

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Ronan City Council

June 22, 2026

MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on June 22, 2026, at 6:00 P.M., at Ronan City Hall. Those present were: Council present: Ellen Kaphammer, Julie Moore, Lindsay Myers, Mark Nelson, and Micah Robertson. City Attorney Ben Anciaux, Police Chief Rob Jacobson, Public Works Director Dan Miller, Clerk-Treasurer Kaylene Melton, and Deputy Clerk Gwen Zolber were also present. Mayor Ryan Corum and Council Member Larry Hall were absent.

ORDER/PLEDGE

Council President Ellen Kaphammer called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

Julie made a motion to approve the Minutes of the June 10, 2026 Regular Meeting and the June 10, 2026 Public Hearing. Lindsay seconded the motion. Brief discussion was held. Ellen called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lake County Sheriff

Deputy Chris Clary stated the Sheriff's Office is advising they are "willing to meet" with Ronan Council to discuss the concerns they have raised. Council advised Deputy Clary that the scheduling concerns raised by the Sheriff's Office is actively being discussed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Claims

Discussion was held. The Council reviewed the list of claims owing as of June 22, 2026. Lindsay made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, as listed. Julie seconded the motion. Ellen called for a vote. Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

Pioneer Days

Discussion was held. Members of the public provided statements citing behavior concerns regarding past attendees of Pioneer Days events. Mark made a motion to table the two Pioneer Days requests on the Consent Agenda: "Street dance and activities" and "Wheelchair race", to allow time to look for alternative solutions to address concerns raised. Lindsay seconded the motion. Ellen called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

C.O.P.S. Hiring Grant

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to Approve submission of Community Oriented Policing Services (C.O.P.S.) Hiring Program Grant to aid in funding for an additional officer position. Mark seconded the motion. Ellen called for a vote. Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

2nd Chance Saloon Fireworks Request

Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to Approve Request to ignite fireworks on City property at the Adams Street parking area, directly next to the 2nd Chance Saloon property line, for an “Independence Day Bash” on July 4, 2026, from 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M., contingent upon receipt by City Hall of all items prior to the event: permission from the Fire Chief, proof of insurance showing the City of Ronan as covered, a written letter that indemnifies the City of liability, and adherence to all codes, including, but not limited to: a diagram showing areas that will be blocked for safety; as well as the general requirement of closing the alley between the fire station and the post office. Mark seconded the motion. Ellen called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Treademics

Zen Parry provided an overview and updates on Startup Conditions for the awarded Department of Natural Resources & Conservation and Montana Coal Endowment Program grants, as well as an update on the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan process and application submitted earlier this month, followed by updates regarding the City of Ronan Growth Policy and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) documents, including recent progress, key priorities, and next steps.

Resolution 2026-05

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to Approve and Authorize the Mayor to sign Resolution 2026-05 to allow for the annexation of the lagoon property. Lindsay seconded the motion. Ellen called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Police Department Continued Discussion

Discussion was held regarding the Lake County Sheriff’s Office’s continued failure to provide documentation supporting their claim that the City of Ronan is responsible for 40% of their service calls. Ultimately, the Council decided once the Mayor and Council member Larry is in attendance, they will make the official decision to create a Council Committee to decide what questions to present to the Lake County Commissioners to work toward resolution. This matter will be discussed further at the next Regular meeting.

Executive Session

A single copy of the June 10, 2026 Executive Session Minutes was passed to Council Members who attended the Executive Session for their review and approval. The Council acknowledged their individual approval of the Minutes by signing at the bottom of the page. The Minutes were then Approved by the Mayor and attested by the Deputy Clerk. The envelope was then labeled, sealed, and placed in the safe.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Micah: Fireworks received significant debate, and believes an equally thorough focus on alcohol is appropriate. Additionally, though the budget is pending completion, it’s concerning that active spending continues. Council members responded, advising that City operations

cost money, and the Council must make realistic financial decisions.

Julie: Park and town are looking good – appreciated the dumpsters.

Mark: Met a new voter in our Ward who is a jailer for the Tribe.

Lindsay: Regarding Micah's public drinking concern, the Council manages requests with caution, as drinking is legal and most people are responsible. She noted that because only one of the two business owners on the agenda request was present initially, and the second owner arrived late, the Council will likely need to speak with him at the next meeting to fully address the issues raised tonight. She added that the murals look great and she is looking forward to Ronan in the summer.

Dan: We are advertising for a seasonal position that may work into a full-time position. Had a positive call with the E.P.A., and the City's funding picture is looking better, and now looking into a Design engineer. We have another treatment plant site visit coming in July. Sent a Needs List to Mission West Community Development for the Targeted Economic Development District (TED)/Tax Increment Financing (TIF) regarding the Proposition 93 corridor. We have a good crew, but are short-handed.

Chief Jacobson: The Ronan Police Department is committed to providing the most professional services for Ronan, and will continue to do so with the continued support of the residents and the City. Will continue to work with other agencies to create a "force multiplier" to keep the community safe.

Ben Anciaux: The recent chainsaw event at the Ronan Community Center was enjoyable.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED:

Ryan Corum, Mayor

Attest:

Gwen Zolber, Deputy Clerk