

**RUSH VALLEY TOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 17, 2026

Rush Valley Town Hall

52 South Park Street, Rush Valley Utah

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mayor and Council Members Present: Dana Gardner and Jeremiah Harding. Pete Albrecht and Lacey Burrows were excused from the meeting.

Appointed Officers and Employees Present: Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe and Fire Chief Jason Bolinder. Attorney Rob Clegg was excused from the meeting.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2026. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the minutes; Councilmember Harding seconded. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Sheriff's Report. No sheriff was present at the meeting.

4. Mayor's Recognition Award. No award was presented.

5. Public Hearing on Proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Budget. Councilmember Harding made a motion to open the public hearing; Councilmember Gardner seconded. The public hearing was opened at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Johnson reviewed the proposed budget, noting that it remained unchanged from the tentative budget presented during the previous month's meeting. Department budgets were discussed, including the Fire Department allocation. During the review, an adjustment was identified to increase anticipated Class B & C Road revenue to \$95,000. It was also confirmed that the Town had officially been awarded a \$50,000 Tooele County Tourism Grant for the Clover Church restoration project. No public comments were received. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to close the public hearing; Councilmember Harding seconded. The public hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

6. Public Hearing on an Ordinance Establishing Compensation for Elective, Statutory, and Appointed Officers for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to open the public hearing; Councilmember Harding seconded. The public hearing was opened at 7:09 p.m. Current compensation amounts for the Mayor, Councilmembers,

Clerk/Recorder, Treasurer, Fire Chief, and Assistant Fire Chief were reviewed. No public comments were received. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to close the public hearing; Councilmember Harding seconded. The public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

- 7. Consideration of A Resolution Adopting the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget and Setting the Tax Levy.** Councilmember Harding made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-01 regarding the 2026-2027 fiscal year budget and tax levy; Councilmember Gardner seconded. The certified tax levy was established at 0.000702, compared to the previous year's levy of 0.000669. Mayor Johnson noted that any increase beyond the certified rate would require a Truth in Taxation hearing. Following discussion, a roll call vote was conducted. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- 8. Consideration of a Resolution Amending the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget.** Councilmember Gardner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-02 amending the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget; Councilmember Harding seconded. Mayor Johnson reviewed proposed budget amendments reflecting actual revenues and expenditures including adjustments to tax revenues, Tooele County Health Department grant funding, and Class B & C Road revenues. Amendments were also made to Fire Department revenues, interest earnings, donations and rental revenues and payroll adjustments. With the increased revenue, the Fire Department opted to pay off the rescue truck. Mayor Johnson explained that several of these amendments were necessary because revenues exceeded original estimates. Following discussion, a roll call vote was conducted. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- 9. Consideration of an Ordinance Establishing Compensation for Elective, Statutory, and Appointed Officers for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.** Councilmember Gardner made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-01 establishing compensation for the 2026-2027 fiscal year; Councilmember Harding seconded. Discussion focused on the increased workload associated with several positions. Attention was given to the expanding responsibilities of the Fire Department resulting from House Bill 48, including wildfire interface inspections, public education, participation in Planning & Zoning Commission meetings and reviews, and emergency management responsibilities. The Council also discussed the increased administrative workload placed on the Clerk/Recorder due to significant growth in the Town's budget, grants, reporting requirements, and Fire Department accounting.

Following discussion, the Council considered compensation adjustments for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The Council approved the following increases: Mayor compensation by \$50 per month, Councilmember compensation by \$50 per month, Clerk/Recorder

compensation by \$200 per month, Fire Chief compensation by \$100 per month, and Assistant Fire Chief compensation by \$100 per month. It was also decided to establish a separate \$50 per month compensation for Emergency Management duties. The additional amounts being funded from Fire Department budget are \$50 for emergency management, \$100 for Fire Chief, \$100 for Assistant Fire Chief, and \$200 for Clerk/Recorder. Following discussion, a roll call vote was conducted. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

10. Consideration of Clover Church Brick Restoration. Councilmember Gardner made a motion to consider restoration of the outside brick at the Clover Church; Councilmember Harding seconded. Mayor Johnson reported that the Town had received a \$50,000 tourism grant for the project. Abstract Masonry submitted a bid of \$46,135 and agreed to donate a portion of its labor, reducing the overall project cost. With \$3,865 remaining, the Council discussed how future expenditures related to the project would be handled and clarified that purchases exceeding the Town's threshold of \$500 would require Council approval. Mayor Johnson asked the Council to allow the committee access to the grant funds to complete the project. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

11. Fire Department Report. Fire Chief Bolinder reported that the department's water tender had received new tires and brake repairs. Additional updates included installation of wildland firefighting hose, responses to the South Mountain and Stockton wildland fires, and wildland response reimbursement revenue. Since the previous meeting, the department responded to 18 calls, including nine medical calls, three traffic accidents, and six fire responses. Two of the calls occurred within Rush Valley Town limits. Chief Bolinder also discussed current wildfire conditions, noting that vegetation moisture levels were comparable to those typically experienced in late August, creating elevated fire danger. A fireworks ban is currently in effect within the Town of Rush Valley.

12. Council Reports. Roads – Councilmember Harding reported the paving is complete. He will be working on shouldering driveways in the newly paved area. He has been getting bids for striping.

Cemeteries – Councilmember Burrows was not present at the meeting.

Emergency Management - Councilmember Albrecht was not present at the meeting.

Parks – Councilmember Gardner reported there has been a lot of use of the outside pavilion. He also reported that the recent Bingo Night was well attended. Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe said that five residents signed up to be a part of the “Communities That Care

Coalition.” The names will be provided to Amy Jensen of the Tooele County Health Department. A Rush Valley Days planning meeting will take place soon.

Mayor Johnson reported progress on the Town’s Land Use Management Code and General Plan update project funded through the Wasatch Front Regional Council grant. He sent out a scope of work asking for feedback from councilmembers and the next step will be to hire a firm to help write the code and plan. The Council also briefly discussed future use of the Clover Church building, including the need to verify insurance coverage if the facility is made available for public events.

- 13. Safety Topic.** Fire Chief Bolinder presented the safety topic on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's "10 Standard Firefighting Orders" and "18 Watch Out Situations," emphasizing firefighter safety, communication, escape routes, and situational awareness during wildfire incidents.
- 14. Payment of Bills.** Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve payment of June 2026 bills; Councilmember Harding seconded. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- 15. Public Comments.** A newly elected county official, Michael Rapich, introduced himself and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work with Rush Valley. He complimented the Town on its efficient budget process.
- 16. Adjourn.** Councilmember Gardner made a motion to adjourn; Councilmember Harding seconded. All present voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:05 p.m.