

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RUSH VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2025 AT THE RUSH VALLEY TOWN HALL
52 SOUTH PARK STREET, RUSH VALLEY, UTAH
THE MEETING BEGAN AT 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor and council members present: Pete Albrecht, Lacey Burrows, Dana Gardner, and Jeremiah Harding.

Appointed officers and employees present: Attorney Rob Clegg, Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe, Engineer Doug Kinsman and Fire Chief Jason Bolinder

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of meeting minutes for 09-24-2025.** Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for 09-24-2025 and Councilmember Lacey Burrows seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- 3. Sheriff's report.** The sheriff reported that there were seven total details and two arrests during the month of September 2025. The department investigated illegal deer hunting and the suspect was charged with improperly discharging a weapon, unlawfully carrying a firearm in a vehicle, trespassing during wildlife related activity and criminal trespassing. There were no other significant incidents.
- 4. Mayor's Recognition Award.** This award is sponsored by the Tooele County Health Department and is intended to promote community spirit. The award was given to Ashlyn Albrecht.
- 5. Consideration of the Tooele County Automatic Aid Agreement.** Bucky Whitehouse from Tooele County stated how appreciative they are for the Rush Valley Fire Department and Chief Jason Bolinder. The county recently made a change to how they pay for runs and calls and were able to pay \$6,000 - \$7,000 more than previous years. He presented a check to the town for \$58,436.49. The dollar amount per run increased from \$150.00 to \$154.50. The county wants to make an investment in recruitment and retention, so they are going to pay an additional \$5,000 to be used however the department sees fit and will be paid in subsequent payments. A request of \$2,500 can be made during this budget cycle. There is also a grant of \$25,000 that the fire department could receive part of. Bucky presented the automatic aid agreement for signature by the mayor and clerk/recorder. Attorney Clegg has reviewed the agreement. Councilmember Jeremiah Harding arrived at the meeting. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve the Tooele County Automatic Aid Agreement. Councilmember Jeremiah Harding seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

6. Consideration to Move November's Meeting for Canvassing of Election Returns.

The election must be certified between November 11 and November 18, so either an additional meeting must be held, or the November 19th town council meeting must be moved. The Board of Canvass meeting is a separate meeting that will occur before the regularly scheduled meeting. Mayor Johnson made a motion to move the November town council meeting to November 12th and hold the Board of Canvass meeting at 6:45 p.m. Councilmember Pete Albrecht seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

7. Approval for Fire Department to Attend Winter Fire School. Fire Chief Jason Bolinder said that six members would like to attend the training on January 23-24, 2026 in St. George. The members will be paid the per diem rate for food and the fire department budget will pay for lodging and fuel. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to approve attendance at winter fire school. Councilmember Jeremiah Harding seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

8. Request from Craig Park to Access Town Street. Craig Park of Mapleton owns land in Rush Valley consisting of parcels that are landlocked. He had previously appeared before the Planning & Zoning Commission and was told he must meet with the town council. He said there has been a gentlemen's agreement between neighboring landowners giving him access to his parcels. He has since been told that the agreement is no longer in place and now needs a new way to access the parcels. Mr. Park is looking for an easement to the parcels and believes that Rush Valley Town owns a road that is an extension of Cedar Road (Street) that is currently being used as farmland. Mr. Park also said that there are other parcels that are landlocked in that area, and he thinks it would benefit the community to have consistent roads by block as per the master plan. He requests that Rush Valley Town use Cedar Street for access to the affected parcels.

Mayor Johnson stated that several neighboring landowners and the irrigation company are present at the meeting and he would like to know their concerns. Brian Sagers stated that an original road, Bracken Lane, was used for access for many years but was eventually vacated.

Councilmember Dana Gardner arrived at the meeting. Councilmember Pete Albrecht asked if Pine Street could be used to access the property and Mr. Park said that during several months of the year it is very soggy and wet and cannot be accessed. Councilmember Albrecht is concerned that Cedar Street would also be wet and inaccessible. Mayor Johnson stated that on the old St. John subdivision map there was a road dedicated going north and south. He also pointed out that on Cedar Street there is a fenced lane until it reaches Glenna Matekal's property. Glenna Matekal said that the fence had gone down the center of that lane for as long as she remembered. Based on

that, she assumes that the town has never wanted to develop that road and it is considered abandoned. Glenna Matekal is on the board of directors for the St. John Irrigation Company and knows that the irrigation system that has been in place for fifty years has a center point (major valve) in the middle of Cedar Street. Kelly Elton, an adjacent landowner, and Kyle Russell, the director of the St. John Irrigation Company corroborated that there is a major irrigation line running down the middle of Cedar Street. The system was installed in the mid-1970s.

There was discussion about how wet the property is and potential flooding issues. Mayor Johnson said that Pine Street had a similar situation that was eventually resolved, the road was improved and is now being used. Kelly Elton mentioned that homeowners with flooding basements are pumping water into the easement and making that road very wet. Mayor Johnson stated that he understands that Cedar Street is an access on the map but has not been used since around 1869 and not intended for access based on the fence and irrigation line on it. Attorney Clegg stated that the town does have the ability to build Cedar Street out into a town road if they choose to. He does not believe that an argument for detrimental reliance exists. Engineer Doug Kinsman asked what the plan is for the property and Mr. Park said that a local resident has inquired about purchasing the property and building a home on it. He did a perc test on the parcel and did not hit ground water until ten feet.

Mayor Johnson, speaking for the town, said that he thinks Mr. Park should explore the option of accessing his property via Pine Street because that road is already improved and being used. Councilmember Lacey Burrows said that she does not think it would be wise to tear out the fence and disturb the irrigation line on Cedar Street. Councilmember Pete Albrecht said that he does not see any benefit to the town from improving Cedar Street and agrees that Pine Street should be used. No action from the town council is required for this request.

9. **Fire Department Report.** Chief Jason Bolinder reported that since the last meeting, the department has responded to 18 calls: 12 medical, 5 fires, and 1 traffic accident. There were seven calls in town and 11 out of town.
10. **Council Reports.** Roads – Councilmember Jeremiah Harding said that he has been working with a paving contractor about working on Park Street and Stookey Lane. Depending on the weather, they will grind and mill during November/December and pave in the spring. Councilmember Harding said that he would like to install speed bumps around the parks. Mayor Johnson will send a letter to Tooele County informing them that the 3rd quarter sales tax money will not be spent before springtime.

Cemeteries – Councilmember Lacey Burrows had nothing to report.

Councilmember Pete Albrecht said that there will be an emergency management meeting at the town hall for all residents on November 1st.

Parks – Councilmember Dana Gardner reported he had issues with the well at the town hall. A leak detection specialist found several leaks that will need to be repaired. One of the leaks was at the fire station and two toilets were replaced. The furnace at the fire station was serviced.

Mayor Johnson said that the town council Christmas dinner will be held on December 10th at 7:00 p.m.

- 11. Safety Topic.** Councilmember Jeremiah Harding presented the safety topic on keeping vehicles ready for winter weather.
- 12. Payment of Bills.** Councilmember Dana Gardner requested to add an invoice for Sunset Heating and Air for \$267 to the payment of bills. Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to pay the bills for October 2025. Councilmember Lacey Burrows seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- 13. Public Comments.** None
- 14. Adjourn.** Councilmember Pete Albrecht made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Dana Gardner seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:38 p.m.