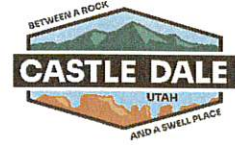


CASTLE DALE CITY

City Council Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2026



The City Council of Castle Dale, Emery County, Utah, met in an open meeting on July 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.
20 S 100 E, Castle Dale, Utah

ATTENDEES

Mayor: Danny Van Wagoner

Council:

Glen Gerber
Michael Jorgensen
Bradley Giles
Emily Mills
Joel Dorsch

Maintenance Supervisor: Ignacio Arrien- excused

Fire Chief: Ignacio Arrien-excused

Land Use Administrator: Kerry Lake

Code Enforcer-Animal Control: Dustin Carter

Treasurer: Rebecca Norton

Recorder: Siri Jensen

Others in attendance: AnnDee Mead, Axel Mead, Jaxon Mead, Amy Adams, Loraine Frandsen, Aiden Mortensen, Stephanie Olson

WELCOME

Mayor Danny Van Wagoner was presiding and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

All City Council members were in attendance.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Council member Jorgensen motioned to approve the June City Council minutes; Council member Giles seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Yes: Glen Gerber, Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills, Joel Dorsch

PARK NAME

The council had previously decided on the name “Abilities Park” for the new park in Castle Dale, but four new names were presented to the council. Those names were “Adventure for All Park,” “Limitless Park,” “Possibility Park,” and “Possibility Place.” Council member Mills expressed her support for the names “Possibility Park” and “Limitless Park.” Council members Gerber and Dorsch also expressed their support for the name “Limitless Park.”

Council member Dorsch moved to call the new park “Limitless Park.” Council member Mills seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Yes: Glen Gerber, Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills, Joel Dorsch

DISCUSS FIREWORK SALES PERMIT

Item number 5 was withdrawn from the agenda at the request of Mayor Van Wagoner.

GIRLS STATE REPORTING: AALIYAH KING, ZOE PEREA

Aaliyah King thanked the council for the money donated to her, Magnuson, and Perea to attend Girls State. King met a lot of people she is still in touch with and is very thankful to have met them. The main thing that she learned from Girls State is to stand up for those who can’t stand up for themselves. This reminded her of her mom, as she has stood up for King when no one else would and has always been there for her throughout her life. King is thankful for her mom and thankful for all the council members and their support. She would be willing to serve on youth city council.

Zoe Perea was excused from the meeting.

SPEAKERS AT THE ARENA

AnnDee Mead introduced herself and stated that her family, as well as a few friends, put on the “For Fun Barrel Racing Series” as well as the “Blue Sage Jr. Rodeos” at the Blue Sage Arena. Her family has been hosting events for the “For Fun Barrel Racing Series” at the arena every other Wednesday since she was seven or eight years old, which brings out 25-60 participants each time, with most coming from Emery County. The Blue Sage Jr. Rodeos are hosted 4-5 times each summer, with just over 100 members from all over the state that participate. Each time a Jr. Rodeo is held, about 400 participants go through different events on both Saturdays that they use the arena. Mead then asked about the possibility of installing a speaker on the outside of the indoor barn on the south side. It was stated that a speaker is needed to increase the safety and efficiency of events held at the arena. At the events, riders run their horses in and out of the arena, while other riders try to see who is up, and others on foot also try to do the same. This causes a real safety issue when there is so much traffic at the gate where riders come in and out frequently and quickly. Having a speaker would also help everyone, whether inside or outside of the arena, know who is currently riding, so the next rider can be ready to complete their event.

Council member Dorsch stated that previously, there have been speakers located outside of the indoor arena. While the speakers were in place, the city received several complaints from surrounding residents, even though all events are completed before 11 PM, which is in accordance with city ordinances.

Mead then asked about putting a speaker on the southeast light pole that faces the parking lot and the arena, instead of the homes across the street, which would also benefit the riders saddling up.

Council member Dorsch then stated that in the past there were two amplifiers that powered the south speaker, but they haven't been used in a while because the speaker is no longer there. It is possible to install a speaker in the southeast area, but he needs to find out more about the process and will report back to the council next month. It was also stated that if a speaker is put somewhere on the south side of the arena, it would need to be regulated so that no music is played over it.

The item was tabled until the August city council meeting.

FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT

Mayor Van Wagoner presented the fraud risk assessment to the council. He explained that the state requires it to be completed. The city scored 345 out of 395, which is low fraud risk, so those in the office are doing an excellent job. A basic separation of duties was also presented to the council, and the city is doing very well in that area.

Council member Giles motioned to accept the fraud risk assessment as presented to the council; Council member Mills seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Yes: Glen Gerber, Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills, Joel Dorsch

LAND USE COMMITTEE – KERRY LAKE

The land use committee held a meeting last month, where a long discussion took place about an Airbnb in an apartment building and whether it would work. No request was granted because the apartment owner did not make one. Further discussion will take place about the situation after the ordinance about short-term rentals, being at least 500 feet apart, comes into effect. The Land Use committee directed Lake to investigate how other cities manage dog parks and report back at the next meeting. Several business licenses were also granted. A lot in the Pine View development of Valley View was discussed, and a person was granted permission to purchase and begin building. The short-term vacation rental ordinance will be adjusted at the next land use committee meeting in a public hearing. Additionally, he was also asked to look further into how other cities handle chickens and roosters in city limits. Council member Giles stated that there is a noise ordinance about birds in the city code book, but Lake stated that the ordinance would need to be more specific about roosters. He has already found that Carbon County has an ordinance prohibiting roosters within city limits but stated that Castle Dale is more of a rural situation, so he isn't sure if the city wants to be that strict in their ordinance. He will bring all his findings to the next committee meeting. Also, Lake has received multiple phone calls about Castle Dale city buying property and building in Castle Dale. He has sent the mobile home park ordinance to several people, but he is unsure what is happening with the mobile home park. Finally, a question was raised about having a short-term rental license but having long-term tenants on the property. It was answered that if a short-term rental license is held, the ordinance relating to short-term rental parking still applies even if the tenants have been in the rental for an extended period. If the resident wants to have long-term renters on the property, then the necessary steps need to be taken to obtain a long-term business license. After obtaining a long-term business license, the short-term rental parking ordinance would no longer be applicable.

ANIMAL CONTROL/CODE ENFORCEMENT – DUSTIN CARTER

From June 12th to July 9th, Carter responded to 29 calls for service and trapped 17 feral cats, including adults and kittens. 12 of those feral cats were taken to the pound, and 5 were turned over to Mike Jorgensen to be placed on farms, with 3 of them being adults and the other 2 being kittens. 1 citation was given for an aggressive dog. The dog jumped the owner's fence and was quite aggressive toward a passing family. A statement was taken from a witness about the incident. 1 dog was impounded that was found at Willow Creek Reservoir. Carter took a picture of the dog, posted it on social media, and the owner was found. 2 dogs were declared missing, but both were returned to their owners safely. 7 verbal and written warnings were issued for dogs off leash with no tags. On July 5th, by the library, there was an injured deer. He called dispatch to see if they could get ahold of the DNR. Two deputies responded and concluded the deer would be fine. On July 8th, he was contacted by dispatch about an abandoned dog in Esquire Estates. He located the dog, and upon further investigation, found a truck on the property with a valid license and a fire emblem on the plate. As he investigated the truck, he found that the dog belonged to a local firefighter who was called out to the Babylon fire, so he had asked some friends to take care of it. This led Carter to return the dog to the firefighter's friends, instead of taking it to the pound. Finally, 3 enumerated roosters are being rehomed after excessive noise complaints within city limits.

For the code enforcement report, Carter stated that 5 first warnings were issued both verbally and with door hangers for water violations, such as watering off schedule and watering twice daily. A warning was also issued at an Airbnb for violation of a parking ordinance. The owner of the property said that the tenant is not a short-term renter, as they have occupied the property for over 6 months, so they claimed the ordinance does not apply to them, even though it continues to do so. The 4th of July was a very peaceful day as he didn't see anyone lighting off fireworks, other than at Cheddar Field, which was the designated area to do so. Many of the residents who are on the list of properties to be cleaned up have done very little so far, so Carter will follow up with them. He was also informed that human-powered bicycles and scooters are allowed at the skate park, and the sign posted saying otherwise will be investigated.

MAINTENANCE – IGNACIO ARRIEN

Arrien was excused from the meeting, so Council member Dorsch presented the maintenance report to the council. He stated that the diesel engine failed on a John Deere Tractor. Through some research, four options were found to resolve the problem, but paying \$61,000 for a complete replacement of the tractor will not be the solution. Dorsch and Arrien decided that having John Deere pick up the tractor and replace the engine with a new rebuilt engine, turbos, and other small repairs, for a total of \$19,348.27, would be the best solution. It is being determined which budget line the purchase will come out of. The utility vehicle that was going to be bought to replace the current 2007 vehicle will most likely not be purchased anymore, as it would take most of the fairground and indoor arena budgets to do so. There also still needs to be money in those budgets for the rest of the fiscal year to complete other projects as they arise.

Council member Dorsch also contacted Southeast Fencing about putting in vinyl fences on Center Street. There is a 500-foot section at the cemetery that will be changed to a 4-foot, 3-rail heavy-duty fence that is 6 inches by 2 inches. Aluminum fencing was considered, but the price was out of the budget. The cost for the vinyl fencing will be \$13,926. It will be placed on the sidewalk. Finally, it was stated that the fence is not too high for deer to jump over, but most of the deer that come through the cemetery go through the gate, which never closes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – IGNACIO ARRIEN

Arrien was excused from the meeting, so Mayor Van Wagoner presented the fire department report to the council. There are two firefighters from Castle Dale, who are Treyson Tuttle and Ashton Frederick, who have been gone since Monday fighting the Babylon fire near Monticello. Our thoughts are with them. The fire department was busy for three nights around the 4th of July. No fireworks were set off around the city, except at Cheddar Park on the 4th. There was a group of people from Orangeville, who had family with them from Sweden, who lit off private fireworks for an hour and a half. They were very grateful there was a place where they could light their fireworks. Mayor Van Wagoner stated that it was still a good decision to make Cheddar Park the designated area to light fireworks, even though many other cities wrestled with the same decision for their cities.

TREASURER REPORT

The treasurer reported that the sales tax for June 2025 was \$28,043.85 and for June 2026 it was \$32,370.64, which increased by \$4,326.79. The transportation tax for June 2025 was \$2,426.56 and increased by \$376.22 in June 2026, for a total of \$2,802.78 for the year.

RECORDER REPORT

The recorder stated that sixty-six businesses have renewed their licenses with the city, while four others are now closed. Two new businesses were also issued a license. Finally, the audit is scheduled for August 20, 2026.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Glen Gerber – Gerber stated that he visited the owner of an Airbnb in the city.

Michael Jorgensen – Jorgensen did not have anything to report.

Brad Giles – Giles reported that all construction along Bell Ave that was replacing a pipe that was put in all around the county in the 70s has been completed. The Special Service District has been replacing sections of the pipe every year in cities around Emery County. Next year will be the last year Castle Dale City has any of the pipes that need to be replaced. The project is planned for 2027 and expected to affect the Valley View neighborhoods and nearby cul-de-sacs. During the pipe replacement along Bell Ave, there was one instance when the construction company failed to warn the citizens that the water would be shut off. Since then, they have been very diligent in ensuring citizens know about the water shutoffs.

On July 9th, they met with the contractor about grinding sidewalk drip hazards. A bid will be acquired and brought to the council in August for approval. A bid for the cost to build two new sidewalks, as well as replace the sidewalk in areas where it is currently not there, will also be brought to the council at the August meeting.

Currently, the water line replacement is centered at Esquire Estates Parkway, where two meters are being installed, as well as new valves and a new valve station to meter their water use and to give the city better control of the culinary water on the bench. Finally, Council member Giles

thanked those in the office for fielding many calls about the water shutoffs.

Emily Mills – Mills stated that the arena continues to be busy and she loves seeing people there using it.

Joel Dorsch – Dorsch did not have anything else to report to the council.

Mayor Danny Van Wagoner – Mayor Van Wagoner stated that he attended an EMS board meeting and was informed that for the month of June, between Orangeville and Castle Dale, they were fully staffed 13% of the time and partially staffed 29% of the time. There were 3 runs between Orangeville and Castle Dale stations. There will be another EMS class for all who are interested.

Mayor Van Wagoner also reported that the state wants to get rid of two charging stations, which are by the museum, so the council will decide if they want them or not at the next city council meeting. A handout with all the needed information about the stations was given to all council members, and it was stated that the topic will be on the agenda next month, so all council members need to come prepared to discuss it. One of the charging stations needs to be worked on, so that will be considered before taking over the stations. Finally, Mayor Van Wagoner stated that while they are not a great source of revenue, they are a service to the public and bring people into the museum while their car is charging.

Mayor Van Wagoner reported that there have been a few engineering problems with the sun sails at the “Limitless Park,” so the grand opening will be pushed from September 4th to October. The sun sails need to withstand the wind that goes through the area, so they are being adjusted. The second part of the park will be delivered on August 1st. He also stated that because of the “Limitless Park,” he was invited to the ribbon-cutting of a sensory store in Grand Junction. Five more similar stores will eventually be built throughout Utah. Grand Junction is also discussing adding a couple of all-abilities parks to their city, modeling after Castle Dale.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The executive session was not needed.

BILLS PRESENTED FOR SIGNATURES

Council member Giles motioned to pay the bills; Council member Jorgensen seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Yes: Glen Gerber, Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills, Joel Dorsch

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Jorgensen motioned to adjourn the meeting; Council member Mills seconded the motion.

Result: Approved

Yes: Glen Gerber, Michael Jorgensen, Bradley Giles, Emily Mills, Joel Dorsch

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm
07/09/2026

Approved 08/13/2026

Siri Jensen

