

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
HARRISON CITY COUNCIL
July 14, 2026-6:00 PM
HARRISON SENIOR CENTER**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Wanda Irish called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
2. **ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:** TJ Byrne, Kelly Kilian, Josephine Prophet, and Will Butler were present.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Will Butler made a motion to enter executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f)

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Idaho Code 74- 206(1) f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement.

Will Butler made a motion to come out of executive session

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

5. **GUEST SPEAKERS:** HMH Engineering

Jesse Herndon of HMH Engineering provided an update on the projects currently underway in the City. He reported that the water project has been completed. He also stated that work on the lift station and force main projects is ongoing. Mr. Herndon noted that the moratorium is anticipated to be lifted by the end of 2028. Additionally, he reported that the City received a manganese grant to address the brown water issues and recently was awarded a \$500,000 grant for RV park improvements.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/LETTERS:**

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Tim Dohnansky played a video to the public and to the city council.

Dominick Como provided public comment and noted that, although he is employed by the City, he was speaking in his capacity as a resident. He expressed support for the Local Option Tax (LOT), stating that it benefits the City by helping to offset the costs associated with tourists' use of local roads and infrastructure. Mr. Como further stated that while the City Council may determine the proposed tax rate, any increase must ultimately be approved by the registered voters of the City.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR-ACTION

- A. Approval of payment of the bills of June 2026 as presented
- B. Approval of June 9, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes.

Josephine Prophet stated that she reviewed the checks and the questions she had were answered. Will Butler stated he called Miriah and his questions were answered.

Josephine Prophet made a motion to approve the consent calendar

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider increasing Local Option Tax Rate-ACTION

TJ Byrne made a motion to raise the Local Option Tax Rate and the amount to be determined after legal counsel provides advice on items discussed in executive session.

Will Butler seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

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B. Considering Amending Harrison City Code 3-2-4 (“Open Burning”)-ACTION

T.J. Byrne stated that he had spoken with Fire Chief Patt regarding the new burning requirements. Once the requirements are finalized and adopted, they will be posted on the Fire Department's website for public reference. Beginning in 2026, residents will be able to apply for a burn permit either online or by phone. He also noted that the City will be required to hold a public hearing before making any changes to the City Code. The Downtown District and the draft map were also discussed.

TJ Byrne made a motion to amend the Harrison City Code 3-2-4(“Open Burning”) and to have a Public Hearing

Kelly Kilian seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Accept Resignation Letter from Charlie Shutt-ACTION

Josephine Prophet made a motion to accept the resignation letter from Charlie Shutt

Will Butler seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

B. Accept Resignation Letter from John Gray-ACTION

Will Butler made a motion to accept resignation letter from John Gray

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

C. Review and Discuss Options regarding the City Gym-ACTION

The Council continued discussions regarding the future of the City Gym. At the previous Council meeting, the Council approved applying a sealant to the roof.

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Josh Burg advised that the cost of the project would be significant. Councilmember TJ Byrne reported that he recently toured the building and observed several dead bats inside. He also noted a strong odor throughout the facility. Council discussed the bat abatement requirements necessary to address the situation. In compliance with Idaho Fish & Game regulations and public health concerns, the City must take appropriate action to remove and exclude bats from the building. Bats are protected nongame species. Required steps include contacting the Idaho Department of Fish & Game's Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, obtaining authorization for bat removal and exclusion due to the public health risk, and hiring a licensed wildlife control contractor to remove dead bats, exclude any live bats, seal entry points, clean bat guano, and provide documentation verifying compliance with all applicable requirements. Due to these concerns, the City Gym has been closed until further notice.

The Council also discussed the possibility of forming a "Save the Gym" committee to encourage community involvement and gather ideas regarding the facility's future. Potential options discussed included demolishing the building, repurposing it, or rebuilding the facility.

Will Butler made a motion to Table Item 9.C

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

- D. Accept the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Grant for RV Park Improvements in the amount of \$508,156-**ACTION**

Kelly Kilian made a motion to Accept the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Grant for RV Park Improvements in the amount of \$508,156.

Josephine Prophet seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

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- E. Remove Kelly Kilian from the Administration Committee-**ACTION**
Will Butler made a motion to remove Kelly Kilian from the Administration Committee
TJ Byrne seconded
TJ Byrne AYE
Kelly Kilian AYE
Josephine Prophet AYE
Will Butler AYE
- F. Appoint Kelly Kilian to the Public Works Committee-**ACTION**
TJ Byrne made a motion to appoint Kelly Kilian to the Public Works Committee
Will Butler seconded
TJ Byrne AYE
Kelly Kilian AYE
Josephine Prophet AYE
Will Butler AYE

10. REPORTS:

A. Mayor

The Mayor reported that City staff has been working on public records requests. She also announced that construction of the Child Pedestrian Sidewalk project is scheduled to begin on July 16, 2026. Following completion of that work, crews will proceed downtown to repair and improve the sidewalks in that area. She mentioned that the Fiscal Year 2025 Audit has been completed and the council will be getting their bound copies soon. She stated that Miriah has been completing the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) each month and submitting them to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

I. City Attorney- Susan Weeks

Susan Weeks stated that she has been reviewing Public Record Request and that the staff has been doing a great job.

II. Public Works- Josh Burg

Josh reported on the water and sewer systems, RV park, City Gym, and street department, highlighting the work that City crews have been completing.

III. City Clerk/Treasurer-Miriah Pfeiffer

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Miriah Pfeiffer reported that other than their daily duties the city staff has been working on Public Record Request and that they have also been working on the FY 26/27 Budget.

B. Committees

I. Administration Committee:

The Administration Committee stated they have been reviewing budget materials. They will be working on the Personnel Policy as well in the next meeting.

II. Public Works Committee:

The Public Works Committee has been working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan and discussing the installation of signs to help bicyclists traveling along Bell Canyon Road locate and access the Springston Trailhead.

Will Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting

TJ Byrne seconded

TJ Byrne AYE

Kelly Kilian AYE

Josephine Prophet AYE

Will Butler AYE

11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 PM