



**AGENDA
CITY OF LAUREL
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026
5:45 PM
CITY HALL**

Public Input: *Citizens may address the committee regarding any item of business that is not on the agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the committee will not take action on any item not on the agenda.*

1. Public Input

General Items

2. Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2026
3. Updates from Emergency Departments

New Business

Old Business

Other Items

Announcements

4. Next Meeting Monday, June 22, 2026, 6 pm in Council Chambers

The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 5100, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.

File Attachments for Item:

2. Approval of Minutes from April 27, 2026



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026**

The Emergency Services Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Monday, APRIL 27, 2026, by Chair Jodi Mackay

Members Present: Jodi Mackay - Chair, Irv Wilke – Vice Chair, Brent Edgmond, Sara Naylor, Shane Lacasse, Bruce McGee

Others Present: Ambulance Chief Lyndy Gurchiek and Fire Chief JW Hopper

Public Input: Two members of the public, Cheryl Hill and Laura Kirschenmann, expressed appreciation for the emergency services departments and committee.

General Items:

1. Approval of the Minutes from March 23, 2026. Irv made motion to approve, Sara seconded. Motion carried 6-0

2. Update from Emergency Departments – reports attached
Fire Department

Responded to 38 calls for reporting period

Continue with training like BNSF HazMat – indepth training on what goes through railyard

Pack test – all members that attempted passed (3 miles with 45 lb pack in 45 minutes)

29 members including 3 in rookie school

4 applications ready for review in September

DNRC staffing – staffed East Fire in Red Lodge with 2 firefighters for 4 days

Getting harder to staff DNRC hours due to most FF having full time jobs

Laurel obligated to support due to DNRC providing 2 trucks

Should be able to staff most days of the week – DNRC is aware of struggle

JW and Shane will work on discussions with CHS about their employees being able to leave to assist as needed.

Grants in process – hoping for Firehouse Subs grant (for side by side and trailer to aid in search and rescue), Lowe’s grant – moved into top 100 (want \$80000 to help repair garage bay doors), DNRC grant – applying again

Would like to negotiate with city regarding DNRC reimbursement for firefighter support.

Currently 100% goes into general fund. FD would like to see 80% to fire budget and 20% to general fund.

Would like to work on agreement with Columbus for truck maintenance. Currently pay around \$200 - \$285 / hr. \$40000 year agreement with Columbus would equate to about \$100 / hr.

Emergency Networking – going well

Still working with school and LVFD Association regarding 4th of July – want it to be safe

Discussion regarding funding and support of FD in comparison to other departments:

Frequently hear “no money” but question overtime allowances for office staff at CC meetings

7% increase for PW union contract but FD told to fundraise

Per diem denied for FF at an unpaid out of town training

FF earn below minimum wage when on a fire (\$10.50 / hr)

Attorney working on contract to allow FD to bill other entities

Police Department

Chief Anglin absent due to family emergency
Report attached

Ambulance Department

131 requests for service for reporting period
Levi, current Asst. Chief, leaving – posted internally for FT Paramedic to take over Asst. Chief duties
Troy Downing contacted department directly regarding the grant application – hoping that’s a good sign
“I am responding” platform implemented with dispatch and crews
Selling Care 1 on Marketplace
Looking at putting a shelf to safely secure gear in QRU - \$4300 cost
Working on cleaning up station
Growth Concerns and Issues:
Currently have 10 fulltime staff that work 2 24 hour shifts per week. Would like to fully staff 2 ambulances which would require at least 4 more fulltime employees. However, this would not provide adequate coverage for vacation / sick time – that coverage would require OT.
Would like to budget for a new ambulance every 8-10 years
EKG monitors, radios and other durable equipment should also be replaced every 8-10 years

New Business:

Old Business: City growth concerns and challenges – info / details on each departments attached reports

Other Items:

Announcements: Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 5:45 pm in Council Chambers (change in regular schedule due to Memorial Day holiday on Monday, 5/26/26).