



TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

April 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM

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

MINUTES

The April 7, 2026, workshop convened at 6:00 pm. The following were present; Mayor Bryan Ayres, Council President, Jamy Ferrin, Council Members, Brittney Brunski-Deckert, Tori Carter and Michael Tims, Clerk, Penny Robbins, Chief of Police, Mark Erramouspe, and Public Work Director Jake Porter. Attorney, Brandon Taylor, attended virtually.

The following items were discussed:

Soccer Camp and Season Schedule – MarNae Lords

Challenger Sports is organizing a soccer camp from July 20th to 24th, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the highway field. The regular soccer season is planned from August 10th to October 1st. The schedule will be adjusted as the park is unavailable on September 9th, 10th, and 23rd. The town's agreement with the soccer organization allows for contract termination for any reason, including the inability to water the park due to potential water shortages. If restrictions are enacted, it would be communicated in advance. The plan is to continue watering the park until the water right is restricted to avoid a significant loss of the fields.

Water Supply, Usage, and Restrictions

Water Supply & Contingency:

Current water storage is low, at 25% in State Line and 47% in Meeks Cabin. Officials are holding back the maximum amount possible at State Line. Three more water loading stations have been activated due to residential wells going dry. The town is looking into a point of diversion change for its Black's Fork water right to help convey water to the treatment plant, which will not affect park watering. Contingency plans for a severe shortage are complex and expensive, including buying stored water (e.g., \$60,000 for one season) or condemning water rights.

Water Restriction Ordinance – 3rd and Final Reading

The third reading of a water ordinance was discussed. This enables future restrictions via resolution and sets the penalty for violations as a misdemeanor with a fine up to \$750. A change was made for newly installed lawns under Phase 2, allowing unrestricted watering for the first 24 hours, daily watering for the next 30 days (before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.), and then adherence to the standard odd/even schedule. This raised a fairness concern compared to established lawns. The Joint Powers board proposed fining residents who exceed 5,000 gallons of water usage. The town discussed alternatives, noting the average winter usage is ~3,700 gallons. It is difficult to penalize for indoor use or prove outdoor watering violations unless consumption is exceptionally high (40,000-50,000 gallons). It was suggested to maintain the current system in which users pay for what they consume.

Proposed Public Hearing on Water:

A public hearing was proposed to inform residents about the water situation, address rumors, and explain restrictions. Initial feedback from the mayor of Lyman and the Joint Powers chairman was negative, fearing chaos. However, the council decided to proceed with organizing the meeting for transparency. If other entities decline, the water conservancy district and state engineer's office will be invited to their next meeting.

Community and Administrative Updates

Municipal Court Judge Transition:

Current judge Dean Stout is leaving to become the circuit court judge in Sweetwater County. An RFP will be prepared to find a new judge. In the interim, traffic enforcement will continue as “status quo.”

Legal Counsel Transition:

Legal counsel Brandon Taylor is taking a new job, effective April 15th. He will form “Brandon Taylor Law, LLC” to continue representing the town under the same financial terms. The council will terminate the current contract and authorize the mayor to sign a new engagement letter with the new firm.

Appointments and Contributions:

The council will approve the Planning and Zoning committee’s recommendation to appoint Jeff Hysell to their board in the regular meeting. A contract is being prepared for the annual contribution to YAHA. D”Andrea Chichester will be invited to the next meeting to formally request the funds.

Procurement and Infrastructure:

An office cell phone was ordered to avoid staff using personal phones for multi-factor authentication. Printers and scanners for police trucks have arrived without manuals; follow-up is needed for installation. A bid will be sought from Rock Springs to install a radar monitor and gun racks in the Tahoe.

Fourth of July Fireworks:

The fireworks may be canceled due to fire restrictions and dry conditions, with a decision to be made closer to the date. Other activities will proceed.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

- **WAM Convention:** June 3rd-5th in Laramie.
- **Citizen of the Year Luncheon:** Myrtle Farrell was named the 2026 Citizen of the Year. Three council members will attend the luncheon on the 24th.
- **Budget Retreat:** April 16th at 5 p.m.
- **Region V Meeting:** Virtual meeting on April 22nd from 1-3 p.m. to discuss the legislative session

Bryan Ayres, Mayor

ATTEST:

Penny Robbins, Town Clerk