

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 15, 2026
7:00 PM

The second regularly scheduled council meeting of July 2026 was called to order by Mayor Travis Page who led all in attendance in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor Page, Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby, council members Paul Heikkila, Bob Williams, April Wells, and Becky Gorton. Michelle Stinson and Corbin Keaster were not present. Others in attendance were Public Works Codi Heikkila, Robin Franzen, Dianne Heikkila and Marla Mital.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Community members Dianne Heikkila and Marla Mital brought up to the council that Castner Park grass is starting to burn out due to lack of water due to broken irrigation system. This will be repaired as soon as possible. They also talked about the need for a trash can near the swimming hole entrance for garbage left behind. Public Works will be putting out new trash cans and signs.

The minutes of the July 1st meeting were read by all present council members and moved to approval as written by Paul Heikkila. The motion was seconded by Becky Gorton. 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 April Wells. 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 Robin Franzen Diamond Mapping- Robin Frazen from Montana Rural Water presented Diamond Mapping to the council. Diamond Mapping is a digitally used program that maps the town/city's curb stops, manholes, hydrants, and anything else the user wants to map through the town/city. This program also creates work orders and keeps records out on the cloud. This tool is simple to use and very user friendly. This discussion/consideration was tabled until the next meeting August 5th, 2026.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion/Consideration New Bee Ordinance- Reading #2. The second of three readings and voting happened this evening. Mayor Page read the bee city ordinance aloud to the council. April Wells moved to approve of the new ordinance as written, and Paul Heikkila seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The final reading and vote of approval or rejection by the council will be August 5, 2026.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT: Codi Heikkila spoke to the council about taking the red public works' ford pickup to Jeremiah Olson to get the tailgate latch repaired. Codi also informed the council that he did not pass his wastewater test but wants to retake it as soon as he possibly can. He stated that he is willing to pay for it himself and pay for his temporary wastewater license to show that he wants this job and continue to work hard. Codi has contacted DEQ and is working with them to get more study help and guides to better prepare him for his next attempt.

COUNCIL REPORTS: April Wells brought up doing a lawn maintenance schedule, checking lawns on a monthly or 3 week basis so lawns are not getting out of control and notices are not being sent out so late. Paul Heikkila reiterated getting trash cans and signs put up at the entrance of the creek swimming hole.

CLERK/TREASURER INPUT: Kellen Kirby informed the council that PayGov credit card payments are now up and live and ready to use. PayGov can be used to pay utility bills, camping permits, and pavilion rentals. Kellen also spoke with Terry Thompson of Cascade County Elections Office and Joe Briggs, Cascade County commissioner, about a 3% tax on the Dispensary. Kellen was informed that local municipalities are unable to implement another tax on a dispensary due to it being set by the state legislators and counties. The city of Belt is already getting tax money from the dispensary once a month through the Cascade County tax payment. Water letters were mailed out to residents with overdue balances. Kellen also informed the council that he would be working with Jodie Campbell from MT League of Cities & Towns over the next two days, working on the budget and continuing cleanup of the accounting system.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Travis Page state that he spoke with Great West Engineer Josh Sommer and JR Civil will be back in town to do warranty work. Josh also supplied Travis with a list of locations around town that they will be working on. The list can be added to as new things appear. Travis also informed the council that he hasn't heard anything from the Town of Cascade about any numbers pertaining to a potential law enforcement contract.

PUBLIC INPUT: Marla Mital asked the council about steps needed to be taken to get a concrete memorial bench placed in Castner Park. She was informed to get on the next agenda and provide information about the bench and this way the council can discuss it and vote yay or nay.

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 8:03 PM. The next meeting will be July 15, 2026, at 7:55 PM.

Approved by Mayor Travis Page

Attested to & submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby