
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the St. Maries City Council was called to order by Mayor, Tina Thomson, at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, in Council Chambers at City Hall, 602 College Avenue, St. Maries, Idaho.

2. Roll Call.

PRESENT

Mayor, Tina Thomson

Councilors, Cindy Willard, Jeff Pugh, Charles Winter, Ed Spooner, Waylon Newton, Janelle Buell

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Thomson led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Consent Calendar. – action item

Mayor Thomson noted for the record the amount of expenses presented for payment approval, as shown below.

- a. HMH Engineering Invoice M24017-06 for Child Pedestrian Safety Sidewalks in the amount of \$5,021.10. – action item**

Motion to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Result: Passed

Moved By: Buell

Seconded by: Winter

Voted Yes: Willard, Pugh, Winter, Spooner, Newton, Buell

5. Old Business.

- a. Consider Approval to Obtain Environmental Legal Counsel. – action item**

Jesse Herndon, with HMH Engineering, and Daniel Martin, City Sewer Operator, provided Council with an overview of the EPA violations the City are facing. Herndon explained that the EPA has recommended developing a compliance agreement schedule and that the City is awaiting a draft agreement from the EPA for review.

Council discussed the matter and agreed they would like to look into options before pursuing outside legal counsel.

Motion to TABLE this item.

Result: TABLED

Moved By: Newton

Seconded by: Pugh

Voted Yes: Willard, Pugh, Winter, Spooner, Newton, Buell

b. Request for additional sidewalk and drainage improvements. – action item

Shiloh Pfeiffer, Public Works Director, stated that this topic was discussed at the previous Council meeting. Following that meeting, he contacted Logan Ledgerwood, HMM Engineering's project manager for the current sidewalk projects. Pfeiffer reported that the requested ADA ramp and drainage improvements on Jefferson Avenue between 14th Street and Coeur d'Alene Avenue will be added into the existing project and funded through the current grant.

Pfeiffer further explained that the proposed sidewalk improvements on the west side of 10th Street between Jefferson Avenue and College Avenue. Christine Smith, HMM Engineering, explained the improvements could potentially be added to the existing TAPS grant. This addition would require a 7.34% local match.

Motion to use timber funds, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, to provide the required local match for the TAPS grant to complete additional sidewalk improvements on the west side of 10th Street between Jefferson Avenue and College Avenue.

Result: Approved

Moved By: Buell

Seconded by: Pugh

Voted Yes: Willard, Pugh, Winter, Spooner, Newton, Buell

6. New Business.

a. HMM Engineering & City Staff Project Update.

Jesse Herndon, with HMM Engineering, provided Council with updates on several ongoing water and wastewater projects.

Herndon first reported on the DEQ Emerging Contaminants Grant for the installation of an iron and manganese filtration system at the Riverdale Well Site. He explained that the project is currently in the preliminary design phase with DEQ and a well house will need to be constructed. The plan was to build the structure on the existing metal platform at the site, which is located outside the floodplain. Herndon noted that a previous engineering firm had developed plans for the well house and that the City should have the associated specifications and design documents. Council requested that Herndon contact Bruce Larkin to obtain a quote for construction of the well house.

Herndon next updated Council on the wastewater land application project at Tubbs Field on Shepherds Road. He explained that the farmer leasing the property from the City is not receiving sufficient irrigation due to wastewater land application regulations. After consulting with DEQ, the City is exploring the use of ditch water as a supplemental irrigation source. Herndon reported that the City Sewer Operator will begin sampling the ditch water, and DEQ will determine whether it is suitable for irrigation use.

Herndon also provided an update on wastewater lagoon seepage testing. He stated that testing has been completed on two lagoons; however, one lagoon cannot currently be tested because a Benewah County sewer line discharges directly into the lagoon rather

than through the splitter box. Herndon explained that there may be a nearby manhole that would allow the County's line to be isolated so testing can be completed. He stated that he will coordinate with Jim Roletto of Benewah County to discuss potential solutions.

Councilor Pugh inquired about the specifications for the filtration sand used at the City's water treatment plant. Herndon stated that he would provide Council with the applicable correspondence and specification requirements.

b. Discuss Ambulance Building (220 South 9th Street).

Councilor Newton suggested proposing an agreement with Benewah County EMS District which would include a \$60,000 emergency repair and performance reserve account. Councilor Willard stated she would like to look into this proposal more.

7. Reports and Communications.

a. Mayor's Update.

Tina Thomson, Mayor, stated that the police department is down to two officers and questioned looking into the future of the department.

b. City Council Comments.

Councilor Buell stated the American Legion group completed the placement of the shed at the Woodlawn Cemetery, and it looks good.

c. Public Works Updates.

No updates - absent.

d. Police Updates.

No updates - absent.

8. Public Comments.

No comments.

9. Adjourn.

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting was reconvened and adjourned at 5:02 PM.

I presided over this meeting and can confirm that the foregoing minutes, prepared by the City Clerk, were approved by City Council during their regular meeting held on _____.

Tina Thomson, Mayor

Attest: Jaidyn Kinzer, City Clerk