

Town of Independence

Town Council Meeting

07/08/2025 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Mayor Wayne Heaton, **Councilmembers** Gary Ryan, Bonnie Wilson, Tracy Sabey, Rose Heaton and Jim Tolbert.

Staff attendance: Jodi Hoffman.

Others in attendance: Clint Neerings and Troy Morgan with Wasatch County Fire Department, Lauren Bolger, Chuck Richins, and Michael Cherry (via phone) with Horrocks Engineers and Kim Tolbert.

1. Mayor Heaton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Prayer. Councilmember Wilson offered the prayer.
3. Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Ryan offered the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Discussion and possible adoption of revision to Fireworks Resolution 2025-04.
 - Clint Neerings explained the State has ordered Stage One fire restrictions which eliminates open flames and campground fires.
 - The State has also placed Stage Two fire restrictions for areas designated as Wildland Urban Interface Areas prohibiting the use of fireworks /pyrotechnics. The Town of Independence has been designated by the State as a Wildland Urban Interface Area.
 - The Wasatch County GIS Department is working on an interactive map that should be available next year for property owners to look at the restrictions on their property.
 - Ms. Hoffman strongly encouraged the Council to adopt this Resolution restricting fireworks due to the large amount of mountain areas in the Town.
 - Mr. Neerings explained the Council could re-evaluate this Resolution and discuss possible changes and uses to the boundary for next year.
 - Councilmember Tolbert moved to approve Resolution 2025-04 Finding Hazardous Environmental Conditions and Restriction of Fireworks Within The Town Of Independence.
 - Councilmember Ryan seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
5. Review and possible adoption of draft minutes for June 10, 2025.
 - Councilmember Sabey moved to approve the draft minutes for June 10, 2025.
 - Councilmember Tolbert seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
6. Discussion and possible authorization of revised LiDAR proposal.

- Chuck Richins gave the Council an update on the LiDAR proposal. \$6,250 that was quoted at the June 10, 2025 meeting was for the purchase of the equipment and did not include the labor for the project. The new proposal which includes the equipment, the labor and the video (which was quoted at the June 10, 2025 meeting as an additional \$800) is \$9,000.
 - Mayor Heaton asked if mileage was taken in consideration when calculating the proposal since the Town has very few miles of paved roads.
 - Mr. Richins replied the mileage was considered when calculating the labor portion of the proposal which is part of the total proposal.
 - Michael Cherry will be the project manager for The Towns' LiDAR project. He will also prepare all the data for this project. Mr. Cherry showed the Council data for a current Utah project he is working on and explained the numerous ways the data could be used.
 - Councilmember Tolbert asked if there was additional information/equipment available to the Town if needed in the future and if there were any grants available to help with the cost.
 - Mr. Cherry will work with the Council to help facilitate the Town's need.
 - Ms. Hoffman asked Mr. Cherry if the data could be used to quantify specific areas for technical specifications when bidding out work for repairs.
 - Mr. Cherry said the data could be used to quantify areas.
 - Councilmember Sabey moved to approve the revised amount of \$9,000 to purchase the equipment, the labor and the video related to the LiDAR system.
 - Councilmember Tolbert seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
7. Discussion to appoint Lauren Bolger as acting Town Clerk for the July 8, 2025 Town Council meeting.
- Councilmember Heaton moved to appoint Lauren Bolger as acting Town Clerk for the July 8, 2025 meeting.
 - Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
8. After the motion was passed, Councilmember Heaton suggested that it would be beneficial to appoint Ms. Bolger as acting Town Clerk for future meetings. After discussion the Council decided to appoint Ms. Bolger as Acting Town Clerk in the absence of the Town Clerk.
- Councilmember Heaton moved to amend the appointment of Lauren Bolger as acting Town Clerk to include all meetings when the Town Clerk is absent.

- Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.
- The motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion of Town Address List and possible postcard notifications.

- Councilmembers Heaton and Wilson and Kim Tolbert have prepared a list of Town residents and addresses that could be used to create a postcard to notify residents of upcoming meetings.
 - After discussion, the Council decided to have Ms. Tolbert prepare a one time notice to residents with meeting dates, times, location and the link to the Utah Public Notice website where all meeting dates and materials are posted.

10. Comments.

- Councilmember Heaton suggested the Council appoint a Mayor Pro Tem. Council will vote on a Mayor Pro Tem at the August meeting.
- Ms. Hoffman reported that the State has mandated all public entities change their websites to a “.gov” format. Ms. Bolger will inquire if the Council and Staff could be assigned Town emails under the same format.
- Mayor Heaton would like to have Councilmember Tolbert report to the Council after he meets with Dave Sanderson, the Town’s Accountant.

11. Adjourn.

- Councilmember Sabey moved to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.
- Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved unanimously.

Dated this 12th day of August 2025.

Wayne R. Heaton, Mayor

Cathy Bingham, Town Clerk