

Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Coulee City Town Council  
April 22, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Don Rushton at 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 501 W. Main Street.
2. Mayor Rushton led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call took place with the following council members present:  
Mayor Rushton  
Mr. Adam Black  
Ms. Mary Haney  
Mr. Richard Heiberg  
Mr. James Holcomb  
Mr. Robert Schnelle
4. Mayor Rushton stated that there was no written communication to bring before the Council.
5. Mayor Rushton requested identification of people wishing to address agenda items. There were none.
6. Mayor Rushton requested identification of people wishing to address non-agenda items.
  - a. Mr. Marvin Johnson: praised the council and Mayor Rushton for their efforts to continue governance of the town in light of difficulties since the election. He recommended that future employees in all departments be cross trained, and he mentioned that he would like to see the wages of the Council and Mayor be increased. He requested that the Council pursue the return of missing equipment to the town.
7. Council Discussion:
  - a. Mr. Black requested that job vacancies be posted to [indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com)
  - b. Mayor Rushton introduced new Coulee City Clerk/Treasurer Jenifer Huffman

**Approval of Agenda:**

Mr. Schnelle moved that the Council approve the submitted agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heiberg. Mayor Rushton called for discussion, and seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:** Mr. Heiberg moved that the Council approve the items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Mayor Rushton called for discussion, and seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously. As part of this motion, the following action items were approved:

- c. April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- d. Vouchers
- e. Payroll

The Council convened into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 6:35, and re-convened the Regular Meeting at 6:48.

**Council Agenda Items:**

1. Mayor Rushton introduced for consideration a Variance Request from Marilyn Tanenburg regarding the multi-story brick building at 405 W. Main. Discussion followed regarding the request, and the Council discussed a careful reading of the code relating to zoning.

As a result, Ms. Haney moved to table the discussion until the next council meeting, with a request that the Clerk provide the Council with a copy of Title 18 of the City Ordinance: Zoning Code. The motion was

seconded by Mr. Holcomb. Mayor Rushton called for discussion of the motion, and seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Mayor Rushton introduced Coulee City Fire Chief Jesse ~~Burton~~<sup>Bolyard</sup>, who is requesting consideration for an inter-governmental agreement between the Town and Fire District #6, to cover the Fordair area. Currently, District #6 covers fires in Fordair, but they have to come from Hartline. The intergovernmental agreement under consideration would allow for fire calls to come to the Coulee City Fire Department, so that they can support Fire District #6 due to the Town's proximity to Fordair. Discussion followed.

Mr. Heiberg moved to authorize Mr. Holcomb, Mayor Rushton, and Fire Chief Bolyard to meet with District 6 in order to pursue more information regarding said agreement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Haney. Mayor Rushton called for discussion, and seeing no further discussion, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Mayor Rushton introduced for consideration the Progress Estimate #2 for Lift Station Improvements. Per the discussion, the total cost of this project is \$1.7 million. Mr. Schnelle moved that the Council approve Progress Estimate #2 for Lift Station Improvements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Mr. Rushton called for discussion. Seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Mayor Rushton introduced for consideration Resolution 506, which amends Resolution 504, which implemented new sewer rates beginning January 1, 2026. Resolution 506 introduces new sewer rates with an effective date of April 1, 2026. Mr. Schnelle moved to approve Resolution 506, amending Resolution 504. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heiberg. Mayor Rushton called for further discussion. Seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Mayor Rushton introduced for consideration Resolution 507, which amends Resolution 505, which implemented new water rates beginning January 1, 2026. Resolution 507 introduces new water rates with an effective date of April 1, 2026. Mr. Black moved to approve Resolution 507, amending Resolution 505. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schnelle. Mayor Rushton called for discussion. Seeing none, the vote was called. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Mayor Rushton asked if there was any further business to be brought before the Council. Mr. Heiberg reminded the Council and audience of the scheduled town cleanup day on May 2, 2026, from 9-5.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Schnelle moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jenifer Hufman, Clerk/Treasurer



Don Rushton, Mayor