything else. Councilman Lundberg stated that often there are differences of opinions or vision between councilmembers or especially with members of the community. How do you approach interacting with people who disagree with your fundamentals or philosophical views? She responded that she has been involved with politics for years and her philosophy is that we need to be respectful of each other and their viewpoints and have adult conversations. She was thanked for her interest, and they moved onto the next candidate

ii. **Troy Gustafson** – He was able to give an introduction about himself. He stated that he has lived in Genola since he was about twelve. He applied because has decided that he would like to be more involved in the town. He stated that this is all new to him, but he wanted to do something different with his life and give back to his community. Councilman Thomas asked him if there was something that he doesn't like about the community or things that he would change? He says that he's never done anything like this before, so he doesn't have any big things he wants to address he just wants to be a

voice of reason. He stated that he's experienced that people are a little judgy and he would like to help in the unity, but he loves the Town. Mayor Brown asked his greatest area of expertise would be. He stated that he really likes to build cabinets. Councilman Lundberg stated that he appreciated his letter of interest as he felt that it was sincere. He likes seeing people who want to become involved in the community. He stated that whether he is selected tonight he feels that he could be really good for the community by getting involved through the Town Celebration etc. and hopes that he takes those opportunities to get involved more and get some good experiences. He asked the same question as before and wanted to know how he deals with people who think differently than you. He stated that it is important that we all work together and that we can all find common ground if you try hard enough. He was then excused.

- iii. **Brennan Jackson** – he stated that he is just a small-town boy who grew up in Kanab, Utah and raised his family mostly in Manti, Utah. After the death of his wife, he later remarried and has moved here with his wife to Genola. He stated that he has been in public education for almost 35 years including a head football coach, principal of 2 different high schools, a school superintendent, over transportation and buildings. Currently he is employed the Utah High School Student activities association where they govern all of the high school extracurricular activities including playing rules, getting venues for state championships, etc. He worked with a lot of grant writing, working with UDOT he was able to get grants to put in about 1 miles worth of sidewalks, to help kids get safely to a new school. He understands many of the small community grants that are available to help communities building infrastructure or building and upkeeping facilities that we already have. He feels that it is important that we think big but in a small-town way. He would like to find ways that we can move forward in a logical way but also looking towards the residents and what they want. He feels like working through conflict resolution is a skill that he has had to use a lot in his career. Working as a High School principal obviously he had lots of opportunities to practice this skill but sometimes there were times that he had to stand his ground because it simply was just the right thing to do. He would like to bring his skills and background to Genola where he now calls home and he feels that it is important to keep in mind that the decisions that the council makes today will radiate into the future. Councilman Thomas asked that living with a small town and that living in a small town he is certain that he has experienced many complaints from locals. He stated that he has received complaints about his (Mr. Jackson's) home and the lack of a fence around his swimming pool. The state code and the ordinances of a Town state that a fence is required around all swimming pools and he is wondering if appointed if he planned on bringing his home up to code. Mr. Jackson stated that he felt that this was an interview for a city council person, however he stated that the building inspector told him that the updated state code says that if the pool had a cover on it that could support a cars weight that it was ok. He reported that the fence is phase that they are working towards, but they have a covered swimming pool and that is a secure swimming pool. Councilman Thomas stated that he wasn't aware of the law. He stated that he is worried about safety, and he would hate to have animals or worse people who have had accidents in the pool. Mr. Jackson stated that for that purpose is the exact reason they spent the extra money to put this type of cover at their home. He invited councilman Thomas to come and see it anytime. Mr. Jackson encouraged Councilman Thomas to send anyone who had a concern to come and visit with him directly. Councilman Thomas asked about his job and what he does. He stated that he is the director of every high school in Utah for football, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, and music. He stated that he travels to Salt Lake every day to make sure that the kids have the best experience possible. Mayor Brown stated that he would ask the same question as all others. What areas of expertise do bring and what areas could offer the most to the Town of Genola. Mr. Jackson stated that he felt he was well rounded in a lot of areas but his experience with working with UDOT and the county, not that he created roads, but they worked on bus stops and safe walking paths etc. He believes that he could help a lot with recreation as he understands the programs. Councilman Hazelet asked if there was any projects that he worked on that could really help the town. He

helped working on the Fairgrounds in Sanpete County but unfortunately due to work load he wasn't able to finish, but some of his biggest projects were the construction of new elementary schools and the infrastructure that it took, the bids that they had to get and getting the financing. He had to work with the different organizations to get a bond approved and working with the public to feel comfortable about those bonds and voting on these new schools. Councilman Lundberg stated that Mr. Jackson had already spoke to his ability to work with different people with different views and he had said that sometimes he had to simply stand his ground, but he is wondering if he ever had a time where he felt strongly about something but that someone was able to change his mind. He spoke of when he was a football coach that he obviously thought that his offense was the best until a defense stopped it and then he was forced to reevaluate his plans, but in a general it would take the voice of the people and he doesn't believe that he is hard headed enough to say that it is my way or the highway. He would like to have hard information and data so that he can compare and contrast etc.

- iv. **Wiley Thomas** – Wiley Thomas was then given a chance to introduce himself as a nearly lifelong member of Genola. He stated that he went to college at Utah State University and worked in the hospitality industry and after several years he went to Wyoming and went to law school and came back home to practice law here in Utah. He loves Genola and he feels that it is time to give back to his community. He stated that he specifically wanted to apply for former councilman Hale Robison's position because of his responsibility of the roads. He recognized that roads are probable one the most crucial parts of the Town. He would like to help with our Town's Roads. He stated that he works everyday working with people who call him with problems and concerns, and he works to resolve them, and that is something that he would like to do for the city. Councilman Thomas made a point of Transparency and clarity that Wiley Thomas is his son. He stated that he would like to see someone on the council that can read and digest a legal document. He asked him if he has enough time? Mr. Thomas stated that he did. Mayor Brown stated that he felt that he had already answered his question that he had asked the others in his introduction. Councilman Hazelet stated that he is project manager by trade and he feels that a lot of the work he does on the council is project based. So he would like to ask what projects he's worked on that can bring some skills to the town. Mr. Thomas replied saying that typically he works cases start to finish when he is assigned a lawsuit he starts it and goes till its' done. He stated that sometimes the cases are long and several years long and then others are only a couple of weeks. Councilman Lundberg asked how he would feel about disagreeing with his dad. Mr. Thomas responded that they disagree frequently. However, he has a high respect for his dad and he feels that obviously like everyone else he learned a lot from his dad and those experiences help mold him to who he is today, but he is also not afraid to disagree with him and they have worked for years on listening to each and helping solve the problems.

- b. **The council voted by secret ballot and results were 1 vote for Wiley Thomas and 3 votes for Brennan Jackson.**
- c. **Councilman Lundberg and Councilman Hazelet thanked all of the candidates for coming and participating in their community.**
- d. **City Clerk Lucinda Thomas then swore in Brennan Jackson as the new councilman.**

3. **Approval of Minutes for May 21, 2025**

- a. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a Motion to approve the minutes for May 21, 2025. Councilman Grand Lundberg Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
- i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

4. **Approval of Expenditures**

- a. It was clarified that \$248,000.00 was for the Chassie for the fire truck that is on order.

- b. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to approve the expenditures in the amount of three hundred ten thousand, nine hundred sixty-four dollars and forty-seven cents. Councilman Grant Lundberg **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
- i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

5. **Approval of Work Orders of sixteen thousand six hundred dollars (\$16,600.00).**

- a. \$3600.00 for a new 800 MHZ mobile radio for Engine 172, \$7000 for 2 sets of turnouts (coat pants helmet), \$6000 for a 40' Conex container for storage behind the station.
- b. The time was turned over to Chief McMullin to explain his requests. He stated that the radios that the department has now won't fit into the new engine. They are requesting to purchase it now so that it can be installed on the new engine before they take delivery.
- c. There are two new members of the department, and they need turnouts.
- d. The request for a Conex container is for storage. They need to have a place to store the extra equipment from the old fire truck and when they do fireworks this would allow them to meet state code.
- e. It was clarified that all these proposed expenditures will be coming out of the next fiscal years budget.
- f. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a **Motion** to approve the work orders. Councilman Curtis Thomas **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

6. **Commission & Staff Reports**

- a. **Police Chief Report** – Chief Hurst reviewed the case number stats from the previous month. He stated that they didn't have any concerns for the upcoming Town Celebration. Councilman Thomas asked if Santaquin has to bring in extra help to help with crowd control. Chief Hurst responded that at this time they do not and they have been able to maintain the help that is needed with their current officers.
- b. **Fire Chief Report** – Chief McMullin brought up that in May there was another fire out at the Metal Salvage yard, He brought up that back in May of 2021 approved a hydrant on 800 east but it still hasn't been installed. He reported that the town was awarded a FEED fire truck from the fire warden, it is a truck that the state lets the Town use until it is not needed anymore and then the Town will give it back and trade it in for different one, this comes at no cost to the town. He reported that they are ready to go for the fireworks for the Town Celebration.
- c. **Planning Commission Report** – Chairman Fitzgerald reviewed the agenda items from their last meeting. He asked for clarification on when they have a small quorum, and conflicts of interest. Mayor Brown Clarified that as long as the conflict of interest is clarified before the vote happens then they are allowed to vote if it is needed.

PUBLIC FORUM –

Douglas Aagard – he asked why the tall cell tower was now flashing white at night instead red and has been as bright. Mayor Brown, responded by telling him that the light on the Tower is not controlled by the town and it has changed hands multiple times and sometimes it's hard to find exactly who is owning it at the time.

7. **Discussion on possible action on Resolution 2025-10 the amended budget for FY 2025.**

- a. Mayor Brown stated that last meeting that they held the public hearing and there have been a few minor tweaks to the amended budget to make it all balance with our revenues and expenditures. Fire Chief McMullin asked if there would be enough money left to pay the quarterly fire

department checks. It was determined that they would add an additional \$3000 to the fireman wages budget and take it from the amount that is being transferred to the budget increase in the fund balance.

- i. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a **Motion** made a approve the amended budget with the additional funds per the mayors copy. Councilman Curtis Thomas **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
- ii. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
- iii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
- iv. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
- v. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
- vi. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

8. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2025-11 the approved budget FY 2026.

- a. All council members were comfortable with this budget as was presented. Councilman Thomas asked what it would take to be able to pave the driveway in front of the fire department. It was clarified that this project would have to come out of general funds and would then impact what we could do on other projects, and they felt those other projects including the new public works building are of a greater importance. The Fire Chief and Councilman Hazelet both stated that with the new fire engine coming the fire department isn't worried about the driveway at this time. They decided that it is a project that needs to go on the list of capital outlay projects to work towards in the future.
- b. Mayor Neil Brown made a **Motion** to approve the proposed FY 2026 budget. Councilman Grant Lundberg **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

9. Discussion and possible action regarding an RFP for architectural services for a new public works building.

- a. Mayor Brown made a couple of edits to the RFP for architectural services. Councilman Jackson asked for some clarification about what the use of this building
- b. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a **Motion** authorizing the Mayor to continue with the RFP for architectural Services for a new public works building. Councilman Grant Lundberg **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

10. Discussion and possible action on updating our impact fee analysis.

- a. They discussed the different bids between LRB and Zions Bank and the pricing was definitely cheaper but they also felt that Zions bank took into the account their experience with small communities.
- b. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to acceptance Zions Public Finance Inc. to do a impact fee analysis. Councilman Brennan Jackson **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
 - v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES

11. Discussion and possible action on approving Resolution 2025-12 accepting the certified Tax Rate @.000949.

- 280 a. Mayor Brown stated that because we didn't request a tax rate increase last month we no longer
281 have a choice except to accept the current tax rate.
282 b. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to approve Resolution 2025-12 accepting the certified
283 Tax Rate @.000949. Councilman Eric Hazelet **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
284 i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
285 ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
286 iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
287 iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
288 v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES
289

290 **12. Discussion and possible action on purchasing at no cost a 2010 freightliner M2106 Type 4 Fire**
291 **Engine.**

- 292 a. The State is giving the Town the ability to exchange one of their larger brush trucks for a newer
293 one, this will be at no cost to the town. Mayor Brown is asking for permission from the council to
294 sign for this exchange.
295 b. Councilman Eric Hazlet made a Motion to authorize Mayor Brown to sign the purchasing
296 agreement at no cost a 2010 freightliner M2106 Type 4 Fire Engine. Councilman Brennan
297 Jackson Second and the motion passed all in favor.
298 i. Mayor W. Neil Brown - YES
299 ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg - YES
300 iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas - YES
301 iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet -YES
302 v. Councilman Brennan Jackson - YES
303

304 **13. Council Comments**

- 305 a. **Mayor Neil Brown** – he reported that Mt Nebo Water Agency will be meeting with state and
306 federal officials to discuss water issues for this end of the valley.
307 b. **Councilmember Grant Lundberg** – he let everyone know that there would be free Wi-Fi in the
308 park for the Town Celebration and rodeo. He gave the instructions to the councilmembers when
309 they needed to be at the Rodeo and Town Celebration events. He commented that he really
310 appreciated the Mayor's professional in handling some difficult situations.
311 c. **Councilmember Curtis Thomas** – he had nothing to report and is glad to have Councilman
312 Jackson on the council
313 d. **Councilmember Eric Hazelet** – he had nothing to report.
314 e. **Councilmember Brennan Jackson** – he had nothing to report.
315

316 **14. Motion to Adjourn**
317
318

319 Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston
320
321

322 Minutes Approved on: July 16, 2025
323

Lucinda Thomas

Lucinda Thomas City Recorder