
CITY OF DEER LODGE

COUNCIL AGENDA

May 16, 2022, | 6:00 PM | PC Community Center

1. Call Meeting to Order | Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment: Members of the audience may comment on any non-agenda item. State Statute prohibits the City Council from discussing any introduced item. The Council limits each person to three minutes to ensure there is sufficient time for all comments. The Council respects all comments and will have staff follow up any questions.

3. Approval of Minutes

Deferred until next meeting

4. Public Hearing:

a. None

5. Department Reports:

a. CAO | b. Public Works | c. Police | d. Code Enforcement | e. Fire

6. Mayor and Council Concerns: (ONLY Concerns that are not on Business Items). This is a time when Council Members or Mayor can bring a concern before the Council that is not otherwise listed on the Agenda. NO action can be taken at this time. If action is necessary, the item is put on the next meeting agenda.

7. Continued Business Items: The Council will act on each item after accepting public comments.

8. New Business Items: The Council will act on each item after accepting public comments.

- a. ARPA Fund Steering Committee Update – Council President Bauman
- b. Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority Annual Contribution – Mayor Jess

9. Next Meeting Announcement(s)

a. Regular Meeting – June 6, 2022, at 6PM

10. Adjournment

Deer Lodge City Council meets in the PC Community Center | 416 Cottonwood Ave | Deer Lodge, MT 59722

For Further Information, Contact | Cyndi Thompson | City Clerk | cthompson@cityofdeerlodgemt.gov | 406.846.2238

CITY OF DEER LODGE

CAO REPORT

May 2022

PROJECT SUMMARIES

Municipal Budget

- Have held all department head meetings for FY2023 budget. Waiting for revenue estimates before bringing to Finance Committee.

City Planning

- Have received final quote from Nitro Green for street tree pruning and replacement. Tree work will begin this week. Have received confirmation from MMIA of approval for claim and have received confirmation of Right-of-Way Encroachment Permit approval from MDT for partial lane closures on Main Street.
- County Parks Board Trails Subcommittee is refocusing on using City/County Parks and Trails for events. Anyone who is interested in joining the Park/Trail subcommittee should contact the Powell County Planning Department. Have prioritized events with the subcommittee to start working on.
- Evergreen Skateparks is finalizing design drawings for our review. New schedule for work is June 12-July 23. Cabin will be removed before that date.
- Planning Board has begun looking at Zoning Ordinance changes to incentivize housing development in town.
- One Conditional Use Permit request examined this morning for review and to provide a recommendation to City Council.

Grants

- Performing limited solicitation for Growth Policy update using Request for Proposals approved by Planning Board. Will begin steering committee formation soon.
- Working with Trent and Mark Brooke of Hydrometrics on a new grant application for additional funding for the Passenger Refueling Superfund Site cleanup.
- FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant: utilities have been contacted and are in the process of being disconnected before demolition.
- Received preliminary sign designs for wayfinding kiosks from Stahly Engineering and have held meeting with Fastsigns representative for final designs and quotes. Will send to Economic Growth and Development Committee for their approval once received.
- DEQ has received a brownfields planning grant for the Milwaukee Roundhouse and Passenger refueling area and will begin working with the county and myself on administration of those funds.
- ARPA Steering Committee has met twice now. Applications are updated and being advertised for local businesses and non-profits. Will be receiving applications over the next several months before review.

- Received Advisory Committee rankings for I&I and Well ARPA Competitive Grant applications. Our I&I project ranked #3 for priority funding in the state. Well project was ranked lower due to scoring mechanism. Expecting final approval by Governor soon.
- Trent and I are working on finding grant funding for signage improvements throughout town now that city-wide signage is digitalized in our system. Spoke with MDT Vision Zero coordinator and Stahly for potential grant opportunities.
- Applied for an AARP grant on behalf of the Deer Lodge Community Garden for a shed to allow the Garden to expand. Expecting feedback on grant this month.

City Hall & Employees

- iWorQ code enforcement and building permitting software up and running and is being used by City Staff. All historic building permit data is now in system.
- Had Youth Room electrical inspection completed and am waiting on a quote from DeSilva. I have spoken to him again and he plans on providing quote for work once he recovers from an injury.
- Planning on switching to a Voice over IP (VOIP) phone system for City Hall and facilities. This will be a better program with fewer dropped calls, better technology, and will probably cost less per month than what we spend now. Revising quote with sales representative in the next week. Getting a second quote now from Univision for comparison and their input.
- Received many applications for the vacant Police Officer position and the department is currently in interview stage.
- Hiring Committee for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator position extended an offer to Thad McKetchnie, who accepted. Starting date June 1st.

Floodplain Administration

- Received first draft of new floodplain boundaries from DNRC. So far, very minor changes to floodplain boundaries in Deer Lodge. City should expect final updated maps in 2025.
- Working with several property owners on how they can fix up their properties while still staying in line with floodplain ordinance.
- Community meeting with DNRC is scheduled for May 25 with DNRC. This is DNRC's chance to come to town to talk about floodplain issues affecting Deer Lodge with me.
- National Floodplain Conference is May 16-20. Will be attending remotely for CEC's.

Economic Development

- Applied for a Rural Reimagined grant with County Planning Director and Extension to aid in local business and tourism education. Received notice we were awarded grant funding and will be working with the two of them on how to administer funding for this project.
- Economic Growth and Development Committee looking at how to work more closely with local organizations. Met with Chamber of Commerce and Discover Deer Lodge to figure out future goals and roles.
- Coordinating with Discover Deer Lodge on placing bike racks throughout town.

- I have met with Discover Deer Lodge and Discover Anaconda to determine how we can best mirror Discover Anaconda's economic and housing development practices. I have made some great contacts with them which will provide us a lot of guidance in the future.
- Coordinating with county on several potential industrial park projects in and around the city.
- Member of the Ted Rule Memorial Football Field Committee, which is working to achieve funding through donations and grants for a complete renovation of the School District Track and Field Complex. I am helping write a CDBG Planning Grant on behalf of the organization for engineering and design costs.

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

- City news will now be incorporated into advertisements on 96.9FM, The River. Updates weekly. Let me know if you have any City news that I can relay to Marci at the station to be included in the broadcast.
- MMIA Municipal Summit will be held June 1st in Butte. Council President and I will be attending. Anyone else who is interested can talk to me about how to sign up.

CITY OF DEER LODGE

Public Works Report

April 2022/May 2022

PROJECT SUMMARIES

Street Maintenance

- Street Sweeping
- Patching Potholes
- Sign Repairs

Sewer Utility

- Finished with Sewer Main cleaning

Parks and Rec

- Getting equipment ready for this Spring/Summer
- Parks Cleanup

Water

- Repairing Leaks
- Installing new services

Solid Waste

- Peterbilt is back

Mosquito Abatement

- Continued Construction on new shed

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

- Drying Beds Project bid. Project bid May 5th and within budget.
- 2022 Street Maintenance Project bid April 26th and within budget. Will move forward with awarding project to Hollow Contracting
- Cottonwood Street Drainage Project bid postponed to a later date until gas line utilities can be relocated
- PRA Soil Remediation Project approx. 50 percent complete
- WWTP Operator will be starting June 1st and will be introduced to Council June 6th.
- JR underwent shoulder surgery and will be out approx. 6 to 8 weeks

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Currently the Public Works Crew is moving forward on anticipated projects while working safely, practicing enhanced hygiene, and using personal protective equipment as directed.



CITY OF DEER LODGE

Police Department

300 Main St. Deer Lodge, MT. 59722

Chief George Smith

April 2022 Police Department Report

- 23 Citations Issued
- Attempted Homicide, lead to pursuit and standoff.
- Meth induced male, rammed another car 2x intentionally. Fought officers, OC and Tasers deployed multiple times.
- Intoxicated driver started to fight officers on a traffic stop
- Multiple DUIs
- Responded to multiple suicidal individuals

Total Calls for Service:

150:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 911 Abandoned | Extra Patrol Request |
| Abandoned Vehicle | Fraud |
| Alarms | Probation Officer Checks |
| Animal Calls | Noise Complaints |
| Assault | Littering |
| Bar Walkthrough | Juvenile Problems |
| Civil Standby | Hit and Runs |
| Courtesy Ride | Harassment |
| Complaint | Motorist Assistance |
| Disturbance | Sexual Assault |
| Domestics | Request to Speak with an Officer |
| Drugs | Reckless Drivers |
| VIN Inspections | Pursuit |
| Welfare Checks | Public Safety |
| Weapon Discharge | Suspicious Persons |
| DUI | Theft |
| Endangering the Welfare of a Child | Traffic Complaints |
| | Unattended Juveniles |
| | Unwanted Person |

67.5 Hours O.T. For last 2
Pay Periods

Out of City Limits Responses

| <u>Date & Time</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Call</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 4/2/2022 | 1118 Boulder Rd | Noise Complaint |
| 4/4/2022 | E. Side Rd | Assisted with Suicidal Female |
| 4/14/2022 | Boulder Rd | DUI/Susp Person |
| 4/15/2022 | S. Frontage Rd near MM 1 | Cows out |
| 4/22/2022 | I-90 mm 187 | Wreck, gave ride to Fics to wait for MHP |
| 4/25/2022 | Golf Course area | Traffic |
| 4/25/2022 | Started in town/went up Freeze Out | Attempted Homicide/Pursuit |



CODE COMPLIANCE REPORT

April 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 Feral cats given to PAWH's.
- 13 dogs at large calls, 1 surrender
- 2 adoptions completed
- 5 raccoons reported and contact information for game warden given.
- 1 dog in holding for 3 days for family as their mother was life flighted to Spokane.
- 2 stop work orders posted and one resident spoken to about venting for addition with Dan Green.
- 2 dogs being held until city fees are paid for impound and kennel fees.

PROJECT SUMMARIES

- 227 dog licenses done (YTD), and updated rabies record complete.
- There is a **Black Lab puppy** approximately 6 months of age that needs a forever home. People are relocating to Nebraska and the apartment they were given does not allow animals.

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

As spring comes and the weather warming up, I will be starting patrols for trash and debris. The windy days have made it difficult for certain citizens to get out and clean up. A request was made to ask for help from MCE for the cemetery cleanup, I was told that Trent was taking care of that. If we get workers, we will start with the creeks as they have trash in them from wind also.

STAFFING CONCERNS

Minor repairs completed on the Code Enforcement vehicle.



FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

APRIL 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

3 Calls for Service:

- 1 small structure fire. It was a small storage shed in an ally. Mostly burnt but saved a little. Cause unknown.
- 1 call for vehicle rollover with smoke on North Frontage Rd. No fire on arrival. We assisted EMS.
- 1 call for Mutual Aid from Racetrack
Fire was in Galen and very windy. We assisted with our water tenders and some fire attack. Good team effort.

INTEREST ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL

Department Happenings

- We have had our trucks pump tested PM'd and our air packs flow tested as well as our SCBA compressor looked over. All went well. Still working on some more training as the weather is cool.



Montana's Undiscovered Treasure

300 MAIN STREET
DEER LODGE MT 59722-1057
406.846.2238

Mayor
James Jess
Chief Administrative Officer
Jordan Green
City Attorney
Peter Elverum
City Clerk
Cyndi Thompson
Compliance Officer
Suzan Callahan
Public Works Superintendent
Trent Freeman
Treasurer
Stanley Glovan
Utility Billing Clerk
Gena Micu

City Council
Dick Bauman
Joe Callahan
Curt Fjelstad
Jackie Greenwood
John Henderson
Robert Kersch
John J. Molendyke
John Skibsrud

LOCAL RECOVERY FUNDS GRANT APPLICATION FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Organization: _____ **EIN#:** _____

Applicant Name: _____ **Role in Organization:** _____

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date Organization Started:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

Organization Address: _____

Type of Organization: **Small Business** *(must meet requirements for impacted small business)*
 Non-Profit *(must meet requirements for impacted non-profits)*

Amount Requested to be Granted and/or Reimbursed: _____

In order to assist as many organizations as possible, there is a \$5,000 cap to grants unless there is proof of exceptional need.

Note: Funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026. In your description, please provide a detailed timeframe for expenditures for which you are requesting to be granted or reimbursed that will satisfy these obligation and expenditure requirements.

Description of Request:

Note: Please be as descriptive as possible. Applicants must prove impact from the effects of COVID-19 following the guidelines described on the following pages of this application. Please attach any proof or additional descriptions as necessary for application to be processed.

Justification of Request:

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES:

Please confirm and provide proof your business meets the following requirements for a small business:

1. Has no more than 500 employees; and
2. Is a small business as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C 632) which includes among other requirements, that the business is independently owned and operated and is not dominant in its field or operation.

- Please check box if your business has previously received funding from federal or state government sources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (note: this is for information purposes only and will not exclude your business from consideration).

Please identify, explain, and provide proof of how your small business has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The allowable considerations are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased Revenue or Gross Receipts | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Insecurity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased Costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Capacity to Weather Financial Hardship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Challenges Covering Payroll, Rent or Mortgage, And Other Operating Costs | |

Please identify and explain the category of aid for which you are applying for funding/reimbursement:

- Grants to mitigate financial hardship, such as supporting payroll and benefits, costs to retain employees, and to cover operating costs such as mortgage, rent, and utilities.
- Grants to acquire technical assistance, business counseling, or other business planning services.
- Grants for rehabilitation of commercial properties, storefront improvements, and façade improvements.
- Grants to cover small business start-up or expansion costs.
- Support for financial, transportation, and childcare costs for small and microbusinesses.

FOR NONPROFITS:

Please confirm and provide proof that your nonprofit meets the following requirements:

1. Is a 501(c)(3), 501(c)(19) or other tax-exempt organization.

Please identify, explain, and provide proof of how your nonprofit has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The allowable considerations are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased Revenue from Donations/Fees | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Insecurity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased Costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Capacity to Weather Financial Hardship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Challenges Covering Payroll, Rent or Mortgage, And Other Operating Costs | <input type="checkbox"/> Uncompensated Increases in Service Need |

Please identify and explain the category of aid for which you are applying for funding/reimbursement:

- Grants to mitigate financial hardship, such as supporting payroll and benefits, costs to retain employees, and to cover operating costs such as mortgage, rent, and utilities.
- Grants to acquire technical assistance or in-kind assistance that mitigate negative economic impacts of the pandemic.
- Grants for rehabilitation of commercial properties, storefront improvements, and façade improvements.

*****APPLICATIONS ARE DUE END OF DAY ON AUGUST 1, 2022*****

NOTE:

All grants that will be awarded must be for allowable expenditures as detailed in this application and the U.S. Department of the Treasury "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule." Applicants are responsible for adhering to the allowable expenditures and if they fail to do so or do not provide proof of allowable expenditures within the timeframe specified in the application, they will be required to return any and all funding disbursed by the City and/or forego all rights to reimbursement using Deer Lodge Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Please allow 30 days after due date for review and approval of applications. Disbursement or reimbursement for allowable expenditures will occur upon approval by the City during the next City of Deer Lodge monthly claims cycle.

The City of Deer Lodge does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, national origin, creed, sex, marital status, political belief, age, disability, or any other characteristic provided by law.

BSPRA Member Counties

Broadwater

Butte-Silver Bow

Carbon

Custer

Dawson

Gallatin

Granite

Jefferson

Lake

Mineral

Missoula

Park

Powell

Prairie

Rosebud

Sanders

Stillwater

Wibaux

Ex Officio Members

Confederated Salish & Kootenai
Tribes

Crow Tribe

Northern Cheyenne Tribe

Amtrak



200 W. Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802
406.624-5522
hello@bigskyrail.org

May 4, 2022

Dear Deer Lodge Leadership Team:

We are writing to ask that you join us in supporting the [Big Sky Rail Passenger Authority](#). BSRPA is a vibrant rural-urban coalition including counties, cities, towns, Tribal officials, and businesses that seeks to restore passenger rail service across southern Montana that will improve the health, safety, and economic prosperity for our communities and the surrounding region. Montana lost this passenger rail service 43 years ago. Together we can bring it back.

Today, there's a void in passenger rail service across much of southern Montana. This lack of service separates communities, hinders important benefits like health care, and costs the region millions of dollars. A [recent study](#) projects that a restored passenger rail line will create jobs and generate \$271 million in benefits each year, bringing visitors to Montana and providing locals with affordable, safe, and weather-proof transportation year-round for health care, education, commerce, and other services.

Bringing the project closer to reality, the [Federal Railway Administration recently advised](#) BSRPA it will study restoring long-range passenger rail across southern Montana as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This effort also is supported by a [bipartisan group of U.S. Senators](#) from the Greater Northwest.

The BSPRA consists of [18 Montana counties](#) along with cities, businesses, and others—with county dues a major revenue source. We actively are working with the Montana Association of Counties as well as the Montana League of Cities and Towns and are supported by groups beyond Montana in Idaho, Washington, North Dakota, and Minnesota.

While momentum for a passenger line is building, we need additional localized support from Montana communities that will allow us to provide the necessary research clarifying the benefits of passenger rail to specific cities and towns, demonstrate the detailed engineering/construction

needs, and frankly show the breadth of political support for passenger rail to state and federal officials.

To that end, BSPRA is requesting that Deer Lodge consider an annual \$400 contribution along with a letter of endorsement in support of restoring passenger rail across southern Montana. As elected officials we appreciate tight budgets. Our jurisdictions have contributed to BSPRA and our request is calibrated to your community's size and proximity to the rail line. There are many benefits from improving passenger rail and we hope you can support these efforts. Please contact Chair Dave Strohmaier with any questions, clarifications, or concerns.

Sincerely,



Dave Strohmaier, Missoula County Commissioner and BSPRA Chair, 406.258.3204 or dstrohmaier@bigskyrail.org



Mayor Mary Hensleigh, Town of Whitehall