

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronan City Council
March 25, 2026**

MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on March 25, 2026, at 6:00 P.M., in Ronan City Hall. Those present were: Mayor Ryan Corum, Council present: Larry Hall, Ellen Kaphammer, Lindsay Meyers, Julie Moore, Mark Nelson, and Micah Robertson. City Attorney Ben Anciaux, Police Chief Rob Jacobson, Public Works Director Dan Miller, and Deputy Clerk Gwen Zolber were also present.

ORDER/PLEDGE

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

MINUTES

Mark made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting. Lindsay seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Ellen Kaphammer would like to clarify that her vote during the February 25th Council Meeting for the Ronan Irish Community's Agenda item was not intended to be against the open container nor the parade itself, but rather in favor of both. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Claims

Discussion was held. The Council reviewed the list of claims owing as of March 25, 2026. Julie made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, as listed. Ellen seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Ronan Chamber of
Commerce

Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to approve the Ronan Chamber of Commerce Application for Open Container Permit for an "Ag Appreciation Dinner" event at the Ronan Community Center, on April 10, 2026, from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Mark seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Ellen, Lindsay, Julie and Mark voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

Ronan Chamber of
Commerce

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to approve the Ronan Chamber of Commerce Application for Open Container Permit for a "Brewfest" event at the Ronan Community Center, on June 20, 2026, from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Ellen, Lindsay, Julie and Mark voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

Ronan Co-Op Brewery

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve the Ronan Co-Op Brewery Application for Open Container Permit and Application for

Street Closure: 4th Avenue SW from Main Street to the alley, Saturday April 18, 2026 for their “Annual Member Meeting” event from 2:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Ellen, Lindsay, Julie and Mark voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Extend Police Vacation Deadline

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to extend officer vacation time deadline ‘use or lose’ date to May 31, 2026, with an additional option to have it paid out. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Extend Clerk-Treasurer Vacation Deadline

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to allow the option to extend the Clerk-Treasurer’s vacation ‘use or lose’ deadline from March 31, 2026 to May 31, 2026. Micah seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Overtime Cap

Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to authorize payment to Clerk-Treasurer 14.73 hours overtime (that are over cap) this one time, and the Mayor to manage subsequent overtime hours accrued during this period, up to July 1, 2026. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mission West Letter of Support

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign a Letter of Support on the City’s behalf for Mission West’s Application to the Montana Department of Commerce for the Tourism Asset Grant Program. Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Mission West Invitation

Mission West’s Taylor Lennox and Brittany Simonich spoke. Taylor advised that while the City of Ronan remains the designee of the Main Street program, Mission West is taking over management of the Main Street designation from the Ronan Revitalization committee. Mission West is will provide the project and grant management for improvements and plans to make it very simple for the City of Ronan and without much additional labor costs by utilizing grant reimbursement after bringing invoices to the City for approval. Brittany gave an open invitation to the Montana Main Street Site Visit with Montana Main Street Program Coordinator on April 1, 2026 beginning at 11:30 A.M. in Mission West’s large conference room.

City Council Conduct

City Council member Lindsay provided City Ordinance 1-12-3 from the City of Eagle, Idaho as an example of expectations of City Council members implemented by other municipalities to begin Council discussion. Discussion was held around powers, separation of powers, and communication channels of Council and Mayor. Also discussed was

updating the City of Ronan's expectations regarding City Council members.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Julie: Was asked if Ronan has a new female officer; Chief Jacobson advised we do not. Also noted the state of Georgia is removing its gas tax, and asked if Montana does the same, will Ronan be affected? Yes, the tax trickles down to us from the State of Montana, so we would be affected.

Dan: Keep letting us know of any issues the Public Works Department can address. Grants to pay for projects are in progress with Trepademics, but we aren't "shovel ready" which hinders the process on the State's end.

Mark inquired on CIP status; it is in progress with the Grant work.

Chief Jacobson: Advised the new CAD system for dispatching and report writing is up and running. The department is still training on it so is currently a work in progress as they learn.

Ben Anciaux: District court is now electronic, so you can file via Internet. There is a request to a Judge for confidential criminal justice information regarding a motor vehicle incident that occurred a couple of months ago which involved two foreign nationals and resulted in a fatality. Chief Jacobson added that Ronan's police department was only responsible for the traffic portion of the investigation. Other police agencies were responsible for the subsequent and separate investigation that resulted in arrests, and those agencies will be the main point of contact for the requested information. Ben also noted that "There are things happening here [in Ronan] that are exciting and moving forward", and a lot of that momentum is due to the work of Kaylene. In regards to her pay discussed earlier in the meeting, grants are a lot of work and that work fell onto her.

Mayor Ryan Corum: We received a check from the state from marijuana sales tax. He and Dan are building relationships and meeting with County Commissioners on April 6th. There will be a fundraiser for the fire department on May 1, 2026, at the Ronan Co-Op Brewery and everyone is welcome. The fire department relies heavily on monies brought in via the fundraisers. Lastly, state representative Ryan Zinke's office called last week regarding the monies we've asked them for, requesting detailed information from us within 45 minutes. Dan, Kaylene, Lorraine, and Ryan quickly got to work and was able to submit the information in by the deadline given. Lindsay asked how close to the City is to the full amount of funds needed for the waste water projects. Of the almost ten million dollars needed for the planned improvements, we have been approved for approximately 1.2 million in grant money. The 1.2 million does not include the money we requested from Representative Zinke's office. P.E.R. has been updated already.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, April 8, 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