

Town Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes Sept 8, 2026 7:00 PM

The Elwood Town Council met at the Elwood Town Hall, 5235 West 8800 North, Elwood, Utah, at 7:00, September 8, 2026. The following members were present consisting of a quorum.

Scott Goodliffe	Mayor	Mark Lay	Councilmember
Brian Davis	Councilmember	Phil Shimek	Councilmember
Curtis Crouch	Councilmember		

Staff present at this meeting

Gina Marble	Town Clerk
Steve Woerner	Public Works

Others present at this meeting

Taylor Thompson	Zack Pali	Britton Hayden	Lynae Winkler
Mary Lamont	Micah Capener		

1. Welcome

Mayor Goodliffe called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Crouch led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Lay offered the opening prayer.

2. Administration

2.1. Approve the Minutes for Aug 11 2026 Town Council Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2026 Town Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Lay and seconded by Councilmember Crouch. The motion carried unanimously.

2.2. Cemetery Population Organization

Mayor Goodliffe introduced a request from a resident to inter multiple urns within a single cemetery plot. Current practice, though not codified, has always been one body per plot, consistent with neighboring Brigham City's policy. Council discussed the merits of establishing a formal policy, including the possibility of designating a separate urn section with smaller plot sizes, differentiated fees, and clear record-keeping standards. Councilmember Crouch is going to work with Steve Woerner regarding a policy.

2.3. Planning Commission Report

Planning Commission Chair Britton provided a detailed status update on the ongoing town-wide rezoning initiative:

- A July public hearing drew over 20 verbal comments and 29 written objections. Due to insufficient notice for a subset of 26 properties, the Planning Commission voluntarily re-noticed and held a second public hearing in early September, receiving approximately 8–10 additional comments. The written comment period closes Friday.

- Town Attorney Chris Crockett confirmed that the Town Council has authority to assign any legally valid zone to a property upon final review, not limited to the Planning Commission's recommendation or the objection-requested zone.
- Of the properties under review, 5 have prior town-approved subdivision applications with no submitted objections. Of these, 2 (the Reed Subdivision and Fukui Subdivision) were identified as clerical errors and recommended for correction to residential zoning without re-noticing. The remaining 3 are being evaluated under a vesting/agreement rationale for consistent treatment.
- The Planning Commission's goal is to deliver a full recommendation to the Town Council no later than the October meeting, ideally with three weeks for Council review.
- A written concern from resident Scott Anderson expressing opposition to rezoning and questioning the motivations of town planners. Mayor Goodliffe and Council noted the concern and agreed to follow up with Mr. Anderson directly to ensure he is fully informed of the process.
- Planning Commission Chair Britton also previewed upcoming code amendment proposals, including: removal of mandatory newspaper posting for public notices; cleanup of references to outdated zone designations; addition of a "professional trades" use to the schedule of uses; and clarification of definitions for printing, lithography, monument work, and photography.

2.4. Sheriff's Department Report

No items reported.

3. Water

No items reported.

4. Sewer

No items reported.

5. Parks And Recreation Etc.

No items reported.

6. Roads

Steve Woerner reported that Rocket Road remains closed due to ongoing Dominion/Blue Sky gas line construction. The project has been delayed repeatedly — most recently due to incorrect parts and flooding from an agricultural head gate failure — with a revised completion estimate of approximately September 20. Steve noted he has escalated concerns about contractor hours to Dominion with no response.

The bridge project on a separate road is progressing, with beam-setting scheduled imminently and an estimated two-week completion window.

Council discussed the need for a formal permitting process for any utility work or excavation within town rights-of-way, noting the current absence of such a process allowed Dominion to install in-road valve manholes without prior town knowledge or approval.

7. Emergency Preparedness

Mayor Goodliffe reported receiving a request from Box Elder County Commission (contact: Chrissy Bennett) for emergency services data, including call-for-service figures, costs, and fire chief contact information.

8. Other

Councilmember Lay introduced Box Elder County's Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance for discussion. Key provisions include a minimum 0.5-acre lot size, utility connections through the primary dwelling, ADU size capped at 40% of the primary dwelling, and title notation requirements upon property sale. Council agreed the topic warrants further consideration but determined it should be tabled until the rezoning initiative is resolved.

Steve Woerner reported a preconstruction meeting was held for Country Lane subdivision (15 units), with construction commencing. Water rights and tap allocations were confirmed as part of the original approval.

Adjournment

Councilmember Davis made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Shimek seconded the motion and the remaining council members agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17p.m.

The undersigned, duly acting and appointed clerk for Elwood Town Corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Town Council meeting minutes held on the 8th day of Sept 2026. Dated this the 13th day of October 2026.

Gina R Marble, Elwood Town Clerk