



## BRECKENRIDGE CITY COMMISSION AGENDA SUMMARY FORM

**Subject:**

Consider approval of Resolution 2026-21 designating the Albany News as the Official Newspaper of the City of Breckenridge for public notices effective August 4, 2026, through September 30, 2026, and designating the Abilene Reporter-News as the official newspaper for ordinance publications in accordance with Section 4.24 of the City Charter.

**Department:**

Administration

**Staff Contact:**

Jessica Sutter

**Title:**

City Secretary

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City Commission has traditionally designated an official newspaper at the beginning of each fiscal year. Accordingly, in October 2025, the City Commission designated the Breckenridge American as the City's Official Newspaper for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

In July 2026, the Breckenridge American ceased printing a newspaper publication and, as a result, no longer meets the state-mandated criteria to be the City's official newspaper. Because the designated newspaper no longer satisfies applicable requirements, the City must designate a new Official Newspaper for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

Staff has determined that the Albany News generally meets the statutory criteria and recommends that it be designated as the City's Official Newspaper for all public notices required by state law effective August 4, 2026, through the remainder of the current designation term ending September 30, 2026.

However, Section 4.24 of the City of Breckenridge Charter adds additional criteria and requires that ordinances be published in a newspaper that has been continuously published in Stephens County for at least one year prior to such publication. At this time, Albany News does not meet this requirement. Therefore, staff recommends designating the Abilene Reporter-News as the City's official newspaper for ordinance publications in compliance with Section 4.24 of the City Charter.

While the City would generally prefer to utilize a single newspaper for all legal publications, staff's research found that doing so at this time would result in substantially higher publication costs. The current legal notice rate for the Abilene Reporter-News is \$5.19 per line, while the Albany News charges \$1.50 per line. Using the Albany News for public notices will provide significant cost savings for the City while maintaining compliance with state statutes.

The City's long-term goal is to work with the Albany News to establish distribution of its newspaper within the City of Breckenridge that will also meet the City Charter requirement. Once that occurs and the publication satisfies the requirements of Section 4.24 of the City Charter, the City anticipates designating a single newspaper for both public notices and ordinance publications.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider approval of Resolution 2026-21 designating the Albany News as the Official Newspaper of the City of Breckenridge for public notices effective August 4, 2026, through September 30, 2026, and designating the Abilene Reporter-News as the official newspaper for ordinance publications in accordance with Section 4.24 of the City Charter.