

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronan City Council
April 22, 2026**

MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on April 22, 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

Ellen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting. Mark seconded the motion. 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 April 22, 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.

Co-Op Brewery

Discussion was held. Larry 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, Friday, May 1, 2026 for a “Fire Department Smoke Out” event from 2:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Ellen, Lindsay, Julie and Mark voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

Jason Edwards

Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to approve Jason Edwards’s Open Container Permit at the Ronan Community Center on Thursday, June 18, 2026 for a wedding rehearsal dinner from 5:30 P.M. to 8:00P.M., and on Friday, June 19, 2026 for a wedding reception from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00P.M. Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Ellen, Lindsay, Julie and Mark voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Chief

Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement for use of the new fire hall site property (located south of Glacier Bank) for the Farmers Market, from April 1, 2026 through November 1, 2026. Ellen seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Sage Dorrington

Discussion was held regarding the effects of the smoke coming from Tech Woods on Terrace Lake Road in Ronan. Sage's family was unable to be outside on Easter due to the smoke. Marty Perkins, President of Tech Woods spoke. He advised that Tech Woods applied, and were approved for, a grant for a "biomass unit" to mitigate the issues being addressed today. The installation of the biomass unit is expected to be completed by the end of July, 2026. They are also planning on adding an additional building for storage. They have non-treated wood they are willing to donate to residents in need of wood for heat.

I.T. Services

The Clerk-Treasurer explained the need to enter into an Agreement with Valley Tech, LLC for I.T. services for City Hall. Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Managed Services Agreement and the Scope of Coverage for Valley Tech, LLC for I.T. services. Larry seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Friends of the Children

Ben Davis gave an update on the projects they've completed as well as expected next steps. They are willing to work with the City of Ronan and/or Lake County for future grants that are required to be managed by a municipality. Discussion was held around the differences required for 'buckets' that grants provide monies through. If the City does partner with them for future grant funds, splitting of the Administration 'bucket' would be appropriate.

Expand Environmental Assessment

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Morrison Maierle contract to expand the environmental assessment for the lagoon to meet federal standards for a cost of \$9,730.00. Mark seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Grant Term Extension

Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to Jamey Erath with the Montana Department of Commerce, asking for an extension for Water System PER #MT-ARPA-PL-25-026 (to December 31, 2026). Mark seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Rural Development Grant

Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-03, authorizing the City of Ronan to apply for USDA-RD Funding. Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Police Department
Overtime

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve the payment of overtime to sworn police officers to provide coverage during times of patrol officer position vacancies. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Julie: Solid Waste is providing electronic disposal. Refer to their website for details.

Mark: Added to Julie's comment: Whitefish Credit Union has paper shredding May 7th, and Glacier Bank has paper shredding on May 15th.

Lindsay: Would like to speak with the Council and City Department Heads after the meeting.

Fire Chief Adler: CDL training is in the near future and will train the fire department while simultaneously removing debris from the property. The department has some Conex containers that they are giving to the Polson department for training. In exchange, Ronan will get to train in them as well. There's a fundraiser coming up at the Co-Op Brewery on May 1st to support the department.

Kaylene: Jennifer Cote reached out and offered her services to help Kaylene get caught up at a cost of \$45 per hour. Jennifer's familiarity with both the City of Ronan's processes and with financial systems for municipalities would be a significant benefit to meeting the due dates of treasury items that are behind schedule.

Chief Jacobson: Appreciates the approval for paying overtime, it helps keep the department from accruing comp time unnecessarily.

Dan: Discussed having a speed study conducted and the placement of signage with Montana D.O.T. engineer. A letter from both the Tribe and the County would benefit our request.

Gwen: In the packets for this meeting was information on Municipal Summit opportunities and if they are interested in attending, let us know and we'll sign them up.

Mayor Ryan Corum: A resident who threatened the life of a City employee when they were changing out the water meters filed a complaint against the police department and wanted to be heard by the City Council. Ryan called the resident and advised the complaint is not appropriate use of the City Council. The Hi-Line Deli in Ronan is hosting a 'Donuts with the Mayor' on Saturday morning, starting at 9:00 A.M. for any questions the public may have. At the last Council meeting the County Sheriff came with a couple of deputies. They weren't on the agenda, and "public law says they don't have to be on the agenda". They were allowed to speak for longer than the three allotted minutes, which he apologized for, saying he takes responsibility for that. He then asked for an update on getting the audio recordings onto the website and Kaylene advised we can be trained on the website's upload and publishing processes next week.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED:

Ryan Corum, Mayor

Attest:

Gwen Zolber, Deputy Clerk