

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Ronan City Council

January 14, 2026

MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on January 14, 2025, at 6:00 P.M., in Ronan City Hall. Those present were: Mayor Ryan Corum, Council present: Larry Hall, Lindsay Meyers, Julie Moore, and Micah Robertson. Clerk-Treasurer Kaylene Melton, Deputy Clerk Gwen Zolber, Police Chief Rob Jacobson, City Attorney Ben Anciaux, Fire Chief Chris Adler, and Public Works Director Dan Miller were also present. Council member Ellen Kaphammer was absent.

ORDER/PLEDGE

Mayor Ryan Corum called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

Larry made a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 30, 2025 Regular Meeting. Julie seconded the motion. Brief discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA Claims

Kaylene provided the lists of claims owing as of January 14, 2026. Julie made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, as listed. Larry seconded the motion. Discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Person Ward 1

Julie made a motion to appoint Mark Nelson to fill the Council vacancy in Ward 1. Lindsay seconded the motion. Brief discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Swear-In Officials

Mayor Ryan Corum swore in Mark Nelson as Council member for Ward 1, to serve from January 14, 2026 through December 31, 2029; and reaffirmed Lindsay Meyers' oath, continuing her representation of Ward 2 from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

Fire Chief

Larry made a motion to reaffirm the appointment of Chris Adler as Ronan Fire Chief for the year 2026. Mark seconded the motion. Brief discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Council member Ellen Kaphammer joined the meeting.

Swear In Police Officer

Police Chief Rob Jacobson swore in David Kreig Hester as a new

police officer for the City of Ronan.

35806 Terrace Lake Larry made a motion to change the zoning for 35806 Terrace Lake Road to multi-unit. Julie seconded the motion. Public Works Director Dan Miller presented the reasoning for the zoning change would be limited to this one property and discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

35958 Round Butte Rd Larry made a motion to discuss changing the zoning for 35958 Round Butte Road to allow for a pawn shop, with the understanding the zoning change would apply only to this particular property. Ellen seconded. Public Works Director Dan Miller presented the reasoning for the zoning change. Lindsay asked pointed questions about keeping the property up, and Ernie Moran and Kale Gardner responded with their plans to keep the property tidy. Further discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Ditches in the City Julie made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-01 authorizing the Mayor and Council to send a letter to CS&KT, requesting all irrigation ditches in the City limits be included in CS&KT's current irrigation work, transitioning all open irrigation into piping. Lindsay seconded. Discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Toby's Car Wash The matter of damage to a bathroom door at Toby's Car Wash as a result of an emergency call to 911 was again on the Agenda for discussion. Chris Adler advised Toby Bartel was made aware after the previous Council meeting that discussion about this matter was postponed until today. Toby was not present. The matter was tabled after discussion. Attorney Ben Anciaux mentioned a matter pertaining to a Montana Supreme Court dismissal ruling earlier today regarding a similar case of damage incurred after police response of a welfare check request.

Growth Policy/CIP Larry made a motion to approve entering into the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Ronan and Trepademics, LLC for the purpose of updating the City's Growth Policy and Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Lindsay seconded the motion. Kaylene pointed out that she provided Council with copies of the Proposal adopted by the Council November 24, 2025, which Proposal stated a price of \$36,000.00 and further pointed out to the Council that the Professional Services Agreement now before them for approval quotes a compensation of \$38,000.00. Kaylene stated that Dan has talked to Zen about the slight discrepancy. Dan stated that he has talked to Zen and she agreed the price was intended to be \$36,000.00 and that Zen said we could make the correction. Lindsay asked Dan if Zen is doing what the City expects her to do.

Dan answered “yes”, stating that Ronan had a proposal from KLJ Engineering for \$65,000.00 just to do the Growth Policy (not including the Capital Improvement Plan). Dan stated he thinks Zen will do a good job with these documents. They are intended to help get grants and she “speaks the language”. Discussion was held. The Mayor called for a vote, All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Micah: It’s a privilege and honor to work with this group, please be patient as I learn.

Ellen: Appreciate all the police and City workers’ visibility.

Larry: Great crew right now.

Julie: Welcomed everyone.

Mark: Thank You for the condolences; Robin wanted him to do this, so he will do it to his best ability for her.

Lindsay: Happy to “stick around” and looking forward to the next four years.

Kaylene: Asked if we could stop typing the detail for the Council comment section of the minutes. After discussion it was agreed it wouldn’t be necessary after today.

Ryan: Appreciated everyone, and please be patient as he learns – there is a lot of minutiae for the position.

Chris: Open burning starts each year on March 1st; this date is not set locally. City Fire Department will be getting a new fire truck.

Chief Jacobson: Welcomed everyone.

City Attorney Ben Anciaux: Welcomed all.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ellen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

Ryan Corum, Mayor

Attest:

Gwen Zolber, Deputy Clerk