

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 17TH, 2026
7:00 PM

The second 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, Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby, council members Paul Heikkila, Michelle Stinson, Bob Williams, April Wells, Corbin Keaster, and Becky Gorton. Others in attendance were Public Works Codi Heikkila and Cascade County Sheriff's Department Corporal Alec Lugo and Jodi Rogers/ Jodi Campbell MT League of Cities & Towns via telephone.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Corporal Lugo informed the council that himself and another deputy will be working the rodeo this weekend (20th & 21st).

The minutes of the June 3rd 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 Paul Heikkila and seconded by Michelle Stinson. 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: 1. Discussion/Consideration Codi Heikkila's yearly evaluation/review- this was tabled until result of Codi's certification test come available. Codi will be taking the wastewater certification test Thursday June 18th in Helena. 2. Discussion/Consideration Montana State Fund Work Comp Insurance through Triplett Insurance- With the current work comp insurance through MMIA ending June 30th, clerk/treasurer Kellen Kirby has spoken with local insurance office Triplett Insurance Group and has gotten a quote for Montana State Fund to begin July 1st. Council member Paul Heikkila moved to approve adding work comp insurance with Montana State Fund through Triplett Insurance. Becky Gorton seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby will contact Triplett Insurance and send the accepted quote signed by Mayor Travis Page. Insurance will begin July 1st. 3. Discussion/Consideration dump brush pile behind city shop- This was discussed and the landowner butting up to the city shop, the one creating the fire hazard brush pile will be held responsible. It was suggested to have the city attorney write up a cease-and-desist order. This will be given to the landowner stating he must remove the pile in 72 hours, or it will be removed by the City of Belt at \$200/hour and bill sent to him. Mayor Page will be in contact with the city attorney about the order. 4. Discussion/Consideration Dump Truck Front end repair- due to the amount of work and alignment needed to be done to the dump truck, Tire Rama was suggested as Codi Heikkila had already gotten a quote from them for \$974.75 with a possible municipality discount. The discount will be discussed with the manager of Tire Rama. Council member Corbin Keaster motioned to approve that Tire Rama do the work on the dump truck. Michelle Stinson seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. Codi Heikkila will take the truck into Tire Rama next week to get the repairs done.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion Mill Levy- the council was joined via telephone by Jodi Campbell & Jodi Rogers from the MT League of Cities & Towns. Last fiscal year's mill levy was calculated at \$558.91/mill. This discussion was brought up due to the Belt Rural Fire Dept. requesting more mills. This request must be put on the November ballot, so the council was looking for more information as to how to get this all done by the August 10th deadline. It was suggested by Jodi Rogers to possibly

join the rural fire district. First step is to find out if Belt Rural Fire Dept. is a fire district. Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby will look more into this and open a discussion about this at tomorrow's Summit meeting in Great Falls. Once information is obtained, Belt can move forward with the best option.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT: Codi Heikkila informed the council that himself and Kellen Kirby will be working together to create an ordinance for the raising of bees within city limits. Council member Corbin Keaster created an ordinance using ChatGPT and emailed it to Kellen Kirby for review and corrections. Codi also brought up numbers being put on the front of resident's houses. This should be done to help emergency responders and the public as a whole. Corporal Lugo suggested an idea of the sheriff's office getting a box of numbers and Kellen handing them out to the ones needing it. It was also suggested that Codi use stencils and paint numbers on the curb or sidewalk in front of houses.

COUNCIL REPORTS: April Wells wanted to tell the council and Public Works how good the town looks and thank you for all the hard work cleaning things up. Corbin Keaster brought up getting notices put on properties where the grass is overgrown. A notice will be created and approved at the next council meeting.

CLERK/TREASURER INPUT: The process of getting PayGov has been started. The contract was signed by Mayor Page and sent to PayGov. PayGov is another way to pay utility bills, camping permits, and pavilion rentals using a credit/debit card at no charge to the City of Belt. Once the account has been set up PayGov will send Kellen Kirby a card reader and other necessary equipment. Kellen Kirby also informed the council that with the help of the Town of Cascade, they created a contract for the renting of the pavilion. This contract holds the renters liable for any damage to the building. It also holds them responsible for cleaning the building; if not cleaned the city will use their deposit check to pay for cleaning. Kellen will be attending Summit Meeting in Great Falls tomorrow all day.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Page brought up camping fees. Not everyone is paying to camp down at the campgrounds and should be. Mayor Page suggested putting a payment box down at the park but fear it may get vandalized. When PayGov becomes available, a QR code can be put down at the campgrounds for campers to use to pay for their permits.

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 8:26 PM. The next meeting will be July 1, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Approved by Mayor Travis Page

Attested to & submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby