

STATE OF UTAH
COUNTY OF SEVIER
TOWN OF ANNABELLA

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

October 9, 2025

Minutes from the Annabella Town Council Meeting held Thursday, October 9, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, located at 295 East 300 North, Annabella, Utah. Mayor Brent Christensen conducting.

1. ROLL CALL	10. APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER
2. OPENING REMARKS	11. TABLED-ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2025-04
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	12. TABLED-ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2025-05
4. CITIZEN INPUT	13. ANNUAL REVIEW OF DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION
5. APPOINTMENT- WHITE'S SANITATION-CONTRACT RENEWAL	14. DISCUSS- PURCHASE OF MINI EXCAVATOR
6. APPPOINTMENT-JONES & DEMILLE-STORM DRAINAGE	15. APPROVED-INCREASING MAINTENANCE POSITION TO FULL TIME HOURS
7. APPPOINTMENT-JONES & DEMILLE-CULINARY WATER MASTER PLAN UPDATE	16. DEPARTMENT BUSINESS
8. APPPOINTMENT-KAYLON JOHNS- IDEAS FOR TOWN EVENTS	17. ADJOURN
9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	

Public in attendance:

Shane Phelps
Erin Phelps
Taylor White
Parker Vercimak

Kyler Nielson
Kaylon Johns
Debra Smith

1. ROLL CALL. Mayor Christensen took roll call, Councilmembers Jill Anderson, Kelvin Johns, Stephanie Morgan and Chris Nielson were in attendance. Tina Mitchell, Clerk, and Eric Nielsen, Maintenance Supervisor, were also in attendance.
2. OPENING REMARKS. Councilmember Morgan offered a prayer.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Councilmember Johns led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. CITIZEN INPUT. Debra Smith expressed her concerns about vehicles speeding in town, particularly on 100 North. Smith pointed out the limited number of speed limit signs, noting that the only 25 mph sign she was aware of was on Main Street, while another sign is placed on the Sevier River Road with a 30 mph limit. However, residents on 100 North continually face speeding issues, making it particularly dangerous given the presence of dogs and children.

Mayor Christensen acknowledged the problem and mentioned receiving a message from Walter Buompane, who had met with Sevier County Commissioners to discuss similar concerns regarding the speed limit sign entering Annabella from Sevier River Road.

Eric Nielsen, Maintenance Supervisor, agreed to evaluate the possibility of adding more speed limit signage. Additionally, there was a brief discussion about the possibility of incorporating speeding reminders in the town newsletter or the potential of setting up flashing speed limit signs like those in nearby communities. The Council collectively recognized the importance of addressing the speeding problem to ensure road safety throughout the area.

5. APPOINTMENT—WHITE'S SANITATION-CONTRACT RENEWAL. Taylor White from White's Sanitation presented a proposal for a five-year contract renewal with Annabella Town. He explained that the current contract expires on November 30th and that the main changes to the new contract would be:

1. An increase in the base rate from to \$13.00 per month
2. An increase from \$2.50 to \$3.50 for second or third carts
3. A fuel surcharge structure based on fuel prices as detailed on page two of the contract

Mr. White provided context about rates in other communities, noting that Ephraim charges \$13.80 with a \$6 additional cart fee plus a \$75 upfront charge for a second cart. He mentioned his sister in Nephi pays \$31.40 for garbage service, and they don't allow extras to be set out or yard waste to be included.

He noted that White's Sanitation has been serving Annabella Town for nearly 20 years and offers services not available elsewhere, such as allowing extra bags beside the cart and yard waste collection.

After discussion, **Councilmember Johns made a motion to approve the renewal of the five-year garbage collection contract with White's Sanitation, which was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. The motion passed unanimously. (Summary: Yes = 4) Yes: Jill Anderson, Kelvin Johns, Stephanie Morgan, Chris Nielson.**

6. APPOINTMENT -JONES & DEMILLE-STORM DRAINAGE. Parker Vercimak discussed concerns regarding the canal company's plans to pipe the canal,

which would impact the town's storm water drainage. Currently, the town has no formal agreement with the canal company for storm water drainage, which puts the town at a disadvantage.

Mr. Vercimak presented four options for addressing storm water drainage once the canal is piped:

1. Partner with the canal company to upsize the pipe (from 36" to 42"), install access boxes, and to share in ongoing maintenance costs.
2. Maintain an open channel alongside the piped canal within the same right-of-way.
3. Install a separate storm water pipe that would run parallel to the irrigation pipe.
4. Handle storm water independently by routing it through town.

The Council discussed the need to initiate contact with the canal company, potentially through Richard Clark, to determine their plans and timeline. Councilmember Kelvin Johns agreed to reach out to the canal company to discuss options.

Mr. Vercimak noted that any solution would require some engineering work to determine flow requirements. Mayor Christensen noted the lack of communication from the canal company and the potential impacts on the town's ability to drain its irrigation system.

7. APPOINTMENT -JONES & DEMILLE-CULINARY WATER MASTER PLAN UPDATE. Kyler Nielsen provided an update on the Culinary Water Master Plan. He reported that they had conducted flow tests, replaced inaccurate gauges on the PRVs, and completed calibration of the model. He noted they had identified recommendations for improvements to address low water pressure in the south end of town.

Mr. Nielsen also mentioned that he and Councilmember Johns had met with Dion Gardner at the water rights office to discuss options for putting water rights to full beneficial use.

Parker Vercimak added that their hydrogeologist had been working on a new well site study. Mr. Nielsen mentioned the anticipated well depth would be about 600 feet. Vercimak suggested scheduling a work meeting to go into greater detail about the master plan. After the work meeting, they would need a couple of weeks to finalize the plan before presenting it for acceptance.

8. APPOINTMENT-KAYLON JOHNS-IDEAS FOR TOWN EVENTS. Kaylon Johns presented ideas for additional town events throughout the year. He noted that feedback from the Youth Council's food truck rally indicated community

members would like more town events to bring back the "small town feeling" that existed years ago.

Mr. Johns distributed a list of current events and potential new events that could be added to fill in empty months on the calendar. He discussed his background in event planning and mentioned the success of the recent food truck rally, where vendors reported it was one of their most successful events. He also asked about the possibility of offering a paid part time position for an events planner to help compensate for time getting donations, setting up events, etc.

Councilmember Nielson expressed support for expanding town events and shared that he had also been working on a monthly calendar of activities. Ideas mentioned included an Annabella birthday celebration and a senior citizen dinner and dance in February.

Mayor Christensen asked that Mr. Johns get with Councilmember Nielson to discuss his ideas in further detail.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The Council reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. **Motion: Councilmember Nielson moved to approve the minutes. Councilmember Johns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (Summary: Yes = 4) Yes: Jill Anderson, Kelvin Johns, Stephanie Morgan, Chris Nielson.**

10. APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER. The Council reviewed the warrant register. Councilmember Chris Nielson inquired about the portable restroom expense. Tina Mitchell explained that it was for the park/playground and would be picked up soon for the season. Eric Nielsen confirmed that the porta potty gets a lot of use in the summer. **Councilmember Nielson made a motion to approve the warrant register as presented. Councilmember Morgan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. (Summary: Yes=4). Yes: Jill Anderson, Kelvin Johns, Stephanie Morgan, and Chris Nielson.**

11. TABLED-ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2025-04. Councilmember Kelvin Johns explained that these ordinance amendments would address oversights in the cul-de-sac standards to bring them into compliance with state fire code. The changes would affect the acceptable length of cul-de-sacs and correct a misnumbering issue in the subdivision ordinance.

The Council decided to table this item until the next meeting to allow more time to review the amendments.

12. TABLED-ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2025-05. This item was tabled along with the previous ordinance until the next meeting.

13. ANNUAL REVIEW OF DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION. Eric Nielsen, Maintenance Supervisor, presented the annual review of the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan. He explained that the plan designates a source

protection area around the lower well, and each September, property owners within this zone receive informational notices. These notices highlight the importance of avoiding chemical use that could contaminate groundwater, and they also emphasize responsible land use practices, proper disposal of household and agricultural waste, and awareness of activities that could introduce contaminants.

He noted that nothing had changed in the plan since last year, and they continue to monitor and sample the water.

14. DISCUSS- PURCHASE OF MINI EXCAVATOR. Eric Nielsen presented options for purchasing a mini excavator, noting it would help with various projects including water leaks, ditch work, and mountain work. He mentioned a preference for the Bobcat model primarily because Overson (the local dealer) is nearby for service, whereas Caterpillar's Salina location is only a parts depot.

The Council discussed funding options, noting there was \$35,000 budgeted in the general fund for equipment, with additional funds available in the Capital Projects Fund. There was discussion about how to apportion costs across different department budgets (water, roads, cemetery, parks) based on anticipated usage.

Councilmember Chris Nielson requested more information about the budget impacts before making a decision. The Council decided to have Eric Nielsen and Tina Mitchell prepare a more detailed budget plan and revisit the purchase at the next meeting.

15. APPROVED-INCREASING MAINTENANCE POSITION TO FULL TIME HOURS. Eric Nielsen advocated for making Shane Phelps (the current ¾-time maintenance employee) a full-time employee. He emphasized that Shane has earned his place and that having additional help has allowed them to stay ahead on maintenance tasks. He noted the visible improvements around town and the lack of complaints about maintenance issues.

Nielsen proposed making Shane full-time immediately, with benefits to be added once he obtains his water certification. Tina Mitchell noted that benefits would cost approximately \$2,000 per month (\$1,300 for health insurance and \$700 for retirement).

Councilmember Chris Nielson acknowledged the significant improvement in town maintenance and expressed support for the change.

Motion: Councilmember Stephanie Morgan moved to put Shane on full-time status, with benefits to be added when he receives his water certification.
Second: Councilmember Anderson. **Vote: Motion passed unanimously.**
(Summary: Yes=4). Yes: Jill Anderson, Kelvin Johns, Stephanie Morgan, and Chris Nielson.

16. DEPARTMENT BUSINESS.
Beautification, Parks & Activities

Councilmember Jill Anderson inquired about the possibility of hosting a "meet the candidates" event to help residents learn more about the candidates running for office. It was noted that it might be too late as ballots would be mailed out on the 14th.

Councilmember Chris Nielson discussed plans for the upcoming Halloween event and Pheasant Hunters dinner. For the Pheasant Hunters dinner, Nielson planned to contact previous volunteers and indicated he had detailed records of what was needed based on last year's event.

Cemetery

No items were discussed under this department.

Roads

Councilmember Stephanie Morgan shared that the roadwork at 400 South 200 East is now finished and looks great.

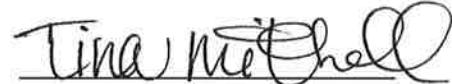
Water

Councilmember Johns reported that inmates had helped clean the spring collection areas.

17. ADJOURN. At 8:01 p.m. Councilmember Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held Thursday, October 9, 2025, were approved this 13th day of November 2025.


Brent Christensen, Mayor


Tina Mitchell, Town Clerk