

Scofield Town Council Minutes

January 12th, 20026

7:01 PM

Call to Order: 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Levanger

Roll Call: Meliss Holloway, Brad Peacock, Jim Levanger, Ralph Brinkerhoff, Kim Erikkila, Debbie Redford and Karen Brickey.

Moment of Reflection:

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Levanger

Oath of Office: Debbie Redford administered the Oath of Office to the Mayor on January 5th, 2026 at the town maintenance building with Dale Lea as a witness. Debbie Redford administered the Oath of Office to Kim Erikkila and Brad Peacock.

Minutes Review: All minutes from December 8, 2025 were reviewed and Brad Peacock motioned to accept the minutes and Ralph Brinkerhoff seconded it. Kim Erikkila abstained as she was not appointed to the council yet. Minutes were approved by all other members.

Financial Adjustments Reports: Karen Brickey the Town Treasurer read the financial report dated 12-31-2025. All accounts approved by Town Treasurer. There was only one adjustment for \$30.00 off one account. Meliss Holloway made a motion to make the adjustment and approve the financial report of 12-31-2025 and Ralph Brinkerhoff seconded it. All approved.

Bills to Pay: The bills from 12-9-2025 to 1-12-2026 were provided for inspection. Ralph Brinkerhoff questioned the bill to Smokin J Diesel. Mayor advised it was for repairs to the town waste water truck. Kim Erikkila made a motion to pay the bills. Meliss Holloway seconded it. All were in favor.

Public Comment Period: There were none.

Town Updates: Mayor Jim said that the town sewer truck was in the shop for repairs for brakes.

Presentation: Janell Braithwaite Management Technician @ Rural Water Association of Utah. Janell took all the towns accounts. (1) Residential, (2) Commercial and (3) Agriculture (4) No Charge etc. Mayor and council requested an analysis. Mayor and council are very frugal with the towns money for expenses. Revenues were put in to caluate rates. Town has Canyon Fuel revenue as of now. To break even the town needs \$30,000 from water users. She has made a tool for the town to use. The town needs to have deprecation funded. Town does not have a lot of water users going over. \$13.68 needs to be added per connection per month to meet the goal. \$35.21 (important number) average monthly bill needed for funding. \$10.00 increase needed for funding. The town is still about \$5,000.00 short with current rates. Need to look at current rates to proposed rates. \$15.00 is the current sewer rate. Revenues at 1.2% in fund savings accounts for future work. Every system has got into upping rates. Depreciation; Capital Outlay; and Emergency Funding for savings. They are seeing future projects right now at 1 million or even 2 million for small systems. The town \$52,000 MAGI – Medium Adjusted Gross Income would not qualify for any grant funding. The state of Utah MAGI – Medium Adjusted Gross Income is \$60,000. Through the drinking water board the town would need to be at \$48,000 to qualify for grant funding. If they considered the \$52,000 MAGI – Medium Adjusted Gross Income they want the town to be up to 1.75% of the MAGI – Medium Adjusted Gross Income in order to qualify for grant funding the average bill would have to be \$75.83. The town is at \$25.17 right now. Grant funding is not available right now, drinking water board has been cut by about 70%. Earmark funding through USDA is not funding the money as it has gone to the congressmen. The town might get a grant funding due to the coal mine. The towns' medium household income is determined by the census. The town is above 80%, so the town is not considered disadvantaged for any federal funding. The town needs to save for emergency. The town is very good at conserving water. A discussion about Helper water ensued.

Janell suggests \$10.00 base rate increase .50 per 1,000 gallon on each tier, every year increase 2% to 3% or just by \$1.00 or \$2.00 on base and ¼ per tier just to put more money away for future expenses. Keep the towns' water system healthy.

Mayor Jim stated that the towns system is an old system. Council had a discussion: Kim Erikkila would like a public hearing. Ralph Brinkerhoff agreed with what we need to do, and a public hearing. Brad Peacock does not like to see we are underfunded, but it is obvious that we need to do something. Meliss Holloway would like a public hearing. Mayor Jim, Canyon Mine is expected to last until 2032. We better get things fixed now. We can ignore reality, but we cannot ignore to consequences. Per Janell the rate increase would need to be by Ordinance. A motion by Kim Erikkila to have a public hearing February 9th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Meliss Holloway seconded it. All were in favor.

Old Business: Lorraine Behling spoke the Christine Watkins @ Carbon County through Community Park and Recreation there is grant money available for a playground in the city park. If the town puts up \$5,000.00 towards the playground Christine Watkins would put up here own personal \$5,000.00 to match it and put in a grant application for the town. The total amount of the grant would be approx. \$100,000 to \$120,000 for playground equipment. The grant must be put in for the January 15, 2026. Janell advised the County Economic Development has money for walking paths. Brad Peacock commit for \$5,000.00 for the grant. Meliss Holloway made a motion of \$5,000.00 for grant. Kim Erikkila seconded it. All were favor.

Mayor Jim stated that everyone to sign up by ordinance for ServLine Protection Plan. ServLine will give anyone 60 days to opt out of the plan. Brad Peacock made a motion for a public hearing on this matter on February 9th, 2026 6:15 p.m. Ralph Brinkerhoff seconded it. All were favor.

Mayor Jim, possible terms for hiring a weekend sewer haul operator. Jordan Sessions has applied for the position if the town is willing to pay for his training for a class B driver's license with an H endorsement. And Jordan Sessions agrees to stay employed with the town for 2 years. If the agreement is not met Jordan agrees to refund the town a prorated amount for the cost of his training. Compensation for weekend sewer haul operator is a minimum of \$180.00 per day that is 3 loads per day. Drive time is \$24.00 per hour and no benefits. Mayor read the agreement from the town attorney. Ralph Brinkerhoff motioned to accept the employment agreement for the weekend sewer haul operator. Meliss Holloway seconded it. All were in favor.

Possible terms of the purchase for cemetery. The Mayor has been working with Nick Sampinos the lawyer for the Telonis family. It includes \$20,000.00 compensation to the Telonis family. Mayor Jim read the letter that will be sent to the Telonis family.

Brad Peacock made a motion to approve the terms for cemetery purchase. Ralph Brinkerhoff seconded it. All were in favor.

Brad Peacock made a motion to adjourn. Ralph Brinkerhoff seconded it.

Adjourn: 8:31 p.m.