

# City of La Verkin

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## La Verkin City Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 6:00 pm.

Council Chambers, 111 S. Main, La Verkin, Utah

**Present:** Mayor Kelly Wilson; Council Members: Patricia Wise, Blair Gubler, Richard Hirschi, Micah Gubler, and Darren Prince; Staff: Kyle Gubler, Fay Reber, Derek Imlay, Nancy Cline.

### A. Called to Order –Patricia Wise gave the thought and Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 pm.

Councilwoman Wise read a statement. This is my last invocation as a City Councilwoman; I want to be a little reflective. City government will never stand still, even when it appears to move slowly. These last eight years are the proof of that. Perhaps patience and persistence should be in our City model. The majority of decisions that the City Staff, Planning Commission and the Council make will impact La Verkin well into the future. There will be new challenges coming our way, which we are not even aware of. At this meeting tonight, we will select a new Council for a two-year seat. In January, we swear in two new council members. My hope is that they embrace the responsibility of office but also know that they are not alone. There is a wealth of knowledge in our city staff, planning commission, and the other council members, and definitely our fellow citizens who have sat in these same seats over the years. La Verkin, truly a special city, and if all of us keep our ears toward reason, apply ourselves to understand complex issues, vote with conviction, we will continue to serve our fellow citizens as they do.

### B. Presentation:

#### 1. HVFD

Nick Wright reported on the stats for November and the board meeting that was held. We discussed the budget. Our budget for 2025 was \$11,375,800. We talked about the tentative budget for 2026. He didn't have those numbers.

#### 2. Mayor presents coins.

We have three council members, and this will be their last meeting. He didn't think we're having another one in December. He presented one coin to Dick Hirschi. He served as mayor and council. We appreciate your service and all that you've done for the city of La Verkin. Next, we have Patty, who has served for two terms, eight years, and definitely appreciate all of the time that you put on behalf of the citizens here, and Blair, as well. This is a four-year term that you've served. He appreciates everything that you've done.

### C. Council Vacancy:

Mayor Wilson explained that we have four that have put their names in to take Councilman Hirschi's place. It will be a two-year term. We would like to give each one of you three minutes. Come up and address the list of questions that you were given. After you're done with your three minutes, if the council has any questions to ask you, we'll let them ask those questions.

#### 1. Interview

Kendall Weatherstone: Hello, my name is Kendall Weatherstone. I'm 33 years old. I've lived in La Verkin in southern Utah since I was 12. I graduated from Pine View High School with honors, and this community has been my home for more than two decades. I am a general contractor and a long-time handyman. I want to serve on the City Council because I am genuinely interested in La Verkin and want to help improve the quality of life for the people who live here. My background is in construction and infrastructure which gives me practical insight into the issues the city faces as well as budgets, roads, facilities, planning, and maintenance. I'm not here for politics. I'm here to solve problems, use taxpayer dollars responsibly, and strengthen communication so residents feel heard. One of the biggest challenges in La Verkin is long-term water sustainability as we grow. We live in a drought-prone region, and increased demand puts pressure on both our water supply and land stability in sensitive areas like La Verkin. The best way to address this is with a proactive approach. Strong conservation standards, drought-resistant landscaping, careful land use decisions based on geological risk, and clear communication with residents. I believe the strongest councils are collaborative, listen first, contribute constructively, and support staff with clear directions while respecting their expertise. When the council, mayor, and staff operate as one team with a shared mission, the entire community benefits. A council member must communicate openly

and respectfully with the public, being transparent, sharing accurate information, and taking input seriously. My goal is to build trust and make sure residents truly have a voice in their local government. I'm fully committed to the time and work this position requires. This isn't entitled to me. It's a responsibility, and I'm ready to do the work. Thank you for your time.

*Christian Harrison:* Hi, my name is Christian Harrison. I'm grateful to be able to be considered for the vacancy that Richard's leaving behind for us. I grew up here in La Verkin. I've lived here since I was in kindergarten, and I'm grateful to be able to have the opportunity to raise my children here. I want to serve on the city council, be able to give some of that time back. I had a wonderful childhood growing up. I love this city. I love being here, and I want to be able to give back to the community in my service and be able to contribute. From what I see, as I've learned about this city and about what's been going on, the most important issue would be the fact that we need to make sure that we're growing and building. We're doing so responsibly. We are very limited on space, bound on every side by cities and rivers. We don't have much extra space we can grow. So, the growth of the building we do needs to be focused and responsible. And I believe that the best way we do that is by communicating with the public, by talking to people to make sure that any decision we make, not the decision of one or two council members, but the decision of a community, that we can all grow and steer the city the way we like and the way that we want it to be. I believe that we all have different opinions, but a common ground. We all love the city, we all want what's best for our families, our neighbors, and our community. I believe working from that common ground can resolve differences and disputes, by communicating openly with each other. I know that I'm going to be a new member of the council and I don't know everybody. And I know, and I'm grateful that I would have the opportunity to rely on other council members, city staff, city manager, and the mayor to help fill in those gaps of knowledge that I don't. My job has taught me it's important to learn, listen, and then contribute. And that's what I would hope to be able to do with the city council. I do stand ready to commit myself to the time that it takes to learn about the issues, to understand what's being passed before us. Those legal documents can be dense, but I'm willing to put the time in to read through them and understand them. I'm grateful to have a loving wife behind me who supports me to give the time that I need to for this position to be able to serve properly. Thank you.

*Chester Ence:* I'm raising the sixth generation La Verkin. I remember the first time I went on a date with my wife 13 years ago. We came across the bridge in La Verkin in the middle of the winter. And you guys know the smell that I'm talking about. You smell when you cross the bridge. And I'll always remember, I was like, hey, what's going on? But after the third date, I figured it out. It was the hot pots. I run an excavation company. We have over 20 employees now. And with my experience, I'm a general contractor. I was a journeyman lineman for Dixie Power for over eight years. I worked in North Dakota. And I was a residential electrician as well. Now I run a crew of 20 guys, we have a couple big projects going on, \$100 million project of our own that we're doing on the day-to-day operations of bidding and running crews. I know what it takes to build infrastructure and that side of things. And I also understand that the city only has so much area, and we've got to be conscious with that. I want to make sure that everything is zoned right and that we can capitalize on and make the city the best money and do the best things for La Verkin. I want to keep it, you know, I love the trail systems that we've done. I love the parks that we have. And I want to keep that stuff coming. But we also need to make money for the city at this time. So I know there's two sides to every story. And as me, I'm going to always vote. I think a lot of us are like-minded anyways, so we'll probably vote together, but I am going to vote with my gut and do what I think is personally right.

*Scot Pectol:* Good evening, my name is Scot Pectol. I'm a long-time resident of Washington County. I grew up a block south of the high school. My parents raised us here, and this is what I call home here in Washington county. I'm the husband of Amanda, and a father of five children. All of our kids are raised and grown, and we now have grandkids, and it's a time in life now where I've always felt like I'd be interested in city government and being able to have a chance to be able to add something, and I'm at a time in life where I feel like I have the time and a little bit of something to be able to give to the community. Along those lines, what I do professionally is I'm an area manager for a large construction company. Our company in total is a 700-employee company that works from Oregon to St. George, basically. And I run about 120 guys out of the St. George area, and we build all kinds of infrastructure, including a lot of stuff for water conservancy districts and airports and roadways. I've been in that kind of business for my entire career, and it's something that I really enjoy. Some of the bigger challenges for the city of La Verkin is being able to manage our growth responsibly, as several of the other candidates have been able to describe. I believe that there's a strain coming to our roads and infrastructure and public safety. I think that being able to address these issues and be able to understand what they are, and to be able to speak to them effectively and be able to vote and be able to give a good vision, like what Patty mentioned, to be able to have a good vision about what's going on and be able to vote accordingly is a strength that I feel

like I'd be able to bring to the council. You know, a few things are my understanding of construction and infrastructure. Part of the job that I have currently for my day-to-day operations is to be able to solve problems. If you can imagine, everything doesn't run smoothly in a construction company every day, I'm asked to be able to approach those issues, be able to find creative ways, be able to address folks, to be able to meet with people, and to be able to come up with creative solutions in a good, timely, cost-effective manner. I believe that that translates into what we do here in the city. I believe in being financially responsible. Again, it's one of the tasks that I'm tasked with on a daily basis, is being able to make sure that I understand budgets, to be able to make sure that we stay on task within the financial restraints that we have. Again, I believe those things probably translate into what we're doing here. I sure do appreciate the chance to be able to be here and look forward to your consideration for me being on the council.

Councilman Prince asked what the top priorities for city council are.

Chester Ence: To slow the growth and the water supply.

Scot Pectol: Public safety and infrastructure, and to protect our way of life. And have affordable housing for the future and protect the property values.

Christian Harrison: I would focus on zoning opportunities. He is interested in mixed-use zoning. Achieving the best use for the land that La Verkin has.

Kendall Weatherstone: I agree with what the others have said. Infrastructure and growth but definitely water.

Councilwoman Wise asked what they would like to see done with recreations and trails. How does that play a part in their vision for the future and how they would implement it.

Chester Ence: That's where we live and what we enjoy doing. Being at the base of Zion there is a lot of growth that is going to happen. We need those recreational trails. And with the growth we would need more trails.

Scot Pectol: Our trail systems are part of it, and recreation space somewhat defines the community and give us a chance to be able to see parts of the community that we may not be able to experience. I'm thinking of trails that kind of run alongside a river, like the river walks and things like that. I believe that being able to seek out grant money and being able to have financial funding to be able to make sure that we have those kinds of opportunities.

Christian Harrison: The trails and the kind of the veins that connect the community, and I would love to see those be integrated into more walkable options for the city, things that connect people via those trails, whether they're big, long trails for the whole Washington County community, or trails that connect different parts of La Verkin, just so that people can walk and communicate, commute, be in place without having to drive, park, and then drive to another place.

Kendall Weatherstone: I hadn't thought about that too much. For future residents and our children, we need to maintain them and keep them in good condition.

Councilman Prince commented he loves trails as well. but one of his priorities is sidewalks and roads. He asked what they thought the city could do to improve our sidewalks and roads.

Christian Harrison: I think one of the biggest improvements would be to get a complete sidewalk network. To work on those areas where we don't have sidewalks. I know there's property laws and things that need to be respected, and residents' rights that need to be respected, but to work with those residents so that we can, in any stretch of town, walk from one end of the street down to the other with a complete sidewalk, not having to dip into the road and then back onto another sidewalk. So I think completing that infrastructure would be a first priority.

Scot Pectol: I've been a road contractor, basically, that's been my career. Again, roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutter, those are important elements of a roadway and public safety to me. One of the things that I see when I'm in that perspective is being able to make sure that we have good clean standards in our standard specifications for the city and making sure that all of the sidewalks and curbs are built to that standard and that it's a uniform approach to be able to make sure that we have that same kind and style of sidewalk and curbing putting in. Not just because it's nice and clean that helps us maintain our obligations, but also the ADA compliance issues that come along with it. It's a big one for us to be able to get that in the city across the entire city network.

Chester Ence: I think it's a huge safety thing that we need to work out. Apparently, there's a lot that goes just starting to build up sidewalks and roads. There's a lot of money that needs to be raised for that. So, we need to look into grants and ways to raise money for that.

Kendall Weatherstone: I would say better lights, better signs. We definitely need more of those. I know specifically the crosswalk that's next to the church, next to the coffee shop. We definitely have a problem over there because I can't tell you how many customers have told me that they almost got hit on that road. Those lights just don't work. Cars are flying through there. It doesn't matter what time of day it is, the right turn, going up the hill, right there next to Maverick, coming around that curve, there's pedestrians across the street, most drivers aren't looking, and so I think that that needs to be addressed.

Councilman Micah Gubler asked what their ideas are for the affordable housing crisis.

Christian Harrison: I think from a city's perspective, the best thing we can do is in our zoning laws to make sure that we are zoning in a way to help increase the supply of housing. From my point of view, one of the few ways you can affect the pricing is to increase the amount of supply to help make things affordable, to watch what kind of homes we're building. If we build million-dollar mansions, they'll be priced at a million dollars. If we have smaller lots and smaller, closer communities, we might be able to have them be a bit more affordable.

Scot Pectol: I believe what we can do is be able to take a serious look with house setbacks and the proximity of houses in certain zones with each other. As I've worked in other parts of the county, I've seen successful communities that have been built with shorter setbacks and closer proximity to homes. I don't believe that that's something that we'd want to do across the entire community, but I do believe that one of the solutions that we have for affordable housing is making land affordable for our builders to be able to build something as a product that would help them be able to get to that point. That's one that really stands out to me as something that we could look at as a city to be able to help this.

Chester Ence: I think a great one is density bonuses. If people go in and build trails, they can bring in more land. If it's a lot smaller, we can still have these parks, things like that. Having the contractor build a park by the smaller communities. I don't want townhomes or apartments everywhere, but they could rezone parts of the city to allow for smaller setbacks.

Kendall Weatherstone: This does kind of touch right at the heart for me. I would say that probably one of the big things is keeping businesses out, specifically like commercial entities, buying up and then renting, putting in Airbnb's, for instance, because we already have a multitude of hotels and motels. As much as I like Airbnb, we probably should not have them here because they just run the prices up.

Fay explained that now that the interview of the candidates has been completed and we're proceeding with voting, the way we're going to vote is we're going to pass out ballots with each candidate's name on the ballot, each council member will cast a vote, and then put at the bottom of their initials, and so we will collect that, and then Nancy will calculate those results. The statute, the state statute, specifically allows Councilman Hirschi, who's the council member who resigned and created the space, the statute specifically allows him to cast a vote. So, the first candidate to receive three votes will be the successor. So if we don't have three, some of the three votes after the first round of voting, then we'll proceed to a second. If we have to break any ties to get to the second, then we'll do that coin toss. Finally, if there is a tie after the second round of voting, because the city of La Verkin is a sixth council, mayor, form of government, the mayor is specifically authorized by state statutes to vote. If we get that far and we have a tie-breaking vote, the mayor will be able to do that. But again, after the first round, we have someone with three votes that will end the process.

Mayor Wilson expressed gratitude to each one of them that had put their name in the hat. He appreciated their willingness to serve our community, and it, in reality, turned out to be a lot of work. And sometimes we have to take the heat. He hoped whoever is the successor would be willing to do that.

## 2. Election

The votes were as follows:

Richard Hirschi- Scot Pectol

Darren Prince- Scot Pectol

Micah Gubler- Scot Pectol

Patricia Wise- Christian Harrison

Blair Gubler- Christian Harrison

## 3. Swearing in.

City Recorder Nancy Cline swore in Scot Pectol as a La Verkin city council member.

**D. Consent Agenda:** (Items on the consent agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Mayor or City Council.)

1. Declarations of conflict of interest
2. Agenda
3. Meeting Minutes: November 5, 2025, work and regular meeting, November 12, 2025, special meeting.
4. Checks & Invoices: \$ 116,344.65

**The motion was made by Councilwoman Wise to approve the consent agenda as written. Meeting minutes for November 5, 2025, work and regular meeting, November 12, 2025, special meeting. Checks and invoices in the amount \$116,344.65, second by Councilman Blair Gubler. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Price-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. Business:**

1. Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-17, appointing a chief administrative officer and records officer for the government data privacy act.

Kyle explained that this is just something that we've talked about in the past, about the new regulations that the state has put out, about the GDPA, Government Data Privacy Act. There are several things that we needed to do to comply, and we had to do it before the end of the year. One was the Data Privacy Policy, which we've done. He didn't know if they had seen that. It's on the bottom of our website now, which is one of the requirements. The other requirement is that we had training, and it was me, Nancy, Christy, Lisia and Mason McMahon that had to have training, a 10- or 15-minute video that is required for us to do on a yearly basis. That's for people that will be in a position that will be taking in information or collecting information that's considered private. And the other thing is to adopt this resolution, that appoints a chief administrative officer. The very small towns, it's usually the mayor. Most towns have a city administrator or city manager. We also assign a records manager. And then under their direction, they'll make sure that we get trained and do this on a yearly basis. And one other thing that we haven't done yet, we will, there is a form that we have to fill out. Eventually, he thought there'll be something in the state or some entity that we would file this form with. Right now, we fill out the form and we don't do anything with it. We just have it filled out. And between now and the end of the year, he and two records officers will sit down and fill out that form. This just gets us all in line with the state code that has to be done by the end of the year.

Fay added that he included the wrong code section and suggested in the motion to change it to the right code section.

Councilman Blair Gubler asked where we file those security records year-to-year. Are they still in the vault at the city.

Kyle explained that it's anything that we collect online or not online. People's account numbers, names, addresses, all that kind of stuff, social security numbers if it's required, all that stuff is secured. Our accounting software also does that, and they make sure that we're what they call red flag compliant. Nothing is 100 that's been evident throughout the world. There can be breaches, but what our policy states is that we'll take every precaution that we can to keep that information secure and we follow a procedure.

Fay gave the correct code.

**The motion was made by Councilwoman Wise to approve Resolution No. 2025-17, appointing a chief administrative officer and records officer for the government data privacy act, subject to changing the code to 63A-19-101, seconded by Councilman Blair Gubler. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Prince-yes, Blaire Gubler-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2025—07, a work/live zone. Councilman Micah Gubler asked if all the changes have been made that they discussed.

Fay replied yes, they have made those changes.

Councilwoman Wise commented that this ordinance has been a really long time coming and almost didn't happen. She felt that between Fay, our attorney, Derek, and Brad checking it out several times and then with Blair Gardner the owner, being very willing to work with the city it went from an almost not passing, to in my view, should happen. It will be the only one of this type in the city and there's probably a lot of pressure to see if it will be a good business model. Scott will find this out very quickly. There's no one perfect solution. You're always trying to figure out the best of what something can be. And sometimes you do, in essence, take a chance, in my view, be proactive instead of reactive, and then move on. She was glad to see this come the way it has tonight with all the many changes

Councilman Prince expressed he likes the work-live concept, and they have hashed it out and agrees it is the best solution for this property.

**The motion was made by Councilman Darren Prince to approve Ordinance No. 2025-07, a work/live zone, second by Councilwoman Wise. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Discussion and possible action to approve the Utah law enforcement information sharing analytic program agreement between the Utah department of public safety and Washington county Spillman users.

Chief Nuccitelli explained that Spillman is our secure operating system. Every agency down here uses Spillman. The chiefs and sheriff got together, and we thought it would be easier that when we allow the data to go up to the state, when they ask for it, that we're all using the same X's and O's so that they have all the same data that comes across. And when we do provide them with the data that they ask for, we can do it with relative ease. Like, for example, La Verkin City having a separate code for, let's say, a traffic accident, and then St. George City has a separate code for that same traffic accident. We're all communicating on the same spectrum, so it just makes it easier to give the data.

**The motion was made by Councilman Blair Gubler to approve the Utah law enforcement information sharing analytic program agreement between the Utah department of public safety and Washington county Spillman users, second by Councilman Micah Gubler. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Discussion and possible action to approve chief Nuccitelli's truck lease.

Derek explained that it is the same company that approved his truck. We get it from a group that qualifies to get the discount rate from the state on the vehicles, which dramatically reduces the price. In order for them to stay with that kind of contract, they lease those out mainly to a lot of cities. And hopefully the mileage is low when we trade them back in. They're able to get the resale value out of them, which means they get the money out that they've invested in it. They deal with the higher-end trucks. That's why we have the higher-end trucks, because that's where they get their money back out of it. This company that we deal with now gives us a two-rate system, so basically depending on if you stay within your miles, you get a certain amount of money. For his truck, we're giving a \$10,000 rebate back, which can help go towards one of the payments. The other one is because we just paid our third year starting our third year lease we will get a very large percentage back on that that can go towards the other because the new trucks now are about three to four months so basically, the hope is that we have the ability to at least one two or three years. Preferably they like to stay within the two year

because the miles seem to stay lower. The money that we get back from those two items basically would pay for one year. Usually something like this might be in the range of \$13-14 000 a year for a lease. This brings it down to like a \$7,000 a year lease. Which makes it worthwhile plus the warranty covers on them, which is a positive. The option is monthly or annually. He recommended monthly so they can get out of the lease at any time and not just at the end of the year.

Mayor asked if the truck was the truck is a 2026 ford f-150 lariat four-wheel drive super crew 15,000 miles per year. The monthly payment is \$1275 per month, or the annual payment is fourteen thousand eight sixteen per year. This is the three-year lease, and you plan on turning in after two?

Derek added that it doesn't reflect the rebate they will get back. They can't figure it until they turn the truck in and read the milage.

Councilman Pectol asked if the chief could stay below 15,000 miles with his position.

Chief Nuccitelli explained he has used his truck specifically because it's unmarked, and he lets his officers take it to trainings, which are sometimes in Nevada, Salt Lake. The reason he did that was specifically because if you take a marked vehicle to outside areas, usually they might become a target for criminals. Where they break into the vehicles and take gear and things like that. Our city likes to have marked vehicles. His has the only one that has the bare minimum of stickers on it. To keep his miles down they'll be taking a marked vehicle when they go to training. He believed he could keep the milage at 15,000.

Councilman Micah Gubler wanted to hear what the city manager thought of the lease.

Kyle explained that we'll have to reevaluate that, but that's been kind of one of the perks that we've given those two specifically is that they have a newer vehicle. The advantage, like Derek said, is that these companies have found a way to get good deals. Because the government gets such a deep discount on the vehicle, if they show they lease it to us, once they get it back, they get it still with that discount. And then they obviously turn around and sell it, but they share that savings with the city. So it's a win-win. It might be something, because leases have gone up in value and stuff, it might be something in two years.

**The motion was made by Councilwoman Wise to approve chief Nuccitelli's truck lease, second by Councilman Pectol. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

##### 5. Discussion and possible action to approve the crossing guards' hours.

Chief Nuccitelli explained that a month ago, we talked about what the crossing guards are doing and what's considered safer for the kids. And we're specifically talking about Center and State Street. The PTO sent back an email with some recommendations. Within the recommendations, they asked that the crossing guards move their time 15 minutes. So instead of being out there at eight o'clock they'd be out there at 8:15 and they'd stay there until 9:15, and that was specific for just that intersection. The other crossing guard would also stay there specifically at 500 north main street and then the one at main street. Principal Gabby Young was on board with the recommendations. He had a conversation with Kyle and we decided that in the first of the year those guards would change their schedules.

PTO representatives commented they wanted the time in the morning to be 8:15 to 9:15. And for the afternoons they were hoping 3:15 to 4:00 and then on Friday 11:45 to 12:30.

**The motion was made by Councilman Micah Gubler to approve new crossing guard hours, second by Councilman Price. Roll Call Vote: Micah Gubler-yes, Wise-yes, Blair Gubler-yes, Prince-yes, Pectol-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**F. Mayor & Council Reports:**

**Mayor Wilson:** Set the date of January 8<sup>th</sup> for city council dinner.

**Kyle Gubler:** reported, the construction on the back end of Wallace Park for the remodel is started. We're hoping that sometime shortly after the first of the year those will be completed. Then when I send out my report to you, I send out a little note of what happened at the Division of Drinking Water. The mayor called me on the carpet, and we got some better terms for the grant loan. And for the new council members, the three of you and the other two and the mayor, I'll be sending out an email with shirt sizes. We need to get shirt sizes. We'll get a few shirts. Sometime in January, we will have you all wear your shirts to city council and after city council we'll take a picture of everybody, maybe even before, and then we'll get some individual pictures.

**Blair Gubler:** His next meeting for the solid waste district is Monday. He offered to take the new council representative to it.

**Prince:** I was able to attend the mosquito abatement meeting. It's kind of dying down. So we'll stay for a few more months. So the abatement crew is doing really well. But as I said many times, this aegis aegypti is a gnarly little bug on our side. So we'll stay for a few more months. The other thing that I've been thinking a lot about is Confluence Park. The mayor has assigned me to kind of be the guru over the park representative for the city, and I just feel like there's so much opportunity down there. I would like to propose this next year, and we can talk about this in the budget, that we create a community committee that's focused on work, not just talking, and we start building that park into an amazing park. And so I'd like to bring that up next year, and there could just be so much down there. We were able to, with the help of Derek, get water down there, and if you've been down there recently, they planted some trees, and so that's one of my main goals. We can ask the county for financial support.

**Micah Gubler:** The city activities and festivals. We're grateful for all the work that Meridee and her crew have done. You can see much of a decorating started weeks ago. This weekend will be Winterfest. Thank you to those who have signed up to help with the information booth. I'm thinking there's no wind, and the weather looks a little bit better for Friday and Saturday so fingers crossed. Come out and support that. There is also a La Verkin City Christmas Eve celebration that happens on Christmas Eve for the last 121 years. It was held on a very limited basis the year of COVID to keep that running, but that will be at 6 p.m. here. This year, there's a short festive program followed by a visitor from the North Pole for the little kids. I remember attending it as a young kid. Anyway, they're looking for a volunteer. My wife, for some reason, volunteered me to be a part of that festive program, and I told her no way. So we're looking for a fill-in for me to dance with my wife and sing. So if there's any volunteers. And then Wreaths Across America will be December 13th. For those who don't know what that is, that's a Saturday, 9 a.m. at the cemetery. There's a short patriotic program, and then we place wreaths on the grave sites of the veterans. So, again, that's a week from this Saturday at 9 a.m. And then in January, the City Youth Council will be taking a trip up to the Capitol. So they're looking forward to that I just want to thank Chief for working with the PTO and getting those hours adjusted and all of that. And thank the council for being supportive of that. And then lastly, I just wanted to publicly thank Blair and Patty and Dick. It's been enjoyable, it's been a pleasure, it's too soon, I was supposed to leave before you two, but you'll be missed, and looking forward to working with the new council members, we're grateful for your desire to serve.

**Pectol:** Nothing to report

**Patricia Wise:** reported on the planning commission meeting. I attended the DTEC meeting on November 18th. One thing of interest in our area, the Sheep Bridge Trail project, Sheep Bridge Road will be paved, I believe, by the end of 2026, and the Utah Trail Network has been giving out money for paved trails that offer active transportation, and there is going to be a paved trail along Sheep Bridge Road, and it was looking like it wouldn't happen, this is something the county's doing, but they were able to figure out a way to bring down the cost of three underpasses, and so they did get funding for that, for the whole design. So that's very exciting.

Another thing, Derek and I met with the representative from five counties of government yesterday, and went over La Verkin's active transportation plan. So right now, it's the Zion corridor trail, of course, because that's a paved path, and then Main Street, potentially a bike lane, and then some arterial streets, bike lanes. So not separated bike lanes and that, our streets don't have the space for them, but at least a delineation for bike safety, and then connect. The Zion corridor trail, I showed a slideshow, I think a month ago, that progress is going really well. There were some hiccups with our fiber company, but that's been resolved, and Derek is very close to an agreement on another section of the trail that parallels SR17, so there is a very good chance that La Verkin will have our first three phases from Confluence Park up to SR9, or at least to the point where it meets BLM land, finished within about a year or less, and that's primarily because it's on Interstate Rocks property, and they have been such a great assist in getting all of that done. I attended a planning meeting for the Pawtempi Trail. This is a trail that La Verkin, Hurricane, and the county received funding for. Darren's on that committee also. We received planning funding for it, and right now the trail is aligned to start on the Pawtempi Trail, and we're going to be doing a lot of planning for that. At the bridge in Confluence Park, well actually they'll start at the Hurricane Trailhead on Main Street, come down to the bridge, they'll stay on the Hurricane side of the river, cross over a few times as it goes under SR9, and eventually come out at the sand traps, if all of you know where that is down in the river bottom, and climb up the hill there and connect with the Zion Corridor Trail along SR9 up on the Mesa. So it's going to be epic. It'll probably be a while before it gets done, but the fact that we were able to get the money with no match, meaning the Hurricane did not have to pay any money for it, we got an \$80,000 grant to do the planning, the initial planning, right? Just initially. There's so much money in all this. If all of the council keeps their eyes on trails everything else will fall into place. I do want to say thank you for my experience my eight years here and I'll take just a minute to be as brief as I can. When I had lived in La Verkin for a year and before I was voted on to the city council and about a month or so into moving here I was just stoked to be in La Verkin. I moved from San Diego and I thought, well, I want to see what La Verkin is about. And I saw a notice for a city council meeting, so I came and I thought, wow, this is really good, but they don't pass out any information. Where do I find out more information? And then in the next city council meeting the following month, I found out there was a planning commission meeting, so I went to that. And about that time, I found out that there were actually two council meetings a month, and I was stoked. So I was in the same position, our other two gentlemen left, but in the same position as Christian, and I ran to fill a seat that was vacant. And it was really tough. However, it was very close to when you could put in your application for four years. And so I talked to Kyle, and he goes, sure, go for it. And so I did. I mean like this person who's been here a year, just barely a year. But there were seven candidates and by luck, everybody kept dropping out to where there were three and I worked hard to win and so I did win. That's how I got started. I'm bringing this up because there's somebody that I really want to thank about this and it was Randy Reeve, a former council member and I'm sure most of you know Randy. I don't know why he liked me. I think I disagreed on just about everything with him. He just said no, you need to run and he made sure that I talked to a few people who could give me some insight to that. And I honestly think it was his support, that kept me going because I knew Randy Reeve and I knew Kyle. And then I was elected, and Richard Hirschi was mayor at the time, and for whatever reason, Richard felt like I needed to learn different things, and so he made sure that I attended meetings, that maybe other people were raising eyebrows, like, why is she here? But he made sure I got to things so that I could learn, and he was just such a great mentor, so thank you very much. The other council member whom I served with on my first term, and Micah will very much agree with this, Ray Justice, what a great guy, and he and I didn't always agree, but he was the calmest person I've ever met discussing really critical issues, you know, and I'm getting excited, and he's just calm as can be, and he taught me so much, kind of critical thinking. New council members, reach out to your peers. It'll be really good. And then the camaraderie of the current mayor and the council. Micah, you've been great to work with. Darren, Scott, you'll enjoy it so much. John, Amanda, and Blair. Blair liked it a lot. I don't know why you sat us next to each other, Mayor. And then I want to give a really special thanks to Kyle. Because, as I said, when I was trying to decide whether to run that very first time, Kyle didn't say, well, you don't have much of a chance. He just said, yeah, here's how you go about it. And all over these eight years, I've come in with all these ideas of things I'd want to do. And he just kind of raised his eyebrows and said, okay. Okay, you'll have to get the council to agree to that. I'm not sure it's in

budget, but he supported it. Every single thing. I don't think you've ever turned me down, Kyle, in trying to help me figure out a way. Christy Ballard. Man, hats off to Christy. She is one of the most amazing, competent people you could ever work with. And finally, Derek. Derek, you've bent over backwards to make sure I understand things that I still don't understand. Thank you. Thank you for the field trips. You get Derek to take you on a field trip, just not on a muddy day. But anyway, it's just been really, really a good time. I have benefited from being on City Council so much. La Verkin, it truly is a special place. And I think it's special because we treat each other with respect. That's my final report.

**Fay:** Reported that several months ago, we approved the sale of a strip of land. So, we went through the process of vacating that surplus land. And he paid us, and we gave him the property. It's not owned by the city. It's actually owned by a subdivision. If we vacate that property it will go back to the original owner. So, we will be returning his money.

#### **G. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:**

*No comments made.*

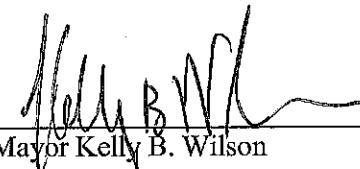
#### **H. Adjourn:**

The mayor closed the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

01-21-2021  
Date Approved

ATTEST:

Nancy Cline  
Nancy Cline  
City Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Kelly B. Wilson