



CITY OF MILES CITY

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers and online at zoom.us

Zoom ID: 4062343462 | Passcode: 59301

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Committee Member Rick Huber
Committee Member Ed Pulecio
Committee Chair Brooke Bartholomew
Committee Member Cody Steiner

Also present were Attorney Dan Rice, Interim Fire Chief Ed Kanduch, Police Chief Doug Colombik, Mayor Chris Grenz, Treasurer Melissa Moua, Building Inspector Gabe Martinsen, and City Clerk/Recorder Mary Rowe.

1. REQUEST OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Zach Zignego, Deluxe Motors, requested that Fort street between 7th and 8th streets be vacated between Deluxe and the apartments across the street. He noted that the street is a mess at any given time, with delivery trucks blocking the street along with customers loading and unloading dead vehicles by hand pushing them. He stated that he would be willing to compensate the city for vacating it.

Attorney Rice explained how the process works and noted that when a street is vacated it is absorbed by the adjacent properties divided at the center line of the street. He recommends that before it goes to Council that it has a valuation done via market analysis or brokers opinion at the cost of Zignego. He also noted that Utilities and Public Works needs to be involved for deed restrictions and utility locates. Then have a recommendation from Finance to Council.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Review and Discuss Business License Ordinances.

Chairperson Bartholomew noted that the information in the packet is basically the same as the last meeting. The items that need more clarification are cost of a business license, whether it should be tiered or not, cottage licenses versus vendor licenses or both, exemptions, requirements, and incentives.

A detailed discussion occurred about the tiered fee versus the flat fee and how that would look. If it should be based on employees or annual revenue. Having a higher fee for out of town businesses will be looked into by Dan Rice for legalities.

Vendors were discussed at great length regarding definition of a vendor, vendors operating under a rental fee, like Vintage and Rustics or the Farmer's Market, and would their fee be

doubled up if they were setup on City property. It currently states in 6-294 a different license is required for different types of businesses.

Attorney Rice stated that an insurance requirement should not be added to our Ordinance because the state already regulates that and it is ultimately up to the property owner to do their due diligence prior to hiring a contractor.

Rental Management, landlords, and daycares were brought into the discussion. Who would find, regulate, and enforce the landlords and/or daycares operating in private homes around the city. Attorney Rice added that we should stick with store front businesses.

A brief discussion about regulating businesses, inside and outside city limits, that are not following federal law, like marijuana dispensaries, was had. It was decided that no business can be regulated by licensing. It was also noted that the city must follow the state law, not federal law as we are a branch of the state government. Clerk Rowe added that the Ordinance should be revised to allow the city to bill businesses outside of the city limits for all beverage license fees as MCA states. Attorney Rice will also look into this.

Treasurer Moua asked for input on the business incentives that she had previously presented, like the banner program, scrolling advertisements on website, grant writing courses for businesses, or an annual banquet. Inspector Martinsen stated that the businesses are being inspected for public safety hazard compliance and that is an incentive by itself.

Chairperson Bartholomew asked if Attorney Rice could sit down with her and organize the discussed items into an Ordinance revising current sections of the code then schedule another meeting to review and recommend the amending ordinance to Council.

Next meeting scheduled for March 26th at 6pm

3. ADJOURNMENT

Public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of this meeting can be presented under Request of Citizens, provided it is within the jurisdiction of the City to address. Public comment will be entered into the minutes of this meeting. The Committee cannot take any action on a matter unless notice of the matter has been made on an agenda and an opportunity for public comment has been allowed on the matter. Public matter does not include contested cases and other adjudicative proceedings

Motion made by Committee Member Huber, Seconded by Committee Member Pulecio.
Voting Yea: Committee Member Huber, Committee Member Pulecio, Committee Member Bartholomew, Committee Member Steiner