



Regular Town Council Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 7:00 pm

Meeting Location: Dutch John Community Center 530 South Blvd.

Public Access

Meeting access is available electronically. See <https://dutchjohn.gov/pages/calendar> for more details.

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- Called to order at 7:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Minutes:

- Town Council & Staff: Mayor Lester Jones (Butch), Harriet Dickerson, Amy McDonald, and Rachel Albritton (online), Allen Parker. Council member Sandy Kunkel was excused.
- Public: Jesse Lassley, Peter Guinn, Mechelle Miller, Leonard Isaacson, JayDee Guymon (online)

3. Consent Agenda

Minutes:

Motion

- Harriet made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Amy second. All in favor.

a. Minutes of meeting: Feb 25, 2026 Meeting and Public Hearing

Minutes:

- The minutes from the February 25, 2026, meeting were approved with a minor clarification regarding TRT funds. Although \$14,000 was mentioned in a work session the actual value should be \$12,000.

b. Expenditures: Voucher List

Minutes:

- The expenditure voucher list was reviewed and deemed acceptable.

c. Correspondence:

Minutes:

- No correspondence was noted.

4. Committee / Staff Reports

a. Mayor's Report

Minutes:

- Polar Plunge is still scheduled for March 14.
- The County Commissioners matched the town's \$42,000 budget for the Dutch John airport.
- A presentation was given on the minor subdivision ordinance change to remove hurdles for the county/RDA.
- The Chamber confirmed the town will receive \$12,000 in TRT money.
- Butch suggested utilizing a staff member from the Vernal airport for part-time town maintenance.
- The county signed the contract for the Brownsfield study with Terracon.

b. Volunteer Fire Department

Minutes:

- JayDee scheduled a meeting with Butch for March 16th at 5:30 p.m. to review paperwork for the upcoming ISO survey. HB 48 has been delayed for a year. There are also a few other changes. He and Corey Auger will let us know more as they get more information about the changes. The RFP for the remodel is being finalized and Butch will review the final version with JayDee ASAP.

c. Planning and Zoning

d. Building and Grounds

Minutes:

- Allen Parker reported that the engineer is finalizing the bid documents for the conference hall remodel RFP. The council hopes to post the RFP on Monday, March 16th, with bids to be opened on April 1st.

e. Cemetery

f. Freedom Festival: July 4, 2026

Minutes:

- The council discussed the need to quickly finalize and post an RFP for fireworks.

g. America 250 Utah Celebration

Minutes:

- JayDee volunteered to spearhead a "nation appreciation day" potluck on

May 14th. Harriet noted that the American 250 money can help pay for the food. A new banner is up at the Post Office, and Harriet is looking into getting more posters. Butch reminded everyone that he would like to do a community cleanup in April as part of a celebration event.

5. Public Comment

Minutes:

- Leonard Isaacson noted that Stephanie Richard, working on dispatcher training, will be contacting council members regarding dispatch funding and fire department requirements.
- Amy reminded everyone that Easter was quickly approaching and the Town still needed to prepare for the upcoming Easter egg hunt.

6. Old Business

a. National Flood Insurance Program - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council voted to adopt the NFIP ordinance. This was done to enable residents to receive subsidized flood insurance if their properties are designated in a floodplain on future FIRM maps.

Motion

- Harriet made a motion to adopt the National Flood Insurance Resolution. Rachel second.

Votes

- Butch Johns - Yes
- Harriet Dickerson - Yes
- Amy McDonald - Yes
- Rachel Albritton - Yes
- Sandy Kunkel - absent

b. ATV Purchase - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council approved the purchase of the Can Am ATV, noting its 6-foot bed as beneficial, and confirmed the purchase would be partially reimbursed through road funds.

Motion

- Harriet made a motion to purchase the Can-Am. Rachel second. All in favor. No opposed.

7. New Business

a. Emergency Management - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- Leonard Isaacs, the county's emergency manager, presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the town's existing arrangement of participating under the county's Emergency Operation

Plan (EOP), satisfying the requirement of House Bill 96. After a lengthy and highly contentious debate between Butch and Leonard Isaacson, the Emergency Management representative, concerning what Butch believed to be a prior attempt to undermine the town council's work, the two representatives agreed to move past the disagreement and continue to work together.

- The action to approve the MOU was tabled until the Town Attorney (Mike) could review the document.

b. Business Licenses: Wesley Tillmann, Brody Jefferies, Hank Boehm, Ryan Clarkson Fly Fishing, Heron's Flyshop, Mia's Reel Cafe, Mike Heacock Fly Fishing, Green River Drifters, Fly Life Outfitters/Colby Suojanen, The Profishionals/Cody Schwark, David Bowers, Darren Bowcutt

Minutes:

- The council approved licenses for Wesley Tillman, Hank Boehm, Ryan Clarkson Fly Fishing, Heron's Flyshop, Mia's Reel Cafe, Mike Heacock Fly Fishing, Fly Life Outfitters/Coly Suojanen, and The Profishionals/Cody Schwark.
- Licenses for Brody Jeffries, Darren Bowcutt (due to outstanding debt), Green River Drifters, and David Bowers were not approved as they had not met all application requirements.

Motion

- Butch made a motion to accept all applications that have completed all application requirements and have paid the application fee. Harriet second. All in favor, No opposed.

c. Possible Building Permit Moratorium - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council discussed implementing a moratorium on new building permits until no later than April 22nd to align Town Council and Planning and Zoning expectations. The item was tabled, and a joint Town Council and Planning and Zoning meeting was scheduled for March 18th to determine priorities and the process for the moratorium.

d. Procurement Policy Update - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council adopted a resolution approving an amended procurement policy to change the award criteria from prioritizing the "lowest bidder" to prioritizing "the bidder who best needs the requirement".
- Harriet read the resolution aloud for the record.

Motion

- Amy motioned to accept the updated procurement policy. Harriet seconded.

Vote

- Butch Johns - Yes

- Harriet Dickerson - Yes
- Amy McDonald - Yes
- Rachel Albritton - Yes
- Sandy Kunkel - absent

e. Amendment of Section 1213 of the Planning and Zoning Ordinance - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council voted to accept the proposed amendments to Section 1213 concerning special rules for agricultural and minor subdivisions, designed to ease the process and facilitate development.

Motion

- Amy made a motion to accept the changes as noted in the public meeting. Rachel seconded.

Vote

- Butch Johns - Yes
- Harriet Dickerson - Yes
- Amy McDonald - Yes
- Rachel Albritton - Yes
- Sandy Kunkel - absent

f. Fireworks Bid Process - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

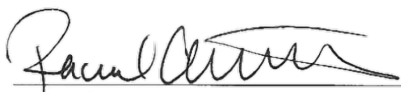
- The council decided to move forward with issuing an RFP for a 4- or 5-year contract for the Freedom Fest fireworks. The RFP will require an insurance policy, a site plan, and a detailed itemization of shells for a 20-minute display.

8. Closed Session, if necessary* Pursuant to 52-4-20

9. Adjournment

Minutes:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.


Deputy Clerk