# Livingston City Commission Minutes

April 07, 2026
5:30 PM
City – County Complex, Community Room

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86841870725?pwd=gA99zZFCmhplS68V5lqeczppE9dj2b.1

Meeting ID: 868 4187 0725
Passcode: 932537

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1. Call to Order

5:32 pm Chair Nootz called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

- Chair Nootz
- Vice Chair Willich
- Commissioner Daniels
- Commissioner O'Neill

City Staff Present

- City Manager Grant Gager
- Chief of Police Wayne Hard
- Policy Analyst Greg Anthony
- Finance Director Paige Fetterhoff
- Public Works Director Shannon Holmes
- Assistant Chief Emanuel
- Officer Jon Manley
- Dispatcher Barbie Roberts
- Dispatcher Sarah Andres
- Water Superintendent Ryan Townsend
- Water Lead Jason Moyer
- Sewer Maintenance 2 Dawson Rogers

- Streets Super Intendent Patrick Stewart
- Project Manager Adam Ballew
- Admin Assistant Samantha Lembcke

3. Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Chair Nootz asked the room to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

4. Public Comment

*Individuals are reminded that public comments should be limited to item over which the City Commission has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power (MCA 2-3-202)*

Public comment was offered by:

- Leslie Feigel gave comment on the National Travel and Tourism proclamation and gave some information on what they will be doing this year during that week.
- Carla Kent from L-esprit stated that 2-hour parking downtown is difficult for someone with disabilities to work in the downtown area.
- Linda Mahr asked about public comment at the end of an item after the Commission has had a chance to discuss. She asked about Consent Item F and seeing all applicants.
- Jay Keifer expressed concern about the local health officer.
- Patricia Grabow thanked the Commission for the Travel and Tourism proclamation, and highly complimented the Chamber of Commerce Board and gave thanks to Leslie for what she does. She commented on an op-ed she is doing. She would like to see public comment at the end of items or the meeting. She would like to see new microphones in the room.

Chair Nootz addressed adding a second public comment and stated they would need to amend the City Commission Handbook. She asked the City Manager to explain how board appointments happen.

The City Manager stated that where there is a board vacancy, the City opens up an application period, receives applications, applications are reviewed internally by staff, interviews are conducted, then a recommendation is made to the City Commission for review and approval.

Chair Nootz asked about new mics for the room.

The City Manager stated they are getting new mics and it has been a long time issue that he and the County have been working on it.

5. Consent Items

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 17, 2026, REGULAR MEETING**

**B. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS PAID 3/12/26 - 4/1/26**

**C. AGREEMENT 20252 WTIH JON HESSE PLLC FOR CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES**

**D. APPOINTMENT OF NAVA STREITER TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**E. APPOINTMENT OF MATT WHITMAN TO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY BOARD**

**F. APPOINTMENT OF COLIN DAVIS TO CITY-COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD**

Vice Chair Willich pulled Consent Item F.

Commissioner O'Neill pulled Consent Items D & E

Commissioner O'Neill motioned to approve Consent Items A - C, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Unanimously approved.

Vice Chair Willich stated he is on the Airport Board and has to recuse himself from voting on Consent Item F.

Commissioner O'Neill expressed concern about not seeing all applicants for advisory boards. He stated he received a lot of feedback from pilot friends about the staff recommendation for the Airport Board. He expressed not being comfortable voting on the staff recommended board appointments.

The City Manager stated that the application for Ms. Streiter was the only application for HPC. He stated that the application for Matt to the URA is the domain of the County Commission as stated in the staff report.

Commissioner O'Neill stated he spoke with the County Commissioners and they stated they do not know why they voted on the URA board appointment.

The City Manager stated that the Legislature has changed a little less than a year ago and, pursuant to SB 3, one seat on an URA board has to be selected by the County and one seat has to be selected by the school district.

Commissioner Daniels motioned to approve Consent Items D & E, seconded by Vice Chair Willich. Unanimously approved.

Vice Chair Willich left the room for discussion of Consent Item F.

The City Manager stated there was another application that came in for the Airport Board that came in after the packet for this City Commission meeting went out, but he did review the application and stated it is not a person he would recommend to the board as they are a business owner and operator at the Airport, and may have potential conflicts of interest.

Commissioner O'Neill stated that in the future he would like to see all applications.

Commissioner Daniels asked if the Commission is privy to the applications.

The City Manager stated yes. That specific one came in after the agenda and packet for this City Commission meeting was published, and that is why they did not see it.

Commissioner Daniels stated she would like to know more about why the person was selected.

Chair Nootz asked the City Manager about the process and if this can move to next agenda, or since the opening has been publicized and closed if this can't be done.

The City Manager stated he is happy to add this to an agenda in the future after meeting with the applicant.

Chair Nootz requested that a list of potential conflicts come with this when it comes back before them.

No action was taken on Consent Item F.

Vice Chair Willich entered the room to continue the meeting.

6. Proclamations

**A. A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, DECLARING NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK, MAY 3-9, 2026**

Chair Nootz read the proclamation.

Vice Chair Willich stated he does like to be a tourist in other places and really enjoys seeing tourists in our downtown shopping.

Commissioner Daniels stated she enjoys seeing tourists around Livingston.

Commissioner O'Neill stated he enjoys seeing tourists and that is the reason he started volunteering at the Chamber of Commerce. He expressed appreciation to the Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Nootz expressed agreement with her fellow Commissioners.

**B. A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, DECLARING APRIL 12-18, 2026 AS PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK IN LIVINGSTON, MONTANA**

Chair Nootz read the proclamation.

The City Manager thanked the team for their hard work and all that they do.

Commissioner O'Neill thanked them for their hard work.

Commissioner Daniels acknowledged how stressful their job is and recognized how calm they remain during crisis situations and expressed how amazing that is. She thanked them for all they do.

Vice Chair Willich recalled being a firefighter and that he loved his dispatch team then. He stated that our dispatch team here is much better and he appreciates everything they do.

Chair Nootz expressed agreement with her fellow Commissioners. She asked if there are openings in this department.

The City Manager stated yes, there is a new opening on the team.

7. Scheduled Public Comment

8. Action Items

**A. CITY OF LIVINGSTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WATER & SEWER DIVISION UPDATE**

Water and Sewer Superintendent Ryan Townsend gave a brief presentation.

The City Manager thanked the Water and Sewer team for their hard work and all that they do. He expressed that they are well deserving of the award for this year.

Commissioner Daniels thanked Superintendent Townsend for his detailed presentation and thanked him and the team for their hard work.

Chair Nootz thanked the whole department for their work and congratulated them on their award. She asked about the bulk water station.

The City Manager stated that a press release will go out in coming days and there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Commissioner O'Neill thanked Superintendent Ryan for the presentation and expressed appreciation for the department and all their work. He asked to bring forward, on a coming agenda a discussion for the design build for a railroad crossing.

Chair Nootz reminded the Commission that they are currently on the item related to the water and sewer division update and that they have previously already requested this topic and the wellness center come up in the City Manager comments for tonight's meeting.

Vice Chair Willich thanked the team for their hard work and professionalism. He expressed how deserving they are of this year's water award and that he loves drinking the water here in Livingston.

Commissioner Daniels motioned for a 5-minute break, seconded by Vice Chair Willich. Unanimously approved.

**B. RESOLUTION NO. 5183: RESOLUTION DECLARING IT TO BE THE INTENTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA TO CREATE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (VIEW VISTA COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS) DISTRICT NO. 182 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF PLANNING, DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING AND INSTALLING SEWER AND WATER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VIEW VISTA COMMUNITY AND PAYING THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE AND SECURITY OF SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BONDS**

The City Manager stated this item is intended to declare to the intention to create an SID to fund water and sewer improvements in the View Vista community. He gave a brief timeline presentation.

Chair Nootz asked what happens when this item comes back before the Commission.

Finance Director Fetterhoff stated this item will just come back as an actual resolution to create the district as opposed to the resolution of intent. She stated this is the first time they have created an SID where the property owners themselves have signed a waiver of protest saying that will not protest the SID, and because of that, it does not need to come back a second time.

The City Manager clarified that she is correct, but they will bring it back at the next meeting to finalize the SID.

Public comment was offered by:

- Linda Mahr asked why there is an SID for this project and not for Green Acres. She also asked where this is located.

The City Manager stated that in 2023 SID 181 was created to fund the sewer improvements in Green Acres, and this item is SID 182, and the process has been followed the exact same way.

Chair Nootz stated she is excited to move this forward.

Vice Chair Willich stated he is happy to see a neighborhood getting the treatment they request and is happy to welcome them to the City water and sewer system.

Commissioner Daniels motioned to approve this item, seconded by Commissioner O'Neill. Unanimously approved.

**C. RESOLUTION NO. 5184: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, DECLARING CERTAIN ITEMS AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THEIR DISPOSAL.**

The City Manager stated this item is to declare certain items as surplus that are shown in the packet on page 82. He stated these items will be sold, except for the tasers, as those will be donated to another agency.

All Commissioners were in agreement and support of this surplus resolution.

There was no public comment.

Vice Chair Willich motioned to approve this item, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Unanimously approved.

**D. ORDINANCE 3067: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, AMENDING THE LIVINGSTON MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2 ARTICLE VII, CHAPTER 18 AND CHAPTER 31, THAT WERE MOVED TO CHAPTER 30 AS PART OF THE ZONING CODE UPDATE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE 3064, BY REPEALING THE CONTENT IN THESE CHAPTERS AND REDESIGNATING THOSE SECTIONS AS 'RESERVED'.**

The City Manager stated this item seeks to repeal 3 pieces of the LMC that have already been adopted as part of the Zoning update into Chapter 30. This will remove the redundant language.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner O'Neill motioned to approve this item, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Unanimously approved.

9. City Manager Comment

The City Manager gave an update on the Wellness Center and Railroad Crossing. He stated that the Wellness Center remains on budget and on time. He stated that he was notified earlier in the day of a $150,000 donation that will go toward the fitness equipment. He stated they will do some tours toward the end of the month and into May.

For the railroad crossing, he stated that, as stated in a previous meeting the design build methodology is not new to the industry. He reminded the Commission that they are not at the design phase and do not know where the project is going or if it's an underpass or overpass yet because that was the goal of the procurement that was authorized by the Commission under 2 months ago. He stated the phase the City is in is the procurement to bring in a contractor to do the location evaluation. Once a location is selected, then a conversation with the voters can happen on whether the project will proceed or not. With voter approval, then they can look at design-build models, and other newer methods for building.

10. City Commission Comments

Commissioner O'Neill stated that we don't have a timeline for the railroad crossing.

The City Manager reminded the Commission again that a timeline was discussed at a previous meeting about 2 months ago, and he stated the procurement decision is what is to come next before the Commission in the process.

Commissioner O'Neill stated again that there is no timeline.

The City Manager stated that as part of the ongoing timeline, the consultant contract award will come before the Commission for approval later this spring. Next on the timeline is to work through a public process to evaluate all the possible location alternatives, with the goal of reporting back the results to the City Commission in February 2027.

Commissioner Daniels stated she really liked the proclamations tonight and really enjoyed the water and sewer presentation.

Vice Chair Willich expressed appreciation for the water and sewer presentation and stated he will see everyone at the next meeting.

Chair Nootz thanked the City Manager for all the staff presentations. She expressed understanding of wanting to move the railroad crossing forward quickly, but explained the importance of taking their time in the process.

11. Adjournment

7:46 PM Vice Chair Willich motioned to adjourn, second by Commissioner Daniels. Unanimously approved.