



VISION STATEMENT:
"The Magic City: A diverse, welcoming community where people prosper and business succeeds."

COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY

REVISED 6.20.2025
Council Initiatives added and
June 16, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
316 N. 26th Street, 5th
Floor

AGENDA
JUNE 23, 2025

5:30 P.M

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Cole

INVOCATION: Mayor Cole

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmember Kendra Shaw, Ward I
Councilmember Ed Gulick, Ward I
Councilmember Roy Neese, Ward II
Councilmember Jennifer Owen, Ward II
Councilmember TJ Rogers, Ward III
Councilmember Bill Kennedy, Ward III
Councilmember Scott Aspenlieder, Ward IV
Councilmember Daniel Tidswell, Ward IV
Councilmember Mike Boyett, Ward V
Councilmember Tom Rupsis, Ward V
Mayor William Cole

Staff

Present: Chris Kukulski, City Administrator
Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator
Gina Dahl, City Attorney
Denise Bohlman, City Clerk
Andy Zoeller, Finance Director
Gavin Woltjer, Interim Parks, Recreation and Public Lands Director
Kelsie Rubich, Interim Library Director
Jeff Roach, Aviation and Transit Director
Wyeth Friday, Planning Director
Karen Husman, Zoning Coordinator
Debi Meling, Public Works Director
Jennifer Duray, Deputy Public Works Director

Jeffry Srock, Information Technology Manager
David Watterson, Information Technology Director
Jessica Fust, Building Official
Matt Hoppel, Fire Chief
Rich St. John, Police Chief
Samantha Puckett, Administrative Lieutenant
Nick Westburg, Fleet Manager
Tricia Mae, Facilities Specialist
Karla Stanton, Human Resources Director

MINUTES:

- May 27, 2025 – **APPROVED 11-0**
- June 9, 2025 – **APPROVED 11-0**
- June 16, 2025 - Special Meeting – **APPROVED 11-0**

COURTESIES:

PROCLAMATIONS:

COUNCIL REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS - CHRIS KUKULSKI

PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-PUBLIC HEARING" Agenda Items: 1 ONLY. Speaker sign-in required. (Comments are limited to three (3) minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium. Comments on items listed as public hearing items will be heard ONLY during the designated public hearing time for each respective item. For items not on this agenda, public comment will be taken at the end of the agenda.)

1. **CONSENT AGENDA** -- Separations: 1C, 1K, 1L, 1M
 - A. **Bid Awards:**
 1. **W.O. 25-28: Safe Routes to School Projects.** (Opened 6/3/25) Recommend Askin Construction. **APPROVED 11-0**
 2. **W.O. 25-99: City of Billings Signal Upgrade.** (Opened 6/3/25) Recommend Montana Lines, Inc. **APPROVED 11-0**
 - B. **Amendments** to Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with Urban Renewal Districts extending termination dates to October 1, 2025. **APPROVED 11-0**
 - C. ***Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Amendment No. 2** for Amend Park Recreation Campus General Contractor / Construction Manager (GC/CM); Langlas & Associates. **APPROVED 10-1, NEESE OPPOSED**
 - D. **Contract** with Pine Cove Consulting, LLC, at the Billings Public Library for Access Control and Camera Upgrade. **APPROVED 11-0**

- E. **Professional Engineering Services Contract** for W.O. 25-36: Rimrock Road - 54th Street West to 62nd Street West with Sanbell. **APPROVED 11-0**
- F. **Landfill Use Agreement** for FY26 with Yellowstone County. **APPROVED 11-0**
- G. **Commercial Non-Aviation Ground Lease** for use as a communications equipment site with Network Information Systems. **APPROVED 11-0**
- H. **Donations** to the Billings Public Library from the Town Pump Charitable Foundation for the 2025 Teen Summer Reading Program. **APPROVED 11-0**
- I. **Grant** funds from anonymous donor for Fire Station 5 Interior Remodel. **APPROVED 11-0**
- J. **2025 High Intensity Drug Traffic Area (HIDTA) Award** to the Police Department. **APPROVED 11-0**
- K. **Preliminary Major Plat** of Clearwater Estates Subdivision, 2nd Filing. ***Quasi-Judicial APPROVED 10-0, ASPENLIEDER ABSTAINED**
- L. **Preliminary Major Plat** of 44 West Subdivision. ***Quasi-Judicial APPROVED 10-0, ASPENLIEDER ABSTAINED**
- M. **Resolution 25-11274** ordering improvements identified in W.O. 25-02: 2025 Missing Sidewalk Program. **APPROVED 11-0**
 - 1. **BID AWARD: W.O. 25-02: Missing Sidewalk Project.** (Opened 5/20/25) Recommend Knife River- Billings. **APPROVED 11-0**
- N. **Bills for the Weeks of:**
 - 1. May 19, 2025 **APPROVED 11-0**
 - 2. May 27, 2025 **APPROVED 11-0**
 - 3. June 2, 2025 **APPROVED 11-0**

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL REVIEW 1000:** a special review to allow a new bar and casino in a 2,925 square foot addition to an existing 5,730 square foot building, generally located at 840 Shiloh Crossing Blvd. Zoning Commission recommends conditional approval and adoption of the findings of the 9 criteria. ***Quasi-Judicial APPROVED 10-1, NEESE OPPOSED**
- 3. **PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING ORDINANCE FOR ZONE CHANGE 1066:** generally located at 844 Grand Ave. Zoning Commission recommends approval and adoption of the 10 review criteria. ***Quasi-Judicial APPROVED 11-0**
- 4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION 25-11275** adopting FY26 and FY27 wastewater retail rates and fees. Staff recommends approval. **APPROVED 9-2, NEESE AND MAYOR COLE OPPOSED**
- 5. **JOINT PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTIONS** allocating FY26 assessments for the following:
 - a. **Tourism Business Improvement District. (RESOLUTION 25-11276)** **APPROVED 11-0**

- b. **Business Improvement District 1. (RESOLUTION 25-11277) APPROVED 11-0**
- 6. **PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION 25-11278** approving and adopting FY25 Budget Amendments. Staff recommends approval.
 - **APPROVED 11-0, EXCLUDING FUND 1990 – SOUTH TIF for individual vote.**
 - **APPROVED 10-1, FUND 1990 – SOUTH TIF, NEESE OPPOSED**
- 7. **PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION 25-11279** approving and adopting the FY26 preliminary budget. Staff recommends approval. **APPROVED 9-2, RUPYSIS AND NEESE OPPOSED**

PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-AGENDA ITEMS". Speaker Sign-in required. (Restricted to ONLY items not on this printed agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)

COUNCIL INITIATIVES:

- 1. South Billings Boulevard Cleanup - Councilmember Kennedy **APPROVED 10-1, SHAW OPPOSED**
- 2. Mayor-Council Structural Enhancement Initiative - Councilmember Kennedy **FAILED 3-8, SHAW, GULICK, NEESE, ROGERS, TIDSWELL, BOYETT, RUPYSIS AND MAYOR COLE OPPOSED**
- 3. Ballot initiative – Council Reduction 11 to 7 members - Councilmember Aspenlieder **APPROVED 9-2, NEESE AND MAYOR COLE OPPOSED**

ADJOURN: 9:29 P.M.