



TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

June 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Town Hall – 405 HWY 414, Mountain View, WY 82939

MINUTES

The June 1, 2026, workshop convened at 6:00 pm. The following were present; Mayor Bryan Ayres, Council Members, Brittney Brunski-Deckert, and Tori Carter, Clerk, Penny Robbins, Public Works, Jacob Porter, Chief of Police, Mark Erramouspe and Attorney, Brandon Taylor.

The following items were discussed:

Judge RFP's & Temporary Judge:

The RFP for a new judge closed with no submissions. Ken Roberts agreed to serve as a temporary judge for June 15 but cannot commit long-term due to his political campaign. Tickets have been issued for court dates on July 6 and July 20, increasing urgency. The council discussed extending the RFP deadline and directly soliciting interested individuals, including Eric Phillips. Conclusion: Extend the RFP deadline and reach out directly to interested parties. The new RFP deadline is set for Monday, likely June 15, to allow review before the June 16 meeting. Begin pushing new court dates to August to avoid repeated rescheduling. A temporary judge will be appointed for June; he will not be taking payment.

Budget and Fee Schedule Review:

The budget ordinance is on its second reading with a public hearing scheduled. Key fee schedule changes include dropping the sewer loan fee, minimal increases to water and sewer rates, new asphalt cut fees (minimum \$500 or \$10 per foot over 50 square feet) and added language for delinquent utility accounts. Legal counsel will add a provision for a 10% late fee on delinquent utility accounts. Resolution for overtime will be brought to the next meeting.

Budget Amendment for Unanticipated Revenue:

A budget amendment is needed to account for unanticipated revenue and pay off the sewer loan. Revenue sources include industrial siding money (projected at \$78,000 next year) and the Howard Porch Trust (just over \$16,000, designated for park use). A public hearing for the budget amendment will be held on June 16th.

Scheduling: Arbor Day:

Arbor Day was originally scheduled for June 9, but key participants are unavailable. June 11 was identified as the target date, with June 12 as a fallback.

Fourth of July Event Planning:

Watermelons will be ordered within a couple of days. Extra lights and decorations are available; large inflatables will be provided for the kids. Fireworks will be larger this year (6–8-inch shells), requiring a 480-foot safety buffer if a rack falls. Attendees must be pushed beyond the walking/bike path into the school parking lot. Fences will be borrowed from the school to block off the green space and playground. Staff/volunteers are needed for crowd control. Layout suggestion: Move food trucks and inflatables behind the flag, away from the fireworks zone, to naturally keep crowds at a safer distance. The show will last 15–20 minutes, synchronized with music. Post advance notices on Facebook about the safety perimeter. The day also includes a 5K run and a parade.

Water Rights, Irrigation, and Drought Conditions

Recent precipitation has improved conditions; at minimum, water restrictions are about three weeks away if drying starts now. Ongoing rainstorms could extend this window. Water storage is being drawn on earlier than usual. Upstream snowpack may be sent downstream to replenish the Flaming Gorge, or further downstream if unused locally. Once water rights go into regulation, no additional storage is possible. Meeks Cabin water rights expanded to include more junior rights (~1903 or 1899). Joint powers can order storage, but downstream delivery depends on other users ordering theirs. Users are advised to retain stock water for fall. Situation is better than expected but uncertain; continued monitoring is needed.

Water Infrastructure: Crossover Pipe Proposal:

Ongoing discussions about a crossover pipe project. An engineer will present a funding proposal at the next joint powers board meeting, potentially via the Wyoming Water Development Commission or other grants

Mayor's Report:

The mayor will sign Bureau of Reclamation paperwork immediately after the meeting, authorizing negotiation with the water conservancy district, Lyman, and Mountain View regarding the release of stored water, potentially used as conveyance water in the fall. The WAM convention will take place in Laramie from June 3 to June 5; Penny and the Mayor will attend. The mayor has a breakfast meeting with commissioners on June 2, 2026.

A data center proposal near Evanston passed planning and zoning. Location: east of the Silver Eagle Refinery near the 13-mile marker, south of the interstate (between Eagle Rock and Silver Eagle Refinery). Approximately 500 acres designated for the data center; another 500 acres retained for cattle. The site moved due to BLM road permitting issues. Access via the road to Silver Eagle and beyond. Gas supply from Silver Eagle; two Kern River pipelines ~4 miles away. Landowner entity believed to be GNC Holdings (unconfirmed). Cowboy State Daily noted fewer public pushbacks than a similar project in Cheyenne. Mardi Woodward, county commissioner candidate, provided details. Data center water usage: closed-loop cooling system using a 25% propylene glycol/water mixture trucked from Coastal Chemical; coolant replaced ~every six years with leak-catching measures. Potable water from a drilled well, consistent with other data centers (Cheyenne, large Texas facility). Construction workforce will vary from 25 to 3,000 workers. Housing will be at an "aum hospitality" site (not a camp) on a thousand-acre property near the state park. The company will install gas, water, and sewer infrastructure. The housing is a dry camp (no alcohol) with security, chefs, and a gym.

Public Works and Town Updates:

Trail System: WYDOT approved the trail from Evanston to Silver Eagle Road; construction may start summer 2026. Sewer Inspection: Another inspection is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2026, with samples for comparison. Summer Hires: Seasonal staff have started and are catching up on tasks. E-Bikes in Park: Issues with e-bikes damaging park grass; future discussion may be needed. Dugout Repair: A dugout roof lifted and needs repair; it has been made safe. Storm Debris: Approximately 8 loads of limbs have been hauled after recent storms; curbside pickup is available for residents.

Bryan Ayres, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny Robbins, Town Clerk