

TOWN OF DRUMMOND REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Drummond Town Hall, 114 A Street, Drummond, MT 59832

APRIL 21, 2026 - 7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gail Leeper called the April Regular Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure, Clute, O'Dell and Speer, Attorney Tim Dick, and Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Dallon Crilly, representing Hub International-Missoula.

GUEST COMMENT:

Jo Radtke, regarding light pole.

Ms. Radtke requested placement on agenda, was unable to attend.

Mayor Leeper provided brief synopsis of Ms. Radtke's request, streetlight on east side of Drummond next to the old physical therapy/childcare building, Radtke's request that light pole be moved back 15 feet; creating room for drive-up window for the building.

Mayor Leeper expanded to the council; per her conversation with Northwestern Energy the cost to move the light pole would be \$4000.00; the Town would request Radtke's to pay the fee for moving the light pole and the light must still shine on road as needed to meet lighting district requirements.

Dallon Crilly, representing Hub International-Missoula.

Mr. Crilly provided a brief history of himself and his affiliation with Hub International; expanding by explaining the commonality of workers' compensation across the state and nation, followed by an in-depth discussion on workers' compensation assigned class codes.

Hub International extended Town of Drummond to ten carriers for workers' compensation quotation for fiscal year 2027. To date one quote has been returned, with anticipation of receiving two more quotes.

Quote received from Montana State Fund was in the amount of \$3,012.79. Mr. Crilly will provide the remaining quotations once received by the carriers.

For those carriers electing to not provide quote, Drummond's low employment numbers did not meet the criteria for accepting the Town as a client.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Law Enforcement Report was provided to Drummond Town Council, for the April Town Council Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MINUTES

March 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the March Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member O'Dell made a motion to approve the March Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Roll Call Vote:

AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE MINUTES	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

CLAIMS

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the claims, including Jackson Pay Application #7. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve the claims. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Roll Call Vote:

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY CLAIMS	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

INVESTMENTS: Investment sheet provided to the Town Council.

FINANCIALS:

Financial sheet provided to the Town Council.

METAP GRANT

METAP Grant was not awarded to the Town of Drummond. The METAP grant is specific for tourism, which the submission of snowplow truck and radar speed signs for this grant did not meet the METAP criteria.

The Town will submit for METAP Grant in 2027, with proposed electrical work at the Drummond City Park/Campground, along with purchase and placement of an additional pavilion.

ACTION ITEMS:

RESOLUTION 2026-2 WORKERS' COMPENSATION BROKERAGE FIRM HUB INTERNATIONAL

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING CLIENT SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN OF DRUMMOND AND HUB INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN STATES LIMITED TO SECURE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive reading Resolution 2026-2. Council Member Speer made a motion to waive reading Resolution 2026-2. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Roll Call Vote:

RESOLUTION 2026-2 Hub International Workers' Compensation	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

Mayor Leeper asked if there were any further comments or discussion on Resolution 2026-2, which there were not.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-2 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING CLIENT SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN OF DRUMMOND AND HUB INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN STATES LIMITED TO SECURE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND. Council Member McLure made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-2. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Roll Call Vote:

RESOLUTION 2026-2 Hub International	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

JACKSON CONTRACTOR GROUP CHANGE ORDER NO. 2

Documentation referencing two items for Change Order Number 2 was provided to the council for review. Item one includes a deduct for removal of foundation stabilization rock underneath the UV collection box, control structures B, and control structure C, which was deemed unnecessary. The second item is an actuator valve change. The specified actuator valve is no longer available/manufactured. The cost of the specified actuator valve has been deducted from the cost of the new actuator valve.

After discussion related to Change Order request number 2 concluded, Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve Jackson Contractor Group Change Order Number 2. Council Member Clute made a motion to approve Jackson Contractor Group Change Order Number 2. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Roll Call Vote:

Jackson Contractor Group Change Order No. 2	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Planning Board

Update provided by Mayor Leeper pertaining to the Rock Creek subdivision in upper Rock Creek, resulting in a passed two lot split.

Joint Session May 13, 2026

Philipsburg will host the May 13, 2026, Joint Session, at Philipsburg Town Hall. Drummond plans to include PILT Funds and Roads as topic discussion for the agenda.

Local Government Services Institute, May 3-7, 2026

Mayor Leeper and Clerk-Treasurer Wight will be attending Local Government Services Institute in Billings, Montana the week of May 3rd.

Job Fair April 2026

Granite High School in Philipsburg, Montana will host the April 29th Job Fair, which includes participation of the Drummond High School students.

Both Philipsburg Town Hall and Drummond Town Hall will be participating in the job fair this year, helping to educate students and bring awareness of the role local municipal government has in their community.

Municipal Summit, June 1, 2026

Town of Drummond will host the June 1st Municipal Summit; arrangements have been made to utilize the Valley Fire District Fire Hall for this event.

Vacant Public Works Position

Town of Drummond has posted the open position on the Town's website, both social media accounts; job boards of Montana League of Cities and Towns and Montana Rural Water; as well as two legal publication notices in the Philipsburg Mail for the next two consecutive weeks.

For the time being, Mayor Leeper requested all volunteer hours be tracked; for Clerk-Treasurer Wight to properly account for Workers' Compensation coverage of these volunteer hours as the Town transitions to having a new employee fill this vacant position.

ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

Signage

Cleanup efforts regarding the entry signage of the Drummond City Park/Campground were discussed, corrugated boards have been purchased to temporarily improve the appearance of the notification board; with the possibility of utilizing Farrside Sign Missoula to create wrap signage at a future date for the public notification entry board.

Camp Collection Envelopes

Discussion on how to better account for visitors staying at the Drummond City Park/Campground, led to the decision to purchase hitchhiker envelopes, which consist of a tear-off section, requiring that tear-off section be placed in the vehicle or recreational unit front window indicating an envelope has been utilized.

The Town will initiate a numbering system for these envelopes ensuring accountability and for tracking purposes.

Park Rates

Park rates were a topic of discussion; as well as possible fishing boat access future fees. Both topics will be taken into consideration and discussed at future Town Council Meetings.

Consideration was taken of the possible need to have the park closed during winter months, with signage instructions to contact Town Hall for entry. There have been multiple occurrences of illegal dumping at the park with the last occurrence being used tires dumped.

ROADS:

Front Street Old 911 Building

Clean-up efforts along Front Street include relocating stored equipment by the old 911 building to a more suitable area by the water tower. Granite Towing has been assisting the Town in this effort.

Brief discussion amongst the council in relation to the next anticipated Town project, consisting of the Fire suppression lines for the water tower was had. Mayor Leeper reminded the council the PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) has been completed for this upcoming needed project.

Tree Trimming

All designated trees needing trimming over roadways have been completed, with the exception of trees located on A Street across from Swedes.

Sink Hole

Mike Hill provided guidance regarding sink hole on Broad Street, utilizing a survey stick and determining this hole goes back 15 feet. This hole appears each year in the spring, which may indicate an aquafer.

There will be more investigation into the source causing this sink hole, then the council will determine next steps.

Potholes and Patch

Mayor Leeper will reach out to Paul Alt for possible assistance from the County for filling the Town's potholes, while we are without a public works employee.

Highway 1 Bridge

The State Highway Department is aware of the current bridge structure of Highway 1, including the bridge pillars; should that bridge require temporary closure while work is completed the only alternative route of travel would be South Main and Front Street.

There is also concern about currently needed bridge repair over the Clark Fork on South Main; the Town of Drummond provided a letter of support for the County in applying for grant funds to assist with this need.

Front Street and South Main

Report was filed with the Granite County Sheriff's office regarding scattered screws in the vicinity South Main and Front Street. Numerous complaints of screws found in tires were reported; including two in the Town's utility truck, and five additional area resident vehicles.

The area was promptly checked for screws, picked up all visibly located, and professionally swept by the state highway street sweeper.

FLOODPLAINS:

Council Member McLure has been in contact with the Kolbeck's regarding utilization of livestock as weed control again this year for Bergman's Slough, anticipating placement May 2026.

Last year livestock worked well controlling weeds; which turned out to be a cheaper and natural way to control weeds, leaving a better overall appearance than weed control measures previously utilized.

Last year public works, assisted by the County, cleaned area per the Core's report; debris, beaver dam and the downed tree were all removed.

Currently no beavers have been trapped in the area this year.

The dike plate will be put in place in the spring ^{by} Rhett Rigby ^{PUBLIC WORKS} will remove the plate in the fall.
_{LAND OWNER}

SEWER:

Lift Station

Great Divide is working with Council Member Clute scheduling and conducting cleaning of the lift station.

Council Member Clute is also coordinating between Jackson Contracting and Great Divide Septic.

Council Member Clute will be coordinating with Mayor Leeper and additional Council Member's in responding to any alarms triggered at the lift station. Council member Clute indicated he could audibly hear when the alarm is triggered from his home.

Granite County Sheriff's Office Deputies check the lift station nightly for indication of tripped alarms.

Should an emergency be indicated, Marty with Great Divide can be contacted for assistance, then protocol would proceed doing what is best for the Town of Drummond.

Manholes

Wagon Wheel lack of water and sewer concern was discussed; the manhole cover will be pulled to check that sewer line.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Project

Brief discussion of the current wastewater project was held; the work being completed by Jackson Contracting is quite impressive.

Currently construction on the UV Building is underway; the sludge removal is anticipated to be completed by May 1st.

CITY COURT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Tax liens on delinquent properties and chain of titles were discussed, in relation the Wagon Wheel's four-year delinquency.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Water per Gallon Charge

Town Council revisited the price per gallon charge of water purchased; with the recent purchase by sub-contractor for fire prevention, while maintenance track grinding on BNSF Railway was completed.

After discussion related to the needed per gallon water increase concluded, Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve raising the \$0.05 per gallon water charge to \$0.07 per gallon with a six-month evaluation. Council Member O'Dell made a motion to approve raising the \$0.05 per gallon water charge to \$0.07 per gallon with a six-month evaluation. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

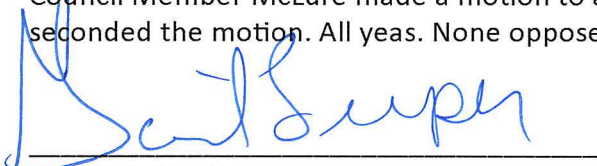
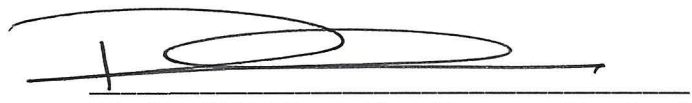
Roll Call Vote:

Per Gallon Water Fee \$0.07 with 6-mo. Evaluation	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Mayor Gail Leeper	n/a		
Council President McLure	Yea		
Council Member Clute	Yea		
Council Member O'Dell	Yea		
Council Member Speer	Yea		

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council Member McLure made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29pm. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.


GAIL LEEPER, Mayor
ROBIN WIGHT, Town Clerk/Treasurer/Paralegal