

**Minutes of City of Laurel
Budget/Finance Committee
Tuesday, July 14, 2026**

Members' Present: Jessica Banks, Tom Canape, Richard Klose, Casey Wheeler

Others Present: Kelly Strecker, Kelly Gauslow, Matt Wheeler, Kris Voge

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair at 5:30 pm.

Public Input: There was no public comment.

General Items –

1. Review and approve June 23, 2026, Budget and Finance Committee meeting minutes. Jessica Banks moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2026. Casey Wheeler seconded the motion. With no objection, the minutes of June 23, 2026, were approved. There was no public comment or committee discussion.
2. Review and approve purchase requisitions. Matt presented a purchase requisition for the repair charges of one of the S.E 4th Street crosswalks. Matt stated that these crosswalks get damaged a couple of times a year. This time they were able to use leftover parts they had from fixing the other crosswalks, and Ace Electric would need to fix the electricity. The cost of Ace Electric to repair is \$7,283.47. There was brief discussion. Tom Canape made a motion to hold off on the purchase requisition and take to LURA to see if they would pay for the repairs this time. Jessica Banks seconded the motion. With no objection, the purchase requisition was put on hold until the LURA board was contacted. The next LURA meeting will be held on July 27, 2026.
3. Review and recommend approval to Council; claims entered through July 10, 2026. Richard Klose moved to approve the claims and check register for claims entered through July 10, 2026. Jessica Banks seconded the motion. With no objection, the claims and check register of July 10, 2026, were approved. There was no public comment.
4. Review and approve Payroll Register for the pay period ending June 21, 2026, totaling \$262,203.89. Jessica Banks motioned to approve the payroll register for the pay period ending June 21, 2026, totaling \$262,203.89. Tom Canape seconded the motion. With no objection, the payroll register was approved. There was no public comment.
5. Review and approve Payroll Register for the pay period ending July 5, 2026, totaling \$318,910.54. Tom Canape motioned to approve the payroll register for the pay period ending July 5, 2026, totaling \$318,910.54. Casey Wheeler seconded the motion. With no objection, the payroll register was approved. There was no public comment.
6. Review and approve June 2026 Utility Billing Adjustments. Tom Canape moved to approve June 2026 Utility Billing Adjustments. Casey Wheeler seconded the motion. With no objection, the June Utility Billing Adjustments were approved. There was no public comment.

New Business -Kelly discussed the membership renewal for the Montana League of Cities and Towns. The committee agreed to continue the membership for FY 2027. The total cost of the membership this year is \$14,410.00.

Old Business – Kelly let the committee know that she received an email from the Local Government Center stating the corrective action plan she submitted for the audit findings was accepted.

Other Items –

1. Review Comp/OT reports for the pay period ending June 21, 2026.
2. Review Comp/OT reports for the pay period ending July 5, 2026.
3. Mayor Update – The mayor stated he has been meeting with department heads regarding their budget requests and is hoping to have them completed within the next couple of weeks. Gave a brief overview of what the city has been working on moving in a forward direction. He stated that the water usage has been high over the last couple of weeks. The city will be meeting with CHS regarding the raw water, settled water contract.
4. Clerk/Treasurer Financial Update-Kelly stated that she continues to work on the budget. She said that an agreement for the transportation service with Allies on Aging is in the works and will be coming to council soon.

Announcements –

1. The next Budget and Finance Committee meeting will be held on July 28, 2026, at 5:30 pm.
2. Tom Canape is scheduled to review the claims for the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Strecker

NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.