

Town Council Meeting

August 20, 2025

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Neil Brown, Councilmembers: Eric Hazelet, Brenan Jackson, Grant Lundberg

Absent: Curtis Thomas

Staff Present: City Clerk Lucinda Thomas, Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston, Planning Chairman Avery Fitzgerald, City Attorney Josh Nielsen, Chief Rod Hurst

Public Present: C. Dale Steele, Cindy Steele, Lynn Fowers, Sherryl Fowers, Chris McMullin, Nick Childs, Malory Callway, Cody Christensen, Jaida Renzello, Merrill Chatwin, Nancy Balzy, Greg Balzly, Sam Henstra, LeighAnn Zonner, Katie Taylor, Erika Bishop, Laurel Bishop, Joel Bishop, Corinne Aagard

1. Call to Order – Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

- a. Councilman Brenan Jackson gave the opening prayer.
- b. Mayor Neil Brown led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes for July 16, 2025

- a. Councilman Brenan Jackson made a **Motion** to approve the minutes for July 16, 2025. Councilman Eric Hazelet **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
 - v. Councilman Brenan Jackson - YES

3. Approval of Expenditures totaling fifty-two thousand seven hundred thirty-six dollars and ninety-seven cents. (\$52,736.97).

- a. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a Motion to approve the expenditures as listed. Councilman Grant Lundberg Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
 - v. Councilman Brenan Jackson - YES

4. Approval of Work Orders

- a. There were no work orders to review.

5. Commission & Staff Reports

- a. **Police Chief Report** – Chief Hurst reviewed the CAD stats from the past month.
- b. **Fire Chief Report** – He reported that he had been paid by the County and Feds for those fires. He reported that they are close to getting the new brush truck into service. They had to replace the front and back windows, and because it failed inspection, they had to replace a tire and back brakes. They are working on getting it up to shape to have it ready for service.
- c. **Planning Commission Report** – Chairman Avery Fitzgerald reviewed the agenda items from their last meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM –

Corinne Aagard – She came to speak against the proposed building permit requirements amendment changes. She stated that she has been told that she's blowing this whole thing out of proportion, but she feels that it is important that everyone who could be affected is involved in the discussion. She said that she has signatures with people who are against these proposed changes. She has 21 signatures. She said that she will not be giving the petition to the town for fear of retribution, but she would be happy to

show the council those signatures. She feels that it is important to have the government out of her rights, and she feels that government oversight is already out of control. She said that she moved to Genola because she felt that this would be a place where government would stay small and wouldn't be getting into her business.

Mayor Brown responded as a point of information. The building inspector has presented to the town that there would be some value in adopting some additional requirements, the council has yet to vote on it. The planning commission has approved a proposed amendment, but until the building inspector comes to the meeting and explains the changes and the applicable laws he will not have it on the agenda. He doesn't want the council to rush into this, and they want to make sure that there is a level of comfort with these proposed changes.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution 2025-15 appointing the Mayor and City Clerk as the Privacy Officers.

- a. Mayor Brown explained that the State legislature passed some privacy legislation that applies to municipalities, and this is a formality to meet some of those requirements. It was stated that our Town already has a privacy policy in place.
- b. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-15 appointing the Mayor and City Clerk as Privacy Officers. Councilman Grant Lundberg Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
 - v. Councilman Brenan Jackson - YES

7. Discussion and possible action with Mindi Rose on removing the posts at the cemetery.

- a. Mindi Rose was unable to attend the meeting. Mayor Brown stated that he wanted to hear and understand her concerns but where she is not available, he would like to postpone this discussion until she is available to be in attendance.

8. Discussion and possible action on a solution to keep the safety of the parking stalls in the southeast corner of the park.

- a. Councilman Hazelet discussed an accident that occurred at the southeast corner of the park in the parking stalls where a semi-truck ran into a parked minivan. He stated that he has come with some drawings and some possible changes that they could do to try to mitigate these problems. He showed pictures of the accident and showed how this semi ran into a parked in the east side parking stalls of the park. It was noted that he had several concerns about this accident, one being the safety of the cars that are parked there the possibility of having these problems during other times of days like during soccer games or baseball games and the possibility of kids or people being. The accident occurred on July 15th, he proposing to put in a six-inch linears filled with concrete to help protect those parking stalls. He worried about protecting the veteran's monument as well. It was discussed that it is hard to restrict these types of vehicles because they are public roads and they are public as well. He stated that he has spoken with the owner of the CMC pit and his trucks are now given instructions to slow down through town. Mayor Brown says that he feels like the CMC trucks have slowed down but that isn't every truck that comes from that pit. He also stated that the police department have set up the speed trailers on main street, and we have received the first set of data just not the second set and that should come within the next. Mayor Brown reported that the police department is trying hard to discourage speeding on Main Street. It was asked if we could at least restrict the trucks during school pick up times, and it was reiterated that we cannot restrict the trucks from using the roads. These gravel pits are controlled by Utah County because they are not in our city limits. Mayor reported that he has spoken with the county about the quality of our roads and being able to handle the weight of these trucks, and after talking with them and attorneys it was confirmed that the town can't limit where the trucks drive, even if it is breaking down our roads. A question was asked if we can create a route that they have to take, and the answer is yes, but we don't have one and we don't have a good option. He stated that there are only two roads that are completed to go

north south, there is main street and 800 east. He feels that 800 east would be more dangerous because there are more homes and they are closer to the roads that the homes on Main Street. In 2017 the state legislature passed laws made it really hard for municipalities to control gravel pits.

- b. Mr. Zonner the owner of the car stated that they still haven't received any compensation for the damaged vehicle and they are working with their insurance company. The accident occurred on July 15th around 1:30 in the afternoon.
- c. Councilman Brennan Jackson asked if he could have some time to look at the site and see if he sees other options or ideas and to make sure that he is very familiar with the situation. He thought about instead of putting in some of the concrete barriers that are moveable, but set those up to just protect the entrance instead of putting in all the parking stalls, as he sees that those could cause another problem when a big truck like a dually, etc. has its mirrors hit on the delineators. Councilman Lundberg stated that he is worried about making sure that we don't hurt our farmers. He's worried about narrowing that roadway so that the milk trucks can't come through, or for a hay truck, or farm equipment won't fit. He would like to see us maybe instead give up a parking spot and use the barriers there, so that we can protect the other parking spots and the monument. He wants to make sure that the council is doing things not to detour the trucks but to make sure that the place is safe. He's worried that if we are doing it for the wrong reason, it could cause a legal issue. Mayor Brown wants us to make sure that we don't cause an issue for even just regular sized vehicles.
- d. The council decided that it would be most beneficial to continue this discussion next time and allow all the council members to really look at the site and come back with good options to help protect the park.

9. Discussion and possible action with a group of residents about the dust that comes from the Maverik Gravel pit on the southeast side of Genola.

- a. Dale Steele spoke for the group. He presented information about how dust doesn't just affect our crops, but it affects our health, our roads, and he feels that Utah HB355 has stripped us of our rights and our ability to regulate these pits, but the lack of concern from these companies and from the legislature is disturbing. He is afraid of how it will affect his children and grandchildren's health when they breath all this dust. He brought a lot of research on the effects of dust and how it can affect our health. He brought studies that show that we don't need any more pits than the current amount we already have will fulfill our growth needs till 2060. He talked about the documents from the plants themselves about the dangers from the particulates. He talked about how the dust kills everything around it. He talks about how no matter what you plant you can't grow anything because the dust destroys the vegetation all around. He talked about the long term effects that have happened in Brigham City from their gravel pit and how it has ruined those peach orchards, he is worried that with all the pits surrounding Genola we will become victim to this same type of situation where the gravel pits killed off the agricultural businesses. He would like us as a community to join together to fight these pits and make the legislature listen to us before our community and crops are ruined by the pits. He would like the city to join in the fight. He showed pictures of the dust that is coming from the Maverick Pit that he can see from his house. He stated that he has heard rumors that the Maverick Pit is wanting to put in a batch plant and that would be much closer to Hwy 6 and that would affect the whole town with the smell and chemicals. He wants us to stand up together and fight this. He talked about how the dust mites have not just affected our fruit crops, but it is also affecting our normal trees including pine trees. He is asking for the support of the Town Council to help educate the community and fight against allowing this to take over the community.
- b. Mayor Brown stated that he feels this is unfortunate given how much of the Town Council meeting tonight was dealing with the same issue, and how these pits and the trucks are greatly affecting our community. He would like to see more of our residents getting involved and complaining to the Department of Air Quality, by taking pictures and reporting when the dust is bad. He also believes that if they don't respond then he would like to take that to the media to make some more noise about this issue and see if they will then listen to our complaints. He would also like to invite some of our state legislatures down to our next council meeting and let them come and hear about what this is doing to our community. Where we can educate these

- legislatures about the dust, and how it affects our communities, health, and crops. We can talk about the roads, the traffic, and the dangers to our kids. He is hoping that if we can talk to them and try to get them to champion our cause. He stated that he would try to put in the next newsletter instructions on how to contact the Department of Air Quality and he would hope that our residents will just fill those lines with the complaints. Councilman Grant Lundberg suggested that they have a point of contact for the community group. It was determined that Dale Steele would be a good head of this group, and Councilman Hazelet suggested that we don't just invite the state legislators but that we also invite the County Commissioners as well for them to see the outrage of the community and the outrage of them just ignoring all the problems. He would also like to have us work with our adjoining communities like Santaquin, Payson, and Benjamin etc.
- c. Sherryl Fowers was then allowed to show how the dust mites have affected her fruit and the quality of the fruit that she is then allowed to sell. She talked about how much the dust has affected what they are allowed to do because of FDA requirements. The FDA and USDA regulators are so picky and this dust problem is creating more problems.
 - d. It was asked if there is a lobbyist that represents the coalition of small communities. It was reported that there is but they decide what they want to support. Mayor Brown stated that we are not the only community that has to deal with this issue and he is willing to ask for help from anybody.

10. Discussion and possible action in regard to adjusting the speed limit on the northern end of Main Street.

- a. Councilman Jackson started the discussion saying that they were responding to some concerns from some of the citizens who were asking the council to look at the speed limit on the north end of Main Street. He has done some research and looked at the data from the speed trailer that Chief Hurst provided. He reported that the speed trailer data that was from last year showed that over 63% of the people driving the road last year were driving over speed limit. This year with about 3 weeks of data 82% of the people were respecting the speed limit. He is still worried about the area because of the bus stops, and the major thoroughfare that it has become, he is looking at ways to change behavior, to help the safety of our town. He noted that through town most of the speed limits is 30 miles per hour but up on the north end of town it is higher at 40 miles per hour. He is recommending that the council lower the speed limit to be 30 miles per hour from 800 north to 2400 north, and then if it doesn't work then they can look at other methods of changing behavior like adding a speed hump or stop signs. Councilman Lundberg stated that he would like to have a consistent speed limit in town and feels that this would be a positive change.
- b. Councilman Brennan Jackson made a motion to lower the speed limit from 40 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour from 800 north to 2400 north on Main Street. Councilman Grant Lundberg Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
 - v. Councilman Brenan Jackson - YES
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11. Discussion and possible action on approve the Mayor to sign the agreement with the WPA for design activities related to the public works building.

- a. During a previous meeting the council voted to accept the RFP for WPA for the new public works building, he is just asking for permission to sign the agreement with WPA. He stated that the town attorney has reviewed the agreement and was ok with it.
- b. Councilman Brenan Jackson made a motion to give permission to Mayor Brown to sign the WPA agreement. Councilman Eric Hazelet Second and the motion passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
 - iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
 - v. Councilman Brenan Jackson - YES

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225 **12. Council Comments**

- 226 a. **Councilmember Grant Lundberg** – He didn't have anything to report at this time.
227 b. **Councilmember Curtis Thomas** – excused from the meeting
228 c. **Councilmember Eric Hazelet** – he reported that he received that there will be a lot of effort put
229 into to bike trails, he stated that it looks like it will tie in Hwy 6 and the highline canal trails.
230 d. **Councilmember Brenan Jackson** – He wanted to clarify, that the Mayor was going to invite our
231 county commissioners and our state senators and our state representatives. He clarified that it
232 would be Dale Steele at the contact person so that the council would know who to contact with.
233 He stated that there is a huge push for air quality at our schools and in his professional position
234 he is working with the Division of Air quality especially in situations like fire smoke and he feels
235 that dust is one of those situations as well, He said that there is a grant out there that we can get
236 an air quality monitor, that can be set up anymore on a city building and can generate real time
237 information on the quality of our air. He said that he would follow up on that and see what can be
238 done so that we as a community have good data on the situation.
239 e. **Mayor Neil Brown** – he reported that Mount Nebo Water user association had a meeting with all
240 elected officials that represent southern Utah county that included federal as well as state, and
241 county. They presented the studies of ground water and what needs to be done with it and
242 strawberry water. He felt that it was a good meeting, and he felt that it was very educational for
243 those elected officials every year so that they can keep it on their mind and not let those elected
244 officials forget about this end of the county and not just let Eagle Mountain and Lehi get all the
245 attention. He also reported that on September 16th Strawberry water will be allowed to be used
246 for non-agricultural uses including municipal and industrial and also be allowed to be moved from
247 land. Genola will have the challenge is when people move in and receive a bill from Strawberry
248 Water Users and Strawberry Highline and he is worried that people will not pay the bill or ignore
249 the bill and then we lose the water from the land. He is worried about selling the water to the
250 highest bidder and it could hurt Genola's ability to have secondary water and could then
251 aggravate the water issues and whether we will have enough culinary water because people
252 could start using the culinary water to take care of their land instead of using the secondary
253 water. He feels that at the bare minimum we need to educate the residents how secondary water
254 works. He reported that the interchange between Hwy 141 and Hwy 6 design work is done and
255 they expect that the work is to begin in May of 2026. He reported a new interchange will go in
256 North Payson and we will start to see dirt moved in in the next couple of months. They will build
257 the ramps out of dirt and then they have to let it set for two years and then they will build the
258 interchange. They will be adding two lanes, one each way from Payson to the Juab line.
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260 **13. Motion to Adjourn**

- 261 a. Councilman Eric Hazelet made a Motion to adjourn. Councilman Brenan Jackson Second and
262 the motion passed all in favor.
263 i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
264 ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
265 iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – absent
266 iv. Councilman Eric Hazelet – YES
267 v. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
268 b. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm
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271 Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston
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274 Minutes Approved on: September 17, 2025

Lucinda Thomas

Lucinda Thomas City Recorder