Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronan City Council
July 22, 2026

MEETING	The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Ronan convened on July 22, 2026, at 6:03 P.M., at Ronan City Hall. Those present were: Mayor Ryan Corum, Council present: Larry Hall, Julie Moore, Lindsay Myers, Mark Nelson, and Micah Robertson. Police Chief Rob Jacobson, Sargent Brandon Smith, Public Works Director Dan Miller, Clerk-Treasurer Kaylene Melton, and Deputy Clerk Gwen Zolber were also present. Council member Ellen Kaphammer and City Attorney Ben Anciaux were absent.
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 July 8, 2026 Regular Meeting. Larry seconded the motion. Brief discussion was held. Micah Robertson requested the words "personal beliefs" be removed from his July 8, 2026 Council Comment. The Mayor called for a vote. Micah, Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Ellen was absent. No one opposed. Motion carried.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
CONSENT AGENDA	
Claims	Discussion was held. The Council reviewed the list of claims owing as of July 22, 2026. Julie made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, as listed. Larry seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Ellen was absent. Micah opposed. Motion carried.
2nd Chance Saloon & The Pheasant Lounge	Discussion was held. Lindsay made a motion to approve the application for Open Container Permit between 1st and 2nd Avenues in front of 2nd Chance Saloon and the Pheasant Lounge for Pioneer Days "Street dance and activities": Friday, July 31, 2026, from 5:00 P.M. - 2:00 A.M.; Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 5:00 P.M. - 2:00 A.M.; and Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. Mark seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Ellen was absent. Micah opposed. Motion carried.
Ronan Co-Op Brewery	Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to approve the applications for Open Container Permit and Street Closure: 4th Avenue SW from Main Street to the alley, for "Pioneer Days activities" on Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 12:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Julie seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Ellen was absent. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

The Valley Club

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve the Valley Club's application for Open Container Permit for their parking lot at 407 3rd Avenue NW for a 'Street dance in the parking lot' on Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 1:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Ellen was absent. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

Council member Ellen Kaphammer joined the meeting.

Mission West CDP

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to approve applications for the annual "Harvest on Main" fundraiser for:
A. Open Container Permit for Main Street between 4th Street and 5th Street on Thursday, August 27, 2026, from 5:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.; and
B. Street Closure of Main Street between 4th Street and 5th Street from Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 12:00 P.M. through Friday, August 28, 2026, at 12:00 P.M.
Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. Ellen, Larry, Julie, Mark, and Lindsay voted in favor. Micah opposed. Motion carried.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

Mission West CDP

Brittany Simonich provided an informational overview on Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Districts in Montana communities. The information clarified that TIFs are not a tax increase, but rather a method for utilizing existing funds advantageously. Offered to provide Ronan with Havre's plan for reference.

Tri-Party to Insured Cash Sweep

Discussion was held. Larry made a motion to authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to: Execute an Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) Deposit Placement Agreement, Establish a sweep to ICS, and Execute a Tri-Party Release to fulfill requirements for Pledged Securities to cover accounts/ funds at Bank. Mark seconded the motion. Whitney Warren, Vice President and Senior Treasury Manager with Glacier Bank joined via Microsoft Teams, but due to connectivity issues, only audio was utilized. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

Mission Valley Homesites

Discussion was held. Julie made a motion to approve a 3-year extension of the Preliminary Approval for the "Mission Valley Homesites" subdivision. Ellen seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Brownfields Phase II

Discussion was held. Mark made a motion to approve proceeding with a Phase II Site Assessment to address the lack of documentation of sampling data on the property located at 240 Main Street, to evaluate if a release occurred after removal of fuel tanks (Table 1-1, Pg. 11). Lindsay seconded the motion. The Mayor called for a vote. All voted in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Update: Dumpster in Easement	The dumpster has been relocated. The Pheasant reported that they have received no further communication from either complainant, and no additional complaints have been brought directly to City Hall's attention. Council discussed the situation and agreed that, should it become an issue again in the future, it is a civil matter between the property owners rather than a City Council matter.
Update: Inter-Government Relations	The Committee presented its research findings to Council members. Council accepted the Committee's recommendation to meet with the Lake County Commissioners for open dialogue. Regarding the upcoming exchange, the Clerk-Treasurer reminded everyone of the topics the City Attorney has suggested during previous Council meetings.

<u>COUNCIL COMMENT</u>

Micah: Thanked the Inter-Government Relations Committee for the packet of information they provided.

Ellen: Town is looking good.

Julie: Appreciates everyone in the room – City employees, Council, the public – "It takes all of us".

Mark: Appreciates the research Lindsay and the Committee did.

Lindsay: There has been division between the people in the room, and wants to "Get back to where we were" while keeping focus on the facts and laws.

Kaylene: The Local Government Center has changed its business model, and municipalities are now purchasing packages. Since we utilize the Center often, this will be placed on the next Agenda. Regarding charging a payment processing fee for grants managed through Friends of the Children and Mission West: the City has spent time providing administrative work to support the grants, and may Ronan bill for that time? Would like direction from Council. Rural Development (RD) grant application: there are additional requested items; Dan and the Mayor are now managing these asks.

Dan: RD determines the rate increases as well as the forgiveness amount of the loan portion of the funds, which is likely the reason for the additional information request(s). After a follow-up call with RD, future requests are going to be submitted piecemeal to manage the workload amount. The Resolution to annex the lagoon didn't make it onto today's Agenda, so it will be added to the next Agenda. Will be gone for 10-12 days on vacation, but available by phone. Looking for one more employee that may work into full time.

Chief Jacobson: The C.O.P.S. grant has been submitted, and will move through the next steps in the grant process, getting us closer to having another officer on staff. The retirement of the City's attorney, Ben, affects the prosecutorial actions of the City Court. Ben advised there is an attorney that works with St. Ignatius and with the District Attorney's Office who may be interested. Chief Jacobson spoke with said attorney, and found it would only work if the Ronan court day could change to a different day of

the week from Tuesday, due to conflicting Court schedules.
Our newest officer has graduated the academy and is going into the Field Training Program for a couple of months. Still have one more opening which is open to lateral transfers or new officers.
Mayor Corum: Dan gave Steve Troendle a tour of the wastewater facility, which was an ask for the RD application we are submitting.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, August 12, 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:

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Ryan Corum, Mayor

Attest:

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Gwen Zolber, Deputy Clerk