



**CITY OF PONDERAY
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
August 3rd, 2026**

MAYOR GEIGER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:30 P.M.

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

ALSO, PRESENT: City Clerk Peterson, Planning Director Miller, Attorney Marshall, Chief Kaufman, City Engineer Luttmann

ABSENT:

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND/OR DISCLOSURES:

AMEND AGENDA:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1) Approve Bills \$51,468.08.

2) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from July 20th, 2026

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

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

MAYOR:

- Mayor Geiger gave updates.
 - Bike Rodeo – McNearney Park

CLERK:

- City Clerk Peterson gave updates.
 - Possibility of Special Meeting on August 5th, 2026

MAINTENANCE:

POLICE:

- Chief Kaufman gave an update.
 - Applications

STREETS, PARKS, PLANNING, & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Planning Director Miller gave updates.

- Bay Trail closed this week.
- ITD replacing Stop Lights Equipment
 - Radar
- ITD Land Swap
- Avista Grant Application
 - \$10,000.00 for Santa Sack
- Pavement Projects
- Compliance Issue update
- Lakeshore Design - Build Grant
 - Mandatory Utility Meeting

- ****Action Item**** Bid Award – State Highway 200 ADA Ramp Improvement Project

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

- Engineer Estimate - \$62,733.00
- Grant Award - \$60,000.00
- Low Bid – Interstate Concrete - \$56,282.00

Motion to Approve Interstate Concrete and Asphalt Bid for \$56,282.00.

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

- ****Action Item**** Discussion/Decision – Rick Peters ROW Landscaping Request

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

- Slide show of property
- Property lines
- Planting on City-owned property is not permitted.

Presentation by Rick Peters.

- Shrubs improve property.
- IHD dug ditch.
- Rick would like a variance to leave shrubs on City property.
 - Discussion followed amongst Mayor Geiger, Councilmembers, Peters, and Planning Director Miller.
 - Councilmember Mitton
 - Ash Street R-O-W 30 feet
 - 2nd Street R-O-W 60 Feet
 - Snow removal would destroy bushes.
 - Keep R-O-W clear of shrubs.
 - Councilmember McNearney
 - Street is twenty-one feet across.
 - Sidewalks in the R-O-W in the future.
 - Councilmember Larkin
 - Difference between the two Right of Ways.
 - Mayor Geiger asked Rick Peters to move the bushes off the City's R-O-W by the end of the month.

- ****Action Item**** Additional Railing at Blackrock Railroad Tracks

Presentation by Planning Director Miller.

- One hundred feet of railing
- Estimate \$30,000.00

Motion to Approve additional railing at Blackrock.

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

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, CONTRACTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion – Jersey Barrier at Ponderay Mobile Home Park Turn, Councilmember Larkin
- Discussion led by Councilmember Larkin.

- Jersey Barrier to stop people from parking in the center turn lane.
 - Ryan Luttmann, City Engineer.
 - Impeding Emergency Vehicles Response.
 - Increased Traffic on Kootenai Cutoff Road and McNearney Road.
 - City Wide Traffic Study.
 - \$180,000.00

- Discussion – Ban on Data Centers, Councilmember Larkin

Discussion led by Councilmember Larkin.

- Power Demand
- Extreme Water Consumption
 - Councilmember McNearney
 - Companies recirculate water.
- Noise Pollution
- Diesel Generators Emissions
- Drop in Property Value
- Low Job Creation
 - Planning Director Miller
 - No Sites available.
 - Ordinance to Ban Data Centers.

- FY 2027 Budget Workshop

- Tentative FY2026-2027 Budget

Motion to Tentatively Approve FY2026-2027 Budget of \$8,792,400.00.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Councilmember Larkin/Thompson.

Meeting Adjourned 6:45 p.m.

City Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Peterson

Mayor Steve Geiger