

Mayor:

David Cates

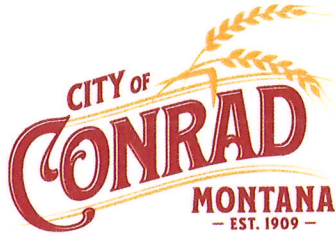
City Council:

Amber Schoenrock

Carrie Doty

Karla Breeding

Darryl Burditt



City of Conrad
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CONRAD, COUNTY OF PONDERA, STATE OF MONTANA
HELD AT CONRAD CITY HALL ON SEPTEMBER 16th, 2025

The City Council of the City of Conrad, County of Pondera, State of Montana, met in regular session at Conrad City Hall on Tuesday September 16th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor David Cates, Alderman Amber Schoenrock, Alderman Darryl Burditt, Alderman Karla Breeding, Administrative Clerk Julie Orcutt, Finance Officer Jodi Rogers, Public Works Director Dave Zimbelman

Absent:

Guests: Brad Koon, Rebekah Ranger, Janette VanLuchene, Wade Fuson, Diana Fuson and Fred Morris

Teleconference Guests: Alderman Carrie Doty, Wendy, 2 unidentified callers

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cates at 6:00 p.m.

Action: Read and approve minutes of September 2nd, 2025, regular council meeting

- Motion by Alderman Breeding, Second by Alderman Schoenrock, to approve the minutes of the September 2nd, 2025 regular meeting, as presented.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

1. Action on any Claims and Payroll:

Claims: 29208-29220, 29223-29227, 29229-29235, 29239

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to approve the claims as presented.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

2. Action on Water Contracts: None

3. Correspondence:

4. Public Comment (no action taken): Brad Koon of Triple Tree Engineering gave an update on the stormwater project. Discussed manhole height and requirements. Progress is being made, with

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several more locations to be updated. Paving may need to wait until spring to let the ground settle. Concern regarding the unfinished road was discussed. Underground work is not without some problems, but things are going well. Water and Waste Water plants have some small leaks, general maintenance is needed.

Rebekah asked if there was any information on the Senior Surrey and the quest for funding. We do not have any information at this time, except for the fundraising efforts called "Bale Out the Surrey" which starts later this month. Some discussion regarding "Meals on Wheels" funding.

Some discussion regarding the open positions at the City. Posting on the website, Facebook and the Mt State Job service, as well as possibly Indeed and LinkedIn for a City Clerk, Patrolman and Maintenance Worker II.

Brad talked about availability of planning grants for 2026. Looking forward to projects that may be coming up.

5. Department Reports:

Finance Officer Jodi Rogers talked about making an adjustment to the overall budget, but finances are fine.

Julie gave a report on the swimming pool income/expenses. Overall income is down from last year, but we were open more days than in previous years. Payroll expenses were up. Total loss of over \$38,000.

6. Close Regular Meeting:

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Burditt, to close the regular meeting at 6:30 pm

* Motion Carried unanimously

7. 6:30 p.m. Open Public Hearing for Resolution 25-1326 Increase Sewer System Fees and Resolution 25-1327 Increase Solid Waste System Fees

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to open the Public Hearing on Sewer and Solid Waste Systems Fee Increases

* Motion carried unanimously

Public Comment: Mayor addressed the guests. It has been a very long time between rate increases. Although there was some discussion over the last several years, no progress was made regarding actual dollar amount of fee increases needed. Questions from the guests about the total amount at once being high. Mayor Cates suggests that this should be something we look at every 2-3

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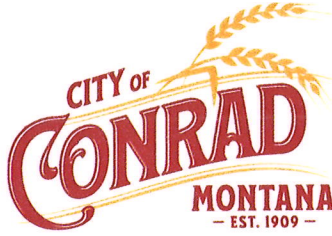
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years rather than waiting and having to do such a big increase. Also trying to save for replacement dumpsters and a new truck. The total amounts being raised will help defray costs of maintenance, improvements and financial obligations. Council also addressed rate increases that may not have been discussed at length, but needing to get to the target rate so we are compliant with funding needs, for major projects, including the stormwater upgrade, with the local and Federal government requirements.

8. Close Public Hearing

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to close the Public Hearing at 6:45pm
 - Motion Carried unanimously

9. Re-Open Regular Meeting:

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Burditt, to re-open the regular meeting
 - Motion carried unanimously

10. Discussion/Action: Adopt RESOLUTION 25-1326, Increase Rates of the Sewer System

- Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to adopt Resolution 25-1326, Increase Rates of the Sewer System as presented.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

11. Discussion/Action: Adopt RESOLUTION 25-1327, Increase Rates of the Solid Waste System

- Motion by Alderman Breeding, Second by Alderman Burditt, to adopt Resolution 25-1327, Increase Rates of Solid Waste System as presented.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously

12. Executive Session: None

13. Other Business:

14. Items to Appear on the Next Agenda:

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There being no further business to come before the Council,

15. Motion by Alderman Schoenrock, Second by Alderman Breeding, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50p.m.

a. Motion Carried Unanimously

Mayor, David Cates

Attest: _____
Council President, Amber Schoenrock

