

Draft Minutes: Special Swearing in Meeting

December 10, 2025 – 6:00 PM
3744 West 12240 South
Spring Lake, Utah 84651

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: MAYOR WADE MENLOVE

Mayor Menlove: Welcome, I appreciate you being here. I've conducted lots of church meetings and none of them make me as nervous as this. And there's not even as many people here. But I'm extremely nervous so bear with me. Um, we would just like to get started with this short, relatively short, first official Town meeting. I've asked Sharon if she would lead us in the pledge.

2. OPENING CEREMONIES

a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: SHARON BASCOM

Councilmember Bascom led meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. PRAYER/MOMENT OF SILENCE: DAVID CHARLES

Councilmember Charles offered a prayer to begin the meeting.

****AGENDA ACTION ITEMS****

TOWN COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Menlove: Thank you David. We don't have a whole bunch of stuff on the agenda for today. If you want to come to a really long meeting, come back tomorrow at 6 o'clock and we'll get into some business already. Today, the only thing we're here for is to do the swearing in so we will just get at it. Eric, Honorable Eric Jewell, who is the judge for Payson, Santaquin, Goshen, Genola, and several other small communities and more than likely he will be helping us out as far as those matters go. Um, he will come and do the swearing in. We could do this individually, but I think we've chosen to do it all together. So if the four Town Councilmembers will join me right up here in front of the flag, Judge Jewell will give us the oath.

3. SWEARING IN CEREMONY: THE HONORABLE JUDGE ERIC JEWELL

Judge Jewell: Can you all raise your right hand and repeat after me. I do solemnly swear that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Utah, and the laws and ordinances of the Town of Spring Lake, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.

All Councilmembers and Mayor: I do solemnly swear that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Utah, and the laws and ordinances of the Town of Spring Lake and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.

Judge Jewell: All right, congratulations.

4. CLOSING REMARKS: MAYOR WADE MENLOVE

Mayor Menlove: Alright, and I will now invite the new Town Council to take their seats where they belong. I don't know if there's an order. No there's not. There's no rhyme or reason for who sits where then I'll just decide. Alright, so as long as you guys can verify we're making this official we'll give each of you your Oath of Office that you'll need to sign. Alright, Spencer how far can I deviate on the agenda?

Spencer Foster: It's your agenda. As long as you don't talk about anything that you need to make a decision on you're good.

Mayor Menlove: Ok. Before I say a few words, I just want to see if you guys want to say anything. I didn't ask them to do this before. Anything you want to say?

Councilmember Charles: Just ready to get started and look forward to hearing the input from the community. Mayor, I think that's going to be important just as we, uh, as we work together to form this Town and look forward to that.

Councilmember Judd: Yea I guess I've worked with everybody and want there to be, I guess I'm going to be the one that's stickler. I really want to follow the constitution so I'll try to hold our decisions as close as we can to our founding fathers.

Councilmember Bascom: I want to thank all of you for being here and for the effort you put into supporting us and the kindness you've shown and I actually want to urge ourselves that we better follow the constitution. Both the United States Constitution and Utah's Constitution and I'm hoping that you'll also dedicate yourself in supporting us in that we'll be able to do that.

Councilmember Marsh: Thank you. I echo the words of Sharon here. On Saturday, we went through some training in Salt Lake and there was a book about that thick that we're supposed to read. And uh, I don't think any of us knew what we were getting into. But I'm willing to plow forward and get the work done.

Mayor Menlove: I forget what that book is called. "The Basics of Running a Community" or something like that. On mine I've crossed it out and it says "Government for Dummies". Alright, so now the agenda says that I'm supposed to give a few remarks and you know what I, quite often when I give talks in church I'll write it all down but can pretty much get up and kind of say what I want. But if you bear with me I wrote it down as I just want to make sure I say what I wrote down so I won't forget and I'm nervous. So bear with me as I plan to read it.

Standing before you today I'm the first Mayor of this beautiful little community of Spring Lake. I'm a little bit in shock. Never in my craziest dreams did I ever see myself as Mayor of Spring Lake and I have some crazy dreams. On the other hand, my heart is full of pride and fully of humility even though it's not a position that I really aspire to or sought after. Out of obligation I do consider it an honor to serve you my friends and my neighbors. I consider all of you, even everyone in Spring Lake my neighbor and my friend. And it is for that very reason that I do not take being elected as Mayor lightly. I know that many of you were reluctant, maybe fearful, and some of you were even opposed to incorporation. Believe me, I had some of those very same thoughts. And I am still nervous, but more than being fearful or nervous of the challenge we now face of establishing a new town, I was more fearful of what would become of Spring Lake if we did not incorporate. I feared that we would lose our identity as Spring Lakers. Now there are worse things than being annexed by Payson or Santaquin. I do love our neighbors to the North and to the South but I'm convinced that not incorporating would have eventually led to being annexed into Payson or Santaquin and maybe that wouldn't have been such a bad thing. But for generations this community has been our home; it's been our way of life, our shared legacy. Angela Stafford said it best in the Spring Lake history book when she said, "Spring Lake born, Spring

Lake bred, and when I die, I'll be Spring Lake dead." Generations we've cherished our independence, our open spaces, and the strong community ties who define who we are. We are not a city of big business, or curb and gutters. We do not have libraries and golf clubs or grocery stores. We do not have stop lights or bad traffic or city lights that hide the view of the night sky. We do not have restaurants. We do not have subdivisions. Our goal does not lie in having any of those things, but it does lie in the fertile soil in a hayfield, the quiet of the night listening to the crops and crickets, the orchards and farms, the lake that might not be ours, but it still is the namesake of our community. It is in the mountains that surround us to the east like an embrace from a hug, the fields to the west that opens up like a welcome mat to visitors. Our strength comes from calloused hands of farmers, from a neighbor taking food over to someone in times of need, the resilience of our families, and the unbreakable bonds that tie us together as a community. This chapter is becoming our own town. It requires that we stand together, it calls upon our resilience, of our shared history, and the love of this community. We are not just a piece of land to be divided up between cities to the north and to the south, but we are a living breathing community with the spirit and determination that deserves preservation. We will face challenges there is no doubt. We will need to be problem solvers not problem creators. We will need to cooperate and practice tolerance and patience. We will need to balance a budget. We will need to be creative in making ends meet. The path ahead will be difficult sometimes, but most times it will be sweet. We must remember the residents of our community are our greatest asset. My leadership for our community is simple, to preserve the very essence of who we are while building a future that is sustainable and prosperous for everyone. That is not just a job for one person. It is a shared endeavor. That is why I thank those who ran for town council, whether you were elected or not. It is evident that so many people want this to work and they want to be involved. It does not end with the Mayor; it does not end with the Town Council. It will be reaching out to you as we look for people who are willing to serve on our Planning and Zoning Commission, as a Town Recorder, a Town Treasurer, and other Town positions. And it goes beyond that as we ask for all of you to share your thoughts and ideas, to be involved, to pray for us. It will require open dialogue, community engagement, and a commitment to working together. Respecting the wisdom of those who have been here for a very long time who are now in their 90s. And at the same time embracing the ideas of those who represent our future. Let me say that once again. Respecting the wisdom of our elders and embracing the ideas of our youth. As Mayor I promise to live up to the Oath that I just swore. To obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Utah with fidelity. I needed to look that definition up in the dictionary just to make sure I was going to do that with "fidelity". The definition says of fidelity that it is: "faithfulness to a cause, a person, and a belief". I can do all three of those. I promise to be faithful to the cause for which I became involved in the beginning; the cause of saving our community and our way of life. Faithful to a person or people, the people of Spring Lake who I love and respect. And faithful to a belief, a belief in God and the two great commandments to love God and to love our neighbor. And if we can do that then I have a belief that this will work. I personally pledge to be a Mayor who listens, who advocates fiercely for our way of life and who will give my blood, sweat, and tears when needed to ensure that our community remains as a, there are so many adjectives: vibrant, peaceful, bright, beautiful, supportive, quiet, loving, engaging, and the list goes on and on. A place where we can call home. A place that we can call Spring Lake. Thank you for your trust, for your dedication, and for allowing me, seriously, the immense privilege of leading our community to its next chapter. Thank you.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Spencer Foster: So now you ask for a motion to adjourn.

Mayor Menlove: Asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Judd: I'll second it.

Mayor Menlove: We need a motion first.

Councilmember Marsh: I'll make the motion.

Councilmember Judd: I'll second it.

Spencer Foster: Now you vote. Now you vote to adjourn.

Mayor Menlove: All in favor.

Vote: Unanimous in favor of adjournment.

Spencer Foster: There ya go.