

**STATE OF UTAH
COUNTY OF SEVIER
TOWN OF ANNABELLA**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
August 13, 2026**

Minutes from the Annabella Town Council Meeting held Thursday, August 13, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, located at 295 East 300 North, Annabella, Utah. Mayor John Chartier conducting.

1. ROLL CALL. Mayor John Chartier confirmed the presence of Councilmembers Louis Brown, Kelvin Johns, and Christopher Nielson. Councilmember Stephanie Morgan was excused.
2. OPENING REMARKS. Councilmember Nielson offered the prayer.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Chartier.
4. CITIZEN INPUT. There was no citizen input.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. **Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Councilmember Brown and seconded by Councilmember Nielson. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: Yes-3 (Brown, Johns, Nielson).**
6. APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER. Town Clerk Tina Mitchell noted the \$15,958.87 paid to the Utah Local Governments Trust is the Town's annual insurance premium. It is paid once per year and covers all property, automobile, liability, and workers' compensation insurance. A separate line item to On the Go Services in the amount of approximately \$115 was discussed; it was clarified that this is a recurring monthly charge for a portable restroom located at the park for the summer season. The portable restroom was originally placed to support a school lunch program and has been retained due to continued public use. **Motion to approve the warrant register as presented was made by Councilmember Nielson and seconded by Councilmember Brown. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: Yes-3 (Brown, Johns, Nielson).**
7. CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE #2026-03, ADOPTING THE UPDATED CONSOLIDATED FEE SCHEDULE. Tina Mitchell explained that the fee schedule is reviewed by the Town Council annually. Mitchell noted that the Community Center rental fees have not been increased since the building was constructed. It was also noted that the building sees regular use from non-residents including team practices, weddings, and other gatherings. It was noted that the fee schedule does not clearly spell out rates for various use categories such as team practices and educational groups such as homeschoolers. Mitchell

noted that the current informal practice—for example, charging homeschoolers approximately \$5 per hour while the standard rate is \$15 per hour—has never been formally adopted. Mitchell noted that a building use policy should be considered as well. She agreed to add the updated rate categories for presentation at the September meeting. The ordinance was tabled pending that review.

8. DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

PARKS & BUILDINGS. Councilmember Nielson relayed Councilmember Morgan's two items of interest. First, to remove the existing pine trees near the Community Center pavilion. Second, rather than repainting the gymnasium floor lines, she would like to explore replacing the existing floor surface with Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT), noting that LVT has performed well in the South Sevier Middle School lunchroom/basketball court setting. Concerns were raised about the condition of the concrete subfloor and whether any leveling would be required. Maintenance Supervisor Eric Nielsen agreed to follow up with Councilmember Morgan directly.

ACTIVITIES. Councilmember Nielson provided a recap of the Fourth of July activities. Attendance at breakfast was 180, above the 10-year average of 150. Lunch attendance was 168, slightly below the 10-year average of 176. Total attendance across both meals was 348, above the 10-year average. Councilmember Nielson expressed overall satisfaction with the event. The decision to reserve the inflatable slide for next year was noted, and Tina Mitchell agreed to contact the vendor to secure the reservation.

Looking ahead, upcoming activities include Trunk or Treat on October 31st (a Saturday) and the annual Pheasant Hunters Dinner on November 7th. Councilmember Nielson raised the question of whether to revive a fundraising purpose for the Pheasant Hunters Dinner—noting the event originally began around 1946 as a fundraiser for town youth, a tradition spanning 80 years. He proposed inviting current high school seniors who are Annabella residents to help organize and staff the event, with proceeds split among participating seniors as a scholarship. The Council responded positively to the concept, agreeing that people are more generous when funds are directed to a specific, named cause. Youth Council Advisor Kaylon Johns suggested that proceeds could alternatively support renovations to Old Town Hall. No final decision was made; the Council agreed to revisit the matter at the September meeting to allow time for further consideration and to plan any outreach to local high schools.

CEMETERY. Maintenance Supervisor Nielsen reported that the cemetery is in good condition following recent rains. An ongoing effort to address a settled area around the Poulson bench is in progress; a water line leak beneath the bench caused the ground to settle, and the area continues to require additional fill.

ROADS. Nielsen reported that crack sealing work is scheduled with Roger Brazell. He noted that some repairs have been intentionally deferred in areas where an upcoming canal piping project may involve removal of a culvert and associated road repair, which would eliminate the need to patch those areas beforehand. Preparations for winter road maintenance are on track.

WATER

A. WATER & PUMP USAGE COMPARISON REPORT. From April through July, the Town used approximately 7,500,000 fewer gallons than during the same period in the prior year despite the summer being notably hotter and the Town relying entirely on well pumping with no surface water contribution. The Council expressed satisfaction with this outcome, attributing to the two-day-per-week irrigation schedule and operational adjustments. Total pumping costs were up approximately 43% from last year, which the Council noted was less than anticipated, given the lack of mountain water.

The Council noted that the upper well's power costs were comparable to the lower well despite the lower well running significantly longer and briefly discussed whether the upper well's intermittent cycling and demand charges may be a factor.

B. SOURCE PROTECTION UPDATE. Nielsen reported no changes to the Town's source protection program. He noted that residents within the source protection zone around the lower well receive an annual letter advising them not to use chemical herbicides or pesticides over the watershed area. The Town similarly avoids chemical spraying near the lower well, using weed burning or vinegar-based alternatives instead.

C. CROSS-CONNECTION UPDATE. Nielsen reported on the Town's cross-connection control program. All properties connecting culinary water to an outdoor irrigation system are required to have a backflow prevention device installed and tested annually. The Town has approximately 350 culinary meters and 242 irrigation meters, with an estimated 100 or more connections requiring backflow devices. New construction compliance has been strong. The Town maintains records of all installed devices and follows up with residents who have not returned annual test results. Nielsen noted that in cases of non-compliance, the Town has authority to shut off water service, though this measure has not yet been necessary.

D. OTHER. Mayor Chartier reminded the Council that the Town's CIB (Community Impact Board) grant and loan application—a \$3,000,000 project submitted on an 80/20 basis, representing a \$600,000 loan obligation to the Town—is scheduled to be heard on September 3rd. He indicated his intention to attend and present the Town's case and noted that any Council members are welcome to accompany him.

9. YOUTH COUNCIL BUSINESS. Youth Council Advisor Kaylon Johns reported on several current and upcoming Youth Council activities:

The final summer movie night is scheduled for the following evening, with concessions and raffle ticket sales. Additional movie nights are planned for October 30th (Halloween theme) and December 23rd (the Grinch), with the TV raffle to be drawn at the December event. The Youth Council plans to host a bake sale and raffle at the Pheasant Hunters Dinner.

The Youth Council is working on updating the post office bulletin board, including replacing the deteriorating surface with recycled rubber board material, which is resistant to UV exposure and self-healing from push pins. The estimated cost for the rubber board is just over \$100. Additional work may include replacing the backing board and repainting the wood structure.

The Youth Council requested that power outlets be installed at the south end of Old Town Park to allow for Christmas light displays and other event uses. Nielsen offered to have an electrician assess whether the existing decorative lamp posts installed by an Eagle Scout project carry sufficient wire gauge to support additional load, before any further work is pursued.

Advisor Johns noted that the Youth Council is organizing a back-to-school supply drive, led by Emma Knaphus, with a donation bin to be placed in the office foyer.

Regarding the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta, the Youth Council observed that July last year drew better participation than August and suggested incorporating the event into the Fourth of July celebration, potentially on July 3rd.

The Youth Council expressed interest in fundraising for improvements to the Old Town Hall, citing feedback from community members about the lack of accessible outdoor restrooms. The Council discussed the possibility of approaching the Paiute ATV Trail organization, which had previously offered grant funding of approximately for outdoor restroom construction and parking lot paving at a trailhead location. Mayor Chartier offered to accompany a Youth Council member to meet with the Trail Committee contact to explore whether that funding remains available. The Council agreed that having the Youth Council compile a prioritized list of Old Town Hall improvements would be a useful first step.

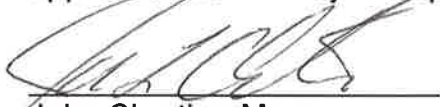
10. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION. **Motion to enter closed session pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-205(1)(c) to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, including matters related to the Town's eminent domain proceedings, was made by Councilmember Brown and seconded by Councilmember Johns. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting aye. Vote: Yes-3 (Brown, Johns, Nielson).**

11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. The closed session ended and the meeting was returned to open session.

12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE TOWN'S EMINENT DOMAIN MATTER. No formal action was taken.

13. ADJOURN. **At 7:30 pm. a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Nielson and seconded by Councilmember Johns. The motion carried unanimously. Vote: Yes – 3 (Brown, Johns, Nielson)**

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held Thursday August 13, 2026 were approved this 10th day of September, 2026.



John Chartier, Mayor

Tina Mitchell, Town Clerk

SWORN STATEMENT

ANNABELLA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

EXECUTIVE SESSION

I, John Chartier, Mayor of Annabella Town, do affirm that the sole purpose for closing the meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2026 was for purposes allowed by the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

This statement is signed in accordance with Utah Code (§ 52-4-204, § 52-4-205, § 52-4-206)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Chartier', is written over a horizontal line.

John Chartier

Mayor, Annabella Town