City Council Meeting
October 27, 2026

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

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

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

Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of 10/13/26 Regular Meeting
- Claims #33249-33280 $ 72,846.01
- Payroll Summary 10/9/26 $125,371.02

Department Reports:

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

Mayor's Communications:

The Rosebud County Commissioners will be conducting public Hearings on November 10th for a proposed tax abatement for a solar power energy farm east of Forsyth. This is a $820,000,000 project– There is a possible funding mechanism for the community via SEMDC from NextEra.

A grant application has been submitted to the Montana Coal Board for partial funding of the 2027 Pavement Improvements project.

A response to a compliant is being developed by Attorneys Schantz and Millhollin.

A property survey in the Sweetgrass Neighborhood will be conducted to locate property boundaries/street right-of-way.

Public Works Director Pat Zent has submitted his letter of resignation effective in December. Mayor Williams plans on utilizing a placement company to assist in the search for a new Public Works Director.

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The Colstrip Economic Diversification Strategy update has been completed by KLJ Engineering. Copies will be distributed soon.

Public Comment & Participation: None

Unfinished Business:
Councilmember Longacre moved to remove the Bus Policy Amendment from the table.
Councilmember Rosander seconded the motion.
Discussion: None.
Public Comment: None.
Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilmember Hadaller made a motion to amend the Bus Policy Amendment to add the following language: "As a driver of a City of Colstrip vehicle you are responsible for operating it safely, legally and in a prudent manner. All accidents or vehicle damage regardless of how minor must be reported to the City. If it is determined that the driver has acted irresponsible further use may be denied."
Councilmember Longacre seconded the motion.
Discussion: Councilmember Rosander asked Attorney Millhollin's thoughts on this proposed change. Attorney Millhollin thinks it is good language to include in the policy and likes the discretion given to the City in case of accidents to determine whether a driver should be allowed or denied future use of the vehicle. Councilmember Dudley requested confirmation that the drivers of the bus are covered under the city's new workers compensation insurance carrier.
Public Comment: None.
Motion carried with all in favor.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

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Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer

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