



**HENEFER TOWN PUBLIC HEARING &
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**
Henefer Town Office
150 W Center St
Henefer, UT 84033
7/1/2025

Minutes of the Henefer Town Council Meeting held July 1, 2025.

Roll Call: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey Ovard, Steven Dallin, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins, Ty Bailey, Mason Kjar, Ashlee Vernon, Gary Butler, Wade Kellems, Richard Butler, Kevin Beenfield, Valerie Beenfield, Paul Wangsgaard, Monte Richins, Karen Ovard, Rush Hotchkiss, and Jody Hotchkiss

Mayor Kay H. Richins opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The prayer was offered by Detton Fawcett the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kevin Beenfield.

Carry over items from May Meeting

None

Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance

Ty Bailey gave the public an overview of the ordinance, essentially this Municipal Energy tax will lessen the dependence on property taxes and the money will go into the general fund. Wade Kellems asked when do we get the funds, Ty responded monthly.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to open the Public Hearing for the Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance. Casey Ovard made a **motion** to open the Public Hearing for the Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance. Steven Dallin seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Public Hearing

Paul Wangsgaard asked why do we need it? Kay Richins responded that we need funds to run the community and help pay for a full-time employee.

Kevin Beenfield asked what is the proposed rate? Ty Bailey responded it could be up to 6% on gas and electrical bills.

Gary Butler was not aware of this proposed tax until he stopped at the post office, are we going to be taxed on our amazon packages next? Can we get notices about these mailed out with our water bills? Casey Ovard explained that we post notices online, in the newspaper, and in physical places such as the town building and post office. He further explained that we would directly receive the funds whereas property tax is split.

Karen Ovard asked what about doing a franchise tax? Ty Bailey responded we have not adopted one so we do not collect that. Karen asked could we do that? Ty responded yes it would be 3.5% on communications such as Allwest. Ty explained what other communities have the energy tax. Gary Butler asked how many households are in Henefer, Detton Fawcett responded roughly 320.

Karen Ovard asked if we are going to consider franchise tax in the future, Kay Richins responded it is likely.

Detton explained the need for a full-time employee.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to close the Public Hearing for the Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance. Casey Ovard made a **motion** to close the Public Hearing for the Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance. Steven Dallin seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Steve Dallin stated that this is a necessary evil that can help make up the difference between income and expense, he recommends starting at 6% based on what other communities have done.

Casey Ovard agrees with Steve, with more infrastructure going in costs go up, so 6% is needed.

Kay Richins stated that the Board of Water Resources told him previously that a full-time employee is required to run the system.

Detton Fawcett gave an explanation as to what is required to maintain the water and sewer systems and we also do the blue staking for those.

Tiffany Richins agrees that the tax is needed.

Kay Richins concurs with Council.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to adopt #2025-267 Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance. Casey Ovard made a **motion** adopt #2025-267 the Municipal Energy Tax Ordinance at 6%. Detton Fawcett seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Secondary Water Ordinance

Ty explained the basis of the ordinance.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to open the Public Hearing for the Secondary Water Ordinance Detton Fawcett made a **motion** to open the Public Hearing for the Secondary Water Ordinance. Tiffany Richins seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Paul Wangsgaard asked when will the system be running. Kay Richins responded late summer. Detton is hoping to have the system completely installed and do testing before winter and run it next year.

Casey Ovard mentioned that not everyone has a sprinkling system, because of that we would need to amend the ordinance. Ty Bailey responded that we can remove that section and put restrictions on during dry years. Change the verbiage on this from prohibited to discouraged. Kay Richins asked what about the line prohibiting livestock watering, we would want to use the secondary system to water livestock. Ty stated that most towns its usually run through a ditch company, but we can amend the line. Kay stated that we need people on the system to pay for the system. Kay also explained that residents pay a monthly fee whether you are connected to the secondary system or not.

Monte Richins asked how much water does the monthly fee allow me? Detton Fawcett stated that it is not an unlimited source.

Gary Butler asked will culinary cost go down? Casey Ovard responded stating that if you are connected to secondary and you use it to water your lawn naturally your culinary water use will go down from previous years so essentially yes.

Monte Richins asked what is the overage limit and cost of overage? Detton responded that the number has not been decided yet, he explained how other cities tiered rates work. Ty Bailey stated this will be addressed at a future public hearing for the rates.

Steve Dallin asked who is going to police this ordinance? Kay Richins responded potentially the full-time employee.

Wade Kellems asked what happens if you do not connect? Mason responded there is no consequence outlined the ordinance specifically but it could go to court.

Mason Kjar stated that it needs to be appealing to residents to connect.

Richard Butler asked if residents are charged for secondary water year-round? Casey responded yes.

Karen Ovard asked if we collect outstanding water fees, and why don't we shut their water off when they are past due? Detton Fawcett explained that we cannot use culinary water funds to pay for secondary water items so shutting people's culinary water off does not resolve the issue.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to close the Public Hearing for the Secondary Water Ordinance Casey Ovard made a **motion** to close the Public Hearing for the Secondary Water Ordinance. Steven Dallin seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for motion to adopt #2025-268 Secondary Water Ordinance. Steven Dallin made a **motion** adopt #2025-268 the Secondary Water Ordinance. Casey Ovard seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Tiffany Richins Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: none

Public Comment

Paul Wangsgaard asked who oversees the cemetery? Steve Dallin stated he was and that he is aware we have a broken water line next to Paul's wife's grave and he has been receiving bids for the repair, but he is running into difficulty finding a company that wants to travel to Henefer. Paul stated he will make the repair if the town supplies the parts and fill dirt. Alan will supply the dirt and backfill after the repair is made.

Monte Richins asked what will the estimated cost for power be to run the pump for the secondary water system? Kay Richins explained that the reservoir is for high demand. Tiffany Richins asked how long will the pump run? It will kick on/off on demand it will cost about \$10,000 per month in electrical. Monte asked what will the PSI be and does he need a pump? Kay stated he does not recall the exact PSI, but likely around 40 PSI.

Valerie Beenfield asked will water restrictions still apply after secondary system is up and running? Kay responded yes.

Wade Kellems stated that the culvert on main street should be repaired before the parade on Friday. It was explained that the Ditch company is responsible for the repair and it is located on state property. Mason Kjar stated as a shareholder we could ask the ditch company to fix it.

Beenfield Annexation

Mason Kjar explained the annexation process and further explained the potential for this annexation to create a peninsula and that it is unlikely to be approved as it was applied for originally. Wade Kellems asked if there would be a development agreement. Mason recommends one.

Since the application has not been reviewed by the Planning Commission, no action was taken by Council.

Action

Review of June 3, 2025 Town Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for a motion to approve June 3, 2025 Regular and Public Hearing meeting minutes Detton Fawcett made for a **motion** to approve the June 3, 2025 Town Council Meeting minutes with the grammatical corrections. Tiffany Richins seconded the motion to approve the June 3, 2025 Town Council Meeting minutes, once the grammatical corrections are made. ROLL CALL VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Casey R. Ovard, Detton L. Fawcett, Steve Dallin NAY: none ABSTAINING: none, ABSENT: none

Mason Kjar- Legal Counsel training:

Open for discussion- no questions from Council

Mason explained the financial duties for Town Council Members and the Uniform Fiscal Procedure act: We must approve a budget by June 30th each year, make sure public funds are being handled in a proper manner. He then went on to present and review the Budget compliance checklist and briefly discussed a few of the items such as: Public Hearing held before adoption, all expenditures are appropriated, amendments adopted as needed, no overspending by department or fund, and budget audit and financials posted to the State Auditors website.

Reports by Council Members and Staff

- **Steven Dallin- Cemetery:**
 - Have we provided fire department with flow test results, Ashlee Vernon will check with Shelley Richins on that.
 - Mandatory firework restrictions are possible after the fourth of July.
 - He is aware of three irrigation leaks at the cemetery.
 - Kay Richins per fire chief Henefer has given the most pushback on NSFD due to spending excessively and often. Tiffany Richins expressed concerns she has received from citizens stating that the fire chief is disrespectful.
- **Casey R. Ovard- Water and Sewer Utilities:**
 - Are we good to move forward with the Lundquists? Mason Kjar responded yes.
- **Detton L. Fawcett- Water and Sewer Utilities:**
 - Infiltration has gotten worse he got bids to clean and camera all sewer lines we need to see where water is coming from. Ty Bailey explained that we can award bid and ratify at next meeting or wait until the next meeting to decide. Bids came in one at \$45k another at \$66k. Mason Kjar needs to review the contracts. Ty stated that doing all the lines at once provides information for the capital plan and it is also mandated by our insurance company, he further stated that this is

supposed to be done every three years. Kay Richins asked Detton to get more bids. Wade Kellums asked can repairs be made while the camera is in the line? Detton yes, but repairs will be prioritized based on need and available funds. We would camera the lines and prioritize the fixes.

- Still need to get rid of duck weed.
- Water tanks are down 6' the construction company needs to pull water from river rather than fire hydrant we must maintain a certain amount of water for firefighting and right now as one fire alone will drain the tanks. Steve Dallin asked if noticing and applying restrictions gain much? Detton responded no.
- Detton how can we get word out about water restrictions Council discussed a few options.

9:29 P.M. Casey Ovard Left Quorum

- **Mayor Kay H. Richins- Streets:**

- He talked to the County regarding chip sealing some roads they said some roads are in too bad of condition to chip. He had Bruce Rowser take a second look and he agreed that at least the south part of town the roads are in too bad of condition to chip seal.

- **Tiffany Richins-Parks:**

- Tiffany went over all the details for the fourth of July coming up this Friday.
- Wade Kellems purchased two new regulators for the stoves used to cook breakfast, he will be reimbursed.
- The asphalt was fixed by the bowery.
- Kay will get the mayors treats as well as coordinate with Atkinson Sound for the sound system.
- We are on the schedule for the Jet fly over.
- Need candy for the Council float.
- There is a broken swing in the park that needs to be replaced, she will contact Christian Northrup.

- **Ty Bailey:**

- The Town Standards are being worked on, we do not have any now. The General Plan grant was awarded to Jake Young with Citi Design.

Tiffany stated we do not have enough water to supply current residents how can we keep annexing people in. Ty Bailey stated that we would need to do a development agreement to mitigate growth and set standards.

Action:

Mayor Kay H. Richins called for a motion to adjourn. Steven Dallin made a **motion** to adjourn the Henefer Town Council meeting. Tiffany Richins seconded the motion. VOTE: AYE: Mayor Kay H. Richins, Steven Dallin, Detton L. Fawcett, NAY: none ABSTAINING: none ABSENT: Casey R. Ovard