



**Laketown Town Council
Public Hearing and Council Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2026
Laketown City Office
10 North 200 East Laketown, Utah**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Laketown Town Council held their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2026. This meeting was held at the Laketown City Office Building, located at 10 North 200 East, Laketown, Utah. Mayor Brandon Willis welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Town Council Present:

Mayor Brandon Willis
Council Member Burdette Weston
Council Member Kris Hodges
Council Member Kirsten Gash
Council Member Denise Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nellie Brown
Delora Wight
Darrin Wight
Steve Myers

Duane Robinson
Shelton Taylor
Dennis Hodges
Jason Myers

Laura (UGRC) via zoom
DW2 via zoom
Scott Archibald via zoom

2. OPENING CEREMONY

CM Weston conducted the opening ceremony, and CM Gash led the pledge of allegiance

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Willis asked for a roll call of the council present:
Brandon Willis
Burdette Weston
Kirsten Gash
Denise Johnson
Kris Hodges
Lisa Johnson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Willis asked for motion. CM Weston made the motion to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by CM Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.



5. **PUBLIC HEARING** The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment regarding a proposed amendment to the Laketown Town Land use Ordinance that would allow the creation of ½ acre residential lots in designated areas outside the tradition town core.

TIME: 6:05 PM Mayor Willis opened the public hearing

The following residents commented:

Duane Robinson, Laketown Utah: member of the community for the last 24 years

Presented information on lot sizes and the costs associated with septic systems and drain fields on small lots. Would like to preserve the small-town rural atmosphere. We are a recreational community, and visitors bring large recreational vehicles, and we need to be aware of where these vehicles will be parked.

Delora Wight, Laketown, Utah: agrees with Duane and his comments, people will take care of an acre lot as well as they would a ½ acre lot. What's the purpose behind driving this change? Quote she heard "Don't sell the soul of Laketown to support tourism."

Darrin Wight, Laketown, Utah: Sees the purpose of ½ acre lots for increased revenue for the town with water hook ups and taxes. People love the room if we start crowding in, we will lose the charm of the town. Would like to leave the bigger lots.

Dennis Hodges, Laketown, Utah: Town of Laketown needs continued growth to remain stainable. ½ acre lots are a good thing, doesn't feel like a lot of ½ acre lots will be developed,

Steve Myers, Laketown, Utah: not opposed to the proposed ½ acre lots that P&Z will propose, believes that the towns setbacks and building guidelines will control the size of houses.

TIME: 6:26 PM Mayor Willis closed the public hearing

Mayor Willis asked for a roll call

Brandon Willis
Burdette Weston
Kirsten Gash
Denise Johnosn
Kris Hodges
Lisa Johnson

6. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Weston made the motion to approve the minutes of July 1, 2026. Motion was seconded by CM Hodges. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **BUDGET REVIEW**

CM Weston commented he would like to add to next year's budget for the rodeo, compensation for use of Ben's sheep.

Lisa reviewed expenses over July, county reimbursed the town the \$6000 for the July 2nd celebration, and did not receive all the rodeo expenses

No additional comments



8. APPROVAL OF BILLS

July bills and payments were passed around for the Council's review and initials. Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Gash made a motion to approve the July bills. Motion was seconded by CM Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

9. CURRENT TOWN ISSUES/UPDATES – Town Council

No Comments

10. ACTIVITY COMMITTEE REPORT – HEIDI HODGES

Heidi was unable to attend meeting. Mayor gave a shout out to the Activity Committee, they made approximately \$27,000 in sales at the rodeo concessions, had lots of good comments on the food that night. Mayor has received lots of positive comments about the end of summer movie night. Heidi has done an amazing job. No update on the next activity committee event.

11. UPDATES FROM CLERK'S OFFICE (Lisa)

Printer is obsolete; therefore, Les Olsen will no longer be able to get parts for our current printer, possible replacement options were presented. It was decided to continue using old printer until it no longer can be repaired and possible budget for an updated printer next year.

Gary Tuescher is lined up to begin Audit of books for Wednesday

We have a Utah Retirement Systems audit, and need information on appointed and elected officials

Water late notice will go out August 17, 2026, Monday

Insurance has been paid, Cemetery and Fire Districts have been invoiced for their shares

UMCA conference end of September in Ogden, applied for scholarship to cover tuition fee.

Banners at the school gyms to support the Athletics department. Mayor Willis asked for a motion.

CM Weston made a motion to approve of paying for the town banners at the school gyms to come from the rodeo fund. Motion seconded by CM Hodges. Motion passed unanimously.

Use of the credit card payment option over the past few months: 3 building permits, 11 mutton busters, and 13 water bills. This payment option is being utilized.

Present information on ULCT legislative board. Representation from Laketown, If anyone wanted to be on the board and attend the next meeting.

Call from representative of QbarS wanting to sale products in a pop-up tent by Steve's Performance on the Highway. Council agreed the transient business license needs to be updated. Item for next month. But currently QbarS would need to follow the current ordinance outlining transient businesses.

TIME: 6:53 PM



The Town Council will not begin discussion on the
following agenda items before 6:30 PM

12. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

No Comments

13. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT- Duane Robinson

Boundary Line Adjustment for Kelvin Pugmire's house property, house was not actually built on the Pugmire property,

Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Johnson made a motion to approve the boundary adjustment for Kelvin Pugmire. Motion seconded by CM Gash. Motion passed unanimously.

Duane asked the question why do we charge for the boundary line adjustment?

Building Permit for Jared & Dana Wahlstrom. Discussion on set back of garage from main house and town code.

Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Weston made a motion to approve the Wahlstrom building permit. Motion seconded by CM Gash. Motion passed unanimously.

P&Z is working on the recommendation of lot sizes within the city limits. Discussion on zoning map and possible lot size changes, considering Bear River Health department recommendations and location to Big Creek.

P&Z is working on recommendation of changing the size of a corner lot. Would like to add category for corner lot to Table in ordinance 10.6A.4. Duane will bring back a formal written recommendation from P&Z on these proposed changes.

14. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- a. **(7:00 PM)** Emma Nielson Utah Geospatial Resource Center (UGRC) – creating an interactive zoning maps for Laketown

Laura represented Emma who had a family emergency. Laura appeared via zoom; she presented an interactive zoning map for the town. Discussion on potential layers such as wetlands, slope maps, state WUI maps, flood hazard, parcel numbers and landmarks

- b. **(7:30 PM)** Scott Archibald – Sunrise Engineering – Discussion on 2nd source water protection

TIME: 7:55 PM

The council was guided through the anticipated process and required steps for developing a second water source, contingent upon funding approval. 1) Coordinate with the Division of Drinking Water on applicable requirements and regulations 2) Complete a Preliminary Evaluation Report PER, using a hypothetical flow rate to evaluate potential contamination zones and anticipated flows. The PER would then be submitted for approval 3) Coordinate with the Division of Water Rights regarding the necessary water rights and permitting 4) obtain a start card for drilling contractor 5) Complete the well design 6) Bid the well construction project 7) select a drilling contractor 8) Drill the well 9) Conduct a pumping and step test to evaluate the well 10) determine capacity of well 11) Conduct a 24 hour pump test to verify that the well can sustain the required production 12) Verify the capacity of the well 13) Complete water quality testing 14) Cap the well and complete the drilling



contractors scope of work 15) bid for well house construction project 16) Construct well house 17) Install the pump and connect the well to the existing tank.

It was noted that the project will involve two primary phases of work: well development and construction of the well house and associated infrastructure.

Following funding approval, the estimated timeframe to complete the project from start to finish is approximately 12-15 months

The Council discussed work that could potentially be completed prior to funding approval to prepare for the project. This could include completing the Preliminary Evaluation Report, beginning the necessary water-rights work, and developing design plans. It may also be possible to bid the project contingent upon funding approval.

Discussion on the 4 protective zones.

Discussion on two potential well sites that have been identified 1) near the cemetery and 2) up the canyon.

The Council also discussed the Town's existing water rights and the need to determine which water rights would need to be transferred or assigned to the proposed well.

TIME: 8:21 PM

c. 2027 TRT Grant

Council discussed potential projects to submit for the TRT Grant money

1. Replace the old wood bleachers
2. Sports Court / Pickle ball courts at the park
3. Splash Pad at the park

CM Hodges will work on preparing the bids and TRT grant application

d. Discussion and possible approval of Centra Com Fiber to the office and Park

Centra com offered internet to the park at no cost and Fiber Internet to the town for \$150/month for 100 MB for a 36-month term

Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Weston made a motion to approve the installation of fiber at the town office and town park. Motion was seconded by CM Johnson.

e. Discussion on lot sizes

Discussion on lot sizes was moved to next month pending on Planning and Zoning recommendations

f. Discussion and possible approval of Ordinance 2026-04 Amending the Consolidated Fee Schedule to include a fee in lieu of dedication of required water shares and/or water rights

Mayor Willis is still working with the attorney on the appropriate wording for this ordinance. Add this discussion to next month's agenda.

g. Discussion and possible adoption of ordinance establishing delegation of spending and purchasing approval authority to town council members.

Discussion on this topic will be moved to next month's agenda or a work session

15. COUNCIL BUSINESS

a. Water Updates – Burdette Weston

Dan has submitted the monthly water report



Invoice from Valley Implement and Stringham Construction is for repair of the water line to the rodeo from damage that occurred from Centra Com and the placement of the fiber line. Send an invoice to Centra com to cover these invoices

Winterize the rodeo arena in September

CM Hodges will contact Dan to winterize the water fountain

b. Roads & Streets Updates – Kirsten Gash

Road signs and poles have arrived. Poles are at Gomez's but need to be moved to behind the county road shed. Kirsten is unsure of where to place the poles.

Discussion on placement of signs and locations

c. Park & Recreation Updates – Denise Johnson

A concern was discussed regarding the bathroom door locking when opened. The doorknobs are contacting the wall-mounted door stops, which can cause the doors to lock when an occupant exits the bathroom, leaving the door locked. Denise has asked Austin to install floor-mounted door stops to prevent the doors locking unintentionally.

Discussion on purchasing LED colored lights for the pavilion.

CM Weston made a motion to approve the purchase of the new color-changing LED lights for the pavilion. The motion was seconded by CM Gash. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Rodeo & Arena Updates – Kris Hodges

Mayor thanked everyone who helped with the Rodeo.

Report on the rodeo:

Friday night: Need more help at the gate next year, broken wood bleacher, did not like the wrist bands that were ordered for the reserved section, mix up on seats with Simple tix

Saturday night: needed more side-by-side drivers, kids jumped into arena for chicken chase as a bucking horse was being released ... near disaster was avoided. Issues with bull fighters being inconsiderate to the ticket takers, Sim handled the issue.

Queen presentation went well

Concession Stand: 1) Wiring issues by next year an electrician may need to rewire the stand Dee's services station fridge was used at concession stand, 2) Door lock broke – Jolley's replaced the lock, 3) all appliances have been turned off and has been cleaned and 4) need new light at door

Next year we need to order some event parking signs, handicap signs, banners or metal signs

Need a new sign at the arena – use at your own risk.

Lisa will contact Trey Walker about pictures he took at the rodeo, he told Kris he would share with the town.

Simple Tix switched the rows for sections 4 and 5, so there was some confusion on these seats over the nights of the rodeo, need to be fixed before next year

Great Attendance this year, lots of positive comments on the reserved section

Possibly having a few mutton buster spots for the local contestants, next year.

Confusion when gates open and rodeo start time. Need to advertise better and check Garden City/Raspberry Days sites for correct information



CM Weston reported that the Queen, attendants and Princess did an awesome job and were very appreciative. Council commented on what a great job Racheal Wamsley has done with the queen contest over the past several years. They hope she will continue.

Rodeo Thank you dinner looking at Café Sabor Mid-September, Mayor Willis arrange this dinner

NOTE: the backup recorder turned off, the last 5 minutes of the meeting were not recorded on the back up recorder. The entire meeting audio and video recording is on the Zoom recording.

16. MAYOR'S REPORT

- **Bear Lake Regional Commission**

Discussed regional report, Income from Utah and Idaho. Discussion on South Eden Estate hooking into sewer system

- **Other**

Tyler Hunter is working on vacating property along Main Street. Attorney wants the survey to show current right of ways and they will be preserved. Ordinance will need to be drafted.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Session needed

18. ADJOURN

Mayor Willis asked for a motion. CM Hodges made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by CM Johnson. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM