

BELT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 4, 2026
7:00 PM

The first 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 Travis Page, Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby, council members included Paul Heikkila, Michelle Stinson, Bob Williams, April Wells, Corbin Keaster, and Becky Gorton. Public Works Codi Heikkila and Cascade County Sheriff's Department Corporal Alec Lugo were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Corporal Lugo informed the council that himself and Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby have been working on city ordinance (nuisance dog) will talk more about it under **NEW BUSINESS**.

The minutes from the February 18th meeting were moved to approval as written by April Wells and seconded by Becky Gorton. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Claims/warrants submitted for approval were moved to approval by April Wells and seconded by Michelle Stinson. The claims/warrants were approved by unanimous vote.

The complaint log was reviewed; no complaints were received.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion/Consideration city/county ordinance (nuisance dog). Corporal Lugo informed the council that himself and Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby have been working on city ordinance (nuisance dog) and will have it ready for the March 18th meeting for the first of three readings and round of voting. For an ordinance to be updated/changed it takes three meetings of reading and voting to legally adopt the changes. It has been set that this ordinance will be read March 18th then again April 1 and the final reading and vote from Mayor Travis Page will be during the meeting on April 15th. Prior to the March 18th meeting Corporal Lugo and Kirby will continue to clean it up and digitalize it, making it a neater document. The next topic up for discussion was mill levy for City of Belt. Paul Heikkila started the discussion of since the city is getting information squared away for an increase of mill levy for the fire department, why not throw a little bit towards the city as well to help with rising costs, training expenses, maintenance, etc. The proposed 3% tax on the Marijuana Shop was also discussed and Mayor Page stated that he would be in contact with the shop owner, so they wouldn't be caught off guard that something could be coming. To get all this on the upcoming ballot, all information will need to be submitted to the Cascade County Elections office by May.

OLD BUSINESS: Review/Discussion of current Fire Service Agreement between City of Belt and Belt Rural Fire District. At tonight's meeting there were no representatives from Belt Rural Fire present. They will be invited to the March 18th meeting so that Belt Rural and the City of Belt can come to an agreement as to what all needs to be put on the ballot due in

May. Belt Rural is requesting an increase in mill levy as discussed in multiple other meetings this year. This needs to be done as soon as possible as the deadline is approaching fast.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT- Codi Heikkila asked questions about vehicles parking down at the park campgrounds sometimes for a week. Corporal Lugo requested Codi to take pictures and Lugo would visit with the owner of the vehicle and let them know of the rules and issue a warning. Fire hydrant on Millard and 3rd Ave. it needs to be replaced as it is broken. Paul Heikkila feels this replacement should be taking place in the next phase of the project by JR Civil this spring. The water line break on Valley Drive is it JR Civil liability? Codi Heikkila has spoken with Logan from Jr Civil and reviewed camera footage from CapCon and feels the break should fall under JR Civil warranty but will talk more with engineer Josh Sommer more to determine cause. Codi will be meeting with Normont tomorrow morning to discuss ways of tying down the new insert sander into the dump truck. Paul Heikkila will send Codi pictures of the way the state highway department ties down their inserts into their trucks and see if Normont could do the same thing. The final discussion was about the bleachers at the baseball fields. These bleachers are in rough condition, needing new boards and paint. Codi spoke with Jeff Dawson and Jeff stated that he would check with the school to see if their shop class would be interested in cleaning this up. Corporal Lugo also stated that he would check into the Association to see if they would donate money to rebuild these bleachers.

COUNCIL REPORTS- April Wells spoke about a few larger tree limbs at the park over picnic tables and around the camping grounds needing to be cut down. She also gave an update on the survey of the land given to the City of Belt from Belt School. The survey was done wrong and needs to be redone. This will be on next meeting's agenda. Paul Heikkila asked PW Codi Heikkila to mark out the sprinklers on the baseball field so when the expansion starts, they don't break any. He also discussed that signs are needed on the dyke to stop people from riding motorbikes and other motorized vehicles on the dyke. Codi will be looking up quotes for new signs. Paul asked if this Spring when JR Civil returns will they be chip sealing Bridge Street? If not, find out how much it would be to get that street done as well since they are already here doing other streets. Corbin Keaster discussed wanting repairs done on 4th Ave. South. The street is falling apart. He asked about any millings that may be available to repair it. He also asked if the milling of the asphalt presumably being done by JR Civil was that price included in the contract or will it be an additional cost. If it is an additional cost to reach out to other local companies and get price quotes for them to come in and mill up the broken asphalt down around the burn pit. Corbin stated that he knows a few guys that have the equipment to get that completed.

CLERK/TREASURER INPUT- Kellen Kirby informed the council that Jodi Campbell of Montana League of Cities and Towns was in the Belt office last Wednesday and Thursday for training. The two of us worked on bank reconciliation that hadn't been down since August of 2025. Things were messed up quite a bit. By the end of Thursday bank reconciliation was gone through and corrected through December 2025. Jodi Campbell will

be coming back on Monday March 9th to do some more training, and we can get bank reconciliation up to date as of the end of February.

MAYOR'S INPUT- Mayor Travis Page will meet with librarian Gladys Rayhill and discuss additional funding for the library. With the additional funding, certain criteria must be met. Mayor Page attempted to speak with the rail road about the viaduct but the rail road wasn't keen on giving a whole lot of information only stating they are doing maintenance. Mayor Page and Clerk/Treasurer Kirby spoke with Jodi Campbell while she was here about PayGov, an online way to pay utility bills and camping fees along with other things. PayGov is at no cost to the City of Belt to setup and/or use, but it will charge a 3% fee to anyone who chooses to use it to pay. When Campbell is here on Monday March 9th Kirby and Campbell will get it set up and advertise it in the window of City Hall, Post Office bulletin board, city website, and on utility bills.

PUBLIC INPUT- N/A

There being no further business to attend to, council member Paul Heikkila motioned to adjourn the meeting, Corbin Keaster seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

Approved by Mayor Travis Page

Attested to and submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Kellen Kirby