

City Council Meeting
April 28, 2026

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

Absent: Councilmember Zane Longacre

Also Present: Police Chief Cory Hert, Assistant Fire Chief Ethan Gardner, Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement Official Kami Egan, City Attorney Michelle Millhollin, 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 Rosander offered the invocation. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards completed Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Hadaller seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Motion carried with all in favor.

- Minutes of 4/14/26 Regular Meeting
- Claims #32683-32716 \$114,543.50
- Payroll Summary 4/10/26 \$113,925.80

Department Reports:

Reports were presented by Police Chief Hert, Planning/Zoning/Code Official Egan, Assistant Fire Chief Gardner, City Attorney Millhollin, Public Works Director Zent and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

A \$100,000 application was submitted to the Montana Coal Board for chlorine analyzers at the water treatment plant, which is about 70% of the estimated project cost. The meeting is June 4th.

City employees are receiving First Aid/CPR Training. Half of the employees were trained and certified last week and the other half this week.

The Business Innovation Center Grand Opening was held last week with a great attendance.

May 6th is the kickoff for the update to Colstrip's Economic Diversification Strategy.

The Montana League of Cities and Towns, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority and MSU Local Government Center will be hosting Municipal Summits again this summer. Mayor Williams encouraged council members to attend these informative sessions.

Contract Negotiations begin in May for both the Police Department and City Employees Collective Bargaining Units.

Public Comment & Participation:

Jim Atchison, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation, reported there is a study coming out on siting data centers with nuclear energy plants. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy recaps are almost complete. City residents are receiving surveys in the mail from BYU. Jim encouraged everyone to fill this out and return them. Jim distributed a handout regarding the BIC open house last week. The five grants that funded the construction of the BIC will need to be closed out by the end of May.

Public Hearing:

Mayor Williams opened the hearing at 7:16 pm for a variance request to the garage size limitation in the R-3 Zoning District at 4217 Sweetgrass Drive. Zoning Officer Egan introduced the variance request. Councilmembers Rosander and Hadaller had questions about the size of the garage and existence of a living space. Mayor Williams closed the hearing at 7:20 pm.

Unfinished Business:

Councilmember Rosander moved to waive the reading in its entirety and approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2026-01 regarding sidewalks and curbs.

Councilmember Dudley seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business:

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve the Variance Request to the garage size limitation at 4217 Remington Drive. Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Dudley moved to approve the purchase of a 2026 RAM Patrol Vehicle in the amount of \$47,830.00 from Billion Auto Group.

Councilmember Hadaller seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer