

CITY OF FORSYTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF July 27, 2026
STATE OF MONTANA

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; officials in attendance were; Council Members Lloyd Nelson, Sam Beyl, Ethan Bell and Doug Roberts, City Clerk/ Treasurer Sandra Donley, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Bailey Wiggins, Water/ Wastewater Director Taylor Hallman, and Undersheriff Scott McDermott. Excused from attending were Public Works Director Richard Thompson, Pool Manager Jason Forberg, Code Enforcement Officer Justin Savaugau, Building Inspector Gabe Martinsen and Attorney Jeff Weldon.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Kopitzke asked if there was anyone present from the public that wish to comment on items not on the agenda. There will be no discussion of personnel. The Council will take no formal action at this point in the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

REVIEW – REVISE AGENDA: City Clerk Donley asked to add a street closure permit for the Lutheran Church VBS on July 31st, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to citizens new business #4.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Kopitzke presented the consent agenda for approval:

Council Member Bell made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included claim numbers 25039-25053 in the amount of \$69,738.41 and check numbers 23621–23653 in the amount of \$454,986.29 for prior approved claims. The motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

CITIZENS:

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Mayor Kopitzke presented permits for consideration.

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the permits under number 1 & 2 together; the motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

1. Mr. Thomas Paris of the Iron Horse Bar- Open Container Permit on North 9th Avenue from Main to Cedar Street and Main Street from North 8th Avenue to North 10th Avenue for Duck Days Festivities.
August 14, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to August 16, 2025 at 1:00 a.m.
August 15, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to August 16, 2026 at 1:00 a.m.
2. Forsyth Chamber – Duck Days Permits-
 - a. Open Container August 14th @ 5 p.m. to August 16, 2026 at 2 a.m.
 - b. Street Closure August 15, 2026 from 8 a.m. to August 16, 2026 at 2 a.m. North 9th Avenue from Main to Cedar Street and Main Street from North 8th Avenue to North 10th Avenue
 - c. Parade Permit on August 15, 26 @ Noon starting at RHCC going up 17th turn onto main until North 7th Avenue and back to RHCC
 - d. Special Event August 15, 2026- Downtown all-day car show, bingo, bounce house and corn hole.
 - e. Special Event August 15, 2026- Firework in Honor of America's 250th celebration @ 10 p.m.
 - f. Street Dance Request for August 15, 2026 from 5:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight)

Council Member Bell made a motion to approve the permits under number 3 & 4 together; the motion was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

3. Jennifer Anderson/Forsyth Laundry- Open Container and Street Closure Permits for Friday
August 14, 2026 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. closing N 10th Avenue from Main Street to the Alley
for a customer appreciation BBQ

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: City Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Donley, and Water/Wastewater Director Hallman gave verbal reports along with written reports. Public Works Director Richard Thompson and Pool Manager Jason Forberg had written reports included in the packet.

- A. City Clerk/Treasurer: City Clerk Donley gave a verbal report along with her written report.
a. permission to do replacement transfers for fire truck, solid waste bobcat and garbage truck.
Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the transfers; the motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.
- B. Public Works: Public Works Director Thompson had a written report included in the packet.
- C. Water/Wastewater: Director Hallman gave a verbal report along with his written report. Discussion was had on HDR and the test wells.
a. Permission to purchase chemical: Water/Wastewater Director Hallman asked permission to purchase chemical in the amount of \$6,700.00 to \$7,000.00.
Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the chemical purchase; the motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.
- D. Pool: A written report was included in the packet.
- E. Rosebud County Sheriff's Office: No written report was provided, but Undersheriff McDermott will meet with Council Members Roberts and Nelson concerning code changes.
- F. Code Enforcement Officer: Mayor Kopitzke stated he was in touch with CEO Savaugeau and that he continues to work on issues with residents.
- G. Building Inspector: Building Inspector Martinsen is waiting for the State of Montana to allow the City of Forsyth to add Commercial to their Building Program. A new contract will be presented once the city gets approval from the state.

OLD BUSINESS:

Levee (Dike) Update: Mayor Kopitzke reported there was nothing new with the levee project and that the Corp of Engineers would be in Forsyth August 18 for the annual levee inspection.

Water Project Update: Discussion was had on the water projects and the cost of these projects.

1. COP Construction-Pay App #3 for Pumping Station Project:

Council Member Bell made a motion to approve Pay app #3 from COP Construction; the motion was seconded by Council Member Roberts. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 3-1.

Fiscal Year 26-27 Budget: City Clerk Donley reported what changes had been made to the budget. Discussion was had on having the final budget adopted at the August 24, 2026 meeting. Council Member Roberts will call in to vote as he is needed to have a quorum.

NEW BUSINESS:

SEMDC Proposed 26-27 Membership Dues: Discussion was had by council on the proposed dues and what the City of Forsyth receives for the dues. It was unanimously decided to support the increase in dues for SEMDC.

Resolution No. 2026-R11 Fiscal Year End 25-26 Fund Transfers:

Council Member Bell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-R11; the motion to approve was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2026-R12- Adopting International Building Codes and amendments:

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-R12; the motion to approve was seconded by Council Member Nelson. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

REPORTS:

City Judge Egeland: None

City Council: Council Member Beyl stated the Energy Open would be Thursday August 6th and registration is appreciated.

Mayor: Mayor Kopitzke presented his report and asked if anyone had questions. Mayor Kopitzke also reported that the Riverview Villa Board had replaced heating and cooling units in the barracks and that they have changed banks which will be beneficial due to interest rates.

City Attorney: Mayor Kopitzke stated Deputy City Attorney Nyles Greer would be doing work on city codes.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS: None

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 10, 2026 Council Meeting at 7 p.m.

Public Comment: Mayor Kopitzke asked for public comment after each topic, if comments are made; those comments are recorded as part of the official minutes.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting: Fiscal Year 26-27 Budget, Levee Project, Water Project and Building Inspector Contract.

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Kopitzke adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Mayor Dennis Kopitzke

City Clerk Sandra Donley