

**BIG WATER MUNICIPAL
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

APPROVED MINUTES

**Wednesday December 17, 2025
60 N Aaron Burr, Big Water, Utah 84741
6:30pm Work Session
7:00pm Meeting**

WORK SESSION

CALL TO ORDER— 6:32pm

1. ROLL CALL- Council Members in Attendance: Mayor- David Schmuker | Council Members- Jim Loyd, Jim Lybarger, Jennie Lassen, Luke McConville | Absent-

2. DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS—

- Discussion on annexation and expansion of town boundaries remains pending due to unresolved items.
- Discussion on adopting the Big Water Municipal Privacy Policy remains pending.
- Adoption of the 2026 Town Council Meeting Schedule was discussed. No conflicts with holidays or conferences were identified. Meetings will remain on the third Wednesday of each month.
- Fire Department Interlocal Agreement with Kane County was discussed. The agreement provides new benefits to the Town, including annual compensation of \$7,500.
- Fire Department / Church Wells Agreement was reviewed. Expansion of the service area will increase annual revenue to approximately \$40,000 once tax collections take effect.
- Community Wildland Preparedness Plan (CWPP) was discussed. Adoption will improve the Town's ISO rating and strengthen eligibility for grants.
- SCBA Replacement Needs were discussed. Current SCBAs are expired and out of service. Temporary units from Fredonia will be available for approximately 6–7 months while funding options are pursued.
- Employee PTO Rollover was discussed as a one-time exception due to staffing shortages.
- Employee Tax Issue was discussed as a one-time corrective action.
- Treasurer discusses next year's budget short falls because of waning interest rates and the likely hood of needing funding for SCBA's.

3. ADJOURN— Close 7:00pm

MEETING

CALL TO ORDER— Open 7:00pm

1. ROLL CALL— Council Members in Attendance: Mayor- David Schmuker | Council Members- Jim Loyd, Jim Lybarger, Jennie Lassen, Luke McConville | Absent-

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE— Mayor leads Pledge of Allegiance

3. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT— None

4. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES— Motion to approve made by Jennie Lassen, seconded by Loyd, Luke McConville aye, Mayor David Schmuker aye. Lybarger abstains due to not being present at the last meeting. Motion passes.

5. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS—

- **Mayor:** Spoke on road/easements issues and discussed ongoing work related to road easements and coordination with SITLA. He also outlined plans for upcoming road resurfacing and chip-seal projects during the next term.

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- **Council:**
 - **GCSSD; Jennie Lassen:** The SSD things are pretty quiet, the well that was down is up and running so we are good there. We did get an offer on the property which includes owner financing, so we are waiting to get feedback from our attorney on that.
 - **Parks & Recreation; Jennie Lassen:** Christmas Community Potluck tomorrow night at the school at 6:00pm, Santa will come at 6:30pm. This Saturday Santa will be coming around town on the Fire truck.
 - **Planning & Zoning; Luke McConville:** I did attend the last meeting and they are working on the Transportation Master Plan. Interesting stuff there.
 - **Public Safety; Jim Lybarger:**
- **Fire Chief:** Fire Chief Cameron Westenskow provided an update on fire department matters currently before the Town Council.

Chief Westenskow reviewed the Interlocal Agreement with Kane County, noting that the revised agreement clarifies services provided in unincorporated areas and, for the first time, provides \$7,500 in annual compensation to the Town. He also discussed the Fire Protection Agreement with the Church Wells Special Service District, explaining that recent annexations will increase annual compensation from approximately \$15,000 to \$40,000 once tax collections take effect.

The Chief addressed a one-time employee PTO rollover request due to staffing shortages and a one-time employee tax issue related to a former employee's retirement.

Chief Westenskow reported that all Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) are expired and out of service. He stated that the Fredonia Fire Department will temporarily provide SCBAs with approximately six to seven months of remaining service life, beginning around January 8, 2026, while permanent replacement options are pursued.

Estimated costs for new SCBAs range from \$160,000 to \$200,000. Chief Westenskow reported that he is pursuing grants, financing, and other funding options and recommended that replacement equipment meet the NFPA 2025 standard and remain compatible with neighboring departments' equipment.

Chief Westenskow thanked the Council and stated he would return with recommendations as options are identified.
- **Marshal:** Merry Christmas, don't get drunk on Christmas. BLABLABLA!! Some of you may or may not know- regarding budgets, my biggest concern is keeping tires on our vehicles. I apply and get rewarded with the same grant money every year. I blew a tire the other day and when the tire shop pulled the tire off, he said the inside of the tire was separating.
- **Planning & Zoning Administrator; Denise Wood:** Not present
- **Treasurer:** Reported that the Town contributes approximately **\$64,000 annually** toward fire department expenses. Encouraged consideration of depreciation reserve accounts during the next budget cycle and noted future Resort Community Tax revenues.
- **7. CITIZEN COMMENTS** - Citizens are given a reasonable amount of time to comment— Tom Reneau- Thanked Council Member Jim Loyd for his service. Spoke in support of pursuing SCBA funding options but advised into looking for all options of funding and raised awareness regarding employee tax reconciliation.

Jim Lybarger- I've had the opportunity to participate on an interview, and this potential candidate did an intensive drill and was offered to stay the night but we can't offer a shower that's either cold or scalding. Addressed fire station facility concerns, including the lack of a functional shower for overnight firefighters, and emphasized recruitment impacts.

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8. OLD BUSINESS —

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on Annexation & Expansion of Town Boundaries**— Table
- b) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting Big Water Municipal Privacy Policy**— Table

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on Adopting the 2026 Big Water Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule**— Motion to adopt made by Jim Lybarger, seconded by Jim Loyd, all aye. Motion carried
- b) **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of the Big Water Fire and Emergency Response Interlocal Agreement with Kane County**— Motion made to approve made by Jim Lybarger, seconded by Jim Loyd, all aye. Motion carried.
- c) **Discussion and Possible Action on Big Water Fire Department/Church Wells Agreement**— Lassen motions to approve, Lybarger seconds, all aye. Motion carried.
- d) **Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed Big Water Fire Department's Community Wild Land Preparedness Plan (CWPP)**— Motion made to approve made by Luke McConville, seconded by Jim Lybarger, all aye. Motion carried.
- e) **Discussion and Possible Action on Fire Department need to Acquire new SCBA's to Maintain Level of Service Financial Options for Town & Contracts**— Motion to move forward on pursuing options made by Jim Lybarger, seconded by Loyd, all aye. Motion carries.
- f) **Discussion and Possible Action on Employee PTO Hours**— Motion to roll over all the PTO hours above the 200 normally allowed on a one time basis made by Jim Lybarger, seconded by Jim Loyd, all aye. Motion carries
- g) **Discussion and Possible Action on Employee Taxes Issue**— Lybarger motion move forward for the town to cover the taxes due from employee. Seconded by Jim Loyd. All ayes. Motion carried.

10. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CHECK REGISTER— Lassen motions to approve the financials and seconded by McConville. All aye. Motion carries.

11. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION; For the Purposes of Legal Business; Litigation; Land purchase; Security; Personnel Matters; Procurement; And/or any other permissible items as described under Utah Code 52-4-205 (Purposes of closed meetings)—

Roll Call: Mayor- | Council Members- | Town Clerk: | Invited Guests:

12. RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING—

- a) **Discussion and Possible Action on Closed Session**—

13. ADJOURNMENT— Motion to adjourn made by Jim Lybarger, seconded by Jim Loyd. All 7:42pm