

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held November 10, 2025, in the Council Chambers at 6:30 pm. A review of the claims took place at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Roni Phillips

Councilors: Stephanie Quick, Kelly Dillon, Bessie Spangler, Shirley Iwata

Clerk Brenda Schneider

Rodney Goins, Public Works Superintendent

Scott Dodd, Fire Chief

Micah Allard, Deputy and Toby Sutton, Deputy

Chris Hayes, RPA, Engineer

Jim Morton, Human Resource Council

Rose Duncan, Human Resource Council

Paul Forsting, IMEG

Andy Short, Mineral County Planner

Citizens: Andrew Hanson, Dan Clemts, Gordon Hendrick, Bob Kroupa, Tammy Wieweck,

Sherry Goins

Councilor Wayne Cashman-absent

There being a quorum present Roni Phillips, Mayor, called the meeting to order. Roni Phillips, Mayor, asked for additions/corrections to the minutes of October 13, 2025, regular meeting. Shirley Iwata made a motion to approve the minutes of October 13, 2025 regular meeting; Kelly Dillon seconded. MOTION passed 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Wayne Cashman-absent.

CORRESPONDENCE None

PUBLIC COMMENT None

COUNCIL REPORTS

Roni Phillips read the October Animal report. Staff assisted the Sheriff's office with a dog fight/dog bite incident that occurred along Alder Street. All the required paperwork was exchanged regarding the animals and citations were issued to the offending parties involved. Quarantine protocol was initiated and the health department notified of the situation.

Stephanie Quick read the October Water report. All routine sampling and testing completed. Several Town residents were notified of possible water leaks. MET has connected the new generator at Well #3 to the telemetry monitoring system. The bulk water station has been put away for the season. The leaky water valves on the back flow preventors have been replaced.

Shirley Iwata read the October Court report. 4 Initial appearances, 9 status hearings, 4 Omnibus hearings, 1 Jury instruction hearing, 1 jury trial, 1 Change of plea and 1 Order to Show Cause. Expired registration, driving while suspended/revoked, no insurance, fail to stop and ID self after striking unattended vehicle, fail to give notice of accident, speeding, ROW violation, dog at large, and vicious animal. Micah Allard, Deputy, reported there were 500 calls for service in October. Micah Allard introduced the new Deputy Toby Sutton. There is a detention office position open. 49 traffic stops were made inside the town limits. The department is patrolling 4th Avenue on a regular basis in the morning hours before school. We have seen a drastic change in driving behavior. People have really slowed down. Micah stated that they had concentrated patrols out during the trick or treating last Friday. There were a lot of kids out and about, especially on 4th Avenue. The Sheriff's Office is still waiting for the new patrol cars to arrive. There have been several delays with parts, but the cars should be here by the end of the month.

Kelly Dillon read the October Streets report. Snow removal equipment has been checked out and serviced for the upcoming season. Some minor repairs, oil changes, and routine lubrication have been completed. Several alleys were graded around town.

Roni Phillips read the October Parks report. The irrigation systems at the Town parks have been blown out and winterized for the season. The restrooms at Eva Horning Park have been closed and winterized. A portable toilet is in place for the winter months at the park.

Scott Dodd reported on October fire department activity. Responded to 17 calls—14 Rual, 3 Municipal and 0 mutual aid. 4 regular training and 4 junior training sessions. 23 firefighters, 3 Juniors and 2 Explorers on the current roster. Things started to slow down a bit with the weather transition, but slam into crash season. We had our Halloween in full show and fun. NFB Espresso donated all the hot chocolate this year and candy was donated by HAVAC Industries. We prepared for our Chili Cook Off to support the Tarkio Station 2, which was last Saturday. Another great event and went very well. Wildland Trucks have been winterized and are ready for the next season.

Bessie Spangler read the October sewer report. All routine sampling and testing are completed. Staff conducted approx. 13 locate requests for the month. The sewer project continues. The system has been running solely on cell #2. The treatment numbers have improved. The new liner has been installed in cell #1 and the leak check has been completed. The aeration support braces are being installed. Staff continue to document project progress to DEQ on our monthly report. All exceedances are explained and DEQ is kept aware of the current progress at our wastewater treatment facility. Staff conducted routine “hot spots” sewer jetting around town. Upon attempting to clean the sewer line on Mullan road west, staff found the line to be plugged and could not get the Jetter nozzle to clear the blockage of tree roots. Staff inspected the line with the camera and found that the tree roots had further infiltrated the line, and grown, causing the line to split and sink on one side. Staff contacted several contractors in the area to make the emergency repair. Reveal Excavation was hired to do the work. Once the permits were secured from The Montana Dept of Transportation, the repair work was done. The broken piece of sewer main was replaced and service was restored to the area after an extensive dig and root removal process.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

Chris Hayes, Project Engineer, reported that Cell #1 has been graded, and full floor ventilation system and synthetic liner have been installed. The contractor completed leak testing the liner and it passed. The contractor will work on filling Cell #1 and installing aeration equipment. Work continues the headworks building foundation and walls. The contractor hopes to be completed by the end of the year or early 2026, weather pending.

SEWER PROJECT SLUDGE REMOVAL

Chris Hayes, Project Engineer, reported that he is working on change order #2 for the extra biosolids removal and disposal. Chris Hayes, RPA, read a letter from RPA. When we became aware of a potential biosolids removal quantity overrun, RPA immediately engaged with the town, contractor, and subcontractor to negotiate a reduction in the percent solids—from 70% to 32%—to help mitigate the cost impact. We also surveyed the bottom of Cell #1 and redesigned

the lagoon surface to further support cost-effective delivery. In coordination with the contractor, we limited equipment in Cell #1 to lighter machinery to preserve as much clay in the bottom as possible and to prevent the need for import material. We deeply value our strong working relationship with the Town of Superior and remain committed to completing this project on time and within budget. While we believe the design was sound based on the available data and unknown site conditions below the water surface, we also recognize the importance of minimizing the financial burden on the Town. To that end, after discussions with our management team, RPA would like to contribute \$200,000 to help offset the cost associated with the unit quantity overrun. RPA is committed to the Town and our shared goal of delivering a reliable, efficient wastewater system that will serve your community well in the future. Mayor and Council thanked Chris Hayes and RPA for their contribution to the project.

Chris Hayes and Brenda Schneider had a funding meeting with the funding agencies and Bond Counsel. The 2nd loan from SRF is estimated at \$517,000, which will require a 2nd rate sewer increase to cover the loan debt service. Discussed the process for the 2nd sewer rate increase. The Resolution of Intent to raise the rate will be on the December Agenda. The rate notice will be published 3 times and notice mailed to users. The final Resolution for the rate increase will Be on the January Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

MAIN AVENUE SUBDIVISION AND EDNA COURT TOWN HOME EXEMPTION DEVELOPMENT (TED) -PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 6:51 pm.

Mayor Phillips stated that the purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment on the Main Avenue Subdivision and Edna Court Town Home Exemption Development (TED).

Andy Short, Mineral County Planner, stated there are 3 existing lots and the proposal is to aggregate all lots into one lot. There are currently 8 dwelling units on the property, which would be Town Homes, comparable to Condos. He stated that people would be able to purchase the dwelling units. They would own the building and the property under the building. Andy Short stated that the current subdivision regulations allow for unique developments that don't meet the standards. Andy Short reviewed the Planning Board recommendation and conditions. Andy Short stated that the Planning Board approved the Main Avenue Subdivision and Edna Court Town Home Exemption Development (TED) with 13 conditions. Paul Forsting, IMEG, presented maps and pictures of the project. Paul Forsting stated each unit will have its own driveway. Paul Forsting explained the common area of development. Paul Forsting stated that there will be a Homeowners Association (HOA). Paul Forsting stated that Condition #12-- need to install individual water meters for each unit. Paul Forsting asked the Council to consider allowing the development to keep 1 water meter for all units as it currently exists. Jim Morton, Human Resource Council, told the history of the name of Edna Court. He stated that there is a rumor that the Frey family donated the land for the Cottages of Edna Court, which is false. He stated that he had contacted Edna's daughter Billye Ann Bricker about naming the property after her mother for her many contributions, commitment, and work for the community. Jim Morton stated that the property was purchased by Human Resource Council from Sally Jo Viche. Jim Morton stated The property had certain restrictions in place for 20 years, but those restrictions have now ended. The income restrictions on the property have expired. Jim Morton stated that there are currently 4 vacancies. Jim Morton stated that HRC will assist existing tenants with the purchase of their unit or with financial assistance to move. Jim Morton talked about making the development affordable. Jim Morton stated that there are two programs, one state and one federal. Mr. Morton explained affordability based on median income. Tenants would pay 1/3 of income for the

mortgage. Jim Morton stated that HRC has a downpayment assistance program up to \$90,000 with 0% interest payable when the property is sold. Open to anyone who wants to purchase. Jim Morton stated the price is restricted to 1 to 1 ½% per year capped by the State Legislature. Jim Morton explained land trusts. The deed is restricted by % of median income to keep the project affordable. Andy Short, Mineral County Planner, reviewed the 13 conditions for the development that were approved by the Planning Board. Rodney Goins, stated that Rule 11 of the Town water rules and regulations allow one meter for multiple dwelling units such as condominiums, townhouses, trailer courts, apartment buildings, etc. Rodney Goins recommended allowing the development to have one 2-inch meter for all dwellings and the meter must be moved out of the dwelling unit that it is in currently to a meter pit. Also, a letter from the HOA guaranteeing payment of water and sewer charges. This will allow Public Works Access without entering the dwelling. Gordon Hendrick asked if there is a leak, would all dwelling units be shut off? Dan Clemts stated that each dwelling unit has its own water shut off for repairs, etc. Mayor closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:20 pm.

MAIN AVENUE SUBDIVISION AND EDNA COURT TOWN HOME EXEMPTION DEVELOPMENT (TED) – PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL OR DENIAL

Council discussed request for the Main Avenue Subdivision and Edna Court Town Home Exemption Development (TED). Kelly Dillon made a MOTION to approve the preliminary plat approval for the Main Avenue Subdivision and Edna Court Town Home Exemption Development (TED) with the exception of Condition #12, Stephanie Quick seconded. MOTION passed 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Wayne Cashman-absent.

PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE-APPOINT

Council discussed appointing a representative of the Town to the County Planning Board. Our current representative is Gordon Hendrick. He would like to continue to represent the town on the Planning Board. Shirley Iwata made a MOTION to appoint Gordon Hendrick to the County Planning Board as the Town's representative; Kelly Dillon seconded. MOTION passed 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Wayne Cashman-absent.

WARD II COUNCILOR-APPOINT

Council discussed the vacant Ward II Council position. The Clerk reported that 3 people are interested in being appointed to the vacant Councilor Ward II position. This term will include will go from the appointment through the 2027 election. At that time, the person appointed would run for the remaining two years of the normal 4-year term. The following are interested---

Bailey Moree
Dan Clemts
Tammy Wieweck

The Council voted by secret ballot, ranking the three candidates in order of preference from 1 to 3. The initial tally resulted in a tie between Bailey Moree and Dan Clemts for the highest number of votes. The Council then conducted a second vote between the two tied candidates, which again resulted in a tie. To break the tie, Mayor Phillips drew a name, selecting Bailey Moree. Bailey Moree will be the Councilor for Ward 2.

LEGAL None

CLERKS BUSINESS

Prepared minutes.
Upload meeting recording to website.
Updated Utility customer accounts as needed.
Prepared and mailed utility bills.
Posted daily receipts and made daily deposits.
Prepared and mailed past due and remaining balance utility letters.
Transmitted and posted the ACH utility payments.
Prepared and mailed final UB customer bills.
Prepared Agenda and Notes from the Clerk
Uploaded Agenda to website. Posted Agenda.
Prepared and delivered council packets.
Prepared claims and checks.
Prepared payroll and reports and ACH.
Prepared monthly Tax vouchers and receipts.
Enter checks in the Wells Fargo positive pay as part of the fraud protections.
Updated software.
Updated Website
Grant searches.
Updated Agenda Subject Index
Uploaded Minutes to website.
Completed cash reconciliation for SVFRA.
Prepared Cash reconciliation and financial reports
Sewer Project Funding meetings
Work on Food Bank CDBG grant draw 2
Submitted Food Bank CDBG grant draw 2.
Work on Sewer project grants and draws.
Submitted SRF draw for Sewer project.
Progress meeting CDBG Food Bank project
Conference call SLIPA grant-Water Well #3 Generator project
Work on final draw for SLIPA grant funds.
Prepare quarterly/final report for SLIPA grant.
Work on construction pay request #8.
Prepare and submit CGR report for pay request #8 to the state.
Research GASB 103 and 104 for FY 25-26
Webinars on GASB 103 and 104.
Set up 25-26 tax tables and tax transactions tables in accounting.
Receipt and post SRF loans A and B Draw 2

The Clerk reported that the Town received a letter from MMIA that effective July 1, 2026, MMIA will not long provide Worker's Compensation coverage. Most members of the program will be transitioning to the Montana State Fund. MMIA plans to provide more information to help with the transition. Discussed questions and concerns.

CONSENT AGENDA

Kelly Dillon made a MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented Town Claims 39038-39096 in the amount of \$764,229.16 on November 10, 2025. October Financial Reports, October Cash Reconciliation, October Pledged Securities, October Journal & UB Vouchers, October Budget Report. Shirley Iwata seconded. MOTION passed 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Wayne Cashman-absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council Shirley Iwata made a MOTION to adjourn until the next regular meeting December 8, 2025; Stephanie Quick seconded. MOTION passed 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Wayne Cashman-absent.

Roni Phillips, Mayor

Attest:

Brenda Schneider, Town Clerk