

Public Hearing and Regular City Council Meeting

City Hall

August 18, 2025

Mayor DeBoer opened the Public Hearing at 7:00pm and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others Attending are:

Council: Kerri Baird, Jeff Davis, Justin Ferguson, and Leonard Woehler.

City Staff: Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer, and Jim Lippert, City Attorney

Public: Roger Lee Sanstad, Tony Crowder, Jacob Schwarz, Lee Andreas, Michael Shirley, Angela Selby, William Warwick, Linda Brunckhorst, Tom Mattingly, Shirley Layne, Logan Todd, Linda Iversen, Singeli Agnew, Jerry Iversen, Jeff Johnston, Dulcie Bue Clavarino, Dan Astin, Barbara Van Cleve, Debbie Hill, Richard Stensaas, and Sheila Stensaas

Hope Mosness presented what the increase in water and sewer rates will look like on the residents' utility bills.

Public Comment: Logan Todd asked for clarification that there is a 4% increase over the next 5 years and wanted to know why all the effort to raise rates for such a small amount. He wanted to know how the percentage of increase was decided. Roger Sanstad asked how his meter is being read and doesn't believe the equipment being used can read his meter.

Mayor DeBoer closed the Public Hearing at 7:10pm and opened the Regular City Council Meeting.

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 4th Public Hearing and Regular City Council Meeting as amended, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve the August 11th Budget Work Meeting and Special City Council Meeting as amended, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Hope Mosness presented the proposed changes to the budget since the council decided to postpone purchasing a pool liner. The Council agreed to move forward with taking all of the mills and putting the extra funds towards the rent for city office space. Also, Hope noted that the bulk water revenue was decreased in the budget due to the suspension of bulk water sales to Bullock Contracting. Public Comment: Linda Brunckhorst asked if we had already budgeted for the rent for the office space.

Mayor DeBoer presented Resolution No. 1045: A Resolution of the City of Big Timber, Montana to Modify the Basis on Which Water Charges are Imposed and to Increase Rates for the Users of the System. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1045, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Mayor DeBoer presented Resolution No. 1046: A Resolution of the City of Big Timber, Montana to Modify the Basis on Which Sewer Charges are Imposed and to Increase Rates for the Users of the System. Councilwoman Baird made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1046, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Mayor DeBoer read Resolution No. 1047: A Resolution of the City of Big Timber Adopting Approval to Demolish City Hall. Councilman Woehler showed pictures of the damage at City Hall, showing that the support columns are on dirt and the structural engineer would not sign off on it. Councilman Woehler and Davis asked for clarification in the resolution as to where a new City Hall would have to be built. Mayor DeBoer explained that the site engineer has not fully condemned the building, but did say it was condemnable. Councilman Ferguson asked if the whole building would be torn down and if we would lose the grant money for the project. Mayor DeBoer explained if we keep part of the building, we would have to renovate that part as well and it could lead to more problems. He also stated that we would lose the grant money. Discussion took place on where to temporarily relocate Senior Pantry. Public Comment: Linda Brunckhorst asked if the city would be paying the rent for the Senior Pantry's temporary location. She and Dulcie Bue Clavarino asked about moving the city offices to another building such as the Public Works shop or the Dugout. Logan Todd asked if the city has the funds to build a new City Hall. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1047 as amended, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

The Water Committee (Councilmembers Ferguson and Baird) presented the Bulk Water Policy. Councilman Ferguson read the policy. Discussion was held by the Council on proposed amendments to the policy with input from City Attorney, Jim Lippert. Public Comment: Roger Sanstad asked who this policy was for as the general public. Jim Lippert explained that it includes companies as well. Dulcie Bue Clavarino, Jerry Iverson, and Shirley Layne all thanked the council for creating a policy together so quickly that is clear and well written. Dulcie and Linda Iversen asked how the prices were decided on and why we don't want to increase it more. Linda specifically would like to see an increase for those purchasing water for recreational use. Dulcie wanted to know if Bullock Contracting was turning around and selling the water to someone else. Jerry Iverson would like to see a list of conditions in the policy that the council uses to determine approval or disapproval of a water sale added to the requests and approvals sections of the policy. He would like to see one of the conditions be the effect the sale of the water will have on the fisheries. Roger Sanstad asked if we would sell water to criminals. Linda Iverson would like to see a contract signed with each person who purchases water. Councilman Davis made a motion to table the Bulk Water Policy, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion did not pass with Councilman Ferguson and Councilwoman Baird voting nay and Councilman Davis and Councilman Woehler voting aye. Mayor DeBoer broke the tie by voting nay.

Councilwoman Baird read the proposed amendments to the bulk water policy. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve the bulk water policy as amended, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried with Councilmembers Baird, Ferguson and Woehler voting aye and Councilman Davis voting nay.

Mayor DeBoer presented the Dugout Rental Agreement form. Discussion was held on the alcohol limit in the agreement as well as the insurance requirements. The Council would like to find out the state statute on alcohol and review this agreement before moving forward. Councilman Davis made a motion

to table the Dugout Rental Agreement form, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

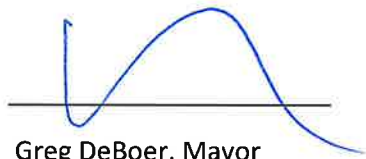
Mayor DeBoer asked the Council if they would like to take the Triangle Communications capital credits. Councilman Woehler made a motion to reject the Triangle Communications capital credits, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to approve the claims for the second half of July 2025, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Public Comment: None

Council Concerns: Councilman Davis stated that we voted last Monday to suspend water sales and he saw two Bullock Contracting trucks leaving the water filling station on Tuesday morning on 7:00am. Mayor DeBoer will address it with the Public Works Director. Councilman Ferguson stated that Bullock Contracting had been parking trucks there overnight. Councilman Ferguson stated that Kris Novotny had a resident request that E 8th Ave be closed between 3rd and 4th Ave. He stated that 9 out of the 10 residents that he spoke to that live on that street do not want the street closed. He also has people complaining to him about street encroachments around town, specifically a trailer on West 4th or piles of dirt out in the street. There are also other trailers and cars parked on boulevards. He would like us to use the animal control officer as a code enforcement officer part time.

There being no further business to go before the Council, Councilman Woehler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28pm, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council present.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg DeBoer', written over a horizontal line.

Greg DeBoer, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hope Mosness', written over a horizontal line.

Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer