

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 3, 2026
7:00 PM

The first regularly scheduled council meeting of June 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, council members Paul Heikkila, Bob Williams, April Wells, and Becky Gorton. Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby and council members Corbin Keaster and Michelle Stinson were not present. Others in attendance were Public Works Codi Heikkila, Librarian Gladys Rayhill and library board member Sally Miller.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sally Miller brought up the water issue the week before Memorial Day weekend and how it was all handled. Mayor Page informed Sally that the boil water advisory was put out on Facebook, KRTV posted about it on their website, and fliers were hung in multiple locations throughout town; grocery store, bank, city hall, post office and brewery. Mayor Page also was in contact with Cascade County DES and Taylor from DES came out and attempted to send out a flash about it using their system, but the database didn't have a whole lot of numbers for their system. Mayor Page suggested possibly sending out a mailer to PO Box holders to get more information for this database to use if something like this was to happen again.

The minutes of the May 13th meeting were moved to approval as written by April Wells and seconded by Paul Heikkila. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote and will be posted on the City of Belt website.

Claims/warrants submitted for approval were moved to approval by Becky Gorton and seconded by Bob Williams. 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 asphalt at burn pile-Josh Sommer from Great West Engineering informed the council that Great West has been in contact with JR Civil to get their thoughts on how they are going to handle it and JR Civil is not interested at this point in dealing with the mess. According to JR Civil, their stance on the situation is it is not their problem. They were told to dump there and as loads came in, they just piled things up instead of keeping asphalt separated. Council member Paul Heikkila stated that the city paid JR Civil a lot of money for the removal of the asphalt and this is total disrespect to say it's not their problem. Josh Sommer surveyed the pile and contacted 3 different contractors to come out and survey the pile and quote how much it would cost to clean up the asphalt and haul it out leaving the gravel for potential pivot work. JR Civil is to be back in Belt mid to late July to finish up work and to chip seal. The next order of business is discussion/consideration Codi Heikkila's yearly evaluation/review. Codi has filled out the

Employee self-evaluation and Travis will complete the performance Evaluation Form. The council wants to move forward with the review, and it will be on the next agenda for the June 17th meeting. The third topic was discussion/consideration Librarian Gladys Rayhill Cascade County Commissioner update. Gladys informed the council that Belt library and two other libraries in Cascade County were invited to the commissioners' budget meeting. Gladys and library board member Sally Miller attended the meeting. They were informed at the meeting that there is no law stating that Cascade County must pay libraries in the county. They will continue to, but Commissioner Briggs stated that in 2028, libraries in the county may not be getting money from the county. Gladys and Sally were invited to come back in July. The fourth item was discussion/consideration Montana State Fund-Work Comp insurance through Triplett Insurance. Mayor Page stated that with current work comp insurance ending at the end of June, we need new insurance. With Kellen being gone to speak on this subject, the council will vote on it at the June 17th meeting.

Discussion/consideration payroll Black Mountain Software was next on the agenda. With Kellen being not present at the meeting, council member Paul Heikkila spoke in favor of adding this program. Paul stated that he spoke with Kellen about the program and how much it will help him with payroll and taxes. The program will cost roughly \$2,200/year added on to the city's existing bill with Black Mountain. Paul and council member Becky Gorton stated that by adding this program it will eliminate errors and it will also add another level of security with it all being double checked. April Wells moved to approve the adding of payroll in Black Mountain. It was seconded by Paul Heikkila. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Kellen will send the signed contract to Black Mountain and wait for a going-live date. Discussion of Hayfield Pivot issues was next up on the agenda. Public Works Codi Heikkila spoke with Tom who is leasing the pivot field about some broken parts caused by spray rigs driving under the line. Tom stated that he will buy replacement parts if damaged again. Codi had already replaced the broken piece with supplies he already had, but moving forward Tom will buy the new parts. Codi and Tom also discussed getting the pivot back on its normal running schedule. Codi understands weather can play apart from the schedule, but the pivot needs to be running to avoid weekly testing due to overfill in lagoon 3. The final topic under new business was discussion/consideration MT League of Cities and Towns contract renewal. Mayor Page and council member Paul Heikkila both spoke highly of having the league continue working with Kellen. They have been very beneficial with helping him grow and helping the City of Belt in general. Paul Heikkila moved to approve the renewal of the contract between the City of Belt and MT League of Cities & Towns July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027. Council member Bob Williams seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote and Kellen will send the signed contract back to MT League of Cities & Towns.

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT: Codi will be installing a new dog poo bag station on the bridge side of the Dyke. He also asked who is responsible for curb stop in a yard. It was thought that the owners of the property are responsible. The park main line for the irrigation sprinkler system is leaking and needs a full repair. It was bandaged last year by JR Civil but it is still

leaking and just needs replacement. Kellen and Codi will work on creating a new ordinance for bees/active hives.

COUNCIL REPORTS: April Wells thanked Codi for helping with the hanging of the flowers down Castner St. She also stated that the neighbor beside the City shop is starting to stack stuff behind the shop on City property. She asked Codi to check it out. Paul Heikkila brought up putting out notices for overgrown lawns around town. Kellen and Codi will work on getting notices made up.

CLERK/TREASURER INPUT: N/A Kellen Kirby was not present at the meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Travis Page spoke once again with Republic Services about the roll-on dumpster at the park that is over filled and needs to be removed. Travis also talked more about DES and getting a mailer sent out to get more information for the database.

PUBLIC INPUT: N/A

There being no further business to attend to, council member Paul Heikkila motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bob Williams seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM. The next meeting will be June 17th , 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Approved by Mayor Travis Page

Attested to & submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby