



# CITY OF MILES CITY

## Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2026 at 5:30 PM

City Council Chambers and online at zoom.us

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Zoom ID: 4062343462 | Passcode: 59301

### CALL TO ORDER

#### 1. REQUEST OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

#### 2. ELECT CHAIR

##### A. ELECT PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIRPERSON

Motion made by Committee Member Scott to nominate Don Simpson as Chair, Seconded by Committee Member Thomason.

Voting Yea: Committee Member Simpson, Committee Member Thomason, Committee Member Scott, Committee Member Losey

#### 3. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. DISCUSSION ON MILES CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT RECRUITMENT RETENTION

Police Chief Colombik handed out a MCPD Seniority Roster and a report that tracked how many MCPD officers who have left the agency since 1991 due to quitting, retiring or transferred to a different Police Agency. Police Chief Colombik gave a brief description of his history of work with the MCPD and has been working for the MCPD for 35 years and has noticed that when hired it was going to be a career long job and now these days that integrity has changed to how much earnings does this job provide. He is noticing that the retention is decreasing again mainly due to the pay for hour. He gave a recent event of a Sargeant of 9 years leaving the MCPD for a higher paying job. There is safety concerns when new officers are hired and being trained as it typically takes years for an officer to be completely ready.

Police Captain Sloan presented a Power Point on the screen for the Committee Members to gain knowledge. This power point gave a breakdown of how many officers employed now, the work schedule they been maintaining, the wage comparison for the whole state of Montana. This also provided 3 step plan to help incentive and retention for the MCPD staff.

It was discussed why the staff has been overworked and gave an example of Officer Fetty being the one and only investigator. Officer Fetty introduced himself and gave the work-load detail of what one investigation can entail and as to how many hours are needed some take up to 500 hours or more. This is a lot of work for just one person and a safety concern arises as some cases are not being done in a timely manner due to just one person working these.

Due to the budget constraints placed on their department a new shift schedule was put into place to reduce the amount of overtime but has also created burnout among their officers and reiterated the retention of officers. This Power Point presentation was given to inform and educate the Committee to what is currently happening with the MCPD staff and recruitment retention. The Committee members thanked the MCPD for this presentation as it provided knowledge and gave realistic financial plans to help them make decisions towards a better plan for the retention of staff in the future.

#### 4. 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 Committee 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 Committee Member Thomason, Seconded by Committee Member Losey.  
Voting Yea: Committee Member Simpson, Committee Member Thomason, Committee Member Scott, Committee Member Losey

Public Safety Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm

## MCPD SENIORITY ROSTER

Today's Date: 2/9/2026

	NAME	YEARS	HIRE DATE	SEN/LONG DATE	TITLE
1	*Doug Colombik	34	6/11/1991	6/11/1991	Police Chief
2	*Christopher Fetty	11	2/9/2015	2/9/2015	Lieutenant
3	*Dustin Sloan	10	1/27/2016	1/27/2016	Captain
4	<b>Mark Winkley</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6/5/2017</b>	<b>6/5/2017</b>	<b>Animal Control II</b>
5	<b>Erik Slotsve</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3/8/2019</b>	<b>3/8/2019</b>	<b>Master Patrol I</b>
6	<b>Michael Morris</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6/5/2019</b>	<b>6/5/2019</b>	<b>Sergeant</b>
7	<b>Michael Murphy</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11/26/2019</b>	<b>11/26/2019</b>	<b>Sergeant</b>
8	<b>Jared DeVault</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12/8/2020</b>	<b>12/8/2020</b>	<b>Sergeant</b>
9	<b>Matt Robb</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9/1/2022</b>	<b>9/1/2022</b>	<b>Patrol Officer</b>
10	<b>Josh Ehrhardt</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2/22/2023</b>	<b>2/22/2023</b>	<b>Sergeant</b>
11	<b>Bailey Estell</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4/25/2023</b>	<b>4/25/2023</b>	<b>Patrol Officer</b>
12	<b>Justin Qualley</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7/5/2023</b>	<b>7/5/2023</b>	<b>Patrol Officer</b>
13	<b>Mahria Fredrickson</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4/21/2025</b>	<b>4/21/2025</b>	<b>Probationary Patrol Officer</b>
14	<b>Michael Nord</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6/11/2025</b>	<b>6/11/2025</b>	<b>Probationary Patrol Officer</b>
15	<b>McQueen Moua</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2/4/2026</b>	<b>2/4/2026</b>	<b>Probationary Patrol Officer</b>
16	<b>Alex Williams</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2/5/2026</b>	<b>2/5/2026</b>	<b>Probationary Patrol Officer</b>
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**Bold = Police/AC**

**\* = Management**



**Miles City Police Department**  
2420 BRIDGE STREET  
MILES CITY, MT 59301 - 406-234-6273 Fax: 406-234-4270  
Doug Colombik Chief of Police



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Chief Colombik

Ref: MCPD Officers who have quit since 1991 **UPDATED January 2026**

Mike Reddick 1991	LaJuan Kope 2008 (less 1 yr)
Ed Zerbst 1993	Jeremy Waldo 2008 (3 yrs) DCI
Berry Taft 1993	Jared Pitcher 2010 (less 1 yr)
Thad Fitch 1996	Josh Stratton 2010 (6 yrs)
Mark Hilyard 1997	Travis Atkinson 2010 (8 yrs)
Quick Silver 1997	Warren Taylor 2011 (less 2 yrs)
Shawna Kaiser 2000	Brandon Loomis 2011 (3.5 yrs)
Keith Hedges 2000	Ty Ketchum 2011 (less 2 yrs)
Randy Anderson 2001	Jory Bundy 2011 (5.5 yrs) DCI
Marvin Reddick 2002	Cody Shields 2012 (1 year 1 month)
Scott Zeitner 2002-03	John Powell 2012 (less than 2 years)
Ben Brewer 2003	Andi Delic 2012 (less than 2 years)
Jeremy Tafelmeyer 2003	Dan Baker 2013 (7 years)/Rehired
Jeff Erlenbush 2003	Tony Isbell 2013(1.5 years) MHP
Jason Sarisky 2004	Ryan Ketchum 2013 (1.5 years)/Rehired
Greg Leidholt 2004	Nic Eisele 2015 (2.4 years) Fallon Co SO
Mike Bratvold 2005	Jason Bednar 2015 (3 years) Roundup SO
Troy Crump 2005	Travis Grealish 2015 (7 years) DCI
Dawn Dee Stirling 2006	Cameron Pavlicek 2016 (4 years) DCI
Laura Lorenz 2006	Luke Smith 2016 (5.6 years) DCI
Dan Davis 2007	Steve Gaertner 2016(3.6 yrs) Billings PD
Dan Decker 2007	Barney Murnin 2016 (13 years vested)
Kristin Hale 2007	

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*Transferred out.*

Casey Bigelow 2016 (1.6 years) Billings PD  
Jon Hill 2016 (less than 1 year lateral transfer) Billings PD  
Jim Stacey 2016 Roosevelt County S.O.  
Mike Willems 2017 (9 years) AP&P  
Fred Lee 2018 (8 months) DOT Enforcement  
Denise Bontrager 2018 (5 years) DCI  
Kord Mercial 2018/vested 10 years. National Guard  
Clay Bott 2019 (2 years) Great Falls PD  
Sydney Tharp 2019 (1.4 years)  
Justin Andrews 2020 (2 years)  
Myles Connelly 2020 Lewistown PD  
Sky VanFossen 2020 (3 months)/Rehired  
Justin Qualley 2020 (3.8 years)/Rehired  
Eli Alspaw 2020 (less than 2 years)  
Coy Sheets 2022 Private sector job in Wyoming  
Niki Witcher 2022 CCSO 1.5 years Starting \$29 hour  
Clint Latham 2023 CCSO 2 years Starting \$29 hour  
John Larson 2023 CCSO 1.5 years Starting \$29 hour  
Spencer Anderson 2023 5 years  
Joey Kurkowski 2023 CCSO DTF (3 years) Starting \$31.50 hour  
Dan Baker 2024 APT Services State of MT 16 years vested  
Jesse Berg 2025 (2 years) MHP  
Ryan Ketchum 2026 (7.5 years) DOT Montana



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Those who fully retired (20 plus years) from the MCPD since June, 1991 (13):

Wade Schmidt 1994  
Blair Martenson 1994  
Dan Currey 1994  
Bob Stabio 1996  
Rick Newby 1998  
Mark Hilderbrand 2001  
Marty Hagemeister 2002  
Mike King 2003  
Lissa Power 2007  
Kevin Krausz 2009 (20 years)  
Mark Reddick 2018 (25 years)  
Casey Prell 2020 (25 years)  
Steve Fenner 2025 (20 years)

Myles Connelly (2020) Lewistown PD/POST investigating for Brady violations/dishonesty issues

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