



TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

May 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Town Hall – 405 HWY 414, Mountain View, WY 82939

MINUTES

The May 5, 2026, workshop convened at 6:00 pm. The following were present; Mayor Bryan Ayres, Council Members, Brittney Brunski-Deckert, Michael Tims and Tori Carter, Clerk, Penny Robbins, Public Works, Jacob Porter and Chief of Police, Mark Erramouspe. Attorney, Brandon Taylor, attended virtually.

The following items were discussed:

YAHA Contract

Contract with “YAHA” discussed; annual practice to enter the contract.

DeAndria will explain contract details at the regular meeting.

Budget Ordinance Review

Budget aligned with what was discussed at the budget retreat; no changes requested.

Fee Schedule Review

Redlined changes to asphalt cut charges reviewed. Clarification needed on performance bond refund language. Credit card fee is currently 3%; checking with provider on percentage and potential change.

Water and sewer account changes included in fee schedule. Plan not to pass until June 1 meeting;

Additional review and discussion required before adoption on June 1.

Budget Amendment Review

Amendment will pull funds from sewer reserves to pay off the sewer loan. It will document unanticipated revenues from Industrial Siting and a trust fund. No other amendments anticipated; amendment will be prepared and advertised for public hearing.

Water and Sewer Rate Letters

Paying off the sewer loan will remove related charges from bills. Draft letters prepared for residential, commercial, and water loading station customers. Plan to send letters on Monday, May 18, before the next meeting. Letters will align with fee schedule and public hearing.

RFP for Judge

RFP drafted consistent with state law; requirements are minimal. Candidate pool may be limited in Lincoln/Uinta/Sweetwater area; Proposed submission deadline June 1; open to change but June court date exists and could be moved.

Bid for Office

Contractor agreeable to awarding part of the bid. Consensus to proceed with only countertop to reduce costs.

Backhoe Purchase

One quote received for trade-in of existing backhoe and purchase of a brand new 2025 unit. Net difference after trade is “twenty-four thousand and change” (approx. \$24,000+). Consideration: In three years, it will be a four-year-old machine; potential resale/aging implications. Soft hold placed on the unit; favorable for budget; public works supports. Discussion on trading in current equipment in approximately three years and potential impact on trade-in value versus a 2026 model. A \$9,000 cost was discussed; consensus leaned toward proceeding as a “smart move” despite uncertainty.

WAM Convention – June 3-5 Laramie

Bryan and Penny will be attending.

Arbor Day – June 9, 2026

Arbor Day scheduled for June 9; typical duration ~20 minutes, usually at 9–10 a.m. Plan to plant a tree; mention of state forester participation.

Mayors Report

Bureau of Reclamation Contract and Water Storage Management

Parties: Bureau of Reclamation, Town of Lyman, Town of Mountain View, Water Conservancy District (BV Joint Powers referenced for pipelines). Storage figures: June 1 shows 800 acre-feet for towns; July 1 shows 740 acre-feet (indicating a 60 acre-feet June allotment). Monthly allotments derived by subtracting subsequent month totals; intent to manage conveyance later in summer (~4 cubic feet per second per week). Request to allow unused monthly allotments (e.g., June's 60 acre-feet) to be retained and used later; BOR supportive and proposed amendment. Amendment aims to allow Lyman, Mountain View, and the Water Conservancy District to negotiate adjustments without federal approval each time (federal amendments could take up to 60 days). A rough draft amendment was received May 5; darkened section notes: "regulation of storage may only exceed the quantities listed below with annual written approval from the district." Plan to delay authorizing the mayor to sign until next meeting; Brandon to prepare a simple resolution and review the amendment; Penny to obtain original contract and 1995 amendment. Execution target indicated as June 2026 (date blank in draft). Agenda item to be struck from the current meeting and revisited next meeting.

Community Water Meeting Takeaways and Potential Local Forum

Report from April 28th forum in Lyman – about 78 attendees.

Roles clarified:

State Engineer's Office controls stream flow and river diversions.

Water Conservancy District manages stored water in dams (Stateline, Meacham) for contributors to dam construction.

Joint powers manage water in town pipelines.

Questions addressed:

Water loading station: residential use likely last to be restricted; commercial accounts not conclusively addressed. Park irrigation: uses an adjudicated 1889 water right from Blacks Fork; water is released regardless of use; park will be irrigated if water is available and not further regulated by older rights. Public reception was positive; comment noted that unused released water leaves the valley.

Offer from Uinta County Conservancy District to assist with hosting, advertising, and moderating similar information sessions. Proposal to hold a local meeting in the next 3–4 weeks, possibly at the pavilion or high school auditorium.

Community Water Restrictions Communication and Public Reaction

Information-based meeting was held; attendees were receptive with limited questions. Public is asking whether restrictions are in place; clarification given that none are currently in effect. A draft letter about potential restrictions was posted prematurely, causing confusion; conditions have improved in the last six weeks due to storms. Staff received multiple calls on 2026-05-05 regarding May restrictions; messaging is "not as of now" and updates will be posted if status changes. Operational context: river is very low; if valley-wide irrigation starts, Joint Powers would likely impose restrictions. Capacity figures: about 900 gallons/minute is manageable; 1,200 gallons/minute could necessitate restrictions.

Restriction Models (All-or-Nothing vs. Staged Schedules)

Town has phased approaches (e.g., every-other-day), but Joint Powers leans "all or nothing."

Preference expressed by several for staged conservation (e.g., odd-even, twice per week) to avoid hard cutoffs.

Board discussion on options is planned; attendees invited to share opinions at that meeting

Participation in Water Conservancy District and Storage Rights

Historical participation in dam construction within the Blacks Fork and Smith Fork drainages; towns and the water conservancy district took loans to build the dams. Agricultural users who participated may have an additional property tax levied by the water conservancy district. Participants can store their water rights in the dams; “non-project” users cannot store their annual water allotments or other water rights in the dams.

Stateline Reservoir Inflow, Releases, and Regulation.

About 40 cfs flow into Stateline with ~4 cfs released; ~36 cfs is being stored under current conditions. Once regulation is called, storage must stop; inflow must match outflow (e.g., 40 cfs in means 40 cfs out). Non-project” users are affected when regulation requires stopping storage.

Conversion and Volume Context

Discussion noted an informal “about two to one” conversion implying 40 cfs relates to ~80 acre-feet of standing water; confusion remained about monthly versus annual volumes.

Joint Powers Board Vacancy

Owen Peterson resigned from the Joint Powers Board; seeking replacement. Meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Citizen of the Year Recognition

Award presentation went well; Myrtle Ferrill was appreciative; nominated by citizens and active in community events and chamber of commerce.

Legal Counsel Report:

Prepared AHA contract and RFP for municipal judge; coordinating with Amber in municipal court. Bond schedule has missing line items; recommend addressing with the new judge; general enforcement allows up to \$750/day. Certified-mail notice for a lien on a resident with sewer/water fines was returned; plan to deliver in person with police; timeline reset. Working with planning and zoning on a proposed schedule for zoning regulation revisions. Will review amendment to the Bureau of Reclamation agreement once available.

Administrative Report:

Planning and Zoning – Lot Line Adjustment

Applicant (Curt Bindl) shifted from variance to lot line adjustment after guidance. Survey and plat are prepared; awaiting a separate legal description from Wasatch (Fred Coles). Once received, materials will be sent to legal counsel for a resolution.

Public Works

Shared Purchase of a Vac (Vacuum) Truck

Proposal to co-purchase a vac truck with neighboring entities to avoid two separate \$500,000 purchases. Frequent use cases: manhole cleaning, line locating, sewer maintenance; current machine is old and costly to maintain. Contractual concerns: sharing rules, emergency prioritization, ownership, storage, operator requirements, cost-sharing. Alternative suggestion: town buys and others rent with town operator.

Police Report

Discussion with sheriff on trading town’s Tahoe for a GMC/Chevy truck due to county’s two K9s (new tracking dog acquired). Responded to a suicide incident involving a young man from Idaho;

administrative follow-up completed by 2026-05-05. DigiTicket training was postponed to next week due to officer surgery schedule; county has increased ticketing activity.

Upcoming Events:

May 19: County commissioner's meeting will be held in Mountain View.

May 23: Carson's Cares to host an evening 5K event in the park.

Arbor Day: Scheduled for June 9; time to be determined.

WAM Convention: June 3-5, 2026: WAM voting delegates, Bryan Ayres and Jamy Ferrin

"America 250" Anniversary Update: Plans are moving forward with various contests, a statewide reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8th, a cross-state ride, and events at the Capitol. The "Bridger the Bison" mascot will be in Mountain View from July through September. 250th Committee: Preparing to order paint for murals. Mountain View Library is organizing a 250th anniversary passport event for the week of July 4; inviting local businesses to participate, the town will participate and provide stickers for passport books.

Fall Festival September 12, 2026:

Planning underway:

Car show organized by Cory, Travis, and Kyle Condos.

Beer fest is being organized by the tourism board.

Plans to add food, craft, business vendors, and informational organizations.

Ideas include kids' activities, bouncy houses, and local musicians playing throughout the day.

Bryan Ayres, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny Robbins, Town Clerk