

TOWN OF CLYDE PARK
Town Council Meeting Minutes & PER Presentation
April 8, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Clyde Park Town Hall

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT (PER) PRESENTATION

6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Prior to the regular Council Meeting, representatives from Great West Engineering presented the final Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) regarding the Town water system.

Great West Engineering explained that the PER serves as a long-range planning document for the Town's water system and is necessary for several state and federal funding opportunities, including Montana Coal Endowment Program (MCEP) and DNRC Renewable Resource Grant and Loan (RRGL) applications.

Discussion included:

- Existing water system infrastructure conditions
- Recommended future improvements and priorities
- Long-term maintenance and replacement planning
- Funding opportunities and grant timelines
- Future phases of water system improvements

Council members and members of the public were provided the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the report recommendations.

The PER presentation concluded prior to the beginning of the regular Council Meeting.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Sydney Wiley called the regular Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present

- Teresa Saari
- Brian Eckenrod
- Joshua Koch
- Cathy Romey

Council Members Absent - Carol Amunrud

Staff Present

- Stacy Mills, Clerk/Treasurer
- Louann Barr, Deputy Clerk
- Bo Danysh, CSO/Water Operator

Members of the public were present in person and virtually.

Pledge of Allegiance

Visitor Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Public comment was opened for items not listed on the agenda.

Carla Williams addressed the Council regarding concerns related to residency requirements for elected officials. Ms. Williams stated that she believed the Town may be in violation of Resolution 310 and Montana Code Annotated provisions relating to residency and voter registration requirements for council members.

Another resident, Roger Chandler, commented regarding several maintenance and operational concerns within Town limits, including: Unrepaired or damaged street signs, Concerns that playground equipment in the park had not recently been inspected or tightened for safety purposes, Concerns regarding use of the Town side-by-side vehicle outside Town limits, Allegations regarding possible unauthorized gopher shooting activities on private property

The Mayor acknowledged the comments and clarified that some of the allegations discussed had not yet been verified.

Bill Sarrazin spoke on behalf of the newly formed Cemetery Board. Mr. Sarrazin thanked Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Mills for providing financial information requested by the Cemetery Board.

Mr. Sarrazin discussed ongoing concerns regarding cemetery operations, maintenance responsibilities, and funding limitations. He stated that while the Cemetery Board was willing to work toward improving the cemetery, the Board was concerned about the lack of direct financial support available to assist with equipment purchases, maintenance, and operational needs.

Discussion included:

- The Cemetery Board's current available funds
- Equipment and maintenance needs
- Volunteer efforts by board members
- Grant and donation opportunities being explored

- Challenges associated with obtaining grant funding timelines
 - Requests for future budget consideration and financial assistance from the Town
- Mr. Sarrazin requested that the Council consider identifying potential funding assistance during the upcoming budget process to help support cemetery operations and improvements.

The Mayor encouraged the Cemetery Board to provide budget information and justification requests as part of the upcoming budget preparation process.

Following final calls for additional comment, public comment on non-agenda items was closed.

Approval of Minutes

Deputy Clerk Louann Barr read the March 11, 2026 regular meeting minutes into the record.

Corrections Requested

Council President Teresa Saari requested:

- correction of a misspelled “New Business” heading,
- clarification regarding a statement in the Mayor’s report referencing “insights from executive forum.”

No additional corrections were presented.

Mayor’s Notes/Announcements

Mayor Wiley reported the following:

Grant Support Letters -The Town continues requesting letters of support for grant applications associated with projects identified within the Preliminary Engineering Report.

Budget and CIP Preparation -Residents were encouraged to submit priorities and ideas for:

- Fiscal Year 2027 budgeting
- Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)

Clerk/Treasurer Conference - Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Mills will attend the annual municipal institute conference in Billings. Elected officials interested in attending were asked to notify the office for registration purposes.

Town Hall Development Committee - The Mayor announced the Town Hall Development Committee had been formed with:

- Carla Williams – Chair
- Bobbi Jo Jones – Secretary
- Colton Jones
- Shaun Jones
- Tracy Fremont
- Council Member Cathy Romey

The Mayor summarized the committee's first meeting, including discussion regarding the Methodist Church property, future facility needs, and alternatives for Town Hall improvements or replacement. The committee voted unanimously to recommend the Town discontinue pursuit of purchasing the Methodist Church property due to financial concerns, existing infrastructure obligations, and structural issues associated with the church and parsonage.

Holliday Park Basketball Court Committee - The Mayor announced formation of the Holliday Park Basketball Court Committee consisting of:

- Jason Fenton – Chair
- Cidnee Fenton – Secretary
- Graham Gilmour
- Johnnie Kaiser

Discussion included:

- basketball court replacement,
- possible pickleball court expansion,
- Give-A-Hoot grant application plans,
- donated labor and excavation assistance,
- concrete and material estimates,
- and exploration of durable surfacing options suitable for Montana weather.

ReadiTech Fiber Optic Easement Request - Mayor Wiley reported that ReadiTech had requested an easement agreement to run fiber optic lines throughout town. A meeting with the town attorney was scheduled to review the proposal.

Public Comment on Mayor's Notes

Resident Roger Chandler suggested contacting local contractor Matt Hogenson regarding possible assistance with work. Additional discussion occurred regarding previous fiber installations within town limits and volunteer liability protections. Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Mills reminded volunteers that all individuals volunteering for town-related work should complete volunteer documentation for liability purposes.

Department and Committee Reports

A. Public Works/Water/Code Enforcement Report – Bo Danysh

- PFAS testing requirements had been added by DEQ,
- reservoir levels remained stable,
- chlorine treatment remained compliant,
- inventory levels for treatment chemicals were sufficient,
- and additional water system testing remained underway.

He also reported:

- difficulty installing signposts due to rocky soil conditions,
- unsuccessful attempts using a rented auger,
- and recommendations that excavation equipment be used instead.

Bo Danysh presented information regarding:

- grading gravel roads,
- potential magnesium chloride application,
- estimated costs for grading and dust control,
- and concerns regarding recurring washboarding and roadway deterioration.

Estimated costs discussed:

- approximately \$9,500 for grading,
- approximately \$9,800 for magnesium chloride application,
- approximately \$19,300 combined for partial treatment areas historically maintained.

Discussion occurred regarding whether all gravel roads or only portions should receive treatment.

Bo Danysh requested future Council guidance regarding replacement of aging water meters and whether the Town preferred traditional digital meters or newer wireless remote-reading systems.

Public Comment

Resident Roger Chandler provided historical information regarding prior gravel road grading and oiling practices within town.

B. Treasurer's Report – Stacy Mills

Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Mills reported:

Utility Billing

- March utility billing: \$16,086.94
- Payments received in March: \$18,256.32

Bank Balances

- Beginning balance: \$117,475.62
- Credits: \$37,485.75
- Debits: \$22,876.49
- Ending balance: \$132,084.88

Additional Updates

- coordination with Park County regarding the interlocal agreement,
- town insurance renewal processing,
- SLIPA grant coordination,
- preliminary FY2027 budget preparation,
- T-Mobile implementation coordination,
- and preparation for municipal institute attendance.

C. Deputy Clerk Report – Louann Barr

Deputy Clerk Louann Barr reported:

- 206 water bills mailed March 25,
- 12 disconnect notices issued,
- 9 delinquent customers had paid or made arrangements,
- 1 disconnect remained scheduled.

She also reported:

- office closure dates associated with training and vehicle maintenance,
- upcoming meter reading schedules,
- and adjusted utility billing dates due to the calendar.

D. Standing Committees

Planning, Zoning, and Subdivision

Council President Teresa Saari reported:

- Planning Board meeting scheduled for April 21, 2026,
- swearing in of board members,
- bylaw discussions,
- possible change to meeting times,
- and a presentation from Montana League representatives.

Cemetery Board

Council Member Cathy Romey summarized cemetery board discussions including:

- Give-A-Hoot grant timing,
- Veterans Memorial matters,
- cemetery maintenance,
- directional signage,
- and mower purchase discussion.

The board recommended purchase of a Bradley 48-inch mower from Belgrade Sales and Service for approximately \$4,300. Council decision covered in Consent Agenda.

Solid Waste Board

A report from Dave Sarrazin was summarized indicating:

- ongoing county solid waste discussions,
- review of compactor systems similar to Stillwater County,
- and continued discussions with county commissioners regarding future direction.

Consent Agenda

The following items were presented under the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of March meeting minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report and Claim Warrants
- Approval of cemetery mower purchase up to \$4,500
- Approval of PER-related resolutions:
 - Environmental Assessment Resolution
 - Adoption of Preliminary Engineering Report
 - Submission of MCEP and DNRC grant applications

Discussion occurred regarding historical cemetery mowing responsibilities and operational limitations.

Motion

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Joshua Koch.
Seconded by Teresa Saari.

Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

A. Methodist Church Property Purchase

Mayor Wiley reported the Methodist Church requested a final decision from the Town regarding whether the Town intended to pursue a buy-sell agreement.

Petition Certification Report

Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Mills presented the official petition verification and certification report regarding public opposition to the church purchase proposal.

Key findings included:

- 192 registered electors identified from the last municipal election,
- 29 valid signatures required,
- 40 verified valid signatures submitted,
- petition determined legally sufficient.

The report also identified:

- invalid signatures,
- unverifiable signatures,
- and signatures from non-residents.

A humorous notation regarding a canine “signature” was included in the report but excluded from the official count.

Public Comment

No additional public comments were made.

Council Action

Council discussed the Town Hall Development Committee’s recommendation not to pursue the Methodist church property purchase.

Motion made by Cathy Romey and seconded seconded by Josh Koch to discontinue pursuit of the Methodist Church property purchase.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Independence Day 250th Anniversary Discussion

Council discussed possible community activities related to the United States 250th anniversary celebration.

Ideas discussed included:

- community picnics,
- possible events,
- and coordination with residents to put an activity together

No action taken.

C. Spring Cleaning Day Discussion

Council discussed the possibility of organizing a community-wide spring cleanup effort following winter storms. Suggestions included encouraging residents to submit photos of cleanup efforts for posting on the Town website.

No action taken.

New Business

A. Oiling Dirt Streets

Mayor Wiley recommended postponing formal action regarding grading and oiling dirt streets until the next meeting to allow:

- additional information gathering,
- scheduling coordination,
- and public input.

Motion

Motion made by Cathy Romey to postpone the discussion until the next agenda.
Seconded by Teresa Saari. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Brian Eckeron and seconded by Josh Koch

Meeting adjourned.