

# City of La Verkin

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## La Verkin City Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 1, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 111 S. Main, La Verkin, Utah

**Present:** Mayor Richard Hirschi, Council Members: Kelly Wilson, Patricia Wise, Micah Gubler, Ray Justice, and Chuck Hardy; Staff: Chief Ben Lee, Christy Ballard, Derek Imlay, Kyle Gubler, and Kevin Bennett Public: Blair Gubler.

- A. Called to Order** –The invocation/thought and Pledge of Allegiance were given by Kelly Wilson at 6:00 pm.
- B. Consent Agenda:** (Items on the consent agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Mayor or City Council.)
1. Declarations of conflict of interest
  2. Agenda
  3. Minutes: August 4, 2021, regular meeting
  4. Checks and Invoices: \$124,749.49

**The motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to approve the consent agenda as written, including the minutes of the August 4, 2021, regular meeting and checks and invoices in the amount of \$124,749.49, second by Councilman Chuck Hardy. Roll Call Vote: Hardy-yes, Gubler-yes, Justice-yes, Wise-yes, Wilson-yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **C. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:**

No comments.

### **D. Business:**

1. Discussion and possible action to approve a vehicle lease agreement for a Victim Services vehicle.

Chief Lee reported this lease is about \$2,000 cheaper annually than the last vehicle.

This is an expense that is covered by the Victim Service program whether by the grant or the partnership contributions.

**The motion was made by Councilman Kelly Wilson to approve a vehicle lease agreement for a Victim Services vehicle, second by Councilman Micah Gubler. Roll Call Vote: Wilson-yes, Wise-yes, Justice-yes, Gubler-yes, Hardy-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

2. Discussion regarding the annual Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) training.

Kevin explained with COVID making a comeback, staff considered doing this training differently this year. The State Code has made an allowance for the annual training to be online.

A link will be sent out to all the board and committees, including the Councilmembers, of training by Dave Church through the Utah League of Cities and Towns. He also included a copy of his presentation from last year.

The training needs to be completed by October 1<sup>st</sup> and the certificate signed and emailed back to either Kevin or Christy.

The Councilmembers were in favor of moving forward with the online training.

### **E. Mayor & Council Reports:**

Wilson-Ash Creek Sewer District is pursuing grant money to help with running the sewer line from La Verkin to Virgin. It would be in conjunction with the trails grant and the topside property.

Kyle reported the group out of Glenwood Springs Colorado who are interested in the hot springs has notified him. They are in the process of securing the land.

Kelly said there is another group interested in doing the same thing on a different property.

Kyle said he is concerned there would not be enough water for both projects. There are several different places that water comes up in the Virgin River but he is afraid if the Conservancy District taps into it, it will dry up the spots downriver. The District claims they are capturing 2500 gallons per minute which is more than enough to run an operation. They claim there is enough energy in the water that with the right infrastructure it could heat every home in La Verkin.

Wise: The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the lower La Verkin Trailhead will be on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Springdale did end up increasing its Zion Regional Collaborative donation by \$1,000. Zion Forever increased its donation as well. Both entities also contributed money to the Environmental Assessment Study. She attended the water presentation for election candidates hosted by the Washington County Water Conservancy District. They will be having another presentation in Hurricane that she encouraged the Councilmembers to attend. La Verkin needs to conserve water, but we also need to look after our own sources because no one else is going to.

Justice-The Washington County Solid Waste District discussed ending access to the landfill after hours. After this item was presented, there was an incident after hours that could have been deadly if someone wasn't there to notify first responders. He thinks this will solidify the Boards decision to restrict access to business hours only.

Gubler-Thanked Chief Lee for his reports. Cops and Cars will be on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Hardy-Southwest Mosquito Abatement had the audit report during the last meeting. They scored 375 out of 395 so they are doing well. There have not been any cases of West Nile Virus so far.

The historical tour will also be on September 11<sup>th</sup>. The tour will begin at 9 am and end at the Cops and Cars event.

**F. Closed Session:**

1. The character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

**The motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to move to a closed session at the location of 111 South Main Street to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, second by Councilman Chuck Hardy. Hardy-yes, Gubler-yes, Justice-yes, Wise-yes, Wilson-yes. The motion carried unanimously at 6:29 p.m.**

**G. Reconvene from Closed Session:**

**H. Adjourn:**

**The motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to adjourn, second by Councilman Chuck Hardy. The motion was carried unanimously at 7:58 p.m.**

October 6, 2021  
Date Approved

ATTEST: Christy Ballard  
Christy Ballard  
City Recorder

Richard M. Hirschi  
Mayor Richard M. Hirschi