May 14th 7:00 town council

# Meeting minutes

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

## Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## Minutes for April 16th, 2025

## Invoice Report

A motion was made to pay the bills, which was seconded. A roll call vote was conducted, and all members present voted in favor.

Motion to pay the bills made by \_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_. Motion carried unanimously.

## Mayor Jack Funk

### Mayor's Report

The Mayor was not present at the meeting.

### Grant - need to schedule 2nd CBDG vote on Hearing topics

It was mentioned that the CBDG vote on hearing topics had already taken place.

### Dumpster/burn pile update

The dumpster had been returned to its location. Rick was commended for doing a good job setting it up. The ground where the dumpster was placed was described as rocky and difficult to dig. It was speculated that the old-timers might have been packing sand out of the area.

A new burn pit had been built up by the cemetery. The west fence had been opened, and a gate would be installed. Power was available at the location to allow for locking it up.

## Councilperson Kim Hansen

### 2026 budget draft

Kris had provided everyone with a copy of the proposed budget for 2026. Kim had reviewed it and thought it looked good. It was noted that next month would be the time to discuss it further.

### Town Celebrations

Kim reported that preparations for the town celebration were moving forward. Annie was doing an excellent job recruiting food trucks, vendors, and volunteers. A few more volunteers were still needed. The dates for the celebration were confirmed as July 24th, 25th, and 26th. There was a brief discussion about naming the event, with suggestions including "Emery Days" and "Pioneer Days."

### Bingo/monthly craft night

Kim announced that Bingo would be held the following week, with craft night scheduled for the week after. She mentioned that she was still looking for someone to host the craft night.

## Councilperson Mistie Christiansen

### Planning and Zoning - commission members?

Mistie presented a list of potential names for the Planning and Zoning Commission: Tara Payne, Josh Gardner, Charlene Kristine, Laurel Kilpack, and Josh Clark. She expressed a desire to have an odd number of members and was open to one more volunteer.

Mistie explained that the commission's first task would be to revisit and adopt a general plan, which is required every five years. The last one was done in 2011. She described the general plan as a guide for the town's goals, including zoning ordinances and a water budget study.

Mistie had been researching other towns' general plans for reference. She mentioned that Huntington had a concise 28-30 page plan, which she preferred over longer versions like Price's 230-page plan. She expressed interest in adapting Huntington's plan to suit Emery's needs.

Patrick Sundstrom volunteered to join the commission and provided his phone number.

## Councilperson Melissa Durfey

### Town Beautification

Melissa reported that plants had been ordered for the planters. New shrubbery had also been purchased for the strip in front of City Hall to replace the weeds.

### Pioneer church update

Work on the pioneer church was scheduled to begin that week. The siding materials had been delivered, and the contractors were expected to start installing the new siding and removing the old siding and debris.

## Councilperson Patrick Sundstrom

### Animal Control

Patrick reported on recent bat incidents in the town. He had killed two bats that were roosting outside on walls, which he noted was unusual behavior. He advised everyone to be cautious of nocturnal animals appearing in unusual places during the day, as this could indicate illness. He emphasized the importance of keeping pets up to date on their rabies vaccinations.

### CVSSD

Patrick discussed the Castle Valley Special Service District (CVSSD) meeting. Jacob had requested that the council consider increasing their contribution of B&C road money from the current 15% to 20-25% annually, except for the year when it's Emery's turn for chip sealing, during which they would contribute 100%. This increase was suggested due to rising costs that had affected the district's ability to complete projects in multiple towns simultaneously. The council agreed to consider this proposal during the upcoming budget hearing.

Patrick also mentioned that another outside water connection had been approved.

## Fire Department- Chief's Report

The Fire Chief reported on several recent activities and events:

* The Easter push truck ceremony was successful, with children enjoying pushing the fire truck and interacting with the Easter Bunny.
* The regional fire school was held, during which one member sustained an injury while training.
* The DNR engine academy, a two-day training in Price, focused on teaching firefighters and first responders how to preserve a scene when responding to incidents.
* The department received a $5,600 reimbursement from the county for truck equipment. The Chief requested permission to spend this amount, which would then be reimbursed by the county.
* The Chief mentioned receiving a call about fireworks and was waiting for a decision from the council regarding the budget and donations to determine the plan for fireworks.

## Open Agenda - Old business

## Open Agenda Business license fee/no fee?

It was clarified that, according to state law, the town cannot charge for home-based business licenses. However, they can still issue business licenses for home-based businesses at no cost.

## Adjournment

Before adjourning, several concerns were raised:

* The condition of the cemetery was discussed, with multiple council members expressing dissatisfaction with its current state. Concerns were raised about broken equipment, poor irrigation, and the overall appearance, especially with Memorial Day approaching.
* Similar issues were noted for the rest area and the lawn by the Emery Telecom building.
* Problems with the secondary water system were mentioned, including clogged taps that required cleaning.
* The council discussed the need for additional help with maintenance, particularly at the cemetery. They decided to post a job opening for temporary help to address these issues.
* It was noted that the position for summer help had not yet been filled, which was contributing to the maintenance backlog.

The meeting was then adjourned.