

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held February 9, 2026, in the Council Chambers at 6:30 pm. A review of the claims took place at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Andrew Hanson

Councilors: Stephanie Quick, Kelly Dillon, Bessie Spangler, Shirley Iwata, Bailey Moree,  
Gordon Albert

Brenda Schneider, Clerk/Treasurer

Rodney Goins, Public Works Superintendent

Ryan Funke, Sheriff

Citizens: Bob Kroupa, Sherry Goins, Ben Banks, Tony Augustine, Josh Pecora, Anthony Dodd

There being a quorum present Andrew Hanson, Mayor, called the meeting to order. Andrew Hanson, Mayor, asked for additions/corrections to the minutes of January 12, 2026, public hearing and the January 12, 2026, regular meeting. Kelly Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes of January 12, 2026, public hearing and January 12, 2026, regular meeting; Shirley Iwata seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

The Town received a letter from Superior Area Ambulance requesting that no one includes Superior Area Ambulance when posting on social media as this can cause a HIPPA violation.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

#### COUNCIL REPORTS

Bailey Moree read the January Animal report. All is well.

Stephanie Quick read the January Water report. All routine sampling and testing completed. Staff continue to clean up the carnage around the water tank after the windstorm. Approx 15 large trees were blown down striking the water tank, the fences, and the control building up Flat Creek. A large portion of the clean-up is complete, and staff will continue to work at it as time allows. There was very minor damage to the tank and the building. There is substantial damage to the fence around the tank. Repairs will continue. The damage did not affect the operation of the water system mechanics.

Shirley Iwata read the January Court report. 9 Initial appearances, 2 appearances, 3 status hearings, 3 Omnibus hearings, 1 jury confirmation hearing, 1 jury instruction hearing, 1 jury trial, 3 Change of Plea, and 1 Order to Show Cause. Assault, Unlawful restraint, MIP, disorderly conduct and speeding. Ryan Funke, Sheriff reported there were 364 calls in January. The law enforcement center had sewer blockage caused by wrappers and banana peels; this has been addressed with the prisoners. President Trump has signed the bill/grant for 2.9 million dollars that will help support 5 counties. The 5 counties have a Memorandum of Understanding. Mineral County will administer the grant funds for all of the counties. Deputy Toby Sutton is nearing completion of his training and will soon be on the road by himself. This is exciting news as he has put in a lot of hard work. Sheriff Ryan Funke presented the 2025 State of the County.

- We started out the year with an attempted triple homicide in the St. Regis area. All victims survived and are doing well. We contacted DCI and they handled the investigation and prosecution.

- Coroner's inquests were completed for both officer-involved shootings that occurred in 2023 and 2024. These were done by Missoula County, and all officers involved were cleared as both shootings were ruled justified by a jury. One was ruled suicide by a cop.
- Medal of Valor will be presented in the near future to Undersheriff Wayne Cashman and Deputy Eric Lindauer, for their involvement in the Fish Creek Officer involved shooting. A number of life-saving awards will also be presented.
- Successfully applied for and was granted the Stone Garden Grant. These monies are used for overtime and equipment. This is a great way to save taxpayers' money and allow deputies to supplement their wages without local taxpayer dollars. While on Stonegarden, deputies look for drugs, human trafficking, and illegal aliens, among others.
- We purchased 6 new patrol vehicles upon approval of the Mineral County Commissioners.
- We have updated Town contracts, including the town's purchase of 2 patrol cars.
- Contracts have been updated for Axon:
  - 5-year contract for body cams and tasers. We now have a VR headset that came with this, so we can conduct in-house training.
  - 10-year contract for in-car fleet 3 cameras. We have just received brand-new equipment under the new contract to install in our new cars when they finally arrive.
- The Mineral County Fair was very successful this past year. There were many compliments on how we patrolled it and made them feel safe. We will continue to show a large presence at events like this.
- We have also shown a presence at all county events, as our office is very community-oriented.
- We had a balanced budget for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row and are on pace with another balanced budget. Some items in our budget are out of our hands, including but not limited to:
  - Juvenile detention (approximately \$360 a day)
  - How long inmates stay in our jail.
  - Medical costs for inmates
  - Big thank you to the towns of Alberton and Superior for their continued support of our office.
- We have continued Deputy, Detention Officer, and Dispatcher of the year recipients this year:
  - Deputy of the Year: Eric Lindauer
  - Detention Officer of the year: Jeremy Ratliff
  - Dispatcher of the year: John Rizzi
- Had our second annual Christmas Party for our employees and our new Fish and Game Officer and his family. This was donated by a local citizen who thanked us for all that we do. This was a great opportunity to get our families together and show thanks.
- We have continued our partnerships with local task forces to assist our county with our drug problem, in and out of our county. We have been very successful.
- We have worked, through the DUI Task Force, Undersheriff Wayne Cashman as the Chair, and I as a member, to provide a more upfront attempt to stop alcohol from being brought onto school property at events. We have provided sandwich boards to the schools to help advertise this at school events.

- We have donated a trailer and a used jetboat to the new Search and Rescue of Mineral County, to help them get on their feet. We are also looking at donating a couple of snowmobiles in the near future. This will help them protect and assist the people who stay and play in Mineral County.
- We also got some legislation passed, from our office, which will now allow law enforcement to get weapons back in a timely manner that are involved in an officer-involved shooting. Example: without this bill signed in 2025, firearms are held until a coroner's inquest is done. It took over 2 years for ours to get done. This then created a burden on the Sheriff's Office and the taxpayers to replace these guns, long-term. Reserve Deputy Gordon Hendrick took the lead, and we were able to get it passed.
- Purchased new red dot sights for our patrol handguns, at no cost to the taxpayers of Mineral County. We used drug forfeiture monies. This provided faster sight acquisition, therefore, better for officer safety.
- Started a proactive schedule: to promote community-driven public safety: traffic stops, business checks, extra patrols etc. This ramped up our case load from 461 in 2024 to 784 in 2025.
- Purchased new in-car radios, new hand-held portable radios, and updated the West End radio repeater and secured it in a new, well-insulated Connex box on Look-Out pass.
- The new generator we purchased worked amazingly, and we have now extended its capabilities, and it will now run the commissioner's room and the patrol room. This is important because the commissioner's room will serve as an IC if another disaster occurs.
- Another year with no fights in jail with jail staff. This is attributed to the training our jail staff receives. We have also updated the tablet program.
- Put metal TV shrouds on the tv's that are in the day rooms of our pods, inside the jail. This prevents individuals from hanging themselves, as prior to this administration, there were several attempts using the tv mounts.
- Updated the camera system in the courthouse/jail. We now have a full sight picture of all the day rooms in our jail, with no dead spots.
- Deputy Hughes and I responded to the active shooter situation in Shoshone County, Idaho, the day after Christmas, as mutual aid. This shows our commitment to public safety.
- Working on an MOU agreement with Shoshone County. This will better assist our counties when we request assistance or pursue suspects across county/state lines.
- We have participated in the DEA's National Drug Takeback Program again this year, collecting over 60 lbs of unused prescription drugs.
- We participated in a multi-agency interdiction in Mineral County in the month of December. 51 arrests were made during this week-long operation.
- With the continued help of our evidence technician, we are ever closer to having a sheriff's sale for the cars that are in our impound lot. This has taken approximately 5 years to get done.
- Jail staff and Patrol log hours of continuing education monthly.
- We have updated several locking mechanisms in the jail, as the old ones were faulty, in our ever-aging facility. These locks are approximately \$5,000 apiece.
- Had electricians come and complete a wire clean-up, pulling all of the old, unused wires and updating our electrical system.

- In 2024, through Ryan Zinke’s Office (15 appropriations), I put in for a 5-county grant/appropriation request of 2.89 million dollars. This was shut down during appropriations early last year. I again submitted it in 2025 through Tim Sheehy’s Office (30 appropriations). Approximately 2 weeks ago, President Trump signed it into law. This will help support Mineral County, Sanders County, Lake County, Lincoln County, and Beaverhead County. We met with Zinke’s congressional staff last week, and they discussed the 5-county MOU, which they said is the first of its kind, and they appreciated that I put it in for. It’s now being used nationwide to support similar requests.

Kelly Dillon read the January Streets report. Staff continue to treat the streets during periods of inclement weather. Let it snow.

Gordon Albert read the January Parks report. Staff continue to perform routine cleaning of the skatepark and tennis court at Eva Horning Park. Numerous tree limbs and debris were cleaned up around the parks after the windstorm. A large tree was blown over onto the ball fields at Timberman Park. Staff were able to clean it up and pile the brush.

January fire department activity. No report at this time.

Bessie Spangler read the January sewer report. All routine sampling and testing are completed. Staff conducted approx. 9 locate requests for the month. The wastewater treatment facility is back to running as normal!!! Routine sampling continues and the numbers are still good! The concrete for the head works building has cured enough that the building can now be back filled. That process is in full effect and should be completed very soon. All the aeration equipment is in place and fully operational. Staff flushed the sewer line from the jail after the detention center experienced issues with their drain system. Staff removed the remainder of their debris from the main line, and the system was returned to normal operation. Staff continue to routinely flush and monitor the sewer liner on Osprey Drive.

#### COUNCIL CONCERNS

Bessie Spangler reported that knapweed growing along and into 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue E near River Ridge Subdivision makes it hard for people walking on the edge of the street. Letters will be sent to landowners in the area.

Bessie Spangler reported that Darlow’s storage container and pallets located on the street side of 3rd Avenue W. are obstructing visibility for both vehicles and pedestrians. The need to ensure that the storage container and pallets are not encroaching on the street right-of-way was discussed. If encroachment is confirmed, a letter will be sent to the property owners.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

We had Progress Meeting #7 last Thursday, January 29th. Diamond Construction’s project manager Andrew Carson has taken a position with another company, and Jasan Moyer, VP, will carry project manager duties for the duration of the project. The Headworks Building concrete elevated floor slab has been poured and concrete breaks came back with good strength. Diamond Construction is working on backfilling around the headworks building, installing headworks screen, and installing concrete supports for precast walls. Precast walls will be set next week and then subcontractors can start to install electrical, plumbing, and HVAC in the headworks building. Diamond Construction has grouting of concrete channel, framing the interior walls,

trusses, roofing, and doors to install over the next month. January lagoon effluent test samples came back with fantastic results of single digits BOD and TSS and non-detectable E. coli. Diamond Construction's updated construction schedule shows substantial completion in early April 2026.

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### LEPC—APPOINT TOWN REPRESENTATIVE TO COMMITTEE

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). LEPC meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month at 4:00 pm in the Commissioners' meeting. Bessie Spangler made a MOTION to appoint Shirley Iwata to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) as the Town representative; Stephanie Quick seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT—CHANGE ORDER #2

Council reviewed and discussed Change Order #2 for the sewer improvements project. Change Order #2 includes three items:

- 1) Less lagoon Cell #1 cover soil removal and disposal than was anticipated and was a cost savings.
- 2) Extra lagoon sludge removal, dewatered, and dispose of at land fill and was an increase in cost. This increase in dry tons was from biosolids being mixed with saturated clay liner.
- 3) Extra Cell #1 pipe extensions to connect onto solid existing buried piping and avoid fittings and pipe joints and there was an increase in cost.

Bessie Spanger made a MOTION to approve Change Order #2 for the sewer improvements project; Shirley Iwata seconded. MOTION passed 5 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-nay, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 575—BUDGET AMENDMENT SRF LOAN

Mayor Hanson read Resolution No. 575 amending the budget to account for the SRF loan of \$518,000 for the sewer improvements project. Shirley Iwata made a MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 575 amending the budget for the SRF loan of \$518,000; Bessie Spangler seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### TOWN/RURAL FIRE DISTRICT ADDENDUM TO MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Council reviewed and discussed the Addendum to the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town and the Rural Fire District. MMIA reviewed the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town and the Rural Fire District. The Town is covered for liability and property for all vehicles that are owned by the Town and for the ones owned by the Rural Fire District but used by the Town because of the agreements put in place; however, the Rural Fire District is not currently covered for liability. The agreement says the Town will carry all the policies but doesn't say it will name the Rural Fire District as an additional covered party for liability. It's implied since the Rural Fire District is reimbursing the Town for part of the costs of coverage, but it must be expressly stated. That agreement will need to be

amended to include that detail to add the Rural Fire District as an additional covered party. MMIA has reviewed the addendum and approved it. Kelly Dillon made a MOTION to approve the Addendum to the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town and the Rural Fire District; Stephanie Quick seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### FIRE DEPT KITCHEN/CONFERENCE ROOM UPGRADE PROPOSAL

Scott Dodd, Fire Chief, is requesting approval for upgrades to the kitchen and conference room. The project would include replacing old wooden structures in shared kitchen with new appropriate cabinetry. Updating appliances and fixtures. Replacing old furniture in conference room for more functional storage and shelving and set aesthetic environment. Work to be performed by volunteers and staff free of charge. Specialized tools for work completion will be donated by HAVAC Industries LLC The estimated cost of the project is \$7680.00. The cost of the upgrade would be out of the Fire Dept Capital Improvement funds. Council discussed the proposal. Kelly Dillon made a MOTION to approve the request to upgrade the kitchen and conference room in the amount of \$7680.00 out of the fire department capital improvement funds; Bailey Moree seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### BNSF-RAILROAD CROSSING—IRON MOUNTAIN

BNSF Railroad has set a meeting for February 25, 2026, 1:00 -2:00 pm. At the Iron Mountain railroad crossing—this is the crossing just past the town pump that goes up to the houses and Women in Timber. The meeting is to evaluate potential safety improvements. They have been in contact with Rodney. BSNF told Rodney the fee would be \$1000 per lineal foot for the town's contribution with BSNF matching the amount for the crossing renewal. The Town's share is anticipated to be \$64,000. No action at this time.

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATE

The Council conducted a review and discussion of the Capital Improvement Plan. The plan has been reviewed by staff and will be subject to further review and input prior to final approval.

#### PARK PLANS REVIEW AND UPDATE

The Council reviewed and discussed the Comprehensive and Master Park plans. The plans have been reviewed by staff and will be subject to further review and input prior to final approval.

#### ADA COMPLIANT SURVEY AND PROCEDURES

Council reviewed and discussed the ADA compliant survey and procedures. The ADA compliant survey and procedures have been reviewed by staff and will be subject to further review and input prior to final approval.

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  
Prepared public hearing minutes.  
Prepare and post claim for Semi-annual Fire Hall GO Bond loan payment.  
Prepare and administer oath of office-Gordon Albert  
Email oath of office to County Elections Administrator.  
Prepare annual VEBA paperwork and submit it to state.  
Completed annual property insurance renewal review and submitted to MMIA.  
Completed and submitted crime policy application to MMIA.  
Prepare 2025 W2's. Submit W2's online to Social Security and to the State.  
Mail 2025 W2's/  
Prepare and submit annual MW3 form to the state.  
Prepared SVFRA 1099R's and submitted them online to IRS. Mailed 1099R's.  
Receipted and posted CDBG Draw 4—sewer project.  
Updated election notes for 2027.  
MMIA webinar on worker comp program winddown.  
Prepared and mailed annual Police Training report and Fire Dept Report to State Auditor.  
Prepared Town and Rural Fire District Mutual Aid Agreement Addendum.  
Work on new public records request policy and procedures to meet requirement of new state law.  
Receipt and post ARPA draw 18—final draw.  
Entered new sewer rates in UB.  
Work on CDBG grant draw 4 for the Food Bank project.  
Receipted and posted the SRF Series C loan proceeds Draw 1  
Training- AI and automation in Municipal Workflows.  
Completed the quiz for the training.  
Worked on SRF loan draws, claims, and checks.  
Prepared and submitted CGR report to the state for the SRF loan draw.  
Prepared parks use agreement for Youth Baseball.  
Completed and submitted the ARPA local fiscal Treasury request for close out.

Completed and submitted the Census annual boundary and annexation survey.  
Prepared Hatch Act information for Elected and Staff.  
Receipt and post CDBG Food Bank grant draw #3.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Shirley Iwata made a MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented Town Claims 39215-39273 in the amount of \$1,727,940.46 on February 9, 2026. January Financial Reports, January Cash Reconciliation, January Pledged Securities, January Journal & UB Vouchers, January Budget Report. Kelly Dillon seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick-aye, Bessie Spangler-aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council Shirley Iwata made a MOTION to adjourn until the next regular meeting March 9, 2026; Stephanie Quick seconded. MOTION passed 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 absent. Roll Call: Kelly Dillon-aye, Shirley Iwata-aye, Stephanie Quick -aye, Bessie Spangler -aye, Bailey Moree-aye, Gordon Albert-aye.

Andrew Hanson, Mayor

Attest:

Brenda Schneider, Town Clerk