



Emery Town Council Meeting

Aug. 13th, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

65 N Center St. Emery, UT 84522

DRAFT

Call to Order

Mayor Jack Funk called the meeting to order on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes for July 9th, 2025

Councilperson Pat Sundstrom noted that there was one correction needed in the minutes from July 9th, 2025. He mentioned that the term "speed bumps" should be changed to "speed dips".

Councilperson Kin Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes for July 9th, 2025, with the correction. The motion was seconded by Pat. The motion passed unanimously.

Invoice Report

Councilperson Patrick Sandstrom reported that everything in the invoice report looked normal and correct.

Councilperson Sandstrom made a motion to pay the bills as presented in the invoice report. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mistie Christiansen. The motion passed unanimously with all council members voting in favor.

Mayor Jack Funk

Morgan Hatch property annex

Mayor Funk discussed the ongoing process of addressing property boundaries related to Morgan Hatch's property and the cemetery. He explained that some of Morgan Hatch's property is currently in the middle of the cemetery and around it. The town is in the process of reviewing boundaries and working on a dingle act. Mayor Funk mentioned that there was a mix-up with paperwork, as they received documents for Huntington Airport instead of their own. He stated that they would check with Kyle to get the correct section and have it recorded.

Mayor Funk emphasized the need to fix the property lines, as Morgan Hatch has property in the middle of the cemetery. He mentioned that when the plan is changed and properties are exchanged, they will need to complete an annexation. The estimated cost for this process is around \$2,500.

Trevor Allen Emery County Recreation Board

Mayor Funk informed the council that Trevor Allen's name had been put forward for consideration to be on the Emery County Board of Recreation. He mentioned that Trevor was nominated to represent Emery and that the decision was supposed to be made on the previous Monday. Mayor Funk expressed hope that Trevor would be approved, as it would provide more representation for Emery on the recreation board.

Councilperson Kim Hansen

Town Celebrations

Councilperson Hansen expressed gratitude to everyone who participated in the Pioneer Day celebration for Emery. She noted that the event was a success and that there had been no complaints. Hansen mentioned that the parade had 28 entries, which was considered a good turnout.

Bingo/monthly craft night

Covid funds-need vote to approve park improvements

Councilperson Hansen brought up the need to decide how to use the COVID money that the county had set aside for the town. She presented a list of potential improvements for the alkali square and explained that the funds could be used for community development or as matching funds for other grants.

After discussion, the council decided to use the funds for general park improvements.

Councilperson Mistie made a motion to approve the use of COVID funds for general park improvements. The motion was seconded by Pat. The motion passed unanimously.

Fraud risk assessment/ Audit 9-12/ Open & public meeting training reminder

Councilperson Hansen reminded the council about the upcoming fraud risk assessment and audit on September 12th. She also reminded everyone to complete their open and public meeting training for the year, mentioning that email reminders had been sent out.

Past due water bills

Councilperson Hansen inquired about the progress on past-due water bills. Annie Johnson reported that four more notices would be sent out the following day. She also mentioned that almost everyone with payment plans had been staying current with their payments.

Councilperson Mistie Christiansen

Planning and Zoning

Councilperson Christiansen reported that there were no Planning and Zoning meetings held. However, she mentioned that she had issued one zoning clearance to Live Earth to replace their bathhouse, noting that it was within their square footage allowance.

Reservoir feasibility study contribution

Councilperson Christiansen provided an update on the reservoir feasibility study. She reported that the first phase of the study showed positive results, indicating that the proposed location was feasible. However, she noted that the project would be expensive, with an estimated cost of about \$25 million.

Christiansen explained that to move forward, another phase of the feasibility study was needed. This phase would involve drilling deeper to ensure there were no cracks in the bedrock. She mentioned that bedrock should be reached at about 25 to 30 feet down, and they would need to drill into the side hill to confirm its solidity.

The council discussed the town's potential contribution to the feasibility study. It was noted that the total cost of the feasibility study was \$95,000, with various entities already contributing: the county (\$40,000), the canal board (\$20,000), and conservation (\$10,000).

Councilperson Pat Sundstrom made a motion to contribute \$15,000 to the reservoir feasibility study. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Kim Hansen. The motion passed unanimously with all council members voting in favor.

EMSSD

Councilperson Christiansen reported on her attendance at the EMSSD (Emery Medical Services Special District) meeting. She shared that Emery's ambulance service received high praise, noting that they respond to more calls than Castle Dale and Orangeville combined, more than Ferron, and significantly more than Green River.

Christiansen mentioned that Emery's ambulance had double the number of runs compared to Huntington in July. She also reported that all ambulances in the county, except for Green River's, were operating in the black financially.

The councilperson informed the council that another EMS class would be offered soon, encouraging interested individuals to sign up. She noted that after completing the class and committing to 2-3 months of service, EMTs could qualify for PEHP insurance.

Councilperson Melissa Durfey

Town Beautification

Councilperson Durfey reported that the town had been decorated for back-to-school, mentioning that it turned out nicely. She also noted that the planters were being maintained.

Pioneer church update

Councilperson Durfey provided an update on the pioneer church renovation. She reported that the siding was being installed and work on the windows was in progress. Durfey mentioned that they were still looking for grants to help with the windows.

Councilperson Patrick Sundstrom

Animal Control - Contract with County attorney to enforce code violations

Councilperson Sundstrom discussed a recent issue with enforcing animal control violations. He explained that when he attempted to submit a citation to the justice court, he was informed that the county attorney was not contracted to enforce pet laws in Emery.

Mayor Funk presented a contract from Aaron Lancaster, the county attorney, to provide legal services for the town. The contract outlined a rate of \$100 per hour for normal work and \$150 per hour for court-related work.

Councilperson Mistie Christiansen made a motion to approve the contract with Aaron Lancaster for legal services. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Pat Sundstrom. The motion passed unanimously with all council members voting in favor.

C.I.B. 2026 Wishlist

Councilperson Sundstrom brought up the need to submit the town's CIB (Community Impact Board) Wishlist for 2026. He presented a short list of potential projects and asked for input from other council members.

The council discussed several items for the Wishlist, including:

- Continuing the curb and gutter project on the cemetery road
- Sewer system improvements, particularly addressing areas with old concrete or clay pipes
- Cemetery improvements and expansion

Councilperson Christiansen advised including all potential projects on the Wishlist, as it would be necessary for future funding considerations.

Fence around burn pile

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

CVSSD

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

Town Maintenance- Rick Price

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

Fire Department- Chief's Report

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

Townhall staff

Katie Batchelor leak forgiveness

Annie Johnson reported on two major water leaks that occurred in July. Both leaks were fixed quickly. Johnson explained that the water had been turned off, the leak was fixed, and the situation was resolved.

Councilperson Mistie Christiansen made a motion to forgive half of Katie Batchelor's & Bob & Melissa Durfey's water bill due to the leak. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Kim Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

Write-in Mayoral Candidate-We will have a general election

Kris Ashley Town Recorder informed the council that there was a write-in candidate running for mayor. As a result, the town would need to hold a general election. And she is waiting for more information from the County on the process.

Open Agenda

New Business-Code Enforcement-Roof debris in town residence yards?

Mayor Funk mentioned that Aaron Lancaster, the newly contracted attorney, had offered to assist with code enforcement issues, particularly regarding roof debris and unfinished work in residential yards. The mayor stated that they would move forward with addressing these concerns.

Public input

There was no public input during this portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

Councilperson Kim Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Pat Sundstrom. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.