

**RUSH VALLEY TOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

July 22, 2026

Rush Valley Town Hall

52 South Park Street, Rush Valley Utah

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Council Members Present: Pete Albrecht, Lacey Burrows, Dana Gardner and Jeremiah Harding. Mayor Brian Johnson was excused.

Appointed Officers and Employees Present: Attorney Rob Clegg, Clerk/Recorder Patty Rowe and Fire Chief Jason Bolinder. Engineer Doug Kinsman was excused.

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2026. Councilmember Albrecht made a motion to approve the minutes; Councilmember Harding seconded. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Sheriff's Report. The Tooele County Sheriff's Office reported that five incidents had occurred in the last month. The most significant incident was a fatality on Mormon Trail. Other incidents included an animal bite and a juvenile medical emergency involving the ingestion of medication. The Council discussed increased law enforcement presence in the area and speeding concerns involving workers traveling to and from Dugway. It was reported that the Dugway workforce had been reminded to slow down and that continued complaints could result in consequences regarding access to the base.

4. Mayor's Recognition Award. No award was presented.

5. Clover Church Restoration Update. Councilmember Burrows reported that the building is nearly complete, with only minor drywall repairs and some additional brickwork remaining. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is tentatively planned for Saturday, September 12, prior to the start of Rush Valley Days. The Council discussed the need to have security cameras installed before artifacts can be moved into the building. They also discussed the need for internet service at the building to operate the security camera system. The Council also discussed insurance coverage for the building and Attorney Clegg recommended confirming that the building is adequately insured before allowing visitors to use the building. There are ongoing expenses associated with the

building, including utilities, cleaning, groundskeeping and other ongoing building maintenance and the Council agreed this should be discussed at a future meeting.

- 6. Rush Valley Communities That Care Coalition Update.** Amy Jensen from the Tooele County Health Department was expected to attend but was not present.
- 7. Approval to Reimburse Fire Department Member for EMT Class.** Councilmember Albrecht made a motion to consider a request to reimburse fire department member Ace Hymas for the cost of an EMT course. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. Fire Chief Jason Bolinder explained that Ace had successfully completed the national EMT examination and obtained his state license. The cost of the course was \$1,999.00. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- 8. Approval to Purchase Brush Truck for Fire Department.** Councilmember Albrecht made a motion to consider approval to purchase a brush truck for the fire department; Councilmember Harding seconded the motion. Chief Bolinder explained that the department had received a skid unit through a grant that includes a tank, pump, and hose reel, and can be mounted on a suitable pickup. The department currently has an older brush truck and a vehicle obtained through the Forest Service. Chief Bolinder explained that the Forest Service vehicle is not owned by the Town and could potentially be recalled. The department receives reduced reimbursement when responding with equipment it does not own. He also stated that the department could make some of the modifications in-house, as it had done with the rescue truck, reducing the overall cost. The Council also discussed funding and the fire department's ability to make payments. They have generated approximately \$18,000 in wildland response funds during the current year. The Council discussed the benefits of owning a newer, reliable truck for wildland response and the potential for the vehicle to generate reimbursement revenue when used on qualifying responses. Approval was given to purchase a new or slightly used brush truck for up to \$75,000. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- 9. Approval to Purchase Backup Generator for Fire Station.** Chief Bolinder requested that the item be tabled.
- 10. Fire Department Report.** Chief Bolinder reported that since the previous meeting, the department responded to 16 calls, including eight medical calls, one traffic accident, and seven fire responses. None of the calls occurred within Rush Valley Town limits. Chief Bolinder also reported on the department's use of the new tender obtained from North Willow. The department took the tender to the Cherry Fire and used it to fill underground wildfire water storage tanks with approximately 6,500 gallons of water.

11. Council Reports. Roads - Councilmember Harding reported on recent mowing and fire mitigation activities. He also reported that he was obtaining prices for shouldering and striping work for the parking lot.

Cemeteries – Councilmember Burrows reported that there had been one burial during the month and that she had primarily been working on cleanup of the cemetery. She also continued to be involved in the Clover Church restoration project.

Emergency Management – Councilmember Albrecht provided an update regarding emergency management coordination during the Stookey Fire. He reported that the Town and County Emergency Operations Center had been involved in coordination meetings and that procedures had been put into practice during the recent fires. The Council discussed the importance of providing accurate and timely information to residents through the Town's communication channels and social media.

12. Safety Topic. Brian Wallace of Nevada Team Two provided information regarding recent wildfire activity and current fire conditions. He discussed the rapid spread of recent fires due to dry fuels and high winds. The Council discussed the importance of community preparedness and awareness of current fire conditions. Particular concern was expressed regarding activities that could create an ignition source during extreme fire conditions. Council members discussed observing residents welding, grinding, and performing other work that could potentially start a fire. The Council encouraged residents to use caution and postpone activities that could create additional fire hazards when conditions are extremely dry and windy. A safety presentation by Nevada Team Two was scheduled to follow the Town Council meeting.

13. Payment of Bills. Councilmember Harding made a motion to approve payment of the July 2026 bills as written, with the addition of the reimbursement of \$1,999 to Ace Hymas for the EMT class; Councilmember Burrows seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and the motion carried.

14. Public Comments. Brian Wallace thanked the Council for the opportunity to meet with the public and provide information regarding the recent wildfire response.

15. Adjourn. Councilmember Albrecht made a motion to adjourn; Councilmember Burrows seconded. All present voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:53 p.m.