

Town of Altamont Emergency Town Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 25, 2026 | **Time:** 7:00 PM | **Location:** Altamont Administration Building, 15588 W 4000 N

Attendance

- **Mayor:** Scott Allen
- **Council Members:** James Helms, Mike Foy, Russell Sorensen, Chris Baca
- **Town Officials:** Town Clerk Amanda Gardner, Fire Chief B. Jared Thacker
- **Public:** It was noted for the record that no members of the public were in attendance.

Call to Order & Opening of Public Hearing

Mayor Scott Allen welcomed attendees and conducted a roll call at 7:00 pm.

Motion by: Russell Sorensen to transition out of the regular town council meeting and open a public hearing.

Seconded by: Council Member Chris Baca

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Discussion on Resolution 2026-05 (Proposed Fireworks Ban)

Mayor Allen explained that the emergency meeting was called to address critical fire safety measures ahead of the upcoming holidays. He cited extremely dry conditions across the state, erratic afternoon winds, high fire danger, and a lack of forecasted moisture. It was noted that the Governor of Utah had declared a state of emergency, authorizing the state fire warden to ban fireworks. The council highlighted the severity of the situation by noting that the local area had experienced a wildfire every other day over the past six days.

Fire Chief's Declaration & Risk Assessment:

- Although state provisions allow municipalities to designate specific areas for discharging ground fireworks, Fire Chief Thacker issued a formal declaration determining that **no safe locations currently exist** within Altamont's town boundaries.
- The mayor specified that the only previously viable areas—the town park and the space in front of the firehouse—are situated too close to highly flammable, dry grasses and represent a severe fire risk.

Mayor Allen read the proposed Resolution 2026-05 into the record, which establishes a strict, complete ban on the discharge of fireworks and other ignition sources in all dry grass-covered, brush-covered, and vulnerable areas within the Altamont town limits.

Key Details of the Resolution:

- The ban takes effect immediately upon approval.
- Violations are classified as an infraction punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.
- The resolution will be revisited by the council on July 20, 2026.

Motion by: Russell Sorensen to close the public hearing and return to the regular town council meeting.

Seconded by: Council Member Mike Foy

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Motion by: Russell Sorensen to adopt Resolution 2026-05, enacting the emergency fireworks ban in Altamont.

Seconded by: Council Member James Helms

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion By: Russell Sorensen to bring the emergency town council meeting to a close at 7:07 pm.

Seconded by: Council Member Chris Baca

Vote: Passed unanimously.

Read and approved this 8 day of July, 2026.

Minutes of the meeting prepared by Amanda Gardner Town Clerk