

CITY OF FORSYTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF September 15, 2025
STATE OF MONTANA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Deborah French and Jane Lamb with Montan Tobacco Prevention spoke about vapes being added to the clean indoor act and handed out information on the change in Montana Law.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

REVIEW – REVISE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Kopitzke presented the consent agenda for approval:

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included claim numbers 24463-24502 in the amount of \$78,812.21 and check numbers 23090–23111 in the amount of \$34,984.72 for prior approved claims. The motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded by Council Member Purkett. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

CITIZENS:

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

1. Downtown Master Plan-Angela Campbell: Angela spoke about the plan and asked if the city would be willing to upfront \$20,000.00 that would be reimbursed through the Montana Main Street Program. Discussion was had that Windfarm funds would be used and put back in that fund when repaid from the State of Montana.

Council Member Purkett made a motion to approve using Windfarm funds in the amount of \$20,000.00. The motion to approve was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

2. Jim Atchison – South Eastern Montana Development Corporation: Mayor Kopitzke introduced Mr. Atchison; Mr. Atchison was present to encourage the City Council to renew their membership to the Southeastern Montana Development Corporation. He provided an update for the current fiscal year, extended his appreciation to the City of Forsyth and presented the city with a \$20,000.00 check that is for infrastructure improvement from Nextera.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: City Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Donley, Water/Wastewater Director/ Code Enforcement Officer Taylor Hallman and Undersheriff Scott McDermott gave verbal and had written reports. Public Works Director Thompson and Pool Manager Jason Forberg had a written report included in the packet.

City Clerk/Treasurer: City Clerk Donley went over her report and asked if there were any questions.

Public Works: Public Works Director Thompson had a request to hire Harddrives to scrub seal in his report. Council Member Bell made a motion to approve hiring Harddrives. The motion was seconded by Council

Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

Water/Wastewater: Water/Wastewater Director Hallman reported Agri Industries got the new pump installed and that they would be taking the old one to rebuild so the department would have one on hand. Director Hallman stated his department ran into issue with the hydrant replacement at the hospital, but another route was found and the project will be moving forward. Approval to order valve parts in the amount of \$13,477.23 and hiring Blue Creek Excavation to install new main valves were included in Director Hallman's report. Discussion was had on valve replacement documentation.

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve agenda items 1. Approval to order valve parts in the amount of \$13,477.23 and 2. Hiring Blue Creek Excavation to install new main valves. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bell. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

Rosebud County Sheriff's Office: Undersheriff McDermott reported Sargent Dutton would be leaving so the department is back to the hiring stage. Discussion was had on speeding in town and what could be done about it.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement Officer Hallman reported letters have been going out with most of his focus on overgrown alleys. Council Member Bell mentioned overgrown bushes on the corner of prospect and south 4th avenue. City Clerk Donley stated the property owner was aware they were a problem.

OLD BUSINESS:

Levee (Dike) Update: Mayor Kopitzke reported levee cleanup was finished, the contractor was working on piling of the rock and that the next levee meeting would be held on October 10, 2025.

Water Project Update: Water/Wastewater Director Hallman gave an update on the water plant control project and stated Ace Electric should be finished by the end of September. Pay App #2 for the WTP controls was included on the agenda.

Council Member Roberts made a motion to approve Pay App #2. The motion to approve was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

City Code 7-1-9-Dike Preservation: Mayor Kopitzke had information in the packet for council to review and suggested council move forward to have changes made by the spring of 2026. Discussion was had and Council Member Purkett recommended adding the home owners could be responsible for the repairs to the levee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2025-R10- Authorizing the cancellation of the November 4, 2025 election for Mayor and Westward Council Member:

Council Member Bell made a motion to forgo the reading and approve resolution No. 2025-R10, the motion was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

Resolution No. 2025-R11- Adopting the Downtown Master Plan:

Council Member Roberts made a motion to forgo the reading and approve resolution No. 2025-R11, the motion was seconded by Council Member Beyl. City Clerk Donley called roll; the motion carried 4-0.

REPORTS:

City Judge Egeland: None

City Council: None

Mayor: Mayor Kopitzke presented his report and asked if there were any questions.

City Attorney: Mayor Kopitzke reported the city attorneys are busy working on issues that have arisen in the water project.

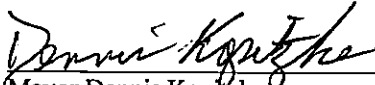
COUNCIL COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS: None

NEXT MEETING DATE: October 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

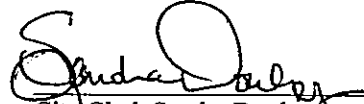
Public Comment: Mayor Kopitzke asked for public comment after each topic, if comments are made; those comments are recorded as part of the official minutes.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting: Water Project Update and Levee Update.

With no other business to discuss, Mayor Kopitzke adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.



Mayor Dennis Kopitzke



City Clerk Sandra Donley