

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2026
7:00 PM

The second regularly scheduled meeting of March 2026 was called to order by Mayor Travis Page who began with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor Page, Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby, council members included Paul Heikkila, Michelle Stinson, Bob Williams, April Wells, and Becky Gorton. Corbin Keaster was not present this evening. Cascade County Sheriff's Department Corporal Alec Lugo, marijuana dispensary owner Jeff Erickson, Cascade County commissioner nominee Rick Wolke and Richt & Mindy Kale were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rick Wolke, candidate for Cascade County commissioner, introduced himself and just wanted to observe and listen to needs/wants of other communities in Cascade County.

The minutes from the March 4th 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.

Claims/warrants submitted for approval were moved to approval by April Wells 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/Consideration city/county ordinance (nuisance dog). The first of three readings and voting happened this evening. Corporal Lugo read the nuisance dog city ordinance with the new proposed addition aloud to the council. Bob Williams moved to approve the new ordinance as written, and Michelle Stinson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The second reading and vote will take place April 1, 2026, followed by the third and final reading and Mayor vote of approval or rejection on April 15, 2026. The second item on the agenda discussion/consideration retraceable survey Belt School & City of Belt. April Wells informed the council that the new survey was accepted and filed by the Cascade County clerks & recorder's office today (03/18/2026). The school and the City of Belt both have copies of the new survey and the 1984 deed. Since this was just accepted and filed, the school and the City of Belt are waiting on the final bill for which the cost will be split. This topic will be on the April 1st agenda. The final topic under new business was the discussion Dispensary Tax 3% with dispensary owner Jeff Erickson. Mr. Erickson introduced himself and spoke about his background, software program, and dispensary itself. After some research from clerk/treasurer Kellen Kirby, the City of Belt does currently receive money on a quarterly basis from Cascade County. This was verified by Mr. Erickson as he states that he pays the county quarterly and then that lump some of money is divided up amongst the communities in the county with a dispensary.

OLD BUSINESS: Review/Discussion Current Fire Service Agreement between City of Belt & Belt Rural Fire District. The Belt Rural Fire Department was unable to attend this evening, so nothing was discussed. Mayor Page did inform the council that after speaking with Cascade County Election office, information needed to be on the November ballot is due later than what was first thought. This gives the City of Belt and Belt Rural Fire a bit more time to get things lined up and ready.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT: N/A

COUNCIL REPORT: April Wells mentioned that Public Works Codi Heikkila needs to not pile up snow in the alley by the Bowling Alley and the school. She also stated that the bushes in that alley need to be cut back and cleaned up. Michelle Stinson mentioned that the cover between the Brew Pub and the log cabin needs to be replaced/fixed as it has become a tripping hazard and a hazard when plowing snow. She requested that Public Works Codi Heikkila please fix it or replace it. Paul Heikkila passed around information pertaining to the rock wall. It is an update from MDT and states that no work will be done until 2028. If things continue to fall create a hazard it will be revisited sooner rather than later. Becky Gorton suggested that two new poles with doggy clean-up bags be set up on either end of the dyke. She stated that people walking their dogs on the dyke are not cleaning up, so signs and bags may help with this.

CLERK/TREASURER INPUT: Kellen Kirby informed the council that Monday March 16th the Annual Financial Report was completed, submitted and accepted. Kirby also informed the council that the City of Belt audit, originally scheduled for April 13th, will now take place on Monday March 23rd. Jodi Campbell from Montana League of Cities and Towns will be here to help Kirby with the process.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Page informed the council that he has been working on the sheriff's contract with the city attorney. There hasn't been much movement on this issue. April 1st the mayor, clerk/treasurer and council members will be traveling to Cascade for the sheriff contract arbitration meeting, hoping to get information as to what's all going on and moving forward.

PUBLIC INPUT: Richt and Mindy Kale introduced themselves. Mindy Kale stated that she is a candidate for Cascade County Sheriff. They stated they attended tonight's meeting to observe and get a feel for the wants/needs for the City of Belt.

There being no further business to attend to, council member Paul Heikkila motioned to adjourn the meeting, Michelle Stinson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Approved by Mayor Travis Page

Attested to and submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby