

BELT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 13, 2026  
7:00 PM

The rescheduled and only council meeting of May 2026 was called to order by Mayor Travis Page who led the group in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor Page, Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby, council members Paul Heikkila, Michelle Stinson, April Wells, and Becky Gorton. Council members Bob Williams and Corbin Keaster were not present. Public Works Codi Heikkila and Little Belt Cowboy's Association member Dave Anderson were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

The minutes of the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were moved to approval as written by Michelle Stinson and seconded by Becky Gorton. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote and will be posted on the City of Belt website. The minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Meeting were moved to approval as written by Paul Heikkila and seconded by Becky Gorton. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote and will also be posted on the City of Belt website.

Claims/warrants submitted for approval were moved to approval by Michelle Stinson and seconded by Paul Heikkila. The claims/warrants were approved by unanimous vote and warrants were mailed out.

The complaint log was reviewed; no complaints were received at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion/Consideration Kellen Kirby's 6-month evaluation/review. The council members reviewed the evaluation/review filled out by Mayor Page and Kellen Kirby. They also reviewed budget print off for wages which were provided to them by Kirby. Mayor Page stated that Kirby has done a fantastic job in his first 6 months, he is eager to learn and willing to take on tasks as requested. Mayor Page proposed a \$2.00/ hour raise for Kirby. After review of budget and evaluation by council members, Paul Heikkila moved to approve the \$2.00/hour raise and seconded by Becky Gorton. Kirby's \$2.00/hour raise was approved by unanimous vote and will go into effect June 1, 2026. The final topic under new business was discussion/consideration Little Belt Cowboy's Association underground wiring at rodeo grounds. LBCA member Dave Anderson presented a new project needing to be done at the rodeo grounds. The project consists of having Northwestern Energy trench an underground wire from the transformer pole near the gazebo in Castner Park 125' to the pole near the swimming pool supplying them with more power, then from that pole another 100' to an existing pole to the left of the rodeo grounds ticket booth supplying the rodeo grounds with more power. The 100' run will connect into a 400 AMP service box. Anderson also asked who the sprinkler system was under, so that if a line or sprinklers were to get damaged, they could be repaired. Michelle Stinson stated that Leisure Lawn is the company to contact if damage is done. Council member Paul Heikkila moved to approve the underground wiring for the swimming pool and rodeo grounds. It was seconded by April Wells. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Clerk/Treasurer Kirby and Heikkila will get the Northwestern Energy paperwork notarized at Belt Valley Bank Friday morning May 15<sup>th</sup> and Dave Anderson will pick it up at City Hall that afternoon.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Discussion Surplus Sale (Silent Auction). PW Codi Heikkila and Clerk/Treasurer Kirby got the silent auction items up and started. The silent auction will take place May 11<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> with collection of items on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Kirby has signs advertising the silent auction on City Hall's front door and on the bulletin board at the post office. To this date there have been a few takers and other residents stating

they will return later. Other old business on the agenda was discussion Darin Osterman; Design and follow-up. Darin was a no-show; this item was skipped over.

**PUBLIC WORKS INPUT:** PW Codi Heikkila spoke about the hay lease and wanted to see the contract that lays out who is responsible for what. Kirby and Heikkila will look more at the lease contract in upcoming days. Heikkila also stated that sprinkler sticks on the pivot have been broken by the leaser and their spraying/seeding equipment; a bill will be sent to the leaser for broken pivot parts. Heikkila also asked about removing BBQ grills out at the park. He stated that they are only being used for garbage and cigarette butts. Council member Paul Heikkila stated that they will not be removed. Lastly Codi informed the council that the fire hydrant at the corner of Castner and Upper Row was left on since construction last summer, this could be an answer to bad water testing and leaking issues. Will contact Josh Sommer, Great West Engineering engineer, with the findings.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:** Michelle Stinson mentioned that the dumpster behind the bank keeps creeping further into the alley every week after being dumped. It isn't allowing residents to go up and down that alley. It needs to be put back close to the bank after every weekly dumping. Kirby will contact Republic and let them know. April Wells said thank you to PW Codi Heikkila for getting the new trash cans put out in Castner Park. They look great. Paul Heikkila mentioned that we need to get going on the mill levy stuff so that it is ready for August so that it can be put on the ballot in November. Mayor Page and Kirby will begin more work on this with Terry Thompson of Cascade County Elections.

**CLERK/TREASURER INPUT:** Kirby updated the council on how the convention/institute went that he attended in Billings last week. Kirby learned a lot and made great networking connections throughout the state. The convention was very eye-opening and very educational. Kirby also informed the council that the work-comp policy with MMIA is ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Kirby has met with Matt Triplett of Triplett Insurance here in Belt and discussed a new replacement for MMIA. Triplett suggested Montana State Fund and got Kirby a quote. The quote per quarter is much less than current quarterly payments with MMIA. Kirby will get this on the agenda for June's meeting.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Page informed the council that PW Codi Heikkila has scheduled a retake of his wastewater test for June 18<sup>th</sup> in Helena. Codi will be paying the exam fee himself. Page also informed the council that he will not be present at the next scheduled meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup> due to personal time conflicts. Page asked for the meeting to be cancelled and get back on the normal scheduled council meetings starting in June. The first meeting would be June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM. The other council members agreed that would be fine.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** N/A

There being no further business to attend to, council member Paul Heikkila motioned to adjourn the meeting, April Wells seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM. The next meeting will be June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

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Approved by Mayor Travis Page

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Attested to & submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby