



**CITY OF PONDERAY
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
May 4th, 2026**

COUNCILMEMBER PRESIDENT MCNEARNEY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilmember McNearney, Councilmember Mitton, Councilmember Thompson, Councilmember Larkin

ALSO, PRESENT: City Clerk Peterson, Planning Director Miller, Attorney Marshall

ABSENT: Mayor Geiger, Chief Kaufman

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND/OR DISCLOSURES:

AMEND AGENDA:

- Planning Director Miller
 - Remove Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (CRISI) Grant

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Karren R Williams
 - Notice of Property Damage and Hazardous Tree Conditions
 - Planning Director Miller supplied documentation.
 - The City of Ponderay does not own the property.
- Rick Larkin
 - SPOT Bus needs to be moved off Kootenai Cutoff Road.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1) Approve Bills \$71,176.55

2) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from April 6th and April 20th, 2026.

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda with the correction to April 20th, 2026 meeting minutes.

Councilmember Thompson/Larkin. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

MAYOR:

CLERK:

- City Clerk Peterson gave updates.
 - March Bed Tax - \$53,139.00
 - March Sales Tax - \$232,536.19
 - Out of town next week.

POLICE:

STREETS, PARKS, PLANNING, & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Planning Director Miller gave updates.
 - Blackrock / Brownfield Update
 - Break Water Work this fall.
 - Water levels up two feet.

- Replacement of 3 Sewer Laterals on Ash Street.
 - 2 - \$3,650.00
 - 1 - \$3,550.00

- Welch Comer, Build Grant Project Updates

Slide Show Presentation by Jack Griffing.

- Harbison Field – Master Plan
 - Changes
 - Railroad Ave
 - BNSF Turnarounds
 - Restroom & Playground Swap
- Waterfront – Master Plan
 - Undercrossing
 - Overlook/Turning Space
 - Fire Truck Turnaround/Plaza
 - Lake Shore Amenities
 - Changes since Master Plan
 - Trail Direction
 - 4th BNSF Track
 - One Million Dollars
 - Restroom & Swale Swap
 - Added Sand Play Area
- Underpass
- Playground
- Construction Funding Status
 - Build Grant Application
 - RCE Grant Application (Crossing Safety)

- ****Action Item**** Railroad Crossing Elimination (Crossing Safety) Program Grant

Presentation by planning Director Miller.

- \$3 (Three) Million Dollar Match out of the LOT funds.

Motion to Approve the pursuit of the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program Grant and set aside three million of the LOT funds for the City's match.

Councilmember Larkin/Thompson. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- **~~**Action Item**~~** Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (CRISI) Grant (**Scratched**)

- ****Action Item**** Raptor Box, Field of Dreams Update

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

- Northern Lights
 - 55 Foot Pole - \$5,600.00
- Annually clean out the Raptor Box.

Motion to Approve the New Raptor Box at the Field of Dreams.

Councilmember Thompson/Larkin. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- ****Action Item**** Summer Intern (unpaid)

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

Motion to Approve Hiring the Summer Intern.

Councilmember Mitton/Thompson. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

- ****Action Item**** Discussion/Decision, Tree Removal at the Retreat at Bay Trail

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

- Two Bids
 - Apex Tree Pro - \$48,000.00
 - Oliver Tree Service- \$39,000.00

Motion to hold off until 2026-2027 Budget. Motion to amend the Motion to Award the Bid to Oliver Construction and to Schedule after October 1st, 2026, so it can be included in the FY 2026-2027 Budget.

Councilmember Larkin/Mitton. Roll Call Vote. All Voted in Favor. Motion Approved.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CONTRACTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

- School House Update (Annual reporting)
 - Gardner Construction is the only one to respond.
- Post Office Remodel
 - \$15,000.00 Budgeted

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Councilmember Larkin/Thompson.
Meeting Adjourned 6:48 p.m.

City Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Peterson

Mayor Steve Geiger