

Town of Richey Council Meeting
Approved Minutes
Tuesday, September 9, 2025—Senior Center
Immediately following the 6:00 p.m. CDBG Public Hearing

Open Meeting and Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting called to order at 6:54 PM.

Roll Call of the Council Members and Guests: Mayor Brown, Councilmember Barnhart, Councilmember Gibson, Councilmember Ulrich, Councilmember Clinton, Public Works/Clerk Chance Senner, Brandy Schipman, Jana Olson, Vickie Mecum, Gail Miller, Lorraine Whiteman

Consent Items*:

- Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)
- Monthly Bank Reconciliation
- Monthly Payroll, Claims, and Journal Entries

Motion made to approve consent items by Councilmember Barnhart, seconded by Councilmember Gibson. All in favor, motion carried. See attached voting record.

** **Consent Items** are those upon which the presiding officer considers no discussion should be necessary. However, at the beginning of each meeting, any Council Member may request one or more items to be removed from the consent agenda for the purpose of discussion prior to a separate vote on the item(s). The presiding officer shall schedule such discussion and vote immediately following adoption of the consent agenda.*

Correspondence:

Sheriff's / Dispatch Report

Prepare for Roosevelt / Boost Your Business letter to share from Eastern Plains Economic Development
Carla Waters Correspondence (See attached)

Mayor Brown read the Carla Waters correspondence. It detailed the 18% penalty on water bills, stating that the resident believed it was too high. Mayor Brown asked for public comment on the correspondence. Resident Brandy Schipman had asked if there were low income assistance programs. Mayor Brown stated that there are, and residents who have had late payments in the past have been offered help with the program. Resident Gail Miller asked if it would effect the Town's Income if the penalty were to be lowered. Mayor Brown called Clerk Chance Senner to the floor to answer the question. Chance Senner responded that it would not be a significant amount, stating there are never many delinquent accounts at a time and when bills are stamped past due they are typically paid promptly. He also noted that, unlike what was stated in the letter, he does not apply penalties to already existing penalty charges, only penalties to the total unpaid utility balance. Motion made to put this item on the next scheduled meetings agenda made by Councilmember Ulrich, seconded by Councilmember Barnhart. All in favor, motion carried. See attached voting record.

Mayor Brown asked if any more correspondence had been received. Clerk Chance Senner noted more correspondence from resident Carla Waters the previous week, requesting information about the CDBG hearing and future water/infrastructure projects for the Town of Richey. He stated that an information packet was given to the resident.

Public Comment for items not on the agenda: Resident Lorraine Whiteman stated that another resident approached her asking a similar statement to "Why do we need more grants when we had already received several". Lorraine Whiteman stated that she had responded by telling them to come to the meeting. Mayor Brown responded that more grants mean more money for future projects.

Mayor's Report: See attached report. Mayor Brown expressed her thanks to EMT Brandy Schipman for approaching her about attending a meeting in Glendive on EMT recruitment and certification classes being offered in Glendive. Mayor Brown and Brandi attended the meeting. Informational flyers were created for ambulance recruitment in Richey. A meeting was organized by the EMTs and held last Sunday with 2 local residents showing interest to participate in the classes and get their EMT certification. Mayor Brown also reported that she testified via Zoom with League of Cities and Towns along with other Mayor's in front of the Montana Legislature's Energy and Technology Interim Committee on September 9 to discuss issues of permitting timelines, abandoned property, purchasing of railroad property, and weed abatement with BNSF.

Council Reports and Concerns: None.

Committee Reports: None

Public Works / Clerk’s Report - Delinquent accounts

Clerk/Public Works Chance Senner updated the Town Council on recent/ongoing public works activities, such as cold patching around Town, working with Prairie Plumbing on a service line replacement and a sewer service project, fully prepping for durapatching with Circle, warranty work to be done by Easton from Phase II of the water project, sweeping and grating Antelope Avenue when time is found, and future applications of enzymes in the lagoon.

Old Business:

- 1. Resolution 2025-07 to adopt the submission of the CDBG grant application for Phase 3 water infrastructure improvements.
- 2. Motion made to approve resolution 2025-07 to adopt the submission of the CDBG grant application for Phase 3 water infrastructure improvements by Councilmember Clinton, seconded by Councilmember Gibson. Mayor Brown asked for final questions, comments, and concerns from Council, administration and public. There were none. All in favor, motion carried. See attached voting record.
- 3. Updates to Phase 2 warranty work to be completed in September
Easton arrived in town 9/9/25 plans to start remedying warranty items 9/10/25.
- 4. Final Municode review and edits of the updated Code of Ordinances of the Town of Richey to submit for final publication through CivicPlus, LLC.

(Moved to business item #5, discussion of #3 to be at the end of the meeting.) Council sorted through the updated Code of Ordinances page by page for changes and reviews.

Mayor Brown noted that many of the items in the updated Code of Ordinances of the Town of Richey had been struck out, she further explained that this will heavily streamline guiding through our ordinance and rid of obsolete outdated ordinances. The Council then went through the updated ordinance packet. Once completed Mayor Brown notified Council that the updates and edits will be sent off to Civic Plus.

- 5. Discussion and action to adopt standard practice ambulance services policies and billing (tabled until October when billing is in place with Solestone)

New Business:

- 6. Discussion and possible action to participate with Glendive Ambulance Service for EMT certification Classes.

Mayor Brown notified Council since the Richey Ambulance Service is a department of the Town, the business item needs to proceed through Council approval. Motion made by Councilmember Ulrich to participate with Glendive Ambulance Service for EMT certification classes. Seconded by Councilmember Barnhart. All in favor, motion carried. See attached voting record.

Guests Vickie Mecum, Brandy Schipman, Gail Miller, and Jana Olson left the meeting at 7:48 PM.

Adjournment: Motion made by Councilmember Gibson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Barnhart. All in favor. Motion carried, see attached voting record. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Public comment is listed on the agenda for individuals to discuss any public matter not otherwise specifically listed on the agenda. If any individual desires to speak about an item specifically listed on the agenda, time will be allowed and identified by the mayor as “Any public comment?” when the item comes up for discussion and/or action.

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ATTEST: _____
Chance Senner, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: _____
NaDean Brown, Mayor