



**MINUTES OF THE SPRINGDALE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025,
AT THE CANYON COMMUNITY CENTER, 126 LION BOULEVARD, SPRINGDALE, UTAH**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Bruno, Council Members Randy Aton, Jack Burns, Pat Campbell, and Kyla Topham

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Greg Hardman, Town Manager Rick Wixom, Director of Community Development Tom Dansie, and Town Clerk Robin Romero, recording

The Special Meeting convened at 4:04 pm.

Approval of Special Meeting agenda

Randy Aton made a motion to approve the special meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Pat Campbell.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

A. Closed Session

Kyla Topham made a motion to enter a closed session for a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. The motion was seconded by Randy Aton.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Action Required by Closed Session

Kyla Topham made a motion to direct staff to take the action discussed in the closed session. The motion was seconded by Pat Campbell.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Adjourn

Kyla Topham made a motion to adjourn the special meeting at 5:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Pat Campbell.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

The Regular Meeting convened at 5:04 pm.

Approval of the Regular Meeting Agenda

Randy Aton moved to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Kyla Topham.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bruno led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Announcements/Information/Community Questions

1. General Announcements

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Gubler announced upcoming holiday events in the community and encouraged community members to participate.

2. Zion National Park Update

Superintendent Bradybaugh reported November 2025 visitation at Zion National Park was up 1% over November 2024, with 2025 year-to-date visitation similar to 2024. He provided an update on Park projects and spoke of Federal funding.

3. Council Department Reports, Questions, and Comments

- Mr. Aton provided an update on the Fire Board and the recent property tax increase. He spoke of an increase in wages paid by the St. George Fire Department, concern about the possibility of losing firefighters to higher wages, and a planned budget increase to raise Rockville-Springdale Fire District firefighter wages. He said the Board wanted to keep the Department operating with current employees.
- Mr. Burns provided an update on the Washington County Solid Waste District and spoke of the importance of battery recycling. Jennifer Collins with Republic Services described battery recycling services provided. Mr. Burns commented on the proper disposal of LED lights. Ms. Collins reported the

Washington County Landfill would hold two hazardous waste collection days in 2026 (April 18 and October 17).

4. Community Questions and Comments

Suzanne Elger, Springdale resident, confirmed her home was for sale and said she anticipated moving back to Chicago to be with family. Ms. Elger referred to Town Manager Rick Wixom's resignation and asked whether he had secured another job. Mr. Wixom responded that he was retiring from the Utah State Retirement System and had secured another position. Ms. Elger asked why acceptance of Mr. Wixom's resignation was included on the Consent Agenda, and said the item warranted an open discussion, especially considering the drawn-out end date of February 10, 2026, and the opportunity the Town had to fill a pivotal position. Ms. Elger asked Mayor Bruno why the item was included on the Consent Agenda, which allowed no discussion. She asked Mayor Bruno what training she had scheduled to increase the Town Council's financial literacy. Mayor Bruno said she did not have training scheduled at that time. Ms. Elger asked why the annual financial report was not included on the December agenda, as it had been since December 2020. Staff responded that the financial report was on the agenda for the January 2026 meeting. Ms. Elger expressed concern about Town decisions and said the Mayor had seemed unwilling to engage with residents. Mayor Bruno said she responded to every email and phone call she received. Ms. Elger questioned why Pat Campbell was removed from the Housing Committee. Mayor Bruno responded that changes had been made to the appointments and that Mr. Campbell had been moved to Emergency Operations. Ms. Elger provided her written statement (Attachment #1).

Darci Carlson, Springdale resident, congratulated Robin Romero on her promotion to Town Clerk. She thanked Mr. Wixom for his service to the Town of Springdale. Ms. Carlson said the Town Manager position was a thankless job and that Springdale was a tough community, and that, as a former staff member, she appreciated his kindness, responsiveness, and dedication to the position. She said she wished him well and hoped for his continued success.

Clifford Roseman, a Springdale resident, said the Red Cliff Lodge was directly harming residents, businesses, and the Town's character. He said he had documented repeat violations of community standards for eight months, including the installation of industry-grade lighting after a remodel. He said lights shone directly into homes and businesses throughout the night, disrupting sleep and altering the environment visitors came to experience. Mr. Roseman said he had recorded unscreened trash and sanitation issues, noise disturbance issues from buses left idling, and generators running all through the night. He said they were not small oversights but ongoing practices that affected health, safety, and zoning in Springdale. Mr. Roseman said residents and officials had sought cooperation from management and had been met with delayed responses, inconsistent statements, or outright refusal to engage. He emphasized that documentation had been completed with time-stamped photography, written reports, and filings with the Town, Police, and Code Enforcement. He asked to spend more time with the Council on the matter in the future, with the hope of a resolution. Mr. Roseman provided a document outlining his concerns (Attachment #2).

Jeff McKee, Springdale resident and Town of Springdale employee, said he had promised to make Springdale better for all. He said Utah was an at-will employment state and expressed the opinion that at-will employment needed more oversight. Mr. McKee said that citizens nationwide presumed that those elected to office or managing operations and services would possess ethical maturity and a moral compass to exercise power with restraint. He said a whispered rumor, true or not, was all it took to put someone on probation or fire them outright, no proof or accuser name required. Mr. McKee said it felt like rule by fear to too many. He said twice in recent months that he asked the administration to launch a truly independent, anonymous investigation with ironclad protections against retaliation, and was told both times that specifics and details were needed first. He said the demand guaranteed silence, not safety. Mr. McKee said Utah municipalities could create advisory civilian review boards to promote transparency and handle complaints, and suggested Springdale needed an advisory civilian oversight committee. Mr. McKee provided a copy of his written statement (Attachment #3).

Elizabeth Cutler, a Springdale resident, said that two and a half years ago, she wrote an email to Mayor Bruno and received a response that the Mayor could not discuss the issue because it would be ex parte. She said her subsequent emails had not been answered.

5. Intermountain Health Annual Presentation

Mayor Bruno introduced Patrick Carroll, MD, Chief Medical Officer with Intermountain Health. Dr. Carroll shared a video presentation about St. George Regional Hospital. He shared his personal connection with Southern Utah, and his commitment to provide care to everyone who walked through the hospital doors. Dr. Carroll provided hospital statistics, and said as a not-for-profit, the hospital provided almost \$30 million in care and service to the community (Attachment #4).

B. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

1. Review of Monthly Purchasing Report
2. Minutes: November 12, 2025, and November 18, 2025
3. Approval to accept the Resignation of Town Manager Rick Wixom, effective February 10, 2026, and begin recruitment and hiring of a permanent replacement
4. Ratification of the recommendation from the Planning Commission for Jennifer McCulloch as Chair and Terry Kruschke as Vice Chair for 2026
5. Re-Appointment of Terry Kruschke as Planning Commissioner for a three-year term expiring January 2029
6. Request for blanket approval for up to 24 Single-Event Permits in 2026 for the Bit & Spur Assoc., Inc. Applicant: Alex Pelton, Staff Contact: Robin Romero
7. Request for blanket approval for up to 10 Single-Event Permits in 2026 for the Spotted Dog Café, Inc. Applicant: Cade Campbell, Staff Contact: Robin Romero
8. Request for blanket approval for up to 6 Single-Event Permits in 2026 for the Zion Brewery, LLC. Applicant: Jolene Pace, Staff Contact: Robin Romero

Jack Burns made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Randy Aton.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Administrative Action Items

1. Approval of the 2026 Public Meeting Schedule.

Town Clerk Robin Romero commented that Veterans Day was on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, and proposed moving the regularly scheduled November Town Council meeting to Thursday, November 12, 2026, in observance. Ms. Romero said Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA) training was tentatively scheduled for February, hosted by Rockville.

Kyla Topham made a motion to approve the 2026 Public Meeting Schedule. The motion was seconded by Pat Campbell.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration and Possible Approval of an Amendment to the Springdale Parking Application Pilot Program Agreement Between the Town Of Springdale and Utah Tech University

Police Chief Garen Brecke reported that the parking application pilot program with Utah Tech University (UTU), launched in mid-year 2024, had been successful, with 40%-50% usage. He proposed continuing the agreement for three more years, with plans to add a text-to-pay option. Chief Brecke explained his plan to remove a few of the existing kiosks as part of the transition to mobile app use. He said the Town paid monthly for each physical kiosk, and that the transition would save money.

Mr. Campbell said the contract did not read like an interlocal agreement in its first sentence and noted that addresses are usually listed with the parties involved. Town Attorney Greg Hardman said addresses were listed later in the agreement. Mr. Campbell asked if the scope of work was sufficiently clear in the agreement, pointed out a typographical error, asked how UTU would provide marketing, advertising, and promotions, and who would pay. Mr. Hardman said he was not sure how marketing would occur. He said his perception was that the parties had experience and were comfortable working together, and that the scope of work was mutually prepared and recognized. Chief Brecke said UTU had not done any marketing but would probably help the Town develop marketing materials if desired.

Mr. Campbell said the agreement referred to UTU providing technical support to Town employees, and asked what such support involved. Chief Brecke said UTU had built the system to meet the Town's needs and had provided excellent customer service. He said cell service had been the biggest challenge. Mr. Campbell said the agreement stated that UTU would not collect more data than necessary, but did not address over-collection or the storage of data. Mr. Hardman said Mr. Campbell's observations were appropriate, and said the agreement was a general agreement. He said it was his understanding that the specific scope of work was agreed upon by both parties, and said more detail could be added if desired.

Mr. Campbell said the agreement stated that UTU would return a fee of \$0.35 per vehicle transaction and noted that it did not include a provision for inflation over the three-year period. Chief Brecke responded that \$0.35 per vehicle transaction was the fee paid to UTU. Mr. Campbell observed that the agreement stated that the Town had to be gap-compliant, but did not require UTU to be gap-compliant. Mr. Hardman said he presumed the university would need to be gap compliant as a government entity.

Mr. Campbell asked about the agreement's termination in the event of a data breach. Mr. Hardman said the agreement could be terminated at any time with cause. Mr. Campbell asked about language referring to the method of notice of termination, and Mr. Hardman agreed the language needed to be corrected. Mr. Hardman suggested that the Council table approval to allow time to address the issues discussed. Ms. Topham commented that the program was excellent but agreed that issues in the contract should be addressed.

Kyla Topham made a motion to table the agreement for the parking QR codes with Utah Tech University to provide time for the Town Council to adjust some of the recommendations as discussed in the meeting. The motion was seconded by Pat Campbell.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Administrative Non-Action Items

1. General Council Discussion

Draft Minutes of the Springdale Town Council Special and Regular Meetings of December 10, 2025

Mr. Campbell read from a prepared statement. He referred to a comment from Mayor Bruno at the end of the November Council meeting regarding a recent debate and that materials sent to Town Council Members should not be shared. He said Mayor Bruno suggested that a Council member had acted inappropriately and violated a confidentiality requirement. Mr. Campbell described the specific communication from the Town Manager involved. He said he was the member of the Council involved, and stated that information provided to the Town Council through routine Town Manager updates was not inherently confidential, unless clearly identified and properly classified as such under Utah law. He referred to the Government Records Access Management Act (GRAMA) and said the materials involved were not marked confidential and did not involve personnel matters, active legal issues, or any other information typically protected under GRAMA. Mr. Campbell said the suggestion that he engaged in improper conduct did not align with the legal framework governing public records and transparency in Utah (Attachment #5). He asked that Mayor Bruno, in the same public format, clarify the record and acknowledge that no impropriety, misconduct, or wrongdoing occurred on his part.

Mayor Bruno said she had a different opinion, but would give his comments some thought.

E. Adjourn

Randy Aton made a motion to adjourn at 6:22 pm. The motion was seconded by Jack Burns.

Vote on the motion:

Topham: Aye

Campbell: Aye

Bruno: Aye

Aton: Aye

Burns: Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

Robin Romero, Town Clerk

APPROVAL: _____ DATE: _____

A recording of the public meeting is available by accessing the Town's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@SpringdaleTownPublicMeetings>.



PO Box 187 118 Lion Blvd Springdale UT 84767

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Please print your name below

Meeting: Town Council Regular Meeting

Date: 12/10/2025

ATTENDEES:

Patrick Lazzari
Name (please print)

Alv Amis
Name (please print)

Elizabeth Cutler
Name (please print)

Cheri Ikard
Name (please print)

Robb Orser
Name (please print)

Suzanne Elger
Name (please print)

JEFF A. MCKIN
Name (please print)

Noel Benson
Name (please print)

Darci Carlson
Name (please print)

Clifford T.E. Roseman
Name (please print)

JL Collins Republic Services
Name (please print)

Name (please print)

ATTENDEES:

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Elizabeth Cutler
Name (please print)

Cheryl
Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Good evening Council. Suzanne Elger. First things first, a little rumor control. Yes our house is for sale. We are headed back to Chicago, trading mountain views for Lake Michigan views. We have loved living here but family calls.

Secondly, another rumor is confirmed Item B.3, resignation of Rick Wixom. I also heard a rumor that you, Rick, are not retiring and have secured a new position. Is this a true statement?

I have a question why is item B.3 a consent agenda item. Typically, there is no discussion of consent agenda items. This item warrants an open discussion especially given the drawn-out end date of February 10, 2026 and the opportunity the town has to fill a pivotal position. By allowing the town manager to stay in place, the council misses the opportunity for each of you members to truly understand what the job entails and therefore find the best possible replacement. Why is item B.3 resignation of Rick Wixom included as a consent agenda item?

At the candidate's night in October, two of the council members indicated a lack of financial literacy. Mayor Bruno, what training have you scheduled for the entire council to increase the council's financial literacy?

In December 2024, the town retained the services of Rees CPA for auditor services. Was the audit conducted for fiscal year 2024-2025?

The annual financial report is due within 180 days of the end of the fiscal year, has the town manager presented the annual financial report to the Council?

Why is there no audit presentation to the public in on this agenda as it has been each year since December 2020?

In the December newsletter, Mayor Bruno, you wrote a column about the election and community that discussed negative campaigning. The hypocrisy of your column was not lost on many of us. There is a significant and growing number of us who have questions or concerns about the town's decisions and you seem unwilling to engage with us. We are frustrated with being ignored. What can **WE** do to gain your attention and have productive conversations that require **YOU** to respond to the unanswered questions and concerns?

Why was Pat Campbell removed from the Housing Committee?

To: Springdale Town Council and Town Clerk
From: Clifford
Subject: Request for Revocation of Business License – Red Cliffs Lodge
Date: October 13, 2025

Dear Town Council, Town Clerk, Mayor and Police Dept,

I am writing to formally request that the Town of Springdale initiate proceedings under **Springdale Town Code §3-1-12** to revoke the business license of **Red Cliffs Lodge**, located at 792 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale, UT 84767. Based on substantial, ongoing, and well-documented violations of Town ordinances and public welfare standards, this business has repeatedly failed to operate in accordance with local, state, and federal law.

Under §3-1-12, a business license may be revoked or denied renewal if a licensee:

1. **Has violated laws or ordinances governing the operation of the business;**
2. **Has allowed or is responsible for unlawful activities conducted or permitted on the premises;**
3. **Conducts business in a manner that creates a nuisance or otherwise violates any local, state, or federal law.**

Grounds for Revocation

1. Repeated Lighting Ordinance Violations (Town Code §10-15C)

Red Cliffs Lodge installed more than one hundred high-intensity light fixtures that do not comply with Springdale's Outdoor Lighting Ordinance. The canopy lights emit excessive lumens, creating glare, light trespass, and night-sky pollution visible across nearby residences. Despite multiple notifications and recommendations from the Town inspector to install compliant shielding ("skirts" or "shades"), the business has failed to correct these violations.

2. Improper Use of Shipping Containers Without Active Construction Permit (Town Code §10-4)

Multiple shipping containers—some up to forty feet in length—remain openly stored on the property without an active construction permit. Town Code allows such containers only during active construction. These structures are unsightly, obstruct public views, and have contributed to rodent and pest infestations. This violation began at the time of purchase and subsequently escalated, growing to seven containers for a period and later revealing visibly damaged bedding and construction materials.

3. Unscreened Trash and Sanitation Violations (Town Code §10-4)

The Lodge's trash enclosures are habitually left open, exposing waste such as bedding and construction debris. These unsanitary conditions, with bins left uncovered for weeks, have led to rodent and insect infestations, posing significant public health and fire hazards.

4. Noise and Illegal Lodging in Parked Buses (Town Code §10-13F)

Red Cliffs Lodge is permitting luxury buses to park on-site, operating generators throughout the night, which results in excessive noise and exhaust. This practice includes allowing guests to sleep in these buses, an activity that is both unlicensed and unpermitted under Town zoning regulations. When this issue was brought to the attention of management, I was informed that the Police had approved this arrangement for five nights, with generators running continuously, and management declined to resolve the situation.

5. Obstruction of Sidewalks and Public Right-of-Way (Town Code Title 10; Ordinance 2025-15)

A tenant business operating on the Lodge's premises has been permitted to conduct commercial activities—including bicycle training and rentals—on public sidewalks and grassy areas, blocking pedestrian access and creating safety and liability concerns. Furthermore, the business operates a bar and grill with seating directly adjacent to the public sidewalk, lacking any barrier between the two.

Under **Title 10 (Land Use and Zoning)**, businesses must confine operations to their approved commercial premises and may not use public rights-of-way or landscaped setbacks for private commerce.

Additionally, **Ordinance 2025-15**, amending **Title 3**, prohibits unpermitted commercial activity or deliveries within the public right-of-way. These activities constitute an ongoing encroachment and violate both the zoning and business license provisions requiring compliance with Town development codes.

6. Fire Hazard Conditions in Employee Housing (Town Code §10-4; Fire Code Enforcement Authority §4-3)

Reports indicate that employee housing areas on the property contain unsafe and unsanitary conditions—including discarded bedding, accumulated trash, and overgrown vegetation—that pose a potential **fire hazard**. Such conditions violate the Town's nuisance and safety standards under **§10-4**, which prohibits the maintenance of unsafe or hazardous conditions, and fall within the enforcement authority of **§4-3 (Code Enforcement)**.

7. Misrepresentation and Non-Cooperation with Town Officials (Town Code §3-1-12)

Over a period of several months, Red Cliffs Lodge management has repeatedly misrepresented corrective actions to Town officials and neighboring business owners. Despite assurances that violations would be remedied, no meaningful action has occurred. Under **§3-1-12**, misrepresentation and failure to comply with the conditions or requirements of the Town Code constitute valid grounds for business license revocation.

Request for Action

In light of the ongoing violations and disregard for Town ordinances, I respectfully request that the Town of Springdale:

1. **Commence an investigation** into the above-referenced violations;
2. **Issue a formal notice of revocation** of the Red Cliffs Lodge business license under Town Code §3-1-12; and
3. **Suspend the business license pending corrective compliance**, to protect public welfare and preserve the integrity of the Town's code enforcement standards.

Failure to take enforcement action risks signaling that the Town's ordinances are optional and that continued noncompliance carries no consequence. Consistent enforcement upholds fairness among business owners and preserves the character, safety, and aesthetic integrity of the Springdale community.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,


Clifford

Mayor, members of the Council, town employees, friends and neighbors—thank you.

A town official recently asked me, “Why do you still work here?”
Good question. Because I promised many of you I’d fight to make Springdale better for all—not just the chosen few.

Utah is an at-will employment state. That policy was never meant to control or intimidate, but some claim to have heard concerns from local HR professionals and attorneys that it can often lead to arbitrary decisions without due process.

Many agree our at-will implementation needs more oversight. So, what are the odds Springdale is immune? In my opinion, zero.

Reality:

Citizens naturally presume that those elected to local office or who manage our town operations and services, possess the ethical maturity and moral compass to exercise power with restraint, choosing fairness and the preservation of individual liberty over the unchecked use of every technical authority the law grants them.

A whispered rumor—true or invented—is all it takes to put someone on probation, kill their raise, switch their position, or fire them outright. No proof required. No accuser named.

Many town leaders have contracts. Police have protections.

Rank-and-file employees have only ‘at-will.’ That is not liberty. That is not justice. It feels like rule by fear to too many.

Some will argue, ‘It’s legal.’

And it is.

Seems like a pretty good policy for those at the top!

Argument for a Community Oversight Committee:

Twice in recent months, I asked town leadership to launch a truly independent, anonymous investigation with iron-clad retaliation protection.

Both times the answer was, 'We need specifics and details first.'
Respectfully,

That demand guarantees silence, not safety.

I made a fair offer: if no one comes forward under real protection, I'd no longer pursue the matter.

In my view, every response I've received from the mayor, council, and management only proves why employees are terrified to speak out.

The good news? Utah municipalities can create advisory civilian review boards to promote transparency and handle complaints.

While state law limits their power (no subpoena authority), they still provide a vital community voice on fairness and anonymity for all employees.

So, what 's the core reason why so many Utah public employees stay silent , even when they see clear wrongdoing? In Utah's small-town and county government world (especially southern Utah), the networks are extremely tight.

Time does not permit a full discussion of these networks and connections.

Because they're so tight, anything less than bullet-proof, out-of-state, third-party anonymity is treated by employees as no anonymity at all. They know that even an "anonymous" report to state agencies carries an unacceptable risk of retaliation.

That's why Springdale needs its own advisory oversight committee—ASAP

I honestly can't think of a single valid reason not to.
Change my mind.
Thank you.



St. George Regional Hospital

Serving the region for nearly 50 years, St. George Regional Hospital is proud to deliver compassionate, quality care to the people in Southern Utah and is the major medical referral center for northwestern Arizona and southeastern Nevada. In addition to primary care clinics in and around St. George and the surrounding communities, St. George Regional offers dozens of innovative specialty services and a 300-bed hospital. We are a fully accredited Level II Trauma Center with more than 2,800 caregivers and more than 400 physicians and advanced care professionals.



LEADERSHIP



Natalie Ashby
Hospital President



Patrick Carroll
Chief Medical
Officer



John Cottam
Board Chair

FAST FACTS

Year Founded	1913
Total Employees	2,800
Medical Staff	835
Inpatient Admissions	20,046
Emergency Visits	59,193
Licensed Beds	300
Births	2,800
Annual Charity Care	\$29.6 million

—Statistics from most recent year available

KEY QUALITY MEASURES

Safety & Quality

Achieved number 1 ranking in the country out of 173 hospitals in our cohort for Vizient's quality performance.

Ranked number 1 Large Community Hospital by Premier's PINC AI 100 Top Hospitals program.

Patient Experience

Received Magnet recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the nation's highest honor for nursing excellence.

U.S. News & World Report rated four-star for patient experience and continues to be rated as 'High Performing' in multiple categories.

KEY SERVICE LINES

Cardiology
Oncology
Orthopedics

Neurology
Maternity & Newborn
Behavioral Health
Trauma Services

Pat Campbell Council Comment Re-Manager Report Email

At last month's council meeting, during her closing comments, Mayor Bruno referred to the recent debate and stated the following:

"...during the debate Mr. Benson quoted directly from the town manager's report that came only to council. I'm not going to ask how he got that, and I want to remind council members that things that come to us as council members are for our eyes only and should not be shared."

Mayor Bruno's comment begins at 2:52:25 on the meeting recording for anyone who wishes to review it.

In making this statement, Mayor Bruno suggested that a council member had acted inappropriately and violated a confidentiality requirement.

For context, the Mayor was referring to an email from Town Manager Rick Wixom, sent on Friday, October 10, 2025, to council members, that included six documents, as follows:

- Water Rates and Depreciation;
- Sewer Project Update;
- Medical Clinic Update;
- New Town Hall "Bubble Diagram" (15,177 sq. ft. concept);
- Proposed Medical Clinic Layout Diagram;
- Conceptual site plan diagram for three buildings on the Town-owned Lion Blvd. parcel.

The council member implicitly identified as responsible for sharing those documents was me, Pat Campbell.

To be clear: information provided to the Town Council through routine manager updates—such as committee work summaries, project updates, and draft concepts—is not inherently confidential unless it is clearly identified and properly classified as such under Utah law.

Under the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA), a record's status as public or confidential is determined by statutory criteria and a formal classification process, not by the personal preference of the sender or any individual elected official.

A council member who receives an unmarked internal document or update is generally understood to hold a public record unless the content falls into a legally defined category, such as private, controlled, or protected.

Under GRAMA, municipal communications are presumed public unless they contain specific protected information, such as personnel matters, active legal issues, or other content that is lawfully designated as confidential.

These materials were not marked confidential and did not involve personnel matters, active legal issues, or other information typically treated as protected under GRAMA.

Further, confidential designation must follow GRAMA's established procedures and be based on specific statutory criteria and exemptions. Unless a record is formally classified under those standards, it remains a public record and may be shared in accordance with the law. A simple 'eyes-only' label, by itself, does not change a record's legal status.

Sharing routine committee and project-related information with residents is consistent with Utah's emphasis on transparency and informed public participation.

For these reasons, the suggestion that I engaged in improper conduct does not align with the legal framework governing public records and transparency in Utah. It does not accurately reflect the law or my actions as a council member.

Transparency, when exercised within the bounds of GRAMA, is part of fulfilling the public trust. Characterizing such transparency as misconduct, when no legal violation has occurred, is inconsistent with that framework.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Mayor, in this same public forum where the assertion was made, clarify the record and acknowledge that no impropriety, misconduct, or wrongdoing occurred on my part, or on the part of any other council member, in connection with the sharing of that information.