

**CASTLE DALE CITY**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2026**



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The City Council of Castle Dale, Emery County, Utah, met in an open meeting on January 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.  
20 S 100 E, Castle Dale, Utah

**ATTENDEES**

**Mayor:** Danny Van Wagoner

**Council:**

- Bradley Giles
- Joel Dorsch
- Glen Gerber-Excused
- Michael Jorgensen-Zoom
- Emily Mills

**Maintenance Supervisor:** Ignacio Arrien

**Fire Chief:** Ignacio Arrien

**EMS:** -

**Land Use Administrator:** Kerry Lake

**Code Enforcer-Animal Control:** Kevin Raypush-Excused

**Treasurer:** Carolyn Montgomery-

**Recorder:** Rebecca Norton

**Others in attendance:** Kyann Feichko, Bowdie Feichko, Kate Van Wagoner, SEUJLS committee-Kayle Morris, Lorna Jensen, Sherry Swasey, Anndee Mead.

**WELCOME**

Mayor Danny Van Wagoner was presiding and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

All City council members were in attendance except Glen Gerber (Excused)

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Council member Giles motioned to approve the December Minutes, Council member Mills seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved

**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Public hearing for the CIB project for all abilities park-  
Open public hearing**

Council member Giles motioned to open a public hearing for the CIB project for all abilities park, Council member Mills second the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

Kyann Feichko spoke in support of the all-abilities park, sharing that her 10-year-old son has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy a progressive muscle disorder and uses a power wheelchair. He faces physical limitations that prevent him from fully participating in many sports and activities, and current parks are not accessible due to stairs. An all-abilities park close to home would provide him with a meaningful outdoor outlet. She noted that while accommodations are sometimes made, her son still cannot physically participate in many activities. Kyann, who works with special education students, emphasized that many children, especially those with disabilities, autism, sensory needs, or requiring occupational therapy—would benefit. She stated the park would promote inclusion, interaction, a sense of belonging, and equal access, rather than special treatment, for children in the community.

Anndee spoke via Zoom about the importance of the all-abilities park, sharing that her young son even held a fundraiser for the project, showing how meaningful it is to him. She stated the park would be a positive addition to the community, benefiting both residents and visitors. She also noted that the proposed location near the aquatic center is ideal and expressed excitement about seeing the project completed.

The mayor shared that for the past 10 years, Nosh’s wife has organized a one-day luau for children with disabilities, an event the families greatly look forward to each year. A parent expressed that without this event, their children would spend the summer at home due to a lack of accessible activities. The mayor emphasized that while the luau is only a one-day event, building a permanent, accessible space where these children can participate year-round would be an exciting and meaningful addition for Castle Dale.

**Closed Public Hearing**

Council member Giles motioned to close the public hearing, Council member Mills second the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**CIB Project for all abilities park**

For the all-abilities park CIB project, \$269,480 has been raised in cash donations, and land valued at \$70,000 has been donated. The city plans to request approximately \$300,000 from the CIB, with additional grant opportunities to be pursued depending on outcomes in February. Several partners have already provided commitment letters, indicating strong support and positive prospects for the project.

Council member Giles motioned to approve the CIB application for the Castle Dale All Abilities Park, Council member Mills second the motion.

**Result:** Approved

**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Electronic Speed Limit Signs-**

Regarding electronic speed signs, it was noted that the state previously shared costs with Huntington for similar signs. The mayor plans to contact the state road representative, and the item will be tabled for now.

Council member Giles motioned to table the electronic speed limit sign: Council member Mills second the motion.

**Result:** Approved

**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**South Eastern Jr. Livestock show**

Kaylee Morris presented on behalf of the Southeastern Junior Livestock Show, thanking Castle Dale City for use of the Blue Sage Arena over the past two years and requesting to return for one additional year while the Ferron barn is expected to be completed by September. The mayor explained that hosting the event has cost the city significant expenses, including increased power bills, labor, maintenance, and setup/teardown, totaling nearly \$7,000 in past years, with an estimated cost of about \$4,500 this year due to improved planning and fewer panels.

Discussion covered labor costs, panel delivery and handling issues from prior years, maintenance responsibilities, and efforts to reduce city workload by having the livestock show take greater control of setup, teardown, and cleaning. Council members noted limited economic impact, with little to no increase in sales tax revenue.

Ultimately, the Mayor proposed waiving standard fees if the livestock show hires its own staff to clean bathrooms and manage garbage and charging a flat \$3,000 maintenance fee for use of the entire fairgrounds from July 5 through July 13. The group agreed to assist with cleanup and maintenance responsibilities under this arrangement.

Council member Mills motioned charging the stock show \$3,000; Council member Dorsh seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved

**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Year-end safety awards**

For 2025, in accordance with policy, there were no injuries. The qualifying employees—Nosh, Buzz, Dustan, Kevin, Courtney, Rebecca, and Carolyn—will each receive a \$150 safety award on their next paycheck.

Council member Mills motioned to approve \$150 for safety awards; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Deposit fee for hookups to accommodate credit card fees**

The council discussed adding a fee to utility deposits paid by credit card to cover credit card processing costs. Currently, when a \$150 deposit is paid by card and later refunded or applied to a final bill, the city absorbs the processing fee. It was clarified that deposits are applied to the final bill, with any remaining balance refunded. The mayor proposed charging \$155 for credit card deposits, returning \$150 to the customer, allowing the city to cover the approximately 3% credit card fee.

Council member Mills motioned to approve to charge the credit card fee of \$155 on their hook up with a refund of \$150; Council member Giles second the motion

**Result:** Approve  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Emergency silent panic buttons**

The council discussed purchasing emergency silent panic buttons for City Hall to improve staff safety and directly alert the Sheriff’s Office during incidents. The system would include three silent panic buttons, one of which would be portable for use during city council meetings. The estimated cost is \$1,607 for equipment and installation, with an annual maintenance fee of \$492. The discussion followed a recent incident involving a disruptive individual, and it was noted that other cities already use similar systems.

Council member Dorsch motioned to approve the purchase of the silent panic buttons; Council member Mills seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**Contract for legal services for prosecution of ordinances**

The council discussed a contract for legal services to prosecute ordinance violations, prompted by issues with animal control over splitting fines. The city decided that animal control must cover the full cost rather than splitting it. An attorney was hired to handle prosecution and fine collection at a cost of \$100, which was viewed as effective. It was agreed that the attorney could handle not only animal control ordinances but all ordinance violations.

Council member Giles motioned to pay \$100 for attorney fees; Council member Mills second the motion

**Result:** Approved

**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

#### **Discussion on SERDA state compliance IT**

The council discussed SERDA state compliance IT services. SERDA offers an IT provider where costs decrease as more cities participate, with an estimated cost of a few hundred dollars. While the exact amount is unknown, it was agreed the option is worth exploring. Further information will be gathered next week, and the discussion will continue next month to ensure the city remains in compliance with the State.

#### **Land Use committee- Kerry Lake**

The Land Use Committee did not meet this month. A few questions were addressed individually. Huntington requested a copy of the city's short-term vacation rental ordinance, which was provided along with clarification on inspection provisions. It was explained that inspections are not required but are permitted if the city chooses to conduct them, and it was noted this may be something to review in the future.

#### **Animal control/code enforcement- Kevin Raypush-Excused**

#### **Maintenance: Ignacio Arrien**

Maintenance reported the final 2025 waivers and donations: Boulder fest (\$2,131.76) and the ice rink (\$729.58). Concerns were raised that current arena and event waiver fees are outdated and no longer cover actual costs due to increased expenses such as fuel, equipment use, trash, and bathroom services. Although events are charged set fees, maintenance is still frequently called out, resulting in the city absorbing additional costs. Since July 1, over \$13,000 has been spent on events.

The mayor and council agreed a new, updated fee structure is needed. It was suggested that the arena committee, along with two council members and staff, work together to determine true costs, clarify what services are included in rental fees, and revise the waiver and fee schedule accordingly.

#### **Fire department:**

The Fire Department reported that operations are going well. Due to the passage of House Bill 48 (Wildland-Urban Interface law), the community will be required to adopt the new WUI code as a local ordinance to remain compliant with CWS requirements. All Utah communities must adopt and integrate this code into their local ordinances. A meeting is scheduled for the 14th to gather more information, after which a report and proposed ordinance will be brought back. The county is drafting a CWS ordinance that cities are expected to adopt, and updates will be provided.

#### **Treasurer/recorder report**

#### **Treasurer stated:**

The Treasurer/Recorder reported that sales tax revenue was down \$7,152.95 and transportation tax was down \$719.87. In response to a question, it was confirmed that payment records can be

broken down and you can see what businesses are paying. Some businesses, including Maverik and Village Inn, pay quarterly, and Airbnb and rental payments have not yet been received for the month. The state provides an itemized tax report around the 20th of each month, broken into local revenue and revenue from all sources within the ZIP code.

**Recorder stated:**

I am going to be working on the next newsletter so if there is something that you would like in it, please let me know.

I got 1 animal license renewed

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

Glen-Excused.

Mike- Mike thanked everyone.

Bradley Giles-

Emily-

Joel- We had 2 inches of ice, and we have lost ice in the last 2 weeks

Mayor Danny Van Wagoner-

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR SIGNATURES**

Council member Giles motioned to pay the bills; Council member Mills seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

**ADJOURN**

Council member Mills motioned to adjourn the meeting; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

**Result:** Approved  
**Yes:** Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills and Joel Dorsch

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

01/08/2026

Approved

