

Town Council Meeting

May 20, 2026

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Neil Brown, Councilmembers: Grant Lundberg, Chad Coburn, Brenan Jackson, Curtis Thomas

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston, Planning Commission Chairman Daron Hughes, Chief William McMullin, City Attorney Josh Nielsen, Police Chief Rod Hurst

Public Present: See Attached

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Neil Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
 - a. Terry Rymer gave the opening prayer.
 - b. Mayor Neil Brown led the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2026**
 - a. Councilman Grant Lundberg made a **Motion** to approve the minutes from April 13th and April 15th 2026. Councilman Chad Coburn **Second** and the motion **Passed**.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
3. **Approval of Expenditures**
 - a. Councilman Grant Lundberg made a **Motion** to approve the expenditures in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty-One Thousand five hundred seventy dollars and seventy-two cents (\$451,570.72). Councilman Brenan Jackson **Second** and the motion **Passed**.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – Yes
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
4. **Approval of Work Orders**
 - a. Approval of \$3000 for a Genola Days Signage at the Rodeo Bucking Chutes. This would be funded by the Rodeo Budget.
 - b. Councilman Brenan Jackson made a **Motion** to approve the work order for \$3000 for Genola Days Signage. Mayor Neil Brown **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – Yes
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
5. **Commission & Staff Reports**
 - a. **Police Chief Report** – Chief Hurst reported 95 case numbers for April, including animal problems, fraud, and trespassing. Officers are now required to spend two hours per shift on extra patrols within Genola to ensure visibility.
 - b. **Fire Chief Report** – **Chief McMullin** reported the new engine has been delivered. He also noted a billing of \$9,556.00 for the Ocean Canyon fire, of which \$6,856.00 will return to the town for equipment and fuel costs
 - c. **Planning Commission Report** – Chairman Daron Hughes reviewed the agenda items from their last meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM –

Corrine Aagard – She feels that if the council wants to act on the truck traffic that this is infringing on the rights of individuals. She doesn't want the government to end up just moving the problem from one street to another street. She would like the council to study the constitution to understand what their role is as an elected official.

Carolyn Greenwood – She presented an open letter to the Town Council with 182 resident signature support a truck route ordinance to protect residents from large through trucks. She feels through her going door to door through the community that a majority of the Town is in agreeance that our roads are not designed for these large trucks and that restricting them helps protects not only the roads but the safety of the community. She reminded the council of the transportation section of the Town's General Plan which states that the Town will work to discourage large truck traffic through the town.

Nancy Baird – She stated that she feels that she has a unique opportunity to speak as she has served as a deputy clerk for the Town of Genola and has served on the Planning Commission as well. She would like to see the Town set a truck route noting it has been part of the Town's general plan vision for 15 years. She said that they are not anti-truck but simply as following the general plan and the vision for the town.

Sherryl Fowers – Expressed concern over a new professional motocross track being built near her property. She cited concerns with dust and its impact on her fruit packing operations. She talked about how the audits

David Spencer – Running for county commission seat B. He spoke about the need for better representation for small towns at the county level including proposing to move meetings to the evenings so more residents could attend. He would like to change the county to become more effective at helping the cities in our County. He would also like to see more put on the Facebook page as to how the County is helping these communities.

Lori Christensen – urged the council to conduct an independent road analysis to qualify for state and federal grants to improve road weight capacity. She stated that she would send information about the grants that she found to the mayor.

6. Discussion with Holly Sweeten the Community Outreach Director for Burgess Owens Office.

- a. Ms. Sweeten was not in attendance and this agenda item was not discussed. There was a misunderstanding on the date of the meeting.

7. Discussion and possible action on a solution for the heavy truck traffic on our city streets.

- a. Mayor Brown presented findings from legal counsel Matt Church who works with Utah Local Governments trust who is the Town's insurance provider regarding truck restrictions.
 - i. Legal Findings: Restricting trucks is possible but must be non-discriminatory (impacting all industries equally), the Town must have an engineering study, an Ordinance must be drafted (preferably by a law firm that is expert in zoning ordinances), provide proper notification and signage and actively enforce the law. Following this process will not eliminate the Town's risk of a lawsuit. The agreement that the CMC pit has with the County to not send trucks through Genola strengthens the Town's position, but it isn't a silver bullet and only the County can enforce that agreement. Matt Church expressed concern with how the Critical Infrastructure Act that the legislature passed will play a role in a potential lawsuit because this law has not be litigated yet. Without any precedent there is no way of predicting how a judge might rule. He is aware that some members of the community have suggested that the town would take a larger risk by not doing anything, and Mr. Church assured Mayor Brown that the town would have immunity against liability for existing road hazards, under the public duty doctrine. Mr. Church estimated that if the town did everything right the chance that the Town would lose would be 30%. The Town could not be held liable for the lost revenues of the gravel trucks, but the town could be liable for their court costs which could exceed \$300,000. The costs for the town for their defense is estimated to start around \$200,000. Mr. Church clarified that

the Utah Local Government's Trust wouldn't cover Genola in the event of a lawsuit, because it would be the result of the Town's actions.

- ii. Costs: An engineering and safety study with Horrocks engineering would cost approximately \$45,000, with an additional \$10,000 for ordinance preparation and \$5,000 for signage.
- iii. Mayor Brown stated that he has spoken with a county commissioner to discuss this issue, who then sent him to the department that initially approved the pit permit. He reached out to two different individuals within that department; their response was that it was compelling and that they would work with the County Attorney to see what their options were.
- b. Councilman Lundberg asked Mayor Brown about the needed engineering study, he wanted to know if it included safety as well as road strength. Mayor Brown stated that in his conversation with Horrocks engineering he had explained that majority of the town roads were simply asphalted over dirt roads and that most of the roads were not built to a standard. We do have road standards now, but the majority of the Town's roads were not built to these standards as they predated the standards.
- c. Councilman Thomas strongly advocated for immediately enacting a truck route to protect citizens. He didn't want to go through the cost of testing and drilling. He felt that the Council had a right to set this truck route. He said that he had spoken with some legal friends and they drafted up a proposed truck route ordinance. He feels that this option would save the town a lot of time and money. He suggested that they stop the public works building and use those funds instead to do the truck route.
 - i. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a motion to adopt a proposed truck route ordinance that he brought with him. There was no Second and the motion died.
- d. The council discussed the cost of improving the roads instead of spending the money on a study.
- e. Councilman Lundberg moved to proceed with the \$45,000 engineering study. He stated that he felt that there is adequate funds to support this study and then the Town would have the information needed to start a truck route ordinance. He proposed that they use Horrocks who the Mayor had already spoken with. He feels that this study is necessary to move forward.
- f. Councilman Lundberg made a Motion to fund the engineering study. Councilman Thomas Second the motion and the motion failed with a vote of 2-3.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – NO
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – NO
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – NO
- g. Councilman Jackson and Coburn both wanted to clarify that the reason that they voted no was they wanted to make sure that this study will meet the needs of possible grants as well as fulfill the needs to write a truck route ordinance.
- h. Mayor Brown offered to get multiple bids for the engineering study, which is a requirement under Genola policy, and ask that the study be specific enough to fulfill the needs for a possible grant as well as a possible truck route ordinance. The Council agreed to have him bring those bids to the next meeting.

8. Discussion on compensation increases for employees, excluding the elected officials and appointed officials.

- a. Mayor Brown has proposed a 5% increase for clerks (3% COLA, 2% performance) and a 6% increase for Chris (3% COLA, 3% performance).

9. Discussion on the amended budget for FY 2026 and proposed budget for FY 2027.

- a. The council discussed the amended budget and the proposed FY 2027 budgets. The council discussed a discrepancy in the balancing of the FY 2027 budget. Mayor Brown and Clerk Preston stated that they would look at it to show the changes during the next months meeting. he Mayor noted the 2027 budget includes \$1.7 million for the new public works building, which the town plans to pay for with cash reserves.

10. Motion to the open the public hearing for a compensation increase for employees.

- a. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a Motion to open the public hearing for a compensation increase for employees. Councilman Chad Coburn **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
- b. There was no public comment.

11. Motion to close the public hearing

- a. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **motion** to close the public hearing. Councilman Brenan Jackson **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES

12. Motion to open the public hearing on the amended budget for the Fiscal Year 2026.

- a. Councilman Brenan Jackson made a **Motion** to open the public hearing on the amended budget for the Fiscal Year 2026. Mayor Neil Brown **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
- b. There was no public comment

13. Motion to close the public hearing

- a. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to open the public hearing for the proposed budget for the Fiscal year 2027. Councilman Brenan Jackson **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES

14. Motion to open the public hearing for the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2027.

- a. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a **Motion** to open the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2027. Councilman Brenan Jackson **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
- b. There was no public comment

15. Motion to close the public hearing.

- a. Councilman Chad Coburn made a **Motion** to close the public hearing. Councilman Curtis Thomas **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES

16. Discussion and possible action on awarding the bid for a new public works building.

- a. The council reviewed the bids with the two lowest bids being from Crew Construction and DreamWorks. Mayor Brown reviewed their licensing, reviews, etc. Several council members had concerns about Crew Construction and how they had omitted the steel structure from their original bid and then added it after the bids were opened. Councilman Lundberg felt that allowing them to change their bid could hurt the Town's reputation, but he was more concerned about what else they could have left out of the bid and if we would run into problems with change orders later, when everyone else understood the assignment to include the steel structure. Several Council members felt where DreamWorks who was the second lowest bidder but had a more complete bid was only a couple thousand dollars more.
- b. Councilman Grant Lundberg made a motion to accept the bid from Dreamworks builders for the new public works building, Mayor Neil Brown Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES

17. Discussion and possible action on an MOU between the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands and the Genola Fire Department, Agreement 2026-03.

- a. The council discussed the agreement and reviewed that it is close to the same agreement as several years before. Chief McMullin stated that he didn't have any issues with the agreement.
- b. Councilman Curtis Thomas made a Motion to Agreement 2026-03 an Memorandum of Understand between the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands and the Genola Fire Department. Councilman Grant Lundberg Second and the motion Passed all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES

18. Council Comments

- a. Mayor Neil Brown – Utah Water Conservancy District is doing an in-depth study on ground water in the south end of Utah County. He expects this to take 6-12 months before we get that information. Mayor Brown stated that the next step in the public works building will be getting the contract ready, and he expects that the building will start in June and should be completed around the end of the year. He brought up the controversy with the motocross track that has been built next to the Fowers Fruit packing plant. Mayor Brown states that as he interprets the ordinance it is not a permitted use. The Ercanbrack's (the owners of the motocross track) feel that it should be allowed under the permitted use of athletic field. The Town Attorney is doing research on the standard legal interpretation "Athletic Fields". He will present his findings to the planning commission during the next meeting and they can discuss and determine what they feel needs to be the next steps.
- b. Councilman Grant Lundberg – He had reported that they are struggling to get people signed up for the parade. And would like to have people decked out in Red White and Blue.
- c. Councilman Chad Coburn – reported that the Rodeo is on track and everything should be ready to go.
- d. Councilmember Curtis Thomas – he was appreciative of all the work put in for the Town Celebration and wanted to clarify that the June Town Council meeting is scheduled for the Wednesday before town celebration.
- e. Councilmember Brenan Jackson – he stated that he was grateful for the healthy discussion that was held tonight and appreciates everyone's opinions being shared and worked together.

19. Motion to Adjourn

- a. Councilman Brenan Jackson made a **Motion** to adjourn. Councilman Chad Coburn **Second** and the motion **Passed** all in favor.
 - i. Mayor Neil Brown – YES
 - ii. Councilman Grant Lundberg – YES
 - iii. Councilman Curtis Thomas – YES
 - iv. Councilman Brenan Jackson – YES
 - v. Councilman Chad Coburn – YES
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43pm

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Nicole Preston

Minutes Approved on: June 17, 2026

Lucinda Thomas

Lucinda Thomas City Recorder