

City Council Meeting July 28, 2026

Present: Mayor John Williams and Councilmembers Corrie Hadaller, Wayne Dudley, Zane Longacre and Jack Rosander

Also Present: Assistant Police Chief Kris Egan, Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement Official Kami Egan, Fire Chief Tony Reda, Public Works Director Pat Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilmember Hadaller offered the invocation. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards completed Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Longacre moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilmember Rosander asked about the claims to Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority. The claims are for liability and property insurance for the city for the entire fiscal year. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 7/14/26 Regular Meeting
- Claims #32979-33002 \$274,910.38
- Payroll Summary 7/17/26 \$146,962.48

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Assistant Chief Egan, Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement Official Egan, Fire Chief Reda, Public Works Director Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

A Coal Board grant application has been submitted for \$150,000 to replace SCBA's for the city's fire department for the board's consideration at their September meeting. For the December's Coal Board meeting, the city plans on submitting a \$500,000 grant request for street and storm drain projects.

Mayor Williams hopes to have the Montana League of Cities and Towns resolutions related to the 2027 Montana Legislative Session available for the City Council at the next regular meeting.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jim Atchison, Executive Director of Southeastern Montana Development Center, invited the City Council to the 23rd Annual Energy Open conference and golf tournament next week in Colstrip. The Federal Reserve was in the area yesterday conducting outreach and to receive feedback about local economic conditions in Eastern Montana.

Unfinished Business:

Councilmember Longacre moved to prepare a resolution to pay the Mayor a one-time \$14,000 bonus in lieu of a salary increase for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Rosander appreciates all that Mayor Williams does. He commented that Mayors are not compensated like other elected officials.

Public Comment: Jim Atchison is in support of the bonus for the Mayor. He puts in the equivalent of a full-time job and the leadership he has shown has been very well recognized around the state in local government, energy and legislative issues.

Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business: None.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer