

**Rockville Town Council
Public Hearing
&
Regular Meeting
Rockville Town Hall
May 14, 2025 – 6:00 pm**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL:** Mayor Leach called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following Town Council members were present: Robin Smith, Megan Honer-Orton, Jeff Ballard, Mayor Pam Leach and Michael Evenson. Town Clerk Shelley Cox recorded the meeting.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Leach led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve tonight's agenda. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

- 4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH AN AGENDA ITEM.** No conflicts were declared.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no comments.

Discussion/Information/Non-action Items.

REPORT ON HURRICANE VALLEY FIRE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT – CHIEF AMES: Chief Ames presented paperwork for the Council to review. He reported last month Springdale had 25 calls, Rockville had 3 calls and then Zion Park had 9 calls in for assists. He presented a graph showing year-to-date calls and comparing them to last year's calls. Springdale has increased about 13%, Rockville 140% and then Zion National Park 150%.

Chief Ames reported unfortunately here in Rockville; we've had some significant incidents. A structure fire and then a brush fire. The structure fire was the home that had a propane gas explosion in the basement causing serious injuries to one individual. About a week later on Grafton Road some kids were lighting cotton from the cottonwood trees starting a fire at one of the short-term rentals. The family were able to put it mostly out before the fire crew arrived. As it was right next to the riverbed, it could have been pretty bad with all the growth along the river and a power line going right straight through area.

Chief Ames said regarding the structure fire, the investigation has been completed, and it was determined to be accidental. When the renter installed a new gas dryer in the basement to the propane, there were some pin holes in the side of the piping releasing propane into the basement. The dryer was installed the previous night which allowed propane to accumulate in the basement. The next day when lighting the pilot there was significant propane contained within the basement which caused the tremendous explosion. Michael Evenson asked if the home was condemned? Chief Ames said yes, as the front wall blew maybe 6 inches off the foundation.

Chief Ames reported that some equipment for various fire and ambulance apparatuses had been ordered. The fire apparatus are the most expensive part. He said there are a couple of things in play with this. When the tariffs were placed on incoming products at the federal level, it will increase the costs of fire apparatus. He said fire apparatus are very far out for delivery and depending on the type of fire apparatus purchased could be many years before delivery. The Fire District ended up buying 5 apparatuses with an overall cost of about \$5.5 million. The first truck will not be delivered for years. The type 3 trucks, which were ordered, and which are used for wild land, can also be used for structure protection. Another truck ordered is a mid-mount tower and is both a ladder truck with a bucket on it along with a type 1 engine. He said the first truck ordered probably won't be delivered for two to three years. He said the ladder trucks would be out about 3 years before delivery. The engine truck is estimated to be 4-5 years before delivery. He said Chief Decker looks into a magical ball and question what apparatus will be needed? He then orders what he feels will be needed anticipating the future and replacing apparatuses and other equipment. He said two years ago the Fire District ordered 6 ambulances which should be delivered next year.

Mayor Leach asked if the fire precautions and limitations on outdoor open fires had been enacted yet. Chief Ames said not at this time. He said the burn season ends May 30th which is usually three months in the spring and three months in the fall. The Spring season will end May 30th with fall opening at the end of September. He said the air quality is the main factor in burning. If the air quality is below 500, fire permits are not allowed as the smoke is just going to settle in the valley and go into people's homes. That is considered as well as weather conditions when determining open fire permits. He said when the wind or other weather-related things are going on people are not supposed to burn. He reminded people also that after dark there is no burning allowed. Chief Ames stated that it means no burning May 30th to September, and he thinks they will open up around September 30th. Chief Ames stated technically, people are allowed to have their cooking and warming fires within fire rings or pits, other types of fires are regulated by the municipalities. He stated that many years ago BLM started issuing a Stage 1 fire declaration restricting open fires on BLM, and State land, which he didn't think had been put into effect yet. He said Stage 1 is the most restrictive, and the Fire District receives a lot of calls requesting fires on Kolob Terrace, in the unimproved campground area. Once BLM has issued the restriction the Fire District will follow as will Zion National Park and the Forest Service. Mayor Leach said this also usually addresses fireworks. She explained once this issue is noticed by the various agencies, the Town will adopt an ordinance as well. Chief Ames asked when the Town adopts such an ordinance would they please notify the Fire District so it can be posted on their website also. Michael Evenson asked for clarification regarding people that have personal fire pits in their yard, are those OK to have for roasting marshmallows and such. Chief Ames stated those are allowed, with water nearby. He said most of the time people don't mean to start fires, it just happens. Mayor Leach thanked Chief Ames for the information provided.

5. REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION – CHAIR RYBKIEWICZ:

Chair Rybkiewicz reported on the lengthy meeting from last night's Planning Commission. Kali & Christian Evenson were granted a permit for an Interior Dwelling Unit for long[-term rental. There was a demolition permit for 101 East Main, the house with the gas explosion. The grading permit for Doyle Timmons 449 West Main to work on his property adjacent to the River by placing rip rap materials to prevent erosion. A letter was received from the State Flood Plan Department recommending a Hydrological study be done to review how the project may affect surrounding properties along with the area further down the river. A neighboring property owner (Jacob Anderson) had also written a letter of concern about the project. The Planning Commission granted this permit contingent on a favorable hydrological study being done. Chair Rybkiewicz stated the next request was for a building permit for Red Rock Resorts on Grafton

Road, Justin Mabey. This is the final home allowed in the Short-Term Rental Overlay Zone as addressed in the Agreement dated 7/2018. Mr. Mabey was allowed one (1) more residential home and an accessory building. The accessory building would allow two (2) bedrooms and restrooms in it. He has changed this accessory building to a recreational building with restrooms. It was reiterated this would be the last rental buildings permitted in the agreement. Chair Rybkiewicz stated the Town Council may wish to revise the agreement with Justin Mabey, but he requested if this agreement is amended it only address the accessory dwelling. Mayor Leach stated she will review the agreement but felt it would not need to be amended as long as this permit and discussion was attached to the original agreement. She stated again, this will be the last rental dwellings allowed in the overlay zone. Chair Rybkiewicz informed the Council there was a discussion on drafting an ordinance to recommend to the Council to create a new Chapter in the Land Use Code and addressing the Septic Density Study. He said a public hearing will be held at the June meeting for public input. He said wording has been changed on the original study to address areas within the study. Mayor Leach stated she had spoken to the Southwest Public Health Department last month and they were glad to hear the Town was addressing septic systems and will work together on permit application requests. Chair Rybkiewicz said he did inform the Planning Commission that a Code Enforcement Officer had been hired. Should neighbors come to them to discuss concerns or problems there is an official form to file with the Town Office. The issue would be reviewed by a member of the Planning Commission and a member of the Town Council before being passed onto the Officer to resolve the matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ITEMS

3. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED

AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE 2024-25 FISCAL BUDGET. Mayor Leach asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Michael Evenson **MOVED** to open the public hearing to consider amending the 2024-2025 fiscal budget. Jeff Ballard **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye

Robin Smith: Aye

Megan Honer-Orton: Aye

Mayor Leach: Aye

Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

Mayor Leach explained Clerk Cox had provided the Council with the current fiscal budget for 2024-2025. The proposed amendments were provided to the Council with the changes noted in yellow. She explained some of the budget amounts have exceeded what was budgeted. In order to comply with State Law the budget must balance or show a surplus. Negative amounts are not allowed should expenditures be more than income. Mayor Leach read each of the proposed changes. This budget still has two months left of revenue and expenditures before the fiscal year end, which should be considered also. She explained due to the amount of building permits issued even the building inspector fee is more than previously budgeted. Also the electrical bill for the Community Center is much higher than last year. For the next budget year each building will be listed separately to find the major expense. The Council reviewed each line item that was proposed to be changed. There were no public comments or questions. Mayor Leach asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to close the public hearing. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Adjourned Public Hearing

- 4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ORDINANCE NO. #25-0514-01, TO OPEN AND AMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025.** Mayor Leach asked if there were any questions regarding the amended budget. No comments were made. Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to adopt Ordinance #25-0514-01 to open and amended budget the current budget for 2024-2025. Michael Evenson **SECONDED** the motion. See attached amended budget and Ordinance.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

- 6. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED TOWN OF ROCKVILLE 2025-26 TENTATIVE BUDGET.** Mayor Leach asked for a motion to open the public hearing to adopt the tentative budget for the upcoming fiscal year 2025-2026. Megan Homer-Orton **MOVED** to open the public hearing to consider the tentative budget for the upcoming 2025-2026 fiscal year. Robin Smith **SDECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Mayor Leach and Clerk Cox had reviewed the income and expenditures for this year. It appears revenue is not as high as predicted for this year so in drafting the tentative budget the expenditures have been greatly reduced. If during the year revenue increases this budget can then be opened and amended. Many entities have amended their budget many times during the fiscal year. Michael Evenson stated this appears to be a guessing game of sorts. Mayor Leach said this is a tentative draft and is very conservative to protect the Town. Mayor Leach commented in reviewing the building permits for instance this year income was \$21,000.00. There have been a lot of homes built and for next year we do not anticipate the same permit revenue. Mayor Leach asked if there were any comments or questions. No comments were made. She said she would entertain a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Michael Evenson **MOVED** to close the public hearing for the tentative budget for 2025-2026. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. #25-0514-02, A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2025-26 TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE:** Mayor Leach asked if the Council had any questions or comments. None were made. She said a public hearing will be held next month to formally adopt the final budget. Megan Honer-Orton asked about the income which is slightly higher than expenditures. Clerk Cox stated income may be higher as long as expenditure does not exceed income. Mayor Leach asked the Council to review this tentative budget and make recommendations for the final budget hearing next month. Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve Resolution #25-0514-02 approving the tentative budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

9. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 19, 2025, REGULAR MEETING:** Mayor Leach asked if there were corrections for the minutes of the April 19, 2025 meeting. No corrections were made. Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2025 meeting. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion PASSED unanimously.

10. **APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025:** Mayor Leach asked if there were any questions regarding expenditures. Megan Honer-Orton questioned the amount listed on professional services state the original amount charge is \$314.18 but payment was only \$290.47 why that is. Clerk Cox will need to research this. Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve the expenditures for the month of April 2025. Jeff Ballard **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye

Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

11. **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.** Mayor Leach asked if there were any questions about the financial statements. No questions were asked. Robin Smith **MOVED** to approve the financial statement for April 2025. Michael Evenson **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE NON-ACTION ITEMS

Reports of Mayor and Council Members:

Mayor Pam Leach informed the Council as per State mandates all correspondence be addressed to the .gov emails by July 1, 2025. The web page will be a .gov also, She said if anyone had problems switching their emails to the .gov to contact Andy Efstratis. Old emails may be transferred to an archive if needed.

Mayor Leach stated she had met with two gentlemen from South Central Communications about connecting to fiber optic service to the Office and to our Town buildings. They are going to bring the service to the Office with UDOT covering the cost during the new road abrasion project coming later this year. The Town would need to pay for the initial equipment in an amount estimated at \$99, which may be waived as well. Then we're going to have a hot spot available in the Town Park. Internet service will increase from 5 gigs to 20 gigs for less than what we currently pay. She stated South Central Communications is very interested in bringing fiber optics to residents in Rockville. One employee is putting together proposals to connect the residents and it may be done without an installation charge to the Town or the residents. Should the residents wish to connect later they would need to pay the installation cost. This is currently being done in Springdale. This may take some time before that happens, but it is definitely being worked on. The employee that handles the connections said they would like to provide service to the whole SR 9 corridor. Andy Efstratis contacted South Central Communications about providing this service to the Town and was quoted \$40,000 for installation just to the Town Office. With the new road project UDOT is covering the costs. They are also working to provide the hot spot Town Park with no monthly fee. Mayor Leach stated all the issues for connecting would still need to be addressed.

Michael Evenson reported thus far this season there have been no reports of West Nile Virus within the County.

Robin Smith had nothing to report as Chief Ames had already updated the Council on the Fire District happenings.

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Megan Honer-Orton reported she was standing by when the house exploded at 101 Main. When personnel were checking the vitals on the individual involved in the home explosion they asked her to record his vitals. Although she is a member of the Cert team the only thing she had to record anything was her grocery list on her phone.

Jeff Ballard reported with Memorial Day coming this month a dumpster was ordered for the Cemetery cleanup. This will allow people cleaning up the graves to dispose of the rubbish. He said there is a grate missing over a drainage collector on Center Street. A new one has been ordered.

Robin Smith thanked Clerk Cox for all the work on the budgets.

Michael Evenson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

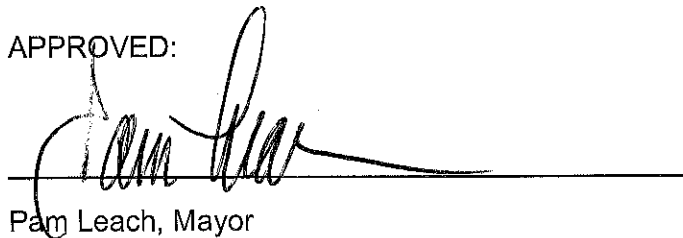
Michael Evenson: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Minutes prepared by

Shelley D. Cox
Town Clerk

APPROVED:



Pam Leach, Mayor

The foregoing notice was posted in the cabinet of the Rockville Town Office by Shelley D Cox at approximately 11:00 (AM) PM on 6-12-25, on the Rockville website and the Utah Public Notice website. Emailed to The Spectrum 6-12-25.

