

Minutes of the *Regular* Meeting of the Trenton Town Council held on Tuesday February 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., in the Trenton Town Hall, 17 East Main, Trenton, Utah.

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Present:	Mayor:	Erick Simmonds
	Councilmember:	Kyle Kingston
		Stacey Wangsgard
		Donny Merrill
		John Nelson
	Clerk	Macall Smith

Guests: Kacee John, Trenton Water Operator, Ed Cottle, Janet Cottle, Sandy Spackman, Mark Adams and Roger Nelson.

Mayor Simmonds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The audience and the Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

The Council noted that the date on the agenda was incorrect and that it should read February 3 not January 6. COUNCILMEMBER WANGSGARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 6, 2026, MEETING AGENDA, WITH THE NOTED DATE CHANGE, WITH COUNCILMEMBER KINGSTON SECONDING THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.

Approval of the Minutes

Mayor Simmonds asked for approval of the January 6, 2026, meeting minutes. COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 6, 2026 MEETING MINUTES AS PRINTED WITH COUNCILMEMBER WANGSGARD SECONDING THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.

Approval of the February 2026 Checks

COUNCILMEMBER KINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2026 CHECKS AS PRINTED WITH COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL SECONDING THE MOTION WITH ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.

Public Comment

Sandy Spackman asked about requiring a survey as part of the permitting process for building a home. Councilmember Kingston stated that Trenton doesn't currently require a survey but that he would bring the suggestion to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mark Adams asked why his front yard had been marked by *Blue Stakes*. The Council stated that they weren't positive but guessed that it had to do with the bathrooms being built at the park. Roger Nelson asked for an update on the hay press that was being considered, Councilmember Merrill stated that they are waiting for an electrical survey to see if there was enough power on the line to run the press.

The Council reviewed the budget numbers from the report provided by Steve Misners office.

Business License- IFA- Northern Utah Ag

The Council reviewed the application for IFA- Northern Utah Ag. COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL MOVED APPROVE THE BUSINESS LICENSE OF IFA-NORTHER UTAH AG, WITH COUNCILMEMBER KINGSTON SECONDING THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.

Business License- Home Estate Photography- Thomas Carter

The Council reviewed Thomas Carter's application for Home Estate Photography. They discussed if the

business would have walk-up customers. COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL MOVED APPROVE THE BUSINESS LICENSE OF THOMAS CARTER, HOME ESTATE PHOTOGRAPHY, WITH COUNCILMEMBER WANGSGARD SECONding THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE. Councilmember Merrill suggested that the Council change the application to require the applicant to attend the meeting. He stated that he felt like they should be in attendance to answer questions. The Council decided to put this on next month's agenda.

Review and presentation of the Trenton Water Rates Study- Janell Braithwaite, Utah Rural Water

Janell Braithwaite from Utah Rural Water presented the Trenton Water Rates Study. She shared that she does water rate recommendations as part of her job. She explained that she has reviewed Trenton's water system, the budget and rates. She shared that there are not as many grants as there used to be but went on to say that there is a chance that Trenton will receive a grant to upgrade all the meters in town. She explained that many grants now require asset management plans as part of the application process. She suggested that the town have a 1.2% savings for future projects. Ms. Braithwaite told the Council that a tiered water system was one option for increasing revenue, explaining that the state could require a rate increase prior to any money, grant or loan, being given to the town. She stated that things are getting more expensive and shared her opinion that the town needs to start saving for future projects. She shared how the State looks at water rates with respect to gross income of the residents, informing the Council and those in attendance that based on current numbers Trenton qualifies for grants based on the State's median household income, which leaves the town in good shape to qualify for federal grants, explaining that Trenton qualifies as a disadvantage community. Councilmember Nelson stated that he feels the water system is in good shape but that the town needs to do some planning for future projects. He shared some of the projects that rural water has helped with, mapping the water system and a rates study all a no cost to the town. Ms. Braithwaite commended the Council on starting the process and explained that part of her job is to help small communities like Trenton. Mayor Simmonds thanked her for the work she had put in. She said that she was going to forward the spreadsheet onto the Council for them to use as they consider changing the water rates. Ms. Braithwaite shared that she has a sample ordinance that would require a yearly increase in the water rates over the next five years. Councilmember Wangsgard asked if any other towns use a tiered rate system. Councilmember Nelson shared that they have played with the numbers and the discussed numbers are the ones that they came up with. He also explained the new meters that they are hoping to buy with the State grant and how they could benefit the town.

Ethical Behavior Pledge

Clerk Smith explained that this was part of an annual requirement by the State. She read the pledge for the public. The Councilmembers all signed the pledge.

Appointment of Councilmember Kyle Kingston as Treasurer and signer on town financial accounts-

Clerk Smith explained that the bank requires an official motion as part of minutes to change the account information. MAYOR SIMMONDS MOVED TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBER KINGSTON AS THE TREASURER WITH COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL SECONding THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.

RAPZ project bids-Mayor Erick Simmonds

Mayor Simmonds shared that he was unable to get bids for a RAPZ project for the 2026 year. He suggested applying for funding to install a cement pad along with a bike rack and a sidewalk to the playground. He was going to try to get it all put together for the next meeting and the deadline at the beginning of March.

Parks/ Recreation/ Cemetery update

Councilmember Wangsgard asked Mayor Simmonds where he got the prefilled Easter Eggs used last year. She also discussed moving the Easter Egg Hunt to April 11th at 10 o'clock to accommodate Spring break for the local schools. She also asked about talking with the County to get the Trenton gravel pit

opened back up. Councilmember Wangsgard expressed thanks to Lynn Payne for his service and time serving as Mayor. The Council discussed holding an appreciation dinner and suggested March 6th at 7 p.m. Clerk Smith stated that she would work on this.

Roads update

Councilmember Merrill updated the Council, sharing that he has met with West Cache to begin work on the canal bridge crossing, and they are not interested in sharing in the cost of updating the crossing. Councilmember Nelson suggested that he talk with them about sharing the cost; suggesting that the town consider pulling out the culvert and then asked for them to help pay to reinstall it. Councilmember Merrill stated that he is waiting on finalized plans from Jacob Ames. The Council discussed sleeving the water line at the intersection of 800 South and 400 East.

Planning & Zoning update

Councilmember Kingston shared that they are waiting until the legislative session ends to make any further changes to the Ordinance. He shared that Darin Mathis is the new Chairperson. It was pointed out that a camper is being lived in on the corner of Main Street and 1200 East, they asked him to talk with the Commission about this.

Water update

Councilmember Nelson asked that water rates study discussion along with water hook-up ordinance be put on next month's agenda.

Clerk Smith stated that she had a notice from the County Weed department asking if Trenton wanted to contract with them regarding the town's property in Clarkston and weed control that needed to be done on it. The Council stated that they would like to have the County take care of weed control.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, COUNCILMEMBER MERRILL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 8:47 PM WITH COUNCILMEMBER WANGSGARD SECONDING THE MOTION AND ALL COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTING AYE.