

**Rockville Town Council
Regular Meeting
Rockville Town Hall
August 12, 2026 – 6:00 pm**

1. **CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL:** Mayor Leach called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following Town Council members were present: Andy Efstratis, Robin Smith, Megan Honer-Orton, Jeff Ballard and Mayor Pam Leach. Clerk Cox recorded the meeting.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Leach led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith-Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH AN AGENDA ITEM.** No conflicts were declared.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Leach asked if there were any public comments. No comments were made.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/NON-ACTION ITEMS

5. **REPORT ON HURRICANE VALLEY FIRE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT:** Chief Tyler Ames presented the Fire District information. He said the call numbers for July, Rockville had five (5), Springdale 32, and Zion National Park had eight (8). Chief Ames reported the District is up 550 calls more last month than last year. He said currently District Wildland team #473 has been dispatched to Idaho and has been there 14 days and may be extended. They also have a type 3 engine on the Wide Mouth Fire near Fillmore, which is the largest fire in the State that is currently burning around 120,000 acres. The Fire Station at Sand Hollow is close to breaking ground which will be on the left side of the main entrance into the State Park on four (4) acres. He said the station on Kolob will be situated on a one-acre parcel on the Washington County Conservancy land.
Andy Efstratis asked if there were more fires this year than in previous years. Chief Ames said maybe not more fires, however more land has been burnt.
Megan Honer-Orton asked about the recent fire in Springdale. Chief Ames said it was contained in the kitchen area of the Springhill Inn Hotel. He said due to the size of the building many crews responded but the first crew on scene located the fire and were able to contain it.
6. **REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION – CHAIR ARNOLD:** Chair Arnold reported at last night's Planning Commission meeting the Commission gave preliminary approval to 115 East Main for Sofia Opmanis to relocate the accessory building and attach it to the home to conform to the Land Use Code for a dwelling. Her approval is pending with additional paperwork needed to be submitted. Mayor Leach asked if the paperwork for this application was complete. Chair Arnold said it was not as there were a couple of things missing and also requires some specific engineering. This is paperwork that is required with a deadline of 60 days to be submitted, or the entire application is rejected, and the pending fines are imposed.

Chair Arnold said the Planning Commission also reviewed Chapter 1 of the Land Use Code and have amended the Code to follow the State numbering system. The proposed changes and corrections will be formally submitted to the Town Council for adoption.

Administrative Action Items

- 7. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #26-0812-01 ADOPTING THE ROCKVILLE BRIDGE AS OWNED BY THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE AND ADDRESSING PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES ON THE ROCKVILLE BRIDGE (FORMERLY ORDINANCE #26-0715-01)** Mayor Leach stated a letter of opposition against this ordinance was received, and she has provided each Council member a copy. This letter was received after the deadline for being part of the meeting and will not be read into the minutes. Mayor Leach asked if the Council members had any comments on the proposed updated wording for this ordinance. None were given.

Mayor Leach said after last month's meeting, she talked with Springdale Police Chief Brecke and Officer Bulkley who had done some research on this issue to see what would be needed in order for the police to be able to act appropriately if they find someone on the bridge doing prohibited activities. She said they have told her that they have several options if they see somebody doing something on the bridge that's prohibited by this ordinance. They can ask them to stop doing whatever they're doing, that's prohibited. If it's a first offense and the person is cooperative, they can give them a verbal warning. She said if they're found again on the bridge violating the ordinance they may get a written warning or they may get a citation. Signage will be needed on the bridge that indicates prohibited activities, the Town ordinance and the State Code that supports it. She said the Town Attorney also has reviewed the ordinance as now drafted. She said a little more language was added, which is what is presented now for possible adoption.

Mayor Leach asked if there were any comments as to anything that needs to be changed or added. Jeff Ballard said every kid in Rockville threw rocks off the bridge growing up, but now things are different and legal issues and safety need to be addressed, which is a sad part of reality. Mayor Leach said there is a lot more traffic on Bridge Road, Grafton Road, SR9, and a lot more people around now. Already there had been incidents of visitors calling the police and thinking that somebody was potentially going to commit suicide or just calling saying somebody was on the bridge. She said she did find something very interesting about the bridge, that the "upper truss system is designed for tension and compression stability, not localized human weight". She said the Town spent a lot of time raising money to rehabilitate that bridge, a lot of time convincing UDOT that the Town wanted to keep the Bridge and so it seems pretty important that we protect it and it's used for what it's meant for. No one wants to see anybody hurt. She said she is aware there are good climbers, but not everybody is. She said Jeffery Herrick, who climbs the bridge often, even said the new paint made it more slippery. The bridge was not built as a climbing structure but was built as a bridge to allow traffic to cross the river safely. Jeff Ballard asked if it is her understanding that it would be up to the discretion of the responding Police Officer. Mayor Leach said yes, the police do have the right to decide whether they give a warning or if a citation is needed. And a citation does not mean the person would be arrested. The citation would go to the court for the court to decide. She said often the courts will waive fines or waive time in jail and require community service. She said since it is the Town's bridge, we have input. Robin Smith said she felt there is a difference between someone climbing the bridge respectfully, versus someone who is there with a can of spray paint or doing something clearly destructive. Mayor Leach said in speaking with local law enforcement, they certainly want to work with the Town with the idea that this is intended to protect the bridge and protect people from causing harm to themselves or to someone else and liability to the Town. She said without this ordinance the Town can be held liable. She said it may not stop somebody from suing, but at least if someone tried to sue because they injured themselves doing something that was not intended on the bridge, the Town can't be held responsible for that. She said primarily our job here is to protect the Town from someone taking action against us and also, we are responsible for the safety of the citizens.

Mayor Leach then read the new proposed ordinance as written and asked if there was any further discussion. Mayor Leach stated the Ordinance number has changed as the numbers used for ordinances reflect the date adopted. This ordinance would be Ordinance #26-0812-01.

Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve Ordinance #26-0812-01 adopting the Rockville Bridge as owned by the Town of Rockville and listing the prohibited activities on the Bridge with the violation of criminal trespass. Andy Efstratis **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye

Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

8. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH UDOT TO PROVIDE A WIFI HOT SPOT IN THE ROCKVILLE TOWN PARK:** Mayor Leach stated when the construction work began for fiber optic in the area, UDOT agreed to provide a hot spot for the internet to be used for anyone in the area. The hot spot would be in the Town Park and would provide internet for the park and the grounds. UDOT would pay for and have it installed with no monthly charge to the Town. Megan Honer-Orton asked if this should be done as it may lead to people hanging out in the area. Mayor Leach assured her this service would also benefit the Town events and its residents. She said it is a separate internet service from the Office and will not be advertised but still be available. Andy Efstratis asked who would pay for the monthly service. Mayor Leach said the funding comes through UDOT, and the service does not have an ending date. There were no other questions asked.

Andy Efstratis **MOVED** to approve the Cooperative Agreement with UDOT to provide a WIFI Hotspot in the Town Park. Jeff Ballard **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith-Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

9. **ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION OF SUPPORT RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23 AS CONSTITUTION WEEK:** Mayor Leach said this proclamation of support is done annually in support of Constitution Week. It is held September 17-23, and this year has been 239 years since its signing. She then read the proclamation.

Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to approve the signing of a Proclamation of Support recognizing September 17 through the 23rs as Constitution Week Andy Efstratis **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith-Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

10. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF 2026-2027 FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT FOR THE TOWN OF ROCKVILLE:** Mayor Leach asked Clerk Cox to explain this paperwork. Clerk Cox explained this paperwork is required every year to be addressed. This was provided for the Council to review before being submitted. This review is then annually submitted to the State to ensure there is a separation of duties in dealing with accounting. Megan Honer-Orton said she had been involved with this over the years and the Town of Rockville does pretty well even though we are small and have limited staff. Clerk Cox said there are there are only a couple of things that are lacking but we have mitigating circumstances to oversee these instances. This does not need the Council's approval, but she wanted to make them aware of the paperwork required by the State.

11. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2026, REGULAR MEETING.** Mayor Leach asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from last month's meeting. None were made.

Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2026, Regular Meeting. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

12. **APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2026.** Mayor Leach asked if there were any questions regarding the expenditures for the month of July 2026. Megan Honer-Orton stated she wished the reports showed more detail. Mayor Leach said the Town is going to transfer to another bookkeeping program and the reports should be more detailed. The program is called Pelorus and is used by many government agencies. It will produce the type of report required by the State and will not need to be manually input onto the State forms. This switch will be done soon.

Megan Honer-Orton **MOVED** to approve the expenditures for July 2026. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

13. **APPROVAL OF THE JULY 2026 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.** Mayor Leach asked if there were any questions regarding the financial statement for July 2026. There were no questions asked.

Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to approve the financial statement for July 2026. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith: Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Administrative Non-Action Items

Reports of Mayor and Council Members

Jeff Ballard reported the back parking lot was crack sealed and restriped. The Council agreed it looked really nice. He said Bridge Road was striped, and a stop bar was painted at the top along with a center line showing the lanes of travel. Hopefully this will help keep people pulling in or out to stay on one side of the road. This has been a problem especially for those people turning onto Bridge Road. Jeff Ballard said there were white hash markings painted on SR 9 to discourage people from parking on SR 9 blocking the line of sight for Bridge Road. He said these markings need to be extended another 10 feet which will be done soon. He thanked Clerk Cox for coordinating the contractor for this project.

Jeff Ballard reported the wooden railings on the bridge and been sanded and stained and he would seal the deck when the weather was cooler. Andy Efstratis asked if the old Town dump truck would be sold and what value would be put on it? Jeff Ballard said the old truck has an oil leak and will be put up for sale but he is unsure of the worth.

Jeff Ballard reported the dumpsters that were here in Town for residents to use were very full and he was glad the residents took advantage of the dumpsters to clean up.

Megan Honer-Orton reported the Southern Utah Air Quality Task Force is in limbo right now. The woman who heads it up is talking to the mayor of St. George about whether it's necessary to have the task force. She said with all the purple air monitors all over the county, the task force coalition may not be needed. Megan Honer-Orton said currently the director gets the contractors together and encourages them along with other contractors to cover their loads when hauling materials.

Megan Honer-Orton reported she had met the CERT person for Virgin, Randy Hiller, and talked about the CERT program. Megan asked if the CERT trailer could be displayed at Rockville Daze, maybe in the parking lot. She will work on having help to move the trailer down before October 10, as it may need to be gone through to see what may need discarded. Mayor Leach asked if the trailer should be opened or just displayed. Mayor Leach said if it was available the day before it may work better. Megan Honer-Orton will coordinate efforts with Virgin also. She said in case anyone doesn't know, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a group of volunteers from the local entity that get together and train for first aid and for traffic control and for various things that might need to be done in a disaster situation when law enforcement and the fire department is already occupied doing other things.

Robin Smith reported Arbor Day will be included on next month's agenda to approve September 26th as the annual Town Arbor Day recognition. She said she cleared the date with Justin Bell, Zion Arborist, so he could be here for some demonstrations. Jeff Ballard said there are quite a few trees in the Town Park that needed to be trimmed. They are hanging over the fence from the neighbors. Robin Smith said this is a couple weeks before Rockville Daze and all the trimming of all the low stuff can be trimmed before the celebration. Snacks will be served and there will be some raffle prizes. Mayor Leach said Justin Bell came by the other day and looked at what needed to be trimmed. He also expressed concern with the trimmers hitting the new young trees. Clerk Cox reported with the help of Tim Arnold covers have been put on the young trees now to protect them.

Robin Smith said tomorrow is the fire board meeting.

Andy Efstratis reported Solid Waste had a scheduling conflict and canceled the last meeting.

Andy Efstratis said there was a Mosquito Abatement meeting held. The employees had taken Andy on a tour of the area and he said there was a lot going on. He said the crew is downsizing the equipment as it had been very cumbersome to use for spraying. He said the way the blowers currently are that they use to spray the mosquitoes had been very large and super heavy making the employees very worn out in the hot sun so they moved to smaller blowers. And they are also moving to smaller trucks. He said there are new drones called mosquito hunter drones that can actually tell the difference between a bee and a mosquito and the drones hunt and smash through the mosquitoes killing them. Andy Efstratis said thus far those drones are just used by hobbyist. He said it would be a long time down the road before they would be used here in the area. Mayor Leach reminded him that some communities, like Rockville, don't allow drones. She said should the District decide to use the drones those communities would need to be made aware in advance.

Mayor Leach reported Rockville Daze will be held Saturday, October 10th 2026. The music is still being worked on. Some locals had been invited to play and the Town is waiting to hear back.

Mayor Leach reported work is being done for the Town's seed display for the Peach Days event. She said it will be a really impressive display as the theme is America's 250. The display will have a great bald eagle with really bright colors. She said Hurricane is happy the Town is still participating in the seed displays. It's one of

those traditions that's beginning to die off. Rockville may be one of the few communities, if not the only one, that really does try to use just natural products, seeds or beans or bark, all natural grown materials. She said that is what a seed display is all about. Peach Days is held on Labor Day weekend and there will be lots of activities being held in Hurricane for this celebration. She encouraged everybody to go down and take a look at our display. Last year the Town won the display contest and received a \$500 prize for the display, which was nice and helps pay for the supplies. She said a schedule of the Peach Days activities will be out soon.

Mayor Leach thanked Clerk Cox also for getting the parking lot sealed and striped and also striping Bridge Road at SR9. It has been badly needed. Clerk Cox reported the company that did the sealing had a problem with their sprayer and will be cleaning up on the neighbors white fence.

Staff Report: Clerk Cox reported the newsletter mailed out today with the quarterly garbage billing. Clerk Cox reported the Heller House Bed and Breakfast has been sold to someone locally and be will still be operating as a bed and breakfast and will be transferring soon.

Megan Honer-Orton said there is a hazardous waste take back day sponsored by the Solid Waste District being held Saturday, October 17 from 8 o'clock to 12:30 pm. She said they will take any kind of hazardous waste, paint, oil, tires and whatever else you may have. She encouraged people to attend early. Jeff Ballard asked about batteries. Megan Honer-Orton said yes they take batteries also. Mayor Leach said hazardous waste can be taken to the waste station anytime for a fee and dumped in a specific area. But this is a special day set just for hazardous waste and they will be prepared to handle volumes of waste.

Jeff Ballard **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Robin Smith **SECONDED** the motion.

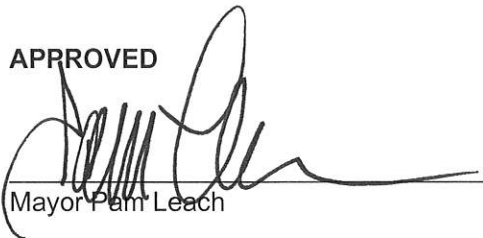
VOTE on Motion:

Andy Efstratis: Aye
Robin Smith-Aye
Megan Honer-Orton: Aye
Mayor Leach: Aye
Jeff Ballard: Aye

Motion PASSED unanimously.

Minutes prepared by
Shelley D. Cox
Town Clerk

APPROVED


Mayor Pam Leach

ATTEST:


Town Clerk Shelley D. Cox

The foregoing minutes were posted in the cabinet of the Rockville Town Office by Shelley D Cox at approximately 9:00 AM/PM on 9-10-26, on the Rockville website and the Utah Public Notice website. Emailed to The Spectrum 9-10-26.

Shelley D Cox

