

BIG WATER MUNICIPAL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES

Wednesday June 17, 2026
60 N Aaron Burr, Big Water, Utah 84741
6:30pm Work Session;
Public Hearings 7:00pm; 7:01pm;
7:02pm Council Meeting

WORK SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER – at 6:31pm

2. ROLL CALL – Jim Lybarger, Mark Gangola, Mayor David Schmuker, Jennie Lassen; one seat is open

3. DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS – Agree to accept the SSD as is until legal counsel replies and amend then if needed. Budget discussion – Lassen brings up the changes in expenses for the fire dept, still in deficit. Need to find where to cut, where to find revenue. Gangola asks if COLA has been removed, and Lassen said yes. Lassen brings up cutting the appreciation pay for Part-time employees. Fire Chief says the meeting with Amangiri was postponed, no date set yet, so he does not want to count on any income changes there. Lybarger says cut the Appreciation Pay, and if the contract goes through, it can be revisited then. Lassen says they DO appreciate the part-time employees, and this at least doesn't cost them more. It will affect employees, but Lassen hasn't come up with other ideas. Lybarger suggests minor adjustments such as AC settings. Gangola asked about 10k engineering budget. Schmuker confirms the people affected by dropping the AP are post office and fire. Fire Chief says he's noticed that his part timers are always surprised by the extra check, so he knows it's appreciated, but understands if it needs cut. Comes from Salaries and Wages of each dept. Lassen asked about the 5000 extra property tax. Treasurer explained that it's more we're allowed to collect this year, she always accounts for it but doesn't go to the penny, but this year it's needed, so she put the amount in the budget. Lybarger suggests a bonus later if the town can afford it. Lassen asked if the appreciation pay was in the PPP, and Treasurer said no, and by doing it as an appreciation pay instead of holiday pay, it saved the town a lot of money. SSD Clerk pointed out that is why the AP is voted on every quarter by the Council as it's not in our PPP. Lassen said that is all she has on the budget, others agree. It is close to balanced. Treasurer offers to go update and bring back a balanced budget for the Council to vote on in the meeting.

Schmuker brings up Urban Interface Code. No discussion. Fire Chief said he reached out for a better explanation. Basically if we ever do fit the description, we follow the rules.

Communications Site Agreement discussion – Schmuker said they USED to do something with the school, but it's not at the school now as the fiber optics are there. Mostly emergency communications now. It was discovered that there was no agreement was in place and there should be one. Peggy confirms that the attorney has seen it.

PPP manual discussion, Lassen feels it covers what was discussed. No further discussion.

Certifying Tax Rate – Schmuker said it's something we do every year. Amount is set by the county not by the town.

Discussed adding no Engine Brakes signs to Hwy 89. Schmuker said citizens over time have asked for signs, and it was brought up in the June 8th meeting with them. Would cost the town \$2500 and our marshal dept. would have to enforce it. Concern is that truckers may use the brake more. Lybarger suggests polling the community. Schmuker says he's not saying we shouldn't do it, but to ask the people. Lybarger said he heard 3 trucks do it just today. Lybarger suggests maybe just talk to the gravel pit about talking to their drivers.

Schmuker asked Treasurer about Communications Agreement, it has been through our lawyer, and the Communications people wrote it. Confirmed we have the correct agreement. Asked about the budget, treasurer said the budget is balanced now. Peggy also says we are due to redo our postal contract with the postal service July 1st

4. ADJOURN – at 7:04pm

PUBLIC HEARING 7:00pm - Public Hearing for adopting the Finalized FY budget 2026-2027 – 7:04pm
Schmuker opens Public Hearing on the Budget. No comments. Closed at 7:05

PUBLIC HEARING 7:01pm - Public Hearing for Wildland Urban Interface – 7:05pm Hearing Open to public comments. No comments, Closed 7:06pm

MEETING

CALL TO ORDER- at 7:06pm

1. ROLL CALL – Jim Lybarger, Mark Gangola, Mayor David Schmuker, Jennie Lassen; one seat is open

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – led by Schmuker

3. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT – None by anyone

4. APPROVAL OF APRIL MEETING MINUTES -

- **APPROVAL OF THE May 27th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** – Motion to approve by Lassen, Second by Lybarger, all in favor

- **APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 2nd SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES** – Motion to approve by Gangola, Second by Lybarger, all in favor

5. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- **Mayor:** Met with State Hwy Dpt. They are interested in helping the town with the intersection at the gas station. They are going to try to find a way to make it safer. If they want people to turn on Cannonball or Old Glory, they need to put up signs telling people to turn there for the gas station and they agreed. Brown Bros, and because it is summer and they are very busy, they start very early. There have been complaints, and BB has safety equipment on machinery and it does have a bell, and they can't help it, and it's how it'll be. Temp 109, hot windy day, so they are trying to beat the wind and heat. Schmuker asks for patience and not to call and complain. Gangola asked start time, David said 4 UT/3AZ. He has spoken to Eric Langston with SITLA about easements. Explains that the city cannot petition to annex, it must come from the leaser. Steve at the Title company is working on that too.
- **Council:**
 - **GCSSD; Jennie Lassen:** Voted to approve the contract with ProWaste, it will not change over until September as notice had to be given to Republic.
 - **Parks & Recreation; Jennie Lassen:** Working on America250. Pavillion being worked on. It may not be ready by the 4th, but they are trying.
 - **Planning and Zoning:**
 - **Public Safety; Jim Lybarger** read Marshal Johnson's report as he was unable to attend. 32 cases in May, 11 new cases as of report date. Not many details for Marshal dpt. Did two interviews with FD today. Lassen brought up she has been hearing a lots of sirens lately.
- **Fire Chief; Cameron Westenskow:** Chief W said Page will be reviewing the MOU with Page Fire on the 27th. Repairs were 2k less than expected, and that will be billed in July 26/27 budget year. Applied for grants, nothing heard yet, Chief is submitting another grant app to cover SCBA packs. Found two

new grants that open in July and he will apply. 75k & 50k. Two new employees in FD. Ice machine is up and running. 21 calls so far. Rock Canyon Fire, 2500 acres, 0 containment. He agreed that there have been a lot of sirens lately, many car accidents out on the Hwy 89. Already been a busy month. Helicopter yesterday. And for July 5th, the Fire Dept is going to have the helicopter on site at the Potluck, can climb in and take pictures.

- **Marshal; Russ Johnson:**
- **Planning & Zoning Administrator; Denise Wood:**
- **Treasurer: Peggy Short:** Said she passed out the new copies. And lists the line items that were changed to balance the budget. She spoke about the insurance rates, Feds met today, interest rates are going to stay the same and then may rise by the end of the year, which looks good for us.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS – Clarence comments on J-brakes. Peggy Short as a citizen brought up police car sitting on the lot, instead of the car sitting on the lot, park it where Hwy drivers could see it and slow them down since Hwy safety came up anyway. Tom Arnell, about cars going fast on the highway, and in Fredonia are 35 mph, and no one goes over 35 twice in Fredonia. Suggests reaching out to Fredonia since they have limited resources and find out how they finance their PD so we can have officers out watching too. Schmuker says that 89A is their Main St, but Big Water has frontage roads and no main street. They have crosswalks and all the businesses on the 89. Not to dispute, but to FYI, Big Water is a bit different. Mentions we may end up with a round about.

7. OLD BUSINESS –

a) Discussion and Possible Action on – Resolution 2026-15 Delegating Authority to the Glen Canyon Special Service District – Lassen motioned to adopt Resolution 2026-15 Delegating Authority to the Glen Canyon Special Service District, Gangola Second, All in Favor.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a) Discussion and Possible Action on – Resolution 2026-12, Adopting the Final 2026/2027 Budget – Gangola motioned to approve Resolution 2026-12, Adopting the Final 2026/2027 Budget, with 1,169,728 dollars, Lybarger seconded, All in Favor

b) Discussion and Possible Action on – Ordinance 08-2026, Adopting the Wildland-Urban Interface Code – Lybarger motioned to adopt Ordinance 08-2026, Adopting the Wildland-Urban Interface Code, Lassen seconded, All in Favor

c) Discussion and Possible action on – Approving the Communications Site Agreement – Lassen motioned to approve the Communications Site Agreement, Gangola seconded, All in Favor

d) Discussion and Possible action on – Resolution 2026-13 Approving the changes to Section 14.3 of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual – Lassen motioned to adopt Resolution 2026-13 Approving the changes to Section 14.3 of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, Lybarger seconded, all in favor

e) Discussion and Possible action on – Certifying the Tax Rate – Lybarger motioned to certify the tax rate, Gangola seconded, All in favor

f) Discussion and Possible action on – Adding No Engine Brake Signs to Hwy 89 – Gangola and Lybarger want more discussion with citizens, Lassen suggests putting it in the newsletter Lassen motions to continue at the July Regular Meeting, Lybarger seconded, all in favor

g) Discussion and Possible action on – Approving the Fraud Risk Assessment. – Gangola motions to approve the Fraud Risk Assessment, Lybarger seconds, all in favor

h) Discussion and Possible Action on – Filling Vacant Community Recreation and Enhancement Board Seats for a Two-Year Term – (currently no applicants)

i) Discussion and Possible Action on – Approving Financials and Check Register – Lassen motioned to approve the Financials and Check Register, Gangola seconded, all in favor

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION— Legal Business; Litigation; Land purchase; Personnel business; deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems; or items as described under Utah State Code Utah Code 52-4-205—

Motion to enter a Closed Session by ____ for ____, seconded by ____

Closed Meeting Called to Order at:

Vote to Adjourn Closed Session, motion made by, seconded by . Closed at

10. RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING—

a) Discussion and Possible Action on Closed Session— NO CLOSED SESSION

11. ADJOURNMENT— Motion to Adjourn by Lybarger, seconded by Gangola. Adjourned at 7:39pm