CITY OF BEULAH REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2026

CITY OF BEULAH
October 19, 2026, 6:30 pm
Beulah City Hall Council Chambers

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Beulah City Council was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Olivia Akin with Council Members Mike Heidel, Anthony Deavers, Adam Baker, Bill Keller, Kevin Herrmann, Cameron Brown and Kameron Plienis present. KC Unruh absent.

Also Present: City Attorney Scott Solem, City Engineer Jerod Klabunde, Asst. Engineer Aidan Kelly, Police Chief Frank Senn, Econ/Op Dir. Beaver Brinkman, Assist Op Dir. Jennifer Gabel, City Auditor Heather Ferebee, Beulah residents.

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC HEARING

The Street Improvement District No. 27 Special Assessment hearing opened. The Special Assessment Commission approved the assessment list and following council approval, it will be sent to the county. Special assessments have a ten-year repayment period, with the interest rate set by the council.

James Nelson submitted a written appeal for parcel BB-144-88-61-01-02 (907 11th St NE), requesting a reduction because the property lacks utilities. Baker noted the Special Assessment Commission reviewed the property per policy. Because this is a local street improvement rather than city wide, policy does not allow for reductions for missing water or sewer services. Brown arrived.

The Council can set the assessment interest rate up to 1.5% higher than the 2% project loan rate to cover administrative expenses and unpaid specials. Baker moved to set the assessment interest rate at 3.5%. Keller seconded. Roll call vote found Heidel, Baker, Deavers, Plienis, Keller and Herrmann in favor. Brown abstained. Motion passed.

Solem stated the council must approve the Resolution Confirming Assessments and Directing Certification and Levy after the hearing. Special assessments will be applied to parcels and delivered to the county by November 1. Ferebee noted residents can pay assessments interest free until October 30 at 12:00 pm. In response to a resident's question, Klabunde stated the total project cost was $4.5 million.

The Hearing was closed.

The Resolution Confirming Assessments for SID No. 27 was provided to the council. This is for final approval of the assessment list for Street Improvement District No. 27 as amended and confirmed by the Special Assessment Commission of the City of Beulah. Baker moved to approve the Resolution Confirming Assessments and Directing Certification and Levy. Deavers seconded. Roll call vote found Heidel, Baker, Brown, Deavers, Plienis, Keller and Herrmann in favor.

MINUTES

Baker moved to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 5, 2026, as provided to the Council by email. Heidel seconded. Roll call vote found Heidel, Brown, Baker, Deavers, Keller and Herrmann in favor. Plienis abstained. Motion passed.

CITY ENGINEER

City Engineer

Klabunde stated the Main Street Phase II Prairie Dog funding notice was received. The city intends to seek a cost-share from the Department of Water Resources for additional funding. They met with approximately half of the landowners (20 people) to secure required construction easements, which must be completed before bidding.

The Northside Street Project is complete for the year with crack sealing scheduled for spring. Striping is finished. Kelly noted one final pay application remains for storm structure repairs. Baker moved to approve SID 27 Pay Application 4 for $912,322.03 to Bechtold Paving, Inc. Herrmann seconded. Roll call vote found Heidel, Brown, Baker, Plienis, Deavers, Keller and Herrmann in favor.

M Construction is working on the Frontage Road and areas will be blocked for several weeks to allow concrete to cure. Capital Improvement Plan work continues soon. A fairgrounds survey work meeting is scheduled for October 21 at 6:00 pm. The Dry Dam EAP was distributed for review.

Klabunde explained the Water Service Line Inventory process to identify unknown service lines by 2030. The city can currently apply for a 2/3 funding grant.

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund Survey is due this month. Beulah street patching estimates for the west and east side will be provided at the next meeting. Regarding the Northside Street Project punch list, Kelly said a joint city and contractor inspection will happen in the spring. Baker noted a curb issue near Winkler Chiropractic. Brinkman said it will be fixed next spring using Interstate Engineering funds from the Main Street Project. Regarding the Northside Project, Baker reported speed bumps holding water. Kelly said work was focused on the worst pooling areas first. Public Works is currently clearing plugged catch drains.

Senn reported a complaint from the final day of construction regarding a vehicle left on the road, which was towed at the city's expense. Investigation is still underway regarding reported damage by the towing company.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Justin Feil stated he built a shop on his property in the Industrial Park area, but he doesn't need that much land. He is splitting the property and correcting related land issues, pending an answer from the county.

COUNCIL PORTFOLIOS

Mayor Akin

There is a Planning and Zoning meeting scheduled for November 4, 2026, to review the zoning code revisions, including revisions regarding cell phone towers.

Council Member Brown

Brown updated the council on the library activity this year.

The Park District requested micro surfacing estimates for Riverside Park and the Softball Complex parking lot and is exploring grants. Baker moved to request Moore Engineering provide a quote for street improvements to Riverside Park, the Softball Complex, and the golf course road. Heidel seconded. Roll call vote found Heidel, Baker, Brown, Deavers, Plienis, Keller and Herrmann in favor.

Council Member Heidel

Heidel reported some employees in the Police Dept. completed medical, narcotics and EMT training. First Aid training was provided for other city employees through PULSE.

CITY PERSONNEL

City Auditor

Herrmann moved to approve the September Financial Reports. Keller seconded. Plienis noted he requested better service from Associated Pools for future city projects. Roll call vote found Heidel, Baker, Brown, Deavers, Plienis, Keller and Herrmann in favor.

Economic/Op Director

Brinkman stated three items remain on the Main Street Phase I punch list. The city is working with BEK regarding the issues, and Krebs Auto Body will sign off on BEK's work. A land survey meeting with the Fair Board, 4-H, Museum, Fire Department, and City is scheduled for October 21 at 6:00 pm to review the new completed map. The BRIC 23 Flood Survey contract was received, and updates will be provided following legal and engineering reviews. The city is scheduling a presentation by MDU to the council regarding the proposed WBI Bakken East Pipeline, hoping to set a day by the end of the year. The council is invited to a November 4 meeting at City Hall with the Lewis and Clark Development Group to review available loan and grant programs the city can utilize. City officials, CVB portfolio holders and an administrator for the CVB are meeting this week regarding the Sun Valley RV Park management, contract, and budget. The city received notice of a chip seal to be completed on Highway 49 from the Mercer County line to Mile Marker 101.718 in 2027.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Olivia Akin, Mayor

Heather Ferebee, City Auditor

(November 5, 2026)