

**TOWN OF DRUMMOND
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

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

JUNE 17, 2025 - 7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gail Leeper called the June Regular Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Mayor Leeper & Council Members McLure, and O'Dell; Town Attorney Tim Dick; Town Clerk-Treasurer Wight and Public Works Director Harrington. Council Member Clute was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Leeper led the Pledge of Allegiance during the Public Meeting.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Calvin Wight

GUEST COMMENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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

Sheriff Dunkerson provided notice of his resignation | retirement. His last official date as sheriff is June 30, 2025. Under-Sheriff Ricco Barkell is being appointed into the sheriff position, until the next sheriff election.

MINUTES:

May 20, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting

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

June 3, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting

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

CLAIMS:

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the claims. Council Member O'Dell made a motion to approve the claims. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

INVESTMENTS: Investment sheet provided to the Town Council.

FINANCIALS: Financial sheet provided to the Town Council.

ACTION ITEMS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-6 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACT #MT-MCEP-CG-25-037 BETWEEN MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND FOR MCEP GRANT FUNDING.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2025-6 Council Member O'Dell made motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2025-6. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to Resolution 2025-6 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACT #MT-MCEP-CG-25-037 BETWEEN MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND FOR MCEP GRANT FUNDING, which there were not.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of Resolution No. 2025-6 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRACT #MT-MCEP-CG-25-037 BETWEEN MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND FOR MCEP GRANT FUNDING. Council Member McLure made motion to approve Resolution 2025-6. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-7 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND, MONTANA TO REPEAL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS ADOPTING WASTEWATER ENGINEERING TASK ORDERS; APPROVE THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT, REVISED PER USDA RUAL DEVELOPMENT.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2025-7 Council Member O'Dell made motion to waive the reading of Resolution 2025-7. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to Resolution 2025-7 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND, MONTANA TO REPEAL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS ADOPTING WASTEWATER ENGINEERING TASK ORDERS; APPROVE THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT, REVISED PER USDA RUAL DEVELOPMENT, which there were not.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of Resolution No. 2025-7 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND, MONTANA TO REPEAL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS ADOPTING WASTEWATER ENGINEERING TASK ORDERS; APPROVE THE TOWN OF DRUMMOND WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT, REVISED PER USDA RUAL DEVELOPMENT. Council Member McLure made motion to approve Resolution 2025-7. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-1 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL PRIOR ORDINANCES ADOPTING FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCES; ADOPT UPDATED FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS TO CONFORM TO REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL FLOODPLAIN INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Discussion amongst the Drummond Town Council; prior to the second reading of Ordinance 2025-1.

Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to ORDINANCE 2025-1 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL PRIOR ORDINANCES ADOPTING FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCES; ADOPT UPDATED FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS TO CONFORM TO REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL FLOODPLAIN INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE, which there were not.

Mayor Leeper read ORDINANCE 2025-1 in its entirety; followed by, asking for a motion to approve the Second Reading of ORDINANCE 2025-1 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL PRIOR ORDINANCES ADOPTING FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCES; ADOPT UPDATED FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS TO CONFORM TO REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL FLOODPLAIN INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Council Member McLure made motion to approve Second Reading of ORDINANCE 2025-1. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2025-1 is scheduled for June 17, 2025, by Resolution.

Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 Auditor Agreement, Susan Nicasia, CPA, LLC

Town of Drummond is being proactive in researching and requesting Auditor Services.

Discussion and review of **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION STANDARD AUDIT CONTRACT BETWEEN SUSAN M. NICOSIA, CPA, LLC ("CONTRACTOR") AND TOWN OF DRUMMOND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY ("ENTITY")**.

Drummond Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project financial revenue and expenditure will require Fiscal Year Audits during Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 when annual threshold is exceeded, resulting in mandatory audits.

Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION STANDARD AUDIT CONTRACT BETWEEN SUSAN M. NICOSIA, CPA, LLC ("CONTRACTOR") AND TOWN OF DRUMMOND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY ("ENTITY"), which there were not.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion for authority to sign DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION STANDARD AUDIT CONTRACT BETWEEN SUSAN M. NICOSIA, CPA, LLC ("CONTRACTOR") AND TOWN OF DRUMMOND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY ("ENTITY"). Council Member O'Dell made motion for Mayor Leeper to sign DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION STANDARD AUDIT CONTRACT BETWEEN SUSAN M. NICOSIA, CPA, LLC ("CONTRACTOR") AND TOWN OF DRUMMOND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY ("ENTITY"). Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Action Inc.

Current LEAP numbers have not been received. They are currently financially alright through 2026, after which it is unknown for the program.

Planning Board Update

Arrow Stone 14 Johnson minor subdivision desires to use short form, which was passed by the Granite County Commission.

Middle Fork Ranch Subdivision equaling three large lots; 319 Acres divided into 3 sections, of 10 acres lots, Moose Lake Road; Kathleen Henley is handling the subdivision. Granite County Currently has no zoning in place.

Joint Session June 19, 2025

Town of Drummond hosting Joint Session between Town of Philipsburg, Town of Drummond and Granite County at the Drummond Library. Headwaters and Action Inc are anticipated to be providing an update on their organizations.

ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

Campground Maximum Night Stay

Mayor Leeper discussed amongst the Council concerns regarding offenses at the Drummond Campground; campers staying without paying, staying longer than posted maximum stay, placing blank envelopes or envelopes with notes instead of payment in the payment fund box. Discussion of urban camping dates back to 2022.

There is currently no ordinance on record addressing the campground duration of stay, the council voted by motion to reduce the 5-night maximum stay to 3-night maximum stay.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve reducing the 5-Night Maximum Stay to a 3-Night Maximum Stay. Council Member O'Dell made motion to approve reducing the 5-Night Maximum Stay to a 3-Night Maximum Stay. Council Member McLure seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

Discussion led to the possible creation of an ordinance/resolution for the campground; to be created at a future date.

ROADS:

Stop Sign

Break-a-way stop sign between Cenex and Fic's has been placed. Discussion led to the need of painting the pin down curbing, with reflective yellow paint; and placement of flashing lights to alert drivers of the stop sign, preventing future damage to the road sign.

Pot Holes

Public Works Director Harrington spoke with Paul Alt, Granite County Roads, for assistance with large pot hole located at 317 E. Broad Street.

The Town needs at least 4-5 trailer loads of pot hole patch.

Discussion led to areas of deteriorating roads and pot holes.

FLOODPLAINS:

Council Member McLure has not heard back regarding use of livestock as weed control at the dike. Public Works will have to cut and spray soon; if we don't hear back regarding the livestock grazing alternative.

SEWER:

Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade

Bids came in over a million dollars in excess of what was anticipated. More grant funding | Loan will be needed for the additional project cost. Engineer Koon will reach out to USDA/RD for possible additional funding.

Special Town Council Meeting scheduled for June 25th at 2:00pm, with USDA/RD; to discuss sewer fees, noticing citizens and public hearing regarding sewer fee increase. Current anticipated rate approximately \$75 per month/per unit.

Delinquent taxes and sewer fees were discussed, especially in regards to grant funding being received the for current Wastewater Project and loans which will be required by the Town.

Granite County delinquent taxes were discussed, the need for the County Treasurer to begin placing yearly liens on those delinquent properties to ensure taxes are paid in priority.

Clerk/Treasurer Wight with reach out to sales with the Philipsburg Mail, to receive quotes (monthly; quarterly; semi-annual and annually) for publication of Delinquent Taxes in the Philipsburg Mail for those properties within the Township of Drummond.

Town of Drummond will also place the delinquent tax list on the Town website and social media accounts. Mayor Leeper asked that be done by motion. Council Member McLure made motion to move forward in receive quotes for publication within the Philipsburg Mail for public posting, along with placement on the Town website and Town social media accounts. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

The County discussed placement of the entire Delinquent Tax Report, being placed on the County website; once that is completed, the Town will place a link to the County website from the Town's website.

Granite County Treasurer Todd is working on correcting accounts on the list which indicate errors.

Mayor Leeper spoke with Powell County Treasurer; how that county dealt with problematic historic delinquent taxes and were able to bring records into compliance.

Mayor Leeper reiterated, placing liens on properties with delinquent taxes is not personal; it ensures taxes are paid first. Those real properties with three or more years of delinquent taxes need to be looked at for forced sale | sheriff sale.

The Town is working closely with Bond Council in relation to the mandated sewer project, how the Town will succeed in remaining in compliance for Grant(s) | Loan(s) and with Local Government requirements.

Delinquent taxes will be a topic of discussion at the Joint Session, scheduled June 19th. State law mandates liens are to be placed on delinquent taxes per Montana Code Annotated.

CITY COURT:

Mayor Leeper had Clerk/Treasurer Wight reach out to Justice of Peace Fratzke, informing her the Post Office Box is full at the Drummond Post Office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Leeper will provide new Town Attorney, Tim Dick, a tour of the Town; to be better acquaint him with areas of discussion.

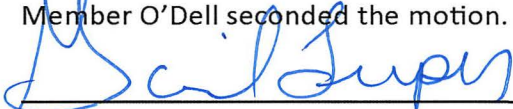
UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Open Council Seat:

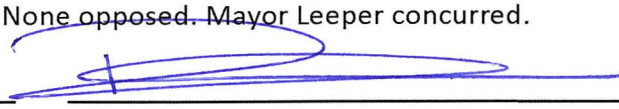
Council Seat over Parks has been vacant for months; there has been no interest within the Township, of citizens willing to come forth and fill the vacant Council Seat.

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member McLure made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm. Council Member O'Dell seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.



GAIL LEEPER, Mayor



ROBIN WIGHT, Town Clerk/Treasurer/Paralegal