



TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

May 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM

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

MINUTES

The May 19, 2026, workshop convened at 6:00 pm. The following were present; Mayor Bryan Ayres, Council President, Jamy Ferrin, Council Members, Brittney Brunski-Deckert, Michael Tims and Tori Carter, Clerk, Penny Robbins, Public Works, Jacob Porter, Chief of Police, Mark Erramouspe and Attorney, Brandon Taylor.

The following items were discussed:

Eric Quinney, 6th Penny request;

Eric Quinney, Chief Administrative Officer, Uinta County Fire and Ambulance presented a refined six-penny sales tax measure focused on immediate fire/EMS. Past bundled ballot (e.g., aquatic center plus add-ons) failed; public feedback favored a standalone fire/EMS measure to reduce confusion and improve support. Several speakers expressed support for a standalone ballot item strictly focused on fire protection; preference to avoid mixing dissimilar infrastructure projects, though prior grouping of similar projects (e.g., water treatment plants) had succeeded. Valley departments are unified under one organization with centralized purchasing and shared resources; aim is to enhance countywide fire protection without sacrificing existing oil and gas revenue streams. Anticipated timeline: Council support now; draft resolution in late June or early July; resolution must be in place by mid-July for the November 2026 general election.

Resolution 2026-05 BOR

Review of historical agreements and schedules: 1978 references (800/600/300/100) vs. proposed amendment schedule (800/740/690/240) and prior references (1993/1995). Clarification that the original 1,500 acre-feet annual allocation (1,000 Lyman; 500 Mountain View) remains in force; the amendment updates Section 3.A scheduling without superseding totals. Default schedule sets reservations beginning June 1 for municipal use; decreases through the season. Deviations require written annual approval from the Conservancy District; municipalities retain priority for M&I water.

Operational notes: China Lake is pass-through only; no municipal storage. Releases must be accounted for at State Line Dam; current flow example ~54–56 cfs; eight days of flow could cover the season's needs.

Benefit: Ability to shift/carry water to late season (Aug–Sep) in years when needed, subject to District approval, reducing reliance on other sources.

Legal counsel has no concerns with approving by resolution if the allocation schedule works operationally; the district controls deviations, but annual negotiation and flexibility are acceptable.

Conclusion: General comfort to proceed; plan to vote in the regular meeting to authorize the mayor to sign the amendment/resolution; final confirmation of allocation figures and source agreement (1978 vs. 1993/1995) remains to be verified. All releases must be tracked and communicated to ensure downstream users understand municipalities are using allocated water; emphasis on accurate accounting to counter downstream complaints.

Backhoe Discussion-Out to Bid

Disposal of municipal property requires advertising for three weeks; competitive bidding thresholds likely apply even with trade-in. Statute explicitly contemplates autos/trucks, not backhoes; the approach will mirror statutory intent for transparency and caution. Advertise for three consecutive weeks; specify trade-in structure; bids due by the 15th; opening on the 16th.

Sewer Loan Payoff (Resolution)

Use sewer reserves to pay off existing sewer loan balances; adopt a formal resolution before updating the fee schedule and passing the final budget to ensure the payoff is reflected and future schedules exclude the sewer loan.

Interim Judge

Tickets were written for 2026-06-01, but no judge is available that day; proposal to appoint Ken Roberts (Kemmerer) to hold a one-time court on 2026-06-15. Statutes allow mayoral appointment with council consent; no requirement to bid or RFP for judge. Ken could potentially cover July if a permanent judge is not yet selected. Recruitment: RFP responses due 2026-06-01; Eric Phillips expressed interest and received the RFP. Some tickets may already be paid.

Budget Ordinance 1st Reading

Budget ordinance reviewed; general agreement to proceed. Lodging tax bottom-line amounts are set; line-item allocations may change, pending a special meeting next week. Public hearing for the ordinance is planned for the next meeting.

Fee Schedule Review— Asphalt Cut Policy

Change terminology from “bond” to “fee”; structure: minimum \$500, over 50 sq ft charged at \$10/sq ft (e.g., 51 sq ft = \$510; 100 sq ft = \$1,000).

Cuts permanently weaken roads; refunding is impractical. Desire to retain a 1-year warranty and require remedial measures for failures.

Enforcement limits noted with \$500 minimum; failures often appear years later. No written restoration standard currently exists. Attorney to update language from bond to fee; include remedial obligation language.

Bryan Ayres, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny Robbins, Town Clerk