

**BIG WATER MUNICIPAL  
TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday August 20, 2025  
60 N Aaron Burr, Big Water, Utah 84741  
6:30pm Work Session  
7:00pm Public Hearing  
7:00pm Meeting**

**WORK SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER— 6:45pm**

**1. ROLL CALL- Council Members in Attendance:** Mayor- David Schmuker | Council Members- Jim Lybarger, Luke McConville, Jennie Lassen, Jim Loyd

**2. DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS—** Discussion on the BLM visitor center, how the Town would be able to create the position, what that would look like, what hours and how this would continue to look down the road. The concern of what would happen down the road if the county didn't continue to contribute. Discussion on creating seasonal/part-time positions to reopen the Visitor Center. County paying \$15.26/hr for up to 29 hours weekly. Proposal to supplement with town resort tax funds to increase pay to \$18/hr for a lead host position. Concerns raised about unemployment liabilities, separation of hours, and sustainability if county withdraws support. Estimated town contribution: \$14,000 annually.

**3. ADJOURN— 7:07pm**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing #1 @ 7:00pm – Open budget to add funds to 2025-2026 FY Budget to appropriate \$6,860 from public safety funds remaining from the previous fiscal year to cover purchases and expenditures in association with the new marshal truck and additional work hours— Open 7:07pm**

Adding funds to the budget, money that was appropriated last in last year's budget to cover expenses associated with the new marshal truck, but the expenses have spilled into the current FY budget so we just need to add that money to this year's budget.

No discussion from the public. Closed at 7:08pm

**MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER— 7:08pm**

**1. ROLL CALL—Council Members in Attendance:** Mayor- David Schmuker | Council Members- Jim Lybarger, Luke McConville, Jennie Lassen, Jim Loyd |

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE—** Mayor leads Pledge of Allegiance

**3. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT—** None

**4. APPROVAL OF JULY MEETING MINUTES—** Motion made to adopt by Jennie Lassen, Second McConville, All aye. Motion passed.

**5. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS—**

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- **Mayor:** I am busy as a Mayor always. I'm on the Kane County Water Conservancy Board among other boards. Mike Noelle asked me to be on a board as a representative. It's a board that's over the watershed. It takes in all of the Colorado River basin on our side in the southern part of the state. I was on the economic board, but my time is now up. We got to help out on the equestrian club arena; we were also able to help Ray Rankin's RV park get that curb & gutter in. I am also working on getting some money to widen the cattle guards on the roads to Under Canvas and the road to the side-by-side business.
- **Council:**
  - **GCSSD; Jennie Lassen:**
  - **Parks & Recreation; Jennie Lassen:** The recreation board is working on some fall events. Possibly inviting residents to come down to the lake. One of the board members does some climbing for Under Canvas and is thinking about doing a climbing clinic in October for residents. The dance and yoga is still happening as well as the senior games on Wednesday. Different ideas was thrown around.
  - **Planning & Zoning; Jim Lybarger:** No report
  - **Public Safety; Luke McConville:**
- **Fire Chief:** Mayor, this will be our last meeting with Chief Barnett, he's done a lot here in this town while he's been here. I want to thank you for everything you've done. I also want to thank you for helping us find a new Chief to take your place. Rob's department report- Regarding the issue of transports, the Kanab Hospital is calling us first for the transports out of Kanab. There was an appeal for the AZ license, we are working on that to get figured out.
- **Marshal:** Sometime last week it came to my attention last week that some people don't know, so I want to give a shout out to Alan Alldridge. He does a lot of looking out for Big Water. Chris and I are running around with \$3500 radios in our vehicles because of Alan. Chris is working out great.
- **Planning & Zoning Administrator; Denise Wood:** We don't have any new building permits. There are a couple up and coming for accessory dwelling buildings. I have been working with Roger Carter, our LAA.
- **Treasurer:** Our audit is scheduled September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We finished out the FY year with money left in the budget that we can appropriate.
- **7. CITIZEN COMMENTS - Citizens are given a reasonable amount of time to comment—**  
Subject: Visitor Center-- Lou Brisbin- Who is maintaining the bathrooms at the visitor center?  
Mayor Schmuker- Ezekiel and I continue to open the bathrooms at the visitors center 3 days a week when the BLM ranger is not on duty.

Russ Johnson- Back when those bathrooms used to be open, I used to use that place to stick homeless vagrants in there.

Jennie Lassen- That was originally a UDOT project for a rest stop, they put money into it, they put the picnic tables and the bathrooms.

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Jim Lybarger- I went out on a ride along with Russ. It was about a 7-hour ride along, he reacted impressively, we pulled over about 5 cars and a situation came up and he did a great job.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on the future of the Big Water (BLM) Visitor Center; Job Creation Posting/Staffing; Contributions Etc.**— Jennie motions that we amend the pay scale and add the Big Water Visitor Center host and the Big Water Visitor Center lead host with the \$15-\$20 an hour for the host and the \$18-\$22 for the lead host for the temporary, seasonal positions that would be 11 hours per week to supplement what the county has paid for with no benefits, no vacation time, insurance, and all of that. Luke seconds, all aye. Motion passed.
- b) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting Ordinance 12-2025 Domestic Livestock Governance (Public Hearing Held at the Regular Planning & Zoning Meeting Monday July 7, 2025)**— Jennie Lassen-Who would approve this exemption? P&Z Board Representative Nicole Wood- As long as it is permitted use under the exemption just letting the office know would be sufficient and if/when a complaint is made the P&Z administrator could address it. Discussion about amendments. Jennie Lassen motioned made to adopt ord. 12-2025 as its written with the addition of the temporary exemptions (presented to council) and removing the word granted and replace with permitted, Lybarger seconds, all aye. Motion passed.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting Resolution 2025-18 Adding Funds to the FY Budget 2025-2026**— Motion made by Luke, Lybarger seconds, all aye. Motion passed.
- b) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting Resolution 2025-17 Appointing Jack Brisbin to Planning and Zoning (sole applicant)**— Motion made by Lassen, seconded by Luke, all aye. Motion passed.
- c) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting Resolution 2025-19 Appointing Cameron Westenskow as the Big Water Fire & Rescue Fire Chief** — Motion made by Lybarger, seconded Loyd, all aye. Motion passed.

**10. FINANCIAL REPORTS**— Motion made to approve financials by Jennie Lassen, seconded Loyd, all aye.

**11. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION**— Legal Business; Litigation; Land purchase; Personnel business; or items as described under Utah State Code Utah Code 52-4-205—

**12. RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**—

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on Closed Session**—

**13. ADJOURNMENT**— 7:51pm Lybarger motions to adjourn, Luke seconds.