

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronan City Council
April 8, 2026**

MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on April 8, 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, Police Sargent Brandon Smith, Public Works Director Dan Miller, Clerk-Treasurer Kaylene Melton, 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 25, 2026 Regular Meeting. Larry seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Bell, Lake County Sheriff, and Levi Read, Lake County Undersheriff, spoke regarding calls to the Sheriff's Office from Ronan citizens inquiring on 24-hour coverage based on the mill levy that was passed in 2017. The County would like to be a "force multiplier". Ronan Police Chief Rob Jacobson has previously provided the Sheriff's Office with a "Deferred Dispatch" form which included Ronan police contact information. Chief Jacobson also provided some statistics around the calls the Sheriff's Office has responded to. Kaylene advised that a percentage of the mill levy fund helps to cover the cost of Ronan police department wages. The Council determined that some research is needed to clarify and address the core issue, in order to provide the insight needed for a resolution.

CONSENT AGENDA

Claims

Discussion was held. The Council reviewed the list of claims owing as of April 8, 2026. Julie made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, as listed. Mark seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Main Street Program

Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Request to Change document to acknowledge the change from "Ronan Revitalization Committee" as the Montana Main Street coordinating organization, to "Mission West Community Development Partners". Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Vacate Alleys

Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to allow vacation of the alleys in Blocks 1 & 2, Searce's second edition, Vacation of 8th Avenue S.W., Round Butte to Main Street. Ellen seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Julie: Dan dots his i's and crosses his t's; appreciate his competence. Encouraged both Chief of Police Rob Jacobson and Sargent Brandon Smith, saying the Ronan Police Department is doing a great job.

Mark: To Mayor Corum: Meeting with the County Commissioners went well. Plan to meet at least bimonthly if not monthly to keep communications going. The police department issue was discussed.

Lindsay: Police are doing a great job, keep doing what you are doing.

Ben Anciaux: The issue with the police boils down to money. If we work together, it will most likely be to the benefit of Ronan.

Kaylene: The provider we contract with for website services is working on updating the Ronan website to host the audio recordings of the City Council meetings.

Chief Jacobson: He has the professional experience necessary to use the resources available to operate the Ronan Police Department for maximum effect. He provided the Sheriff's Office with the deferred dispatch form, with the necessary Ronan Police Department contact information, and with that form, the Sheriff's Office has the ability to call the City for calls they receive that Ronan is staffed and available to take.

Dan: The City has hired Troy back on a reduced schedule and seasonal basis while we advertise for a seasonal position. Grants: Several are still being worked on, but we most likely need to raise sewer rates. Shari is working with Zen to provide the most effective path forward for the funding of projects. Dan was asked about potential of grading and graveling the alley behind The Bunkhouse of Ronan; Dan advised the ground must dry out before we take that type of action.

Mayor Ryan Corum: Sage filed a complaint about the smoke in the air – people can't have windows open and there are particulates falling onto cars. Marty and Donna Perkins are planning to update their system sometime near June of this year, which should mitigate the elements of the complaint. Another concern raised was that the Perkins' operation frequently occupies City street rights-of-way. City Council to discuss this with Marty so he is aware of the complaints. Being Mayor isn't easy, cannot make everyone happy. Has spoken with all Department Heads and he appreciates all of the City's employees.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, April 22, 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