

Torrey Utah
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Approved

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and Members of Town Council held a January 2026 Town Council Meeting. The meeting was held on **Thursday the 8th day of January 2026 at 6:30 PM** at the Torrey Town Office located at 75 E 100 N. Note the agenda may be accelerated or line items may be discussed in any order.

Welcome: Mayor Wright

Administrative Business:

Welcome/ Opening Remarks:

Roll Call: Pat Kearney, Jordan Pace, Karen Mayne, Mayor Wright, Richard Braaten, Melinda Meservy, Dustin Oyler, Renee Reel. Bill Barrett

Excused: Nan Anderson

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by: Pat Kearney

Jordan Pace made a motion to open the public hearing. Pat Kearney seconded the motion and all council members approved.

Public Hearing:

TORREY TOWN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Torrey Town will hold a public hearing to open and close the 2026 town budget. On Thursday, January 8, 2026, the meeting time is 6:30pm at the Torrey Town Office, Bay 1 located at 75 E 100 N. Torrey, Utah. The hearing is for the purpose of opening the 2026 budget is to discuss reallocation of funds.

Public Comments: No comments

Pat Kearney made a motion to close the public hearing since there were no public comments. Jordan Pace seconded the motion. All council members voted in **favor**.

Mayor Wright: Welcomed everyone to Town Council Meeting,

Public Comments: None

Conflict of Interest: None

Review and Approve Minutes:

November 13, 2025, Town Council Meeting

November 13, 2025, Town Council Meeting, First CDBG Public Hearing: Minutes

December 2, 2025, Town Council Special Work Meeting

Pat Kearney made the motion to approve the town council minutes from;

1. November 13, 2025,
2. CDBG Public Hearing Minutes from November 13, 2025
3. Minutes from December 2, 2025, work meeting.

Jordan Pace seconded the motion and all council members voted to approve.

Agenda Requests:

Water bill forgiveness: Loren Mott recently purchased the residence at 87 N 100 West. On October 14th Loren Mott was notified that there was a water leak on the property. It was repaired on the 16th of October. Dustin Oyler explained that the leaking pipe was an old, galvanized line and has since been replaced. Pat Kearney made a motion to forgive the water overage; Jordan Pace seconded the motion and all council members approved.

New Business Application was submitted by Josie Oyler. She is employed by Golden Care Collective. She recently received her Nurse Practitioner license. She will be practicing telemedicine and eventually mobile care. Jordan Pave made a motion to approve the business license. Richard Braaten seconded the motion and all council members voted to approve.

A Short-Term Rental Application was submitted by Olga and Jeremy Assayah. They presented all the necessary documentation as well as a letter of recommendation. They now have the home insurance as a short-term rental. Jordan Pace made a motion to approve the STR license. Richard Braaten seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor. Olga mentioned that David Torrey is her handyman and will work as an emergency contact.

Town Business:

Review Comments from the **Public Hearing** held to open and close the 2026 budget. **No public comments.** The Council addressed the budget later in the meeting.

Planning and Zoning open position:

The town council reviewed and discussed the letter of interest provided by James Robinson. Richard Braaten made the motion to accept Mr. Robinson as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Pat Kearney seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

Short Term Rental Inspection Frequency:

Following a review of other Utah resort town short term rental inspection policies, Pat recommended that the safety and fire inspection be conducted every 3 -5 years. Mayor Wright felt that inspections should occur every three years at the least. Pat Kearney made a motion to amend the short-term rental ordinance from an inspection every year to every three years. Pat rescinded her motion. Pat Kearney made a motion to hold a public hearing to amend the short-term rental inspection. Jordan recommended that the Planning and Zoning Commission be briefed for their input. The council will table the issue for further discussion.

2026 Fee Schedule Review: not needed.

Public Works Employee:

Jordan Pace and Dustin Oyler have begun to discuss hiring an additional employee for the Public Works department. The position is already budgeted. Dustin and Jordan will present a job description and salary range to the town council. Pat Kearney made a motion to create the job description and advertise for a permanent part-time public works employee. Richard Braaten seconded the motion. All town council members voted to approve.

Clerk Report: Karen Mayne

GRAMA requests: None were received.

Building Permits: None in December

The Short-Term Rental License renewal process has begun. In the letter of renewal Karen will state that a home inspection shall be completed this year. Karen will itemize the fee for license \$75, and the fee for safety and fire inspection, \$90.

Karen is still working on the records retention schedule.

Financial Report: Melinda Meservy

Melinda presented the budget reconciliation for October, November and December.

Budget report clarification questions were asked by Pat. Pat requested to see the credit card receipts for the past three months.

Melinda commented about some IRS fees which were being charged on 12/12/2025.

Melinda is trying to sort out the IRS charges.

Pat asked if the town must pay taxes on the interest earned from savings. Melinda will research the question.

Melinda presented the status of the Walking path. After receiving approval from the Town Council in the January 6, work meeting, the walking path construction has begun. She received a bid from Staker Parsens for half of the decomposed granite walking path surface, The bill for decomposed granite is \$11,902.

Melinda made a recommendation to split the \$90,000 cost of the walking path between 3 entities, 30K each; Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant funds, Dark Skies and Torrey town.

Jordan made a motion to pay the decomposed granite invoice. Pat seconded the motion and all approved. Excavating will continue. The granite will be delivered on Monday, Jan 19.

Mary Bedingfield-Smith advised that Dark Skies would make their contribution of \$30,000 in one payment.

There was a discussion about the resort tax revenue which begins in January and will be received in March, then followed a discussion of the need for the annual planning document to be prepared for the budget.

Melinda spoke regarding the funds for the Park Solar path.

Jordan Pace made a motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Richard seconded the motion and all council members voted in favor.

Pat made a motion to accept the budget with adjustments as recommended by Melinda. Richard Braaten seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor.

Melinda mentioned that the Town revenue is consistently coming in as projected. Also, the Water fund balance is 1.971 million and this fund has no limit to the amount of money carried.

Council Reports:

Review Mayors' Report

See attached for full report.

- Mayor Wright continues to work on code enforcement.
- Tesla has decided to move to Escalante.
- A discussion began regarding the Mercantile building which has a 1.2 million loan balance. The appraised value is 1.8 million. Pat suggested we make a low offer so that our name is on the list of interested parties. Mayor Wright suggested Torrey offer \$500,000. Nan Anderson said she will follow up with the owners and loan officers.
- Mayor Wright is using Microsoft to create as a town calendar
- Mayor Wright has created a staff email group for all to use. It is: staff@torreyutah.gov.
- The staff was updated on the recent work associated with the town computers.

Pat Kearney: Pioneer Cemetery, Cemetery, Trees and Office

Pat reported that crews are working on Main Street and tree trimming will begin soon.

Pat advised that Torrey canal has an issue with the irrigation water flow undercutting the trees. She will look for a solution to limit the undercutting.

Pat informed the council that a bimonthly Torrey staff meeting will now be held on the first and third Wednesdays each month. Pat will coordinate and conduct the meeting.

Richard Braaten: Roads.

Some projects for spring are being planned. Such as repairing potholes and other road repairs.

Jordan Pace:

A new water line is being placed on highway 24. The state permits we have are for the right-of-way not on the roadway. Mary Bedingfield-Smith expressed concern with the digging and potential impact on the trees. Dustin remarked that they are using a small backhoe as an attempt to limit disturbance to the trees.

Renee Reel: Park Pavilion, Post Office and Town Events

Renee thanked Melinda and Dustin for getting the walking path construction going.

Dustin and Renee are going to begin a safety inspection of the Torrey Park. Renee believes that the basketball standard is no longer safe. She will order a new one.

She is recruiting residents to serve on the historical preservation committee and will work with the state preservation office. She has commitments from 5 people. Pat and Renee thanked Bill and Diane Barrett for the beautiful map of Torrey hanging in the post office.

Public Works Report: Dustin Oyler

Dustin reported that he has the operating permits for Hell's Hole and West Sulfur Springs. Currently the consistent water flow in Hell's Hole Springs is 31.8 gallons per minute and West Sulfur springs is 8 gal per minute. Hells Hole has just been rehabbed. Karen requested a copy of the report from Dustin

Dustin requested a work meeting to discuss the sewer wastewater plan. Ensign Engineering did the draft plan. Now we must accept the final plan so we can finish that grant project.

Recent water samples show no nitrates or problems with the water.

The Council will hold a work meeting on Tuesday January 27th at 3:00PM in the Torrey office.

Dustin received a quote for purchasing the skid steer with our backhoe as a trade-in, The trade-in for the front loader is \$9000, which is too low. Torrey will sell the front loader. The cost of the skid-steer is \$85,000, with a lease to own option. Dustin and Richard will determine what additional attachments are needed.

Planning and Zoning: Bill Barrett

Planning and Zoning has now finished with the review of title 9 and title 10.

A public hearing will be held on January 29th at 6:00PM for public comments. Bill sent the council a draft of both 9 & 10. He would like comments from the town council review.

Plans for the Planning and Zoning Commission are:

- An amendment of the Town Ordinance concerning lighting lumens. Planning and Zoning will work with Mary Bedingfield-Smith to be sure it is consistent with Dark Sky requirements.
- Become familiarized with Civic review to review for building permits.
- Annexation policy plan review, to incorporate changes made by the State.

Bill will ask planning and zoning members for their input on the frequency of home inspections for short-term rentals.

Diane Barrett has purchased street maps of Torrey – email Bill if you wish to buy one.

A discussion was held regarding safety and health inspections of other businesses, including hotels.

Economic Development: Nan Anderson was not present to discuss the annual plan. Pat recommended the plan be combined with the one that Mayor had generated by the AI

Pat has reviewed the personnel policy and procedure book. Pat would like Colleen Dudleston to work on the personnel policy book with her.

Public Comment: Tracy Olsen asked about the status of Torrey code enforcement plans. Mayor Wright replied that Torrey code enforcement is in the works. Pat asks about barking dogs and when does a barking dog become a public nuisance.

Old Business:

Pat asks about the Annual Plan Draft that Nan's created and moving forward.

Pat also requested a staff member to assist with the Personnel Policy review and revision.

Also, Pat would like to ask Colleen to remain the person to work with all matters concerning the Torrey Cemetery.

Adjourn: 8:05 PM.

Jordan made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion, and all council members voted to approve.