



CITY OF MILES CITY

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

June 09, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers and online at zoom.us

Zoom ID: 4062343462 | Passcode: 59301

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Councilmember Don Simpson

ALSO PRESENT:

City Attorney Dan Rice, Building Inspector Gabe Martinsen, Public Utilities Director Tom Speelmon, Public Works Director Sam Malenovsky, Dispatch Director Lyne Anderson, Police Chief Doug Colombik, Interim Fire Chief Ed Kanduch, Clerk/Minute Recorder Tamara Ellsworth.

1. REQUEST OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

A. JAMES LARSON PRESENTING REQUEST TO INSTALL SIGN AT CONNORS FIELD REPRESENTING SACRED HEART

Jim Larson gave details on the size and placement of the signage he is requesting to install at Connors Stadium Field. Council inquired about the materials and if a professional company will be installing such sign. The council was all in favor of placement and installation of the Sacred Heart signage.

Genie Eades thanked the Public Works Director Malenovsky for getting the alley way fixed on her block.

Jim Atchison with the SEMDC presented a handout to the Council to share their annual economic develop strategy, the SaddleHorn apartments were ranked 4th out of 15 applicants, planned construction in August. He announced a new member into the SEMDC Sarah Kissman and the next board meeting will be held on 7/9/2026.

Gary Taylor commented on the upcoming July 4th festivities and requested that there be a restriction of fireworks being set off at the Riverside Park by citizens, it is the 250 Birthday for Veterans and last couple of years fireworks had injured a few of the veterans and would like to

keep their event safe for everyone. City Attorney informed that there is a Resolution going on the next council meeting to restrict where they can be lit off at.

2. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES/COMMITTEE MINUTES

A. Regular City Council Meeting May 25 2026

Motion made by Councilmember Losey, Seconded by Councilmember Thomason.

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

3. SCHEDULE MEETINGS

283 A/B Union Labor negotiations at the City Hall conference room on July 15-17 from 8:00-16:00

Local 600 Union Labor negotiation at the City Hall conference room on July 20-22 from 8:00-16:00

Human Resources meeting Thursday June 11th at 18:00

4. STAFF REPORTS & OTHER COMMITTEE MINUTES

Interim Fire Chief announced the Coal Board award of \$150,000.00 with a match of \$100,00.00, thanked Jim Atchison, Julie Emmons, Corey Chegius, John Laney, Mayor Grenz and the council. Councilmember Pulecio confirmed the match on both grants the Coal Board and the Tourism and that the Coal board funds would be going towards a mini-pumper, the Tourism Grant towards a new Fire Truck. Councilmember Scott inquired if the Fire Dept has a vehicle picked out and when council would be able to look at the vehicles they are interested in, Interim Fire Chief stated that they have been actively looking at some and the council could look at them via zoom if they would like. Corey Chegius stated good work to Ed for getting those grants and wanted to remind the Council that there is a deadline for these grants to be approved and accepted.

Discussion amongst Council with concerns about having the correct and enough funds with these large amount purchases.

Public Works Director Malenovsky announced that the City only has 2 lifeguards, no changes to the pool schedule, leak fixed itself.

Dispatch Director Anderson disclosed the 9-1-1 Board are in discussion with their budget.

A. TIFD/URA BOARD UPDATED APPLICATION PROCESS

Brandon Jahnshen updated Council that there is a new application process for TIFD/URA Board, Deputy Clerk Ellsworth also let Council and TIFD/URA that she created a banner on the Miles City Home Page that will show indefinitely for citizens when trying to apply it will take them straight to the application process. Brandon Jahnshen stated the need for the Miles City email as well, Deputy Clerk answered she will get that done right away.

B. BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT MAY 2026

5. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Steiner asked the Building Inspector as to why he does not have the City of Miles City decals on it. Building Inspector Martinsen stated his reasons for why and the added costs and when coming up to properties that are to be inspected. Councilmember Steiner wanted to know about the shipping containers ordinance, also about the industrial site leases wanted to know that if we own the property are we then able to sell it.

Councilmember Losey stated that the shipping containers will going on the next work session meeting for discussion.

Councilmember Scott wanted to know that status on the Depot. He had a conversation with a representative from Skateboard Ramps, looked at their website and thought the council might want to take a look as well there are some great ideas for the City to implement into our parks. He had received a concerned call from a constituent that there has been an incident of racism from a child to another child and to the adults as well at a park. Councilmember Losey replied that Councilmember Scott should give Tyler Kings a call to see where to go to handle this situation.

Councilmember Pulecio has some concerns about the property lease that has come about a transfer? He wanted to know what is the process to transfer leases to another lease holder. City Attorney Rice re-iterated that all leases have to come before the Council for approval before any property can be transferred over to anyone, gave all the bidding process information as well.

6. MAYOR COMMENTS

7. BID AWARDS

A. MILES CITY WATER TREATMENT PLANT RE-ROOF

Motion made by Councilmember Bartholomew to award Water Treatment Plant Re-roof to Empire Roofing, Seconded by Councilmember Losey.

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

Public Utilities Director Speelmon explained the bidding documents and that SDI/Brandon Jahnshen recommended Empire Roofing.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ORDINANCE NO. 1404 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF 6-26 THROUGH 6-55, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MILES CITY, MONTANA, RELATED TO BUSINESS LICENSES.

Mayor called for opponents three time, proponents three times...

Vicki Leesburg is opposed and for this Ordinance, she shared some concerns with the Council on the opposing side. She does not feel that it is fair to enact a \$25 per vendor in a larger business. Vintage and Rustics already has those vendors pay a rental fee, feels this is an aggressive tax, businesses on Main Street bring in tourism, if this vendor fee is imposed half of her vendors will just pack up and leave and sell online.

After hearing this the council decided to take another look at the ordinance to make some amendments that remove the verbiage of vendor licenses within a business.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION NO. 4686 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A REVISED PURCHASING POLICY FOR THE CITY OF MILES CITY, MONTANA.

Motion made by Councilmember Bartholomew to postpone and move to the work session council meeting, Seconded by Councilmember Scott.

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

B. RESOLUTION NO. 4689 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PLACEMENT OF A CITY OF MILES CITY PUBLIC SAFETY MILL LEVY ON THE NOVEMBER 2026 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

Motion made by Councilmember Huber to discuss resolution, Seconded by Councilmember Scott.

Council Chair Bartholomew advised council that the dollar amounts have not filled out.

Police Chief Colombik handed out of the actual amounts.

Councilperson Huber asked about the 200K to 260K to which Chief Colombik replied that with more accurate numbers the amount increased and gave the details on all of the separate costs. Also inquired about the Animal Control getting a larger vehicle, Animal Control officer Winkley explained as to why he likes the smaller vehicle and doesn't want the added costs of a larger one.

Councilperson Pulecio wanted to know if this levy is for one year only and confirmed if the levy was going towards the vehicles and equipment.

Motion made by councilmember Scott to postpone and move to the next work session council meeting, Seconded by councilmember Pulecio, unanimously passed.

C. APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 1404 - (*second reading*) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 6-26 THROUGH 6-55, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF MILES CITY, MONTANA, RELATED TO BUSINESS LICENSES.

Motion made by Councilmember Bartholomew to amend by removing the vendors within a business fee language and postpone, move to the work session council meeting, Seconded by Councilmember Huber.

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

City Attorney reiterated to the Council to make sure the fees collected must be reasonable and proof that they are going towards the cost of what it takes for a business to be in place. These fees cannot be used to generate revenue if so this could be an unlawful tax.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS UNBUDGETED AMOUNT FOR JERSEY BARRIERS TO BE PLACED IN TONGUE RIVER FOR MC OASIS

Council Chairperson Bartholomew gave the cost of permits, possible liability with property floodplain issues, and announced recreational use of water from the river is at the bottom of the list.

Public Works Director Malenovsky explained that the permits are not permanent and can always back out of the permit, the Fish and Wildlife will not do anything until they receive payment.

- B. APPROVE TIFD AWARD FOR THE MILES CITY SADDLERY, MARC AND VICKI LEESBURG IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13648.43 OR UP TO 70% OF THE ESTIMATED PROJECT COST FOR RECONSTRUCITON OF THE PARKING LOT

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

- C. APPROVE THE PARK USER PERMIT FOR THE MILES CITY LITTLE GUY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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

- D. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4690 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MILES CITY TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF TERRY FOR STRUCTURE FIRE RESPONSE

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

Councilperson Huber confirmed how the agreement works as far as costs and is there will be overtime paid out when this aide is happening.

Interim Fire Chief Kanduch let council know that this is a mutual aid the department will absorb the initial costs then after 48hrs they will have to pay the costs as far as the overtime when the call comes in for aid the Fire/ambulance Dept will look at where they are at for time paid before agreeing to aid.

Dispatch Director Anderson explained to Council that this is just paperwork to help complete their audit.

- E. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4691 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING A MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE EMERGENCY TOURISM ASSISTANCE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 TOWARD A PURCHASE OF FIRE ENGINE AND ACCESSORIES.

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason to open for discussion, Seconded by Councilmember Scott.

Motion made by Councilmember Bartholomew to postpone Resolution No 4691 to the Council Work Session meeting, Seconded by Councilmember Pulecio.

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

Per discussion amongst the Council it has been decided that the finances need to be looked over and more information in regards to the grant match amounts need to be clarified before moving forward with the decision at this time.

- F. APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 4692 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MILES CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STREET SWEEPING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

Motion made by Councilmember Thomason, Seconded by Councilmember Losey.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Scott, Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber,

Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew

Chairperson Bartholomew asked Public Works Director if this is a yearly agreement and have the costs changed. Public Works Director Malenovsky informed Council that this is a yearly agreement and that they provide the City items, equipment at cost price and do not charge extra.

G. APPROVE MAY 2026 CLAIMS

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

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 Scott, Seconded by Councilmember Losey.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Scott, Councilmember Pulecio, Councilmember Huber, Councilmember Losey, Councilmember Steiner, Councilmember Thomason, Councilmember Bartholomew

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m