



CITY OF MILES CITY

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers and online at zoom.us

Zoom ID: 4062343462 | Passcode: 59301

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Grenz called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Grenz led the Council and Public in the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Councilmember Ed Pulecio
Councilmember Rick Huber
Councilmember Jeni Losey
Councilmember Cody Steiner
Councilmember Kevin Thomason
Councilmember Brooke Bartholomew
Councilmember Don Simpson
Mayor Chris Grenz

ABSENT

Councilmember Dan Scott

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Dan Rice, Police Chief Doung Colombik, Dispatch Director Lyne Anderson, Interim Fire Chief Ed Kanduch, RSVP Director Cindy Erickson, Minute Recorder/Deputy Clerk-Payroll Officer Tamara Ellsworth, via zoom Animal Control Officer Mark Winkley.

1. REQUEST OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Genie Eades, 412 Yellowstone, commented that her neighbor is placing multiple shipping containers in his yard, she came to City Hall and spoke with the Public Works Director Malenovsy and was told that the shipping containers are just temporary storage for while the house is under construction. The house is done being constructed and there are more containers and the owner of the property stated that he is getting another one (making three in total), Genie believes this is devaluing the property of the residing homes. She would like to know what the City can do as she doesn't feel that this should be allowed. Councilperson Steiner asked for the address again so he can drive through that area and take a look to get a better idea of what she is describing.

Deputy Clerk stated that she had been asked to look into ordinances in regards to shipping containers with other cities/towns of Montana and she has come across of few that do have regulations and standards put into place.

City Attorney Rice advised her to call the Code Enforcement to report this issue as to which Genie replied that she has multiple times and nothing is being done.

Mayor Grenz let Genie know that he will be looking into an Ordinance about the containers and having it put into the Code of Ordinances for Miles City.

2. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES/COMMITTEE MINUTES

A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes 0224 2026

Chairperson Bartholomew requested an amendment to the Meeting minutes as there seems to be a typo under the Council Comments as to where it was typed that " defunding the Fire Department is the Council's desire" needs to be amended to state "defunding the Fire Department is not the Council's desire". Deputy Clerk took note of the amendment and will revise those minutes.

Motion made by Councilmember Pulecio to amend the minutes, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

B. Finance Committee Minutes 2026 0312

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson, Seconded by Councilmember Pulecio.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

C. Finance Committee Minutes 2026 0318

Motion made by Councilmember Bartholomew, Seconded by Councilmember Pulecio.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

3. SCHEDULE MEETINGS

Chairperson Bartholomew announce to Council that the upcoming Finance meeting will not be this week and postponed to next week.

4. BID AWARDS

A. CONCRETE ALLEY REPLACEMENT IN MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 204 (Finance Committee Recommends Awarding Haynes Enterprises)

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Pulecio.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

B. PAVING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 204 (Finance Committee Recommends Awarding Century Companies)

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson, Seconded by Councilmember Pulecio.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

5. STAFF REPORTS & OTHER COMMITTEE MINUTES

Deputy Clerk Ellsworth let Council and Staff know that we now have a Human Resources officer, David Livingston and he will be part time and for right now his hours are 1:00-5:00pm and will change when he is settled in to possibly 12:00-4:00pm to be available to employees around their lunch hour.

Cindy Erickson with the RSVP gave an update to the Council about the month end financials that are being submitted to Council for review. The RSVP is sponsored by Miles City by grant funding through AmeriCorp. The grant has been opened up but the funds will not show until June of 2026 and just wanted to make Council aware of this.

A. Treasurer Report February, 2026.

Councilperson Losey did not see the report in the packet, Deputy Clerk advised that the report is on page 164, will start including a Staff Report cover page due to the nature of the packet having many documents included in packet.

B. Police Department Report March, 2026.

Police Chief Colombik asked if there were any questions from the Council in regards to the staff report. A brief discussion on the Pigeon control was had and Animal Control officer Winkley reported that the Company they are working with will be coming to Miles City around 2-3 weeks time.

C. FEBRUARY, 2026 MONTH END FINANCIAL REPORTS

6. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilperson Huber gave thanks to the Miles City Police Department, Dispatch and Code Enforcement/Nuisance officer for getting Ward II cleaned up, he has noticed less parked campers and the streets are looking clean and cleared. He also stated that while attending the Department of Commerce meeting they announced that the Fire Department has been awarded a Tourism Grant.

Councilperson Steiner, Ward III he has been receiving many calls from his constituents about the multiple horse trailers parked on the side streets along the College campus. He is wondering if this have ever been past issues with the College students parking and is there anything that can be done. He personally drove that area and does notice many parked trucks with trailers and is wondering if the college has a designated area for them to park. City Attorney Rice said that we would need to check with the College to see what kind of Policy they may have. Code Enforcement Winkley stated that as long as the trailer is hooked up to a vehicle that on weekdays they can stay parked for 24 hours and on weekends for 48 hours. He stated that most of the College students will park the trailers for longer periods of time at the arena, he can make a visit to the MCC College to see if there is a policy in place.

Councilperson Simpson asked the Interim Fire Chief when the house on 1700 N Custer would be getting removed as when he drove by he sees that it is still boarded up. Interim Fire Chief said that he will get a hold of the property owner to see the status as it is their obligation to get it removed.

Chairperson Bartholomew noticed that there are no Coal Grants initiated by the Fire Department and asked Interim Fire Chief why that had not been done and what grants are they currently applying for. Interim Fire Chief Kanduch explained that the deadline for the Coal grants was passed when they tried but does have the grant initiated for the Tourism grant. Chairperson Bartholomew requested that Interim Fire Chief Kanduch provide the paperwork to council so they can see what all goes into a grant process.

7. MAYOR COMMENTS

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. RESOLUTION NO. 4664 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING A REVISED " PARKS AND RECREATION POLICY AND FEE SCHEDULE" FOR THE CITY OF MILES CITY, AND PROVIDING FOR A HEARING THEREON.

Chairperson opened for Public Hearing, called for Proponents three times, called for Opponents three time, upon hearing none the Public Hearing was closed.

- B. ORDINANCE NO. 1402 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED TO EXTEND ORDINANCE NO. 1398 FOR ONE YEAR PURSUANT TO THE MONTANA INTERIM ZONING STATUTE CONTAINED IN SECTION 76-2-306, MCA; AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION OF MUNICIPAL ZONING DISTRICTS AND THE ZONING CODE TO THE LAST CHANCE SUBDIVISION AFTER ANNEXATION INTO THE CITY OF MILES CITY; AND PROVIDING FOR A HEARING THEREON

Chairperson opened for Public Hearing, called for Proponents three times, called for Opponents three time, upon hearing none the Public Hearing was closed.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. RESOLUTION NO. 4664 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING A REVISED " PARKS AND RECREATION POLICY AND FEE SCHEDULE" FOR THE CITY OF MILES CITY, AND PROVIDING FOR A HEARING THEREON.

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. APPROVE LYNE ANDERSON 3 MONTH EXTENSION REQUEST FOR VACATION "USE IT OR LOSE IT" PERIOD.

Motion made by Councilmember Huber, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Councilperson Huber inquired as to why the need for the extension and if there is a date that she will be using this vacation extension by. Dispatch Director Lyne Anderson gave the reason for the extension request as that her department was not fully staffed and training was a necessity, every time an employee called in, she would be the one to cover that shift due to the training not being complete. She also let the council know that she intends on using this vacation at the end of April 2026 and is only asking for a 1 month extension. Councilperson Pulecio asked if this extension is defeating the purpose of the "use it or lose it" and the City Attorney Rice stated that the City does have to give the employee the time to "use it" and in this instance due to the lack of employees she was not able to take the time off.

- B. ORDINANCE NO. 1402 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED TO EXTEND ORDINANCE NO. 1398 FOR ONE YEAR PURSUANT TO THE MONTANA INTERIM ZONING STATUTE

CONTAINED IN SECTION 76-2-306, MCA; AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION OF MUNICIPAL ZONING DISTRICTS AND THE ZONING CODE TO THE LAST CHANCE SUBDIVISION AFTER ANNEXATION INTO THE CITY OF MILES CITY; AND PROVIDING FOR A HEARING THEREON

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson, Seconded by Councilmember Thomason.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Councilperson Huber inquired as to why the extension as the council has already approved an extension. City Attorney Rice explained that Ordinance 1398 was a 6-month extension approved by council and that 6-month date is coming up, due to more information from zoning there is a necessity for a longer extension of 1 year.

C. RESOLUTION NO. 4673 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY AS SIGNATORIES UPON BANK ACCOUNTS OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY AT STOCKMAN BANK.

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson, Seconded by Councilmember Losey.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Chairperson Bartholomew wanted to know what the change was for these signatures, Deputy Clerk Ellsworth explained that the previous Mayor Andrews was still listed as a signatory as well as a previous Treasurer Kroeger, so this is updating the current Finance Department/Mayor and Treasurer signatories.

D. RESOLUTION NO. 4674 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY APPROVING A TASK ORDER WITH BROSZ ENGINEERING, INC. RELATED TO THE MCFD TRAINING FIRE HYDRANT PROJECT

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Losey.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Simpson
Voting Nay: Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Bartholomew

Passed 4-3

Interim Fire Chief Kanduch gave an overview of the need for a hydrant at the MCFD Training Center. There is an existing fire hydrant and Brosz Engineering would determine if the Fire Hydrant can be used. Ryland Limensand with Brosz Engineering stated the \$20k would be mainly used for permitting fees and mapping which tends to be a fairly extensive report that would need submission. Councilperson Losey inquired if the \$20k is for the piping as well and Interim Fire Chief said no this would be only the fees for the engineering process. Councilperson Huber reiterated that the City of Miles City is still paying for the Training Center and inquired as to why the funds for this project coming out of the budget for the New Fire Build as these are two separate areas of town. Interim Fire Chief explained that this was budgeted in the New Fire Build. A discussion between Council and Mayor continued as to whether this was in the scope of the New Fire Build. Chairperson Bartholomew wanted to know where the extra money is coming from and Interim Fire Chief explained that there are funds left over with the contingency in the FFE agreement. Council wanted to know how the trenching will get done and if another company will be hired for that, and Interim Fire Chief said that he spoke with Public Utilities Director Speelmon and he will have his department do this.

- E. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO 4675 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY APPROVING A "DEED OF RECREATION EASEMENT FOR BOAT RAMP" TO THE MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Huber.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Brian Burkey with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks let the Council know that with approval of deed of easement it will allow for funding for the design of the ramp construction. Council thanked him for taking this project and they highly endorse it.

- F. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4676 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDERS WITH JACKSON CONTRACTOR GROUP, INC. RELATED TO THE MILES CITY FIRE HALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Motion to discuss Resolution made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Discussion

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson to amend Change order #008 by removing PCO #24 signage name change, Seconded by Councilmember Thomason.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson
Abstain: Councilmember Pulecio

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason to approve Resolution with the amendment of change order #008 by removing PCO #24 signage name change, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Voting Nay: Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner

Voting Abstaining: Councilmember Pulecio

- G. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO 4677 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MILES CITY APPROVING AN AUTHORIZATION FOR COMPLETION OF UNFORSEEN SITEWORK WITH JACKSON CONTRACTOR GROUP, INC. NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 IN PREVIOUSLY BUDGETED CONTINGENCY FUNDS RELATED TO THE MILES CITY FIRE HALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Voting Nay: Councilmember Steiner

Amy Lesh with Jackson Contractor Group briefed the Council about the sitework and encountering soft spots, will need to fill with concrete, be dug out, fix and cover. She would like to make sure that Jackson Contracting could give the authorization to get this work done. As when bringing change orders to Council the process may take too long and the contractors that are already on site may be done with the work load and it may be too late.

- H. ORDINANCE NO. 1403 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 2-52, 2-54, 2-55, AND 2-60, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MILES CITY, MONTANA, RELATED TO STANDING COMMITTEES AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE.

(TWO SEPERATE DRAFT ORDINANCES ARE ATTACHED, ONLY ONE WILL BE ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NUMBER 1403 UPON COUNCIL APPROVAL)

Motion made by Councilmember Huber to open up for discussion, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Council Chairperson Bartholomew gave the Council the reason for this Ordinance to allow for a discussion session to further review some agenda items and have more time to make a better voting decision. This ordinance would eliminate all committees.

Councilperson Pulecio prefer to keep the Human Resources Committee due to City Policies that will need to put in place in the future.

Councilperson Huber recommended to make sure the third Council meeting work session not be held the same night as the School Board Meetings.

Motion made by Councilmember Pulecio to amend the Ordinance "Strike all committees" and keep the Human Resources committee, Seconded by Councilmember Simpson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

11. ADJOURNMENT

Public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of this meeting can be presented under Request of Citizens, provided it is within the jurisdiction of the City to address. Public comment will be entered into the minutes of this meeting. The City Council cannot take any action on a matter unless notice of the matter has been made on an agenda and an opportunity for public comment has been allowed on the matter. Public matter does not include contested cases and other adjudicative proceedings

Motion made by Councilmember Simpson, Seconded by Councilmember Thomason.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew, Councilmember Simpson

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm