

Boulder Town Council Regular Meeting

March 6, 2025, 6:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

1. Roll Call (2:07)
 - Present: Mayor Drain, Councilmembers Veranth, Ellis, Gardner, and Gladys.
2. Pledge of Allegiance (2:15)
3. Approve Agenda (2:54)
 - The agenda was reviewed and approved by unanimous consent.
4. Approve Minutes (2:54)
 - Council reviewed and approved the December 5, 2024, January 2, 2025, and February 6, 2025, regular meeting minutes, as amended.
 - Discussion on AI-generated minutes highlighted the importance of human review to ensure accuracy, particularly in capturing council decisions and action items.
5. Department Reports (9:58)
 - Travel Council: Upcoming discussion on the closure of Calf Creek and its potential impact on local businesses.
 - Landfill: Compliance issues remain unresolved; plans to contact Escalante officials for engineering recommendations.
 - Fire Department: Progress on digital dispatch implementation across Garfield County.
 - Roads: County will grade shoulders on Lower Boulder Road and repair potholes in spring.
 - Park Committee: Discussion on the lack of active members and need for community involvement.
 - Clerk: Clerk LeFevre read a resignation letter from Deputy Clerk Lacy Allen. The resignation is effective immediately but Deputy Clerk Allen will retain the Treasurer position.
6. Public comment (21:27)
 - Scott Brody provides historical context on the town restrooms and suggests moving the signs to point people to the Anasazi State Park.
 - Nancy Tosta updates on Planning Commission work: The bylaws, RSTR code, duplexes, and the general plan, noting the need for public input and hearings.
 - Keith Watts supports the idea of moving the restroom sign to the Anasazi State Park to reduce the load on the town park.
7. Review and approval of plan for short-term administrative support (31:35)
 - Elizabeth Julian presented a proposal for website development, process improvement, and administrative support.
 - Council discussed efficiency improvements, digitization of records, and workload management for town staff.
 - Motion (59:10): Council unanimously approved a contract with Elizabeth Julian for consulting services, not to exceed \$5,000.
8. Pelorus/CPA meeting (1:03:46)
 - Discussion on scheduling a financial review meeting with the CPA.

- Councilmembers Ellis and Veranth, along with the town clerk, will attend and report back.

9. Capital Improvement Plan (1:06:14)

- Councilmember Veranth presented a draft capital improvement plan and emphasized the need for listing potential projects and on feedback on community priorities to make a clear case for proposals to the Community Impact Board.

10. Building Fee Schedule (1:08:00)

- Discussion Highlights:
 - i. Adjustments to rental fees for the town hall and meeting rooms.
 - ii. Differentiating fees for local vs. outside businesses.
 - iii. Room rental rates and how to handle public vs. private events.
 - iv. Implementation of a cleaning deposit policy.
- Motion (1:37:50): Council approved the updated building fee schedule, as amended during the discussion.

11. Guidance and Priorities for Planning Commission (1:38:35)

- Councilmember Veranth suggests a joint town council-planning meeting on March 27 to discuss the Arts Council's community input process.
- Councilmember Veranth proposes a community input process for the land north of the town hall, involving multiple uses and projects.
- Nancy Tosta requests a copy of the 2017 general plan to understand the changes made in 2021.
- Councilmember Veranth highlights the need to address problematic general plan provisions and ordinances, particularly the 2017 amendments to commercial regulations. (Sic: This was actually a 2021 amendment).
- Nancy Tosta mentions the difficulty in accessing historical documents and the need for better archiving.
- Councilmember Veranth suggests making meeting materials available to the public after the meeting.
- Clerk LeFevre and Councilmember Ellis discuss the importance of having accessible documents for public review.

12. Discuss Boulder election ordinance and 2025 election procedures (1:48:15)

- Councilmember Veranth requests the attorney, Michael Winn, to review the current Boulder election ordinance to ensure compliance with state election rules.
- Councilmember Veranth notes the filing date for the 2025 election as June 2 to June 9.
- Councilmember Ellis suggests having the election as a standing agenda item to ensure nothing falls through the cracks.
- Clerk LeFevre mentions the county's role in running the election and the need for coordination with the county.

13. Town Restrooms (1:51:47)

- Mayor Drain discusses the high usage of the public restrooms and the need to direct users to the Anasazi Park restrooms.
- Clerk LeFevre explains the business council's request for public restrooms to alleviate the burden on local businesses.

- Councilmember Ellis and Mayor Drain discuss the design capacity of the septic system and the potential impact of high usage.
- Councilmember Gardner suggests checking the septic permit to determine the design capacity and the need for a pressurized system.

14. Staff Upcoming Work & Priorities (2:04:33)

- Councilmember Ellis mentions the need to implement online payments and automate the minutes using Otter.ai.
- Clerk LeFevre discusses the need to fix permissions issues for the subdivision email list.
- Councilmember Ellis suggests setting up a meeting with Elizabeth to start the scope of work and brainstorming.
- Councilmember Veranth discussed the need for brush hogging along town roads.

15. Approval for February checks issued (2:12:02)

- Motion: Council unanimously approved the checks issued in February 2025.

16. Mayors Comments (2:12:33)

- Mayor Drain announces her resignation, effective at the end of this meeting, due to family medical problems and thanks the council and staff for their support.
- Clerk LeFevre and Councilmember Ellis express their gratitude for Mayor Drain's service and support.

17. Initiate filling of vacancy per state law (2:16:07)

- Councilmember Veranth thanked Judy Drain for her service as Mayor and previously on Town Council. He explained the process for filling the vacancy within 30 days, including public notice and open meeting for interviews. The term of the appointed Mayor will go until the newly-elected officials take office in January. Veranth is currently Mayor pro tempore. Since Judy has resigned effective tonight any mayor responsibilities between now and our April meeting should be directed to Council Veranth.

18. Upcoming business for April (2:20:54)

- Appointment replacement Mayor
- Swear in new Mayor
- Election ordinance analysis from attorney
- Polaris/CPA Update
- Town Restrooms
- PC Bylaws
- Website/Process SOW and/or priorities
- Burn Ban

19. Adjourn (2:24:59)