

Regular City Council Meeting

City Hall

September 8, 2026

Mayor Ferguson opened the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:00pm and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others Attending are:

Council: Kerri Baird, Jeff Davis, Mike Duval and Leonard Woehler.

City Staff: Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer (via phone), Kris Novotny, Public Works Director, and Jim Lippert, City Attorney

County Staff: Sheriff Alan Ronneberg

Public: Angela Selby, Michael Shirley, Sarah Gregie, Aaron Freed, Mark Curry, and Kelsey Proue

Councilwoman Baird made a motion to approve the minutes from the 8/17/26 Regular City Council Meeting, and the 8/31/26 Public Hearing and Special City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Sheriff Ronneberg reported that there were 390 complaints, 31 cases, and 13 citations for the month of August 2026. He stated that a new Deputy was hired and he started September 1st and a new dispatcher that will start September 14th. The juvenile offenders that the county has been paying to house are no longer our responsibility and it will save the department \$14,000 a month. Mayor Ferguson asked how Sheriff Ronneberg feels the intersection at 1st Ave and McLeod Street is doing. He thinks they need a little more time to judge how things are going. Public Comment: Mike Shirley asked if the Sheriff could talk about any of the open cases. Sheriff Ronneberg answered no.

Kris Novotny, Public Works Director, explained there were issues at the Water Treatment Plant. They were able to diagnose the problems and have ordered the parts that are needed. Roe Construction will be crushing the rock and gravel at the Water Treatment Plant. Chad Hanson from Great West Engineering and Kris met with the Wastewater Discharge Permit writer from MT DEQ. She visited the wastewater site, and they addressed concerns she had. He anticipates having a new permit in place in the next two years. Crosswalks are being painted and several stop signs replaced. Northwestern Energy fixed a power issue at the Dugout. Their truck left ruts in the lawn and a landscape crew came in and fixed it and planted new grass seed. Councilman Davis asked if it would make sense to purchase parts for the WTP that we know are going to wear out. Kris said he has been working on making sure to have parts that he knows will be needed. Public Comment: Sarah Gregie lives at 413 E 8th Ave and stated she is continuing to have flooding in front of her house and halfway up her driveway. She would like to know what the council is going to do. She stated it is worse than before the street was paved. Mayor Ferguson stated they did receive her email with her concern, but he doesn't think it was that big of a problem nor is there anything the city can do about it to satisfy her. She got a quote of \$1200 from Roe Construction to fix the issue but was told by the contractor he wasn't sure it would fix the problem. She wants to hold the city accountable for not doing the job correctly. Mayor Ferguson would like to put this on the agenda for a discussion at the next City Council meeting. Councilman Woehler would like a representative from Great West Engineering and Weave Construction to come to the meeting. He agreed that in the winter when the water freezes, it could be a problem. Kris Novotny stated that the

water does drain just not as quickly as Sarah would like. He also stated that installing curb and gutter when we do street projects would take care of the problem. She will send Roe Construction's report to the council. Mayor Ferguson will also get the engineer's report.

There were no bids for the 2010 Ford Flex.

Aaron Freed, Executive Director for the Sweet Grass County Chamber of Commerce asked the Council for approval to close 3rd and 4th Ave between Hooper and McLeod as well as Hooper St by Sheepherder Square for loading and unloading. They will be doing a hay ride for Fall Fest on Saturday, October 3, 2026, from 8am-4pm. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve the request of street closure on October 3rd from 8am-4pm for Fall Fest from 3rd and 4th Avenue between Hooper and McLeod St with consideration to the Lutheran Church in case something happens, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Kelsey Proue representing the Sweet Grass High School Booster Club asked the Council for permission to use the vacant City Hall lot for the Homecoming bonfire on Thursday, September 24, 2026. BTVFD will be there to help control the fires. They will have a giant pinata and serve hot dogs along with the bonfire. Councilman Davis made a motion to approve the request for the booster club to use the city hall lot for the homecoming bonfire on September 24th, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilman Duval made a motion to approve Claims, Payroll and Overtime for August 2026, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

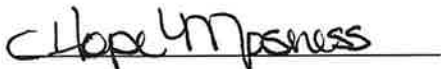
Public Comment: None

There being no further business to go before the Council, Councilman Woehler, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm seconded by Councilman Duval. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.



Justin Ferguson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer