

TOWN OF DRUMMOND
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Drummond Town Hall, 114 A Street, Drummond, MT 59832
OCTOBER 21, 2025 - 7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER:

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

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

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Villa, Nicklas Painter, and Jason Villa, representing Granite County Sheriff's Office; Calvin Wight; Ben Dickinson and Kendra McKlosky, representing Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and Brad Koon, representing Triple Tree Engineering.

GUEST COMMENT: Granite County Law Enforcement deputies and reserve officers were in attendance to introduce new deputies within the Granite County Sheriff's Office; along with provide an update to the Town Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

MINUTES:

September 16, 2025 FY26 Budget Public Hearing *followed by* September Regular Town Council Meeting

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve the September FY26 Budget Hearing *followed by* September Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member O'Dell made a motion to approve the September FY26 Budget Hearing *followed by* September Regular Town Council Meeting minutes. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

CLAIMS:

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

INVESTMENTS: Investment sheet provided to the Town Council.

Sewer Certificate of Deposit set to mature. Financial institution has eliminated 4-month certificate of deposit option; instead, is now offering a 3-month certificate of deposit, which will roll over at the current APY.

Motion made by Council Member Clute to close current 4-month certificate of deposit, then re-

open in 3-month certificate of deposit, which will automatically roll over at current APY. Council Member Speer seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

FINANCIALS: Financial sheet provided to the Town Council.

ACTION ITEMS:

Jackson Contracting Pay Application 1

Mayor Leeper and Council reviewed Jackson Contracting Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Project Pay Application 1. After discussion was concluded; Mayor Leeper asked, if the Council had any further questions or discussions in regards to Jackson Contracting Pay Application 1, which there were not.

Mayor Leeper asked for a motion to approve of Jackson Contracting Pay Application 1. Council Member McLure made motion to approve Jackson Contracting Pay Application 1. Council Member Speer seconded the motion. All yeas, none opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Jackson Contracting Pay Application 1	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Council President Cary McLure	X		
Council Member Earl Clute	X		
Council Member Mike O'Dell	X		
Council Member Teddy Speer	X		

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Headwaters

There was no Headwaters meeting the month of October.

MT League of Cities and Towns Conference

- Drummond does not meet the audit threshold set by Local Government Services requiring an audit for Fiscal Year 2025; therefore, the town will only need to complete the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025.
- Department of Commerce has available METAP Grant Funding; the Town may apply for this grant in acquiring radar signs on Front Street. This grant is available for public safety use.
- MMIA has announced they plan to discontinue offering the Worker's Compensation coverage choice at the end of Fiscal Year 2026. They will actively assist Town's in providing alternative options to research.
- Montana Urban & Forestry Association is an available option in completing a tree inventory within the Town of Drummond.

Planning Board

There was no Planning Board meeting the month of October.

ATTORNEY: None

PARKS:

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Fishing Boat Access Agreement

Kendra McKlosky and Ben Dickinson, representing FWP; have stepped into the role of completing the negotiation process for the fishing boat access agreement with the Town of Drummond.

Kendra and Ben provided a brief background of their roles with the Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks to the Council; and a summary of how they stepped into completing the negotiations with Drummond.

The Council briefed Kendra and Ben as to where their predecessors left off with negotiations; and to the frustrations the Town felt with the previous 25-year contract. As detailed in previous Town Council Meeting minutes, which were provided to Ben and Kendra for their review.

Expanding, Drummond is currently receiving no benefits to the constituents and citizens who built the Drummond City Park, by continuing with the fishing boat access agreement with FWP.

The Council also expressed concern for the newly implemented legislation requirement, which requires all persons needing a conservation license when entering the Drummond City Park.

Mr. Dickinson acknowledged the Council's frustration, in previous negotiations and was open and receptive in hearing the Council's concerns.

Ms. McKlosky was open and reassuring, adding this may no longer be a perfect fit; and that is okay. They're here to see how we can move forward with the open 2-year extension, of the 25-year contract. She let the council know we can negotiate items for the park and discuss boundaries; in the end they have to follow Montana State Law, there is no flexibility in that.

The conversation led to requesting the Fish, Wildlife and Parks representatives return to headquarters and return with what Fish, Wildlife and Parks would propose in continuing an agreement with the Town.

The current 2-year extension expires on February 1, 2026.

ROADS:

North Main

Letters were sent out to property owners, majority of properties along North Main are in parking compliance. Properties not in compliance, the Town may reach out to law enforcement to speak with those property owners.

A Street

Discussion was had regarding congestion along A Street, and alternative parking on Front Street.

Snow Plowing

Once, snow plowing begins; it is imperative these congested areas are rectified. Along with notifying property owners storing vehicles and equipment in snow accumulation holding areas on public roadways.

Patch

The Town received more patch.

Maintenance

Public Works completed maintenance on the Dodge; it is ready for snowplowing. The Suzuki was repaired to help lower fuel costs.

Blackfoot

Blackfoot representatives need to be contacted regarding sinkholes forming in areas where their work was completed. They need to return, address and repair those locations.

FLOODPLAINS:

Dike

Council Member McLure instructed Public Works to pull plate at the Dike.

SEWER:

Wastewater Treatment Facility Project

Engineer Koon presented an update on the wastewater treatment facility upgrade project; providing the council a handout listing work completed, expected work over the next couple months. Addressing concerns regarding concrete and providing specifications, within the handout. Working with Jackson Contracting reviewing submittals and pay requests.

Continuing by addressing the Council, as to material ordered in advance by the Contractor, held by the manufacturer; in the ability of utilizing ARPA Grant funding by the December 31, 2025 deadline.

Sludge Placement property owners signed W-9, and have received payment, per agreement.

Road to the Lagoon will be plowed by Contractor, while construction is underway.

Lift Station

Palmer Electric installed a new phase breaker on the generator; a new board is needed.

Discussion led to recent random power outages throughout Drummond; the need for a bypass switch at Lift Station. This bypass would prevent sewage backup into the town. Also, would be utilized during cleaning.

Engineer Koon will be in contact with Council Member Clute and Public Works Harrington to address the lift station bypass.

CITY COURT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Member O'Dell proposed a Community Garden along the Town's BNSF easement on Front Street; that location presents a problem, as the water table is too high.

Previous skating rink location was an alternative location discussed; that location would need to be addressed with the Historical Society.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Water PER (Preliminary Engineering Report)

The Drummond Water PER is now complete. The Water PER looked at a future complete Water System for Drummond; also focused on the current Drummond Fire Suppression System.

The Town applied for SILPA funds towards the Fire Suppression System; those funds must be expended by 2027.

Discussion led to the possibility of asking the County to participate in the Fire Suppression System funding, as the system is utilized in the Town and the County.

Next Town Council Meeting: Scheduled Tuesday, November 18, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member O'Dell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Council Member Clute seconded the motion. All yeas. None opposed. Mayor Leeper concurred.


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