TOWN OF DINOSAUR

Dinosaur Town Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 8, 2026

Mayor Darcie Rocque presided over the regular meeting. Council members present at roll call were Mayor Darcie Rocque, Marshelle Gray, LeRoy Trujillo, Jeff Harrington, Mike Snyder, and Devonna Wilczek. A quorum was established. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Staff participating included Larry Elarton and Melody Villard. Public Works Director Ken Davis participated via Zoom along with Ella, Michael Miller, and Art. Guests: James Jensen, Paul Jachim, Michelle Tedrick, Robert Essex, James Israelsen (Sunrise Engineering), Lando Blakely, Chara Garcia.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve the August 25, 2026 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Marshelle Gray Second: Mike Taylor

Council was polled and the motion carried unanimously, 6–0.

Approval of Financial Report

Staff reported that general ledger reconciliation and corrections remained underway. Monthly accounts payable and accounts receivable reports, with a written summary of significant concerns, were proposed while full financial statements are brought current. Staff will provide the monthly reports to Council.

Motion: Approve the financial report for September 2026.

Moved by: Devonna Wilczek Second: Jeff Harrington

Council was polled and the motion carried unanimously, 6–0.

Appointment to Vacant Trustee Position

Four letters of intent were received. Council heard from Paul Jachim, James Jensen, and Robert Essex. A fourth applicant was not present. Council voted by secret ballot; James Jensen received five votes and Robert Essex received one vote. James Jensen was appointed, took the oath of office, and assumed his seat.

Variance Extension

Council reviewed the variance issued January 27, 2026, for the property under review: Zimmer 200 Brachtosaurus Bypass. Ken Davis reported that the state electrical inspection had passed and additional work remained. Council discussed completion and final inspection by the end of the year.

Motion: Extend the variance.

Moved by: Leroy Trujillo Second: Marshelle Gray

Council was polled and the motion carried unanimously, 7–0.

Town Manager Report

Sunrise Engineering Agreement and DOLA Planning Grant

Staff and Sunrise Engineering discussed a planning and engineering agreement not to exceed $50,000. Proposed funding consisted of a $25,000 Town match and $25,000 from a DOLA grant. Staff will prepare and submit the grant application with technical assistance from Sunrise. The work concerns planning and evaluation rather than construction.

Council discussed legal review, change-order provisions, and billing and reimbursement procedures. The agreement was to be prepared for review before execution.

Motion: Authorize Larry Elarton to sign the Sunrise Engineering agreement after review and resolution of Council's requested provisions, in an amount not to exceed $50,000.

Moved by: Leroy Trujillo Second: Mike Snyder

Council was polled and the motion carried unanimously, 7–0.

Sidewalk Project and Safety Audit

Staff reported ongoing coordination with the transportation department and Ken Davis regarding sidewalk elevations and GPS information. A letter will be prepared to advance the project. A CIRSA audit was scheduled for September 10. The Fire Chief had determined the building's maximum occupancy for posting.

Funding Request Process

Council discussed requiring written requests for community funding, including the applicant, purpose, amount requested, appropriate budget source, and reporting or receipt requirements. Council expressed a preference to review requests. Staff will prepare a proposed form and process for the September 15 budget meeting. No formal policy was adopted.

Five-Year Planning and Technical Assistance

Staff will coordinate a five-year planning workshop with DOLA after confirming Council availability. An afternoon start around 3:00 p.m. was discussed to allow time to identify priorities and sequence projects. Community input and results of an earlier survey were also discussed; no workshop date was set.

Staff reported outreach to the Office of Economic Development and International Trade and an interview concerning Rural Technical Assistance Program support. Potential priorities included the community center, natural gas, and water system protection. Technical assistance funding had not been confirmed.

Community Center and Water Infrastructure

Council discussed prior community center planning and building evaluations, potential community and emergency uses, and remaining electrical, plumbing, sewer, and roof work. Sewer improvements were identified as the immediate priority. No construction funding or additional project authorization was approved.

Staff reported discussions with the Bureau of Land Management concerning the Well 4 pipeline and potential fencing around wells and tanks. Further planning and coordination are needed before work proceeds on BLM land. Council also discussed the Town's wells, groundwater sources, nearby wells, and water rights. No formal action was taken.

Public Comment and Discussion

Utility Billing Corrections

Staff reported that the utility billing audit was substantially complete, with approximately 25 meter accounts still requiring field verification or repair. July-to-August and August-to-September readings were available for the remaining accounts. A Caselle support request was pending to enter corrections accurately and preserve the audit trail before corrected bills are issued.

Staff stated that no late fees, penalties, or shutoffs were being imposed during the billing correction process. Customers had continued making minimum or advance payments. Possible adjustments to delayed or inaccurate charges were discussed, but no specific write-off or account adjustment was approved.

Water Treatment

Public questions concerned orthophosphate treatment, household filtration, lead testing, and alternatives to the current treatment approach. Staff described the Town's prior efforts to challenge the treatment requirement and reported that it followed elevated lead results associated with household plumbing. Staff offered to share prior water reports. No change to water treatment was approved.

Proposed Campground

Council discussed a proposed campground near a marijuana dispensary. Staff explained that the proposal would require subdivision and zoning review before operation. Marijuana hospitality was discussed as a separate issue requiring local consideration. Staff will consult the Town Attorney regarding the applicable process and forms. No subdivision, rezoning, campground operation, or marijuana hospitality approval was granted.

Adjournment

Adjournment time: 7:21PM

Moved by: Leroy Trujillo Second: Mike Snyder

TOWN OF DINOSAUR

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Darcie Rocque, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Melody Villard, Clerk/Treasurer Pro Tem