



Dutch John Town Council Work & Business Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Address: Dutch John Community Building, 530 S. Blvd., Dutch John

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

Work Items:

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- Call to order at 6:02pm

Attendance

- Council: Butch Johns, Harriet Dickerson, Sandy Kunkel, Amy McDonald, Rachel Albritton
- Public: Jamie Barrus (Planning and Zoning Secretary, online)

2. Employee Policy Manual

Minutes:

- The Council started the review at the Probation section (page 35) and worked through the Social Security Number Policy section 210 (page 51).
- There was an extensive discussion on elected official pay. Jamie Barrus suggested that elected officials be paid based on a percentage of the town's income (with a cap) rather than a flat fee so that the town doesn't risk bankruptcy due to paying salaries. Butch noted that it was anticipated that pay for elected officials would most likely not occur for another couple years.

3. 2027 Budget

Minutes:

- Did not address

4. General Plan Update

Minutes:

- Did not address

5. Financial Report

Minutes:

- Did not address

Business Meeting, 7:00PM:

6. Call to Order

Minutes:

- Call to order at 7:00pm

7. Roll Call

Minutes:

- Council & Town Staff: Butch Johns, Harriet Dickerson, Sandy Kunkel, Amy McDonald, Rachel Albritton, Allen Parker (online)
- Public: Dustin Anderson, Matt Abbott, JayDee Guymon (online), Peter Guinn (online), Carol Hawkins (online), Donna Johnson (online)

8. Consent Agenda

Minutes:

Motion

- Amy made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Harriet second. No opposed.

a. Business Licenses:

Minutes:

- Rachel made a motion to approve business licenses. Harriet seconded. All in favor. No opposed.

b. Minutes of meeting: April 8, 2026

Minutes:

- Correction to the Little Library hours. Hours should be 3pm-5pm not 3pm-4pm.

c. Expenditures: Voucher List

Minutes:

- No questions

d. Correspondence:

Minutes:

- No correspondence noted.

9. Committee / Staff Reports

a. Mayor's Report

Minutes:

- The Phase 1 survey for the Public Works property transfer is complete. Butch will meet with the attorney, Mike, next week to address a question, after which the documents will be submitted to the county for recording and property transfer.
- A representative from Williams Pipeline provided an update on the Western Trail Pipeline compressor station in Antelope Flat, noting construction may begin this summer instead of the fall.
- Butch sent a draft baseline Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for the airport to Mike for review and then to the county commissioners for input. He is on the county's agenda the week after next to discuss the ILA, which must be a signed legal document before an airport manager can be hired.

b. Volunteer Fire Department

Minutes:

- JayDee provided a written estimate for the fire engine repairs. It may be another 2-3 weeks before it's ready as there was more damage than anticipated. As a result, the estimate is on the higher end of the original estimate \$21,454.
- Town Council agrees these repairs are necessary and should be completed.

c. Planning and Zoning

Minutes:

- There will be a public hearing next Wednesday at 6:30pm to present the updates to the Planning and Zoning Ordinance. The Committee will hold a short, 15 minutes meeting after to review the comments and make recommendations to the Town Council.

d. Building and Grounds

e. Cemetery

Minutes:

- Sprinkler will be shut off for maybe another month.

f. Freedom Festival: July 4, 2026

g. America 250 Utah Celebration

Minutes:

- Potluck on May 14.

10. Public Comment

Minutes:

- Donna Johnson (Vortex Productions) thanked the council for their long-standing support and expressed hope that the company would be awarded the fireworks

contract for the special anniversary show.

- Sandy Kunkel mentioned that it's time to put out the traffic sign in town.

11. Old Business

a. Emergency Manager - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- Amy McDonald reported making minor modifications to the Emergency Manager document based on the attorney Mike's requests. Outstanding items include formalizing language for cost reimbursement and stiffening the hold harmless language, though the latter is already in state code. The Mayor will take the revised document to the county next week for Leonard to review before the town and county can finalize the agreement.

12. New Business

a. Award Fireworks Contract - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- Red Devil Pyro proposed a total 3-year cost of \$85,032, with the 2026 show costing \$42,516.
- Vortex proposed a show designed with a budget of \$20,000 per year (estimated total 3-year cost of \$60,000).

Motion

- Sandy made a motion to accept the Vortex proposal. Harriet seconded.

Vote

- The council voted unanimously to accept the Vortex proposal based on their lower cost, experience, loyalty, and history of working well with local emergency services.
- Yes: Butch Jones, Harriet Dickerson, Sandy Kunkel, Amy McDonald, Rachel Albritton

b. Noise Ordinance to Prohibit Jake Brakes - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council discussed the complexity and cost of implementing a Jake brake prohibition due to state regulations regarding safety issues and potential town costs for surveys and signage. Butch moved to table the discussion. He will be attending the Utah Long-Range transportation meeting on May 6th and will discuss this along with adding Highway 191 to the 5-year plan for road widening and adding sidewalks from Western River to Trout Creek.

c. Dusten Anderson, Nuisance Complaint - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The Council addressed a nuisance complaint regarding barking dogs on the Dutch John Resort property. Dustin Anderson, the dog owner, stated he is actively trying to mitigate the noise but noted that other loose dogs and management's lack of enforcement of their own rules at the resort

were also contributing factors (not just his dog). Butch urged the parties to resolve the issue amongst themselves and agreed to speak with Dave Orr about the management aspect.

- No action taken

d. CIB Project Fire Station and Town Hall - Discussion Only

Minutes:

- Following CIB training, the Mayor outlined a plan to begin summer discussions with the council and the public regarding the need for a new fire station and a new town hall/conference hall. The goal is to develop a complete application plan, seek additional grants, and file the application with CIB in January.

e. BRIC Grant from FEMA - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- The council discussed pursuing a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant to mitigate or move the moat/drainage area, which is near a new development.

Motion

- Amy made a motion allow Butch to pursue the BRIC grant. Sandy second. All in favor.

f. Flaming Gorge Chamber of Commerce Membership - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- Harriet Dickerson and Amanda Lucas will attend a luncheon on May 6th to gather information.

Motion

- Amy made a motion to allow Harriet to complete the application and have the Town become a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Sandy second. All in favor.

g. Conference Hall Remodel Bids - Discussion and Possible Action

Minutes:

- Allen Parker reported on the bids for the remodel.
 - The bid range was from \$248,000 to \$394,342.29.
 - The two lowest bids were within \$1,000 of each other.
- Alan will now qualify the bidders to determine the qualified low bidder. Butch suggested holding a special council meeting to award the bid by the end of the month, with a target of starting work by June 1st and finishing by the end of August. Since the bids were reasonable, the council may look at adding minor work like sidewalks or curbs.

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

14. Adjournment

Minutes:

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm.

Contact: Harriet Dickerson (hdickerson@dutchjohn.org 435-880-8042) | Minutes published on 04/26/2026, adopted on 05/13/2026



Deputy Clerk