

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,  
COLUMBUS, MONTANA HELD March 16, 2026, AT 7:00 P.M.**

<b>COUNCIL PRESENT OFFICERS PRESENT</b>	The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Joe Morse began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. The council persons present were Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes. Staff members present were Chief of Police Aaron Uecker, Public Works Director Peyton Brookshire, City Attorney Ryan Addis, and Clerk-Treasurer Cherrie McAlexander.
<b>SIDELINE IN PERSON</b>	Brendon Beckett, Rosalind Rose, Hunter Grieshop, Cody Nelson, Dan Palmer, Lavra Grieshop, Kathy Black, Hayden Grieshop, Rachel Black, Rachael Geehan, Michael Zackery, Jon Church, Elissa Church, Carson West, Branden Timm, Kayla Flemetis, Daylan Richard, Lincoln Uecker, Clay Waltner, Moose Uecker, Silas Vesbach, Max Powell, Mason Matovich, Grady Olsen, Paul Flom, Brenda Flom, Nancy Rohde
<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b>	NONE
<b>REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED</b>	The mayor asked the council if they had reviewed the minutes of the March 2, 2026, regular meeting, and if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections. Cole Waltner made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>SHUT OFF LIST</b>	The shut-off list for the month of March 2026 was presented to the Council. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the list as presented, seconded by Dennis Holten; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, Dennis Holten, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>APPROVAL OF CLAIMS</b>	The claims list for the 1 <sup>st</sup> half of March was presented to the Council. Cole Waltner made a motion to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Danen Johannes; roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>	Chief of Police presented the Medal of Valor to Sgt Grieshop for his actions/bravery during the agency assist call involving a Double Homicide that happened south of Absarokee in December.
<b>FIRE DEPT.</b>	The Fire Chief was not present and did not provide a report.
<b>POLICE</b>	The Police Chief was present and provided a report.
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>	The Public Works Director was present and provided a report.
<b>ATTORNEY</b>	The City Attorney was present and provided a report.
<b>CITY JUDGE</b>	The City Judge was not present but did provide a report.
<b>CLERK-TREASURER</b>	The Clerk-Treasurer was present and provided a report. Cherrie told the council that if any of them were having issues setting up their new city assigned email to please come see her and she would help them get it set up.
<b>DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND EX PARTE COMMUNICATION</b>	NONE

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<b>PUBLIC COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS:</b>	NONE
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS-</b>	The minutes from the Solid Waste Committee meeting that was held on March 2, 2026 were presented to the council. Peyton stated that he would be reaching out to have another meeting soon. He said that there are a few more tweaks to the ordinance that he would like to discuss.
<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>	NONE
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<p>Approval of the Special Use Permit sponsored by Purpose Church for an Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Holten made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Special Use Permit sponsored by MT SIP for Montana Shakespeare in the Park at Heritage Park on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Cole Waltner made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit, seconded by Danen Johannes; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, Dennis Holten, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Resolution 894 – Establishing Compliance with Reimbursement Bond Regulations Under the Internal Revenue Code – 12th Street Sewer Project. Cole Waltner made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Dennis Holten; roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Notice of Award to Noddings Waterworks, Inc for the AMI Water Meters. Tim Mayo made a motion to approve the notice, seconded by Rick White. Rick asked if the new meters would help residents monitor their water usage and how that would work. Peyton said yes and explained how residents will be able to sign up for that service. Roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, Dennis Holten, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the city and Noddings Waterworks for AMI Water Meters not to exceed \$500,000. Dennis Holten made a motion to approve the service agreement, seconded by Rick White; roll call for vote, Danen Johannes, Cole Waltner, Tim Mayo, Dennis Holten, and Rick White, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p> <p>Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the city and AEI Applicators for weed and mosquito control in the amount of \$35,000. Rick White made the motion to approve the service agreement, seconded by Cole Waltner; roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.</p>
	Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the city and Grizzly Tree Service for tree pruning services in the amount of \$45,000. Dennis Holten made a motion to approve the service agreement, seconded by Tim Mayo. Dennis and Tim both asked what exactly the contract was for. Peyton explained that the contract covered all tree trimming in city parks and right a

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	ways until June 30, 2026. Roll call for vote, Rick White, Dennis Holten, Tim Mayo, Cole Waltner and Danen Johannes, all yea votes. Motion passed.
<b>COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA</b>	Rick White asked if the city transfer site took oil and if there had been anyone inquiring about oil. Peyton replied that the city does not take oil and there had not been anyone inquiring. Cole Waltner said that there have been lots of 4-wheelers, ATVs and other off-road vehicles tearing up the islands located in Itch-Kep-Pe Park. Cole wanted to know if the city ordinance for the park could be amended to not allow off road motorized vehicles. Ryan Addis said that he would work on an ordinance revision and have a rough draft for the council to review.
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Joe Morse requested a Motion to Adjourn. Rick White made the motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. seconded by Dennis Holton, roll call all yea votes.

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JOSEPH MORSE II, MAYOR

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CHERRIE L MCALEXANDER, CLERK-TREASURER

