

Approved 8/12/26

LEAMINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Wednesday, July 8, 2026, 7:00 PM

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call:

Michael Lovell, Mayor

Council Members: John Pruitt, Drey Oppenheimer, Tyler Christensen, Marcia Pack

Ashlee Echols, Clerk/Recorder

Brittney Nielson, Treasurer

Other Attendees: Officer Patrick Bennett, Russ Finlinson, Todd Tolley, Cindy Butler, Elizabeth Lovell, Ann & Jerry Finlinson

Bills were approved & signed

June Minutes Approval: Tyler motioned to approve the June minutes; Marcia seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

EMS licensing process: Officer Patrick Bennet with the Millard County Sheriff's Office presented information on recent state legislation requiring municipalities to provide or contract for EMS services. He explained the county's proposal to conduct a single Request for Proposals (RFP) process on behalf of participating municipalities & outlined the draft deferral letter. Mayor Lovell discussed the proposed process, including the importance of municipal representation during the RFP selection process. The council agreed to proceed with utilizing the county as the RFP and contracting agency, contingent upon revising the letter to reflect municipal involvement. Officer Bennet will provide an editable copy of the deferral letter for the Mayor & Clerk. Russ commented on the importance of timely EMS response for elderly local residents.

Mayor Lovell also inquired about the EMS approval process for road naming. Officer Bennet stated he would include Lindsey Mitchell's contact in the email to assist the town with questions.

Administration: Mayor Lovell reported that he has not yet followed up on the ordinance violation regarding a split water connection or the requested resident property clean up. He will talk with TMountain Media concerning our website not being operational—noting wildfire-related delays affecting the developer.

Facilities, Town Hall & Parks: John reviewed upcoming rentals. Existing reservations during town celebration preparation will be honored, but additional large rentals will not be accepted during reserved event preparation dates.

Water Planning & Zoning: Drey reported reduced spring flow has required lowering well production to maintain required blending. The generator is operating properly, with final electrical protections and controls still needing verification before being connected to the well system.

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Cemetery & Roads: Tyler reported the town now has the necessary process to officially name roads & resolutions are prepared for consideration today. Obstructed visibility at the rail crossings was readdressed; Tyler will continue with follow-up.

Fire Department: Marcia reported the new brush truck has arrived and will be outfitted after decals are installed. She thanked Mont & Spence for the landscaping improvements, and council discussed plans for lighting the donated flagpole. The council & Cindy also discussed concerns that Leamington Fire Dept. was not dispatched to a recent fire near the county line and agreed to pursue discussions with fire officials regarding future dispatch procedures.

Xpress Bill Pay offer: Ashlee presented updated information regarding Xpress Bill Pay, online payment options, and associated processing fees. After reviewing costs and limited public interest, the council elected to continue the current payment system and revisit online payments in the future.

Status of Accounts: Brittney reviewed current account balances in detail.

Required Transfers per Title 4: Brittney reviewed required fund balances & transfers to interest-bearing accounts. The council confirmed restricted fund balances have been transferred appropriately and discussed future transfers as water project reimbursements are received.

Appoint Jake Hansen: Mayor Lovell expressed appreciation for the Butler & Hanson families' efforts in maintaining town property. Cindy raised awareness of continued repairs, cleanup & maintenance for the town hall, fire house, grounds & equipment she would like to see completed in preparation for Leamarado Days. Plans were discussed for those items to be addressed. Through discussion, it was discovered that Jake Hanson preferred to continue volunteering rather than be appointed as a parks worker. With the Butlers volunteering to maintain the grounds for the remainder of the summer, the council agreed to table the appointment and continue relying on volunteer efforts for the time being.

Resolution 2026-07-01: Mayor Lovell read the considered resolution updating official road names to correct county GIS records and improve emergency response mapping. Mayor Lovell updated Cindy that her suggested contact for road signs is not able to do UDOT-compliant signs; therefore, the town will order signs online. Marcia motioned to approve resolution 2026-07-01; Tyler seconded. Roll call vote taken; motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2026-07-02: Mayor read the considered resolution as brought on by petition to rename a private road to Sandy Lane & briefly discussed with Russ regarding future road maintenance responsibilities. Tyler motioned to approve resolution 2026-07-02; John seconded. All in Favor; motion carried.

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Resolution 2026-07-03: Mayor Lovell reviewed the considered resolution to approve a request for a new water connection for Leamington Heritage Farm LLC following expiration of the temporary moratorium on new connections & SCADA installation completion. Discussion included available water capacity, possible applicant-funded water infrastructure improvements, long-term water planning, and concerns about setting a precedent for future out-of-town connections. Todd expressed his support of the connection, reinforcing the benefits the town could receive from the heritage farm. Ann suggested limiting any future approvals to existing structures as a way to distinguish them from new development. Marcia motioned to table the resolution; Drey seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Resolution 2026-07-04: Mayor Lovell informed the council he had been contacted by TNT's attorney, who requested a one-month extension before terminating the connection for their legal protection. The council reviewed the resolution to terminate the unused, undocumented water connection that no longer complies with current drinking water requirements. Discussion included the meter/account history, ownership changes, legal concerns, and potential contamination risks. Following discussion, including resident comments supportive of termination, Tyler motioned to approve resolution 2026-07-04 terminating TNT's water connection; Marcia seconded. Roll call vote taken; motion carried unanimously. Mayor Lovell directed Todd to disconnect and remove the meter & establishing an alternate water sampling location was discussed.

Celebration Committees: Mayor Lovell invited residents to participate in a planning meeting on July 14, 2026, for Leamarado Days, Christmas, Easter & other community events; requesting council involvement in inviting others that may be interested. Steven Holaman has volunteered as chair of the Christmas committee with his wife.

Town hall remodel: Electrical work, window trim painting, landscaping & bridal suite restroom remain to be completed.

Maintenance building project: Only fencing remains to complete the project.

Water projects: Russ reviewed remaining USDA & CIB funding. Electrical work is complete & has been submitted for reimbursement. Remaining funds are expected to cover retaining wall materials, while volunteers will complete installation. Funding is no longer available for well abandonment.

Road Naming and Road Signs: *Discussed in Council reports & New Business*

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Juniper Heights Dr Road Maintenance: Tyler reported the contractor is still awaiting project awards in neighboring communities before confirming availability for the town's road work.

Public Comments

Mayor Lovell expressed gratitude to Cindy, Spence, Mont, Drey, Jake, and other volunteers for their efforts in cleaning up the town grounds. He encouraged continued community involvement, noting its importance to the town.

Cindy Butler suggested landscaping prior to Leamarado days if possible & scheduling the window trim painting was discussed.

Jerry & Ann Finlinson expressed concerns about the proposed revocable out-of-town water service agreement, particularly the provisions regarding termination upon the sale or transfer of property and the council's authority to approve future service. Mayor Lovell explained that the agreement is intended to establish formal documentation for all out-of-town water connections, which have historically lacked written agreements, and to ensure future owners apply for council approval before service continues. He noted the agreement was developed with guidance from the Utah Government Trust free lawyer service to protect the town's interests and address past issues involving undocumented connections and delinquent accounts. Residents suggested clarifying the language to more clearly explain the approval process for future owners, and the mayor agreed the wording could be reviewed for clarity while emphasizing that the intent is not to arbitrarily terminate existing service. The council also noted the town currently has 13 out-of-town water connections.

Todd raised concerns regarding microtrenching installation of fiber optics along Main St., noting that the cable's burial depth is not in line with lawful requirements. Explaining that this will create conflicts for current meter upgrades needing digs as well as future utility work and road projects. It was discussed whether a variance had been approved by the appropriate authority. Tyler will request documentation from Centra-Com regarding any approved installation variance and applicable requirements.

Adjournment: Marcia motioned to adjourn & Tyler seconded. All in favor; motion carried, meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM