

Town of Metaline Falls
Regular Public Meeting Minutes
May 12th, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers

7 people in attendance, Selkirk Sun Recording

All council Present

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting we accepted with corrections, Sam McGeorge's last name be corrected and add the motion and second for Point & Pay.

Guests: No registered guests

Department Reports:

- Sheriff Report: No sheriff or deputy present, clerk read sheriffs report, the town had 19 calls for service.
- Fire District 2: Deputy Chief, Blake McAnerin present, the town of Metaline Falls had 7 calls for service. The weather is warming up, and he reminded everyone to be diligent in their pre-summer burning.
- Pend Oreille County Commissioner: Commissioner Brian Smiley present, Looking forward to the first Technical Advisory Group meeting coming up for the towns Comprehensive Plan Update. He encouraged residents and council to attend the E.D.A.C Quarterly meeting coming up. The Port is working on a "Brownfield" study fully funded by the Department of Ecology. Numerous properties in the north end are under evaluation to possibly be a Brownfield site. He spoke about Marianne Nicols, Pend Oreille County Auditor, potentially getting permission from the council to put in a Ballet Box near the town hall building. The project would be fully funded by the county, and the town's only responsibility would be to approve it. The county would handle everything else.
- Maintenance Report: Monte Rice, the town's maintenance director not a lot to report. "The grass is growing, its green"

Clerk/Treasurer Report:

- Sam McGeorge motioned to approve Accounts Payable, Mark Lockwood Seconded the motion, all in favor no opposition.
- Approval of Expense Vouchers Sam McGeorge Motioned to approve, Tess Maxwell seconded.
- Misc. Outstanding- none to report
- Approval of Treasurers Report- Sam McGeorge Motioned to Approve treasurers report and Tess Maxwell seconded the motion.

Mayor Report- The town's Beautification and Events Committee held their first meeting. They were able to come up with a color theme for the town's flowers this year. The committee refreshed the paint on the town's flowerpots. Sherice was able to go and pick out flowers for the town flower pots; they will be ready to plant at the end of May.

Council Reports-

Fran Maxwell-Nothing to report

Mark Lockwood-His report falls under New Business

Sam Mcgeaorge- Working on potential Property issues, He would like to get the councils approval to continue working on those issues. He thinks there is a piece of property that was originally public property that has been transferred into private hands. He would like to do more research to figure out how that happened because he can't see a clear record of how it happened. He may have to involve professionals and lawyers to get a clear distinction of how it happened. Fran Maxwell motioned and Blake McAnerin seconded the motion.

Blake McAnerin refer to department report.

Tess Maxwell, Working on Cash Flow, Budget position reports, she recommends we start on a budget amendment this summer. Tess verbally announced and submitted her council resignation. She will be working as Assistant Clerk one day a week for the Town of Metaline Falls.

Old Business:

No Community Garden update other than the paperwork is still being reviewed. The council agreed to wait for alignment with the county plan before deciding whether to annex a parcel into the town for property owner Sean Reagan.

Mark Lockwood was able to connect with Brian Smiley who forwarded him to a point of contact with WDFW. Mark was able to contact the regional wildlife biologist, who is super excited about the Hiker/Biker project. She is helping to seek out potential grant funding for

bear proof food storage boxes and bear proof garbage can to locate in the PNT Hiker space. Brian Smiley added that the Wildlife Human Conflict Specialist will potentially be at the County Commissioners' Meeting on May 19th, to introduce himself and take questions or concerns.

Mark would like to set up a meeting with the Clerk, mayor and himself to have a meeting with point and Pay and pay the kickoff fee to get set up accepting online payments through our town website. He also recommends the town get the credit card terminal. Mark also announced the Town of Metaline Falls's Website is live, Metalinefalls.gov. In building the website he was able to post PRA relevant documents. Agendas, Meeting Minutes, Town Budget, and very soon he will digitize the town's Ordinances. Mark also emphasized the website has a calendar of events happening in Metaline Falls.

The Council discussed the Wastewater Rates; The town council held a couple of public meetings where they have discussed wastewater rates. Mark presented a spreadsheet that projected actual costs and upcoming expenditures over 5 years within the wastewater budget. Over the next 5 years if the town doesn't implement a rate increase, it will run a very large deficit. This year the rate study is projecting the town must raise rates significantly. The Council set up a Special Meeting regarding the working utility rate study along with a Public Hearing. Special Meeting is scheduled for May 26th at 6PM and Public Hearing Scheduled for June 3rd at 6PM.

New Business:

Employee Pay Raise, **The Council convened into an Executive Session per RCW 42.30.100 (G) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. The mayor announced it would be for 15 minutes starting at 7:42 PM. The Council concludes the Executive Session at 7:54PM

Regular Town Council Meeting called back into order at 7:55 P.M.

The council voted to hold a meeting twice a month, the second meeting being a Special meeting. The Council will meet the 2nd Tuesday for their Regular Council meeting previously passed by ordinance, and the second meeting of the month will be the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6PM. Fran Maxwell motioned to approve, and Mark Lockwood seconded.

Resolution 2026-065- Adopting the 20-year population growth targets and allocations for the 2027 comprehensive plan periodic update. Motioned to adopted R-2026-065, by Sam McGeorge and seconded by Tess Maxwell.

Rural Resources have taken interest in possibly buying or leasing the vacant lot located to the West of Metaline Falls Town Hall. The council would like to discuss further details in an executive session.

Mayor Sherice opened the now vacant council position #5 for the Town of Metaline Falls. She will post the position to the public. Position 5 responsibility focuses on finances or the person's expertise.

Marianne Nicols County Auditor would like to place a new ballot box in the Town of Metaline Falls near the Town Hall building. It would need to have Cameras on it. The council would like the ballot box on the southeast corner of the building. Tess motioned and Sam McGeorge seconded.

County .09 Funds, the council gave Mark Lockwood the approval to apply for infrastructure assistance. Tess Maxwell motioned to approve, and Blake McAnerin seconded.

Sherice added that she has hired Jade MacArthur as the new Clerk-treasurer for the Town of Metaline Falls. Fran Maxwell motioned to approve Jade as the new clerk-treasurer, and Mark Lockwood seconded the motion. The council gave Mark Lockwood the approval to apply for any federal funding he can get to help relieve the infrastructure loan burden on the town rate payers. Fran Maxwell motioned and Sam McGeorge seconded.

**The Council convened into an Executive Session per RCW 4230.110 1 (C) discussing the sale or lease of public property, Start time 8:17P.M. for 15 minutes. The council concludes the executive session at 8:32 P.M. **

Regular town Council Meeting called back into order at 8:32 P.M.

Public Comment. Bill Bisson Spoke; Trish Reagan spoke.

Meeting adjourned 8:36 PM

Mayor, Sherice McAnerin

City Clerk-Treasurer

