406 North Cheyenne
Hardin MT 59034
(406) 665-9260

Committee Meeting
AGENDA

July 21, 2026

Council Chambers
401 N. Cheyenne

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Impact Fee Advisory Committee** **6:00 p.m.**
    - Investment Fees

Meeting adjourned at ____________ P.M.

Meetings are Audio Recorded Only
Montana Legislature House Bill 890

RESOLUTION NO. 2221

A RESOLUTION OF INTENT OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA TO INCREASE WATER AND SEWER IMPACT FEES AND ADOPTING THE SERVICE AREA REPORT

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin desires to continue to implement Impact Fees to fund the capital improvements of the water and sewer facilities, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-1601 (2017) and increase those rates;

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin has prepared a draft of a Service Area Report for the water and sewer facilities, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-1602 (2017), which shows the actual cost of public facility expansion and improvements or the reasonable estimates of the costs to be incurred by the City of Hardin as a result of new development;

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin will provide notice of a hearing to be held on November 19, 2019 at 6:15 p.m.;

WHEREAS, the City had previously established water and sewer impact fees in Resolution No. 1763 and desires to update those fees.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA:

The City of Hardin intends to increase the water and sewer impact fees for the next five years, effective January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2024 at a rate of 1% per year. The fees are supported by the findings in the Service Area Report, presented in Exhibit A, attached. The City shall review and update the Service Area Report and Impact Fees at the end of the five-year period.

Any person that is charged an impact fee and feels that an error has been made may appeal the charge within 30 days to the Mayor of the City of Hardin. The Mayor then has 30 days to respond with a decision. The Mayor's decision may be appealed to the City Council within 30 days. The decision of the City Council is final.

A public hearing on the rate increase will be held on November 19, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 401 North Cheyenne Avenue, Hardin, Montana 59034.

The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish or cause to be published a copy of a notice of the passage of this resolution in the Big Horn County News, a newspaper of general circulation in the City, on the dates of October 31, 2019, November 7, 2019, and November 14, 2019 in the form and manner prescribed by law, and to mail or cause to be mailed a copy of said notice to all customers of the Systems at least 10 days and not more than 30 days prior to the public hearing.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that That the City Council of the City of Hardin does hereby adopt the Service Area Report created for the water and sewer facilities, attached as Exhibit A.

The Council further resolves that employees of the City shall have the authority to make any actions necessary to effectively execute this resolution, for the resolution to have full effect and to comport with all parts of the laws of the State of Montana.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Hardin, Montana, and APPROVED this 15TH day of October, 2019.

YEA VOTES 5   NAY VOTES 0

CITY OF HARDIN

BY: ______________________   ATTEST: Michelle Dyckman
Mayor   City Clerk

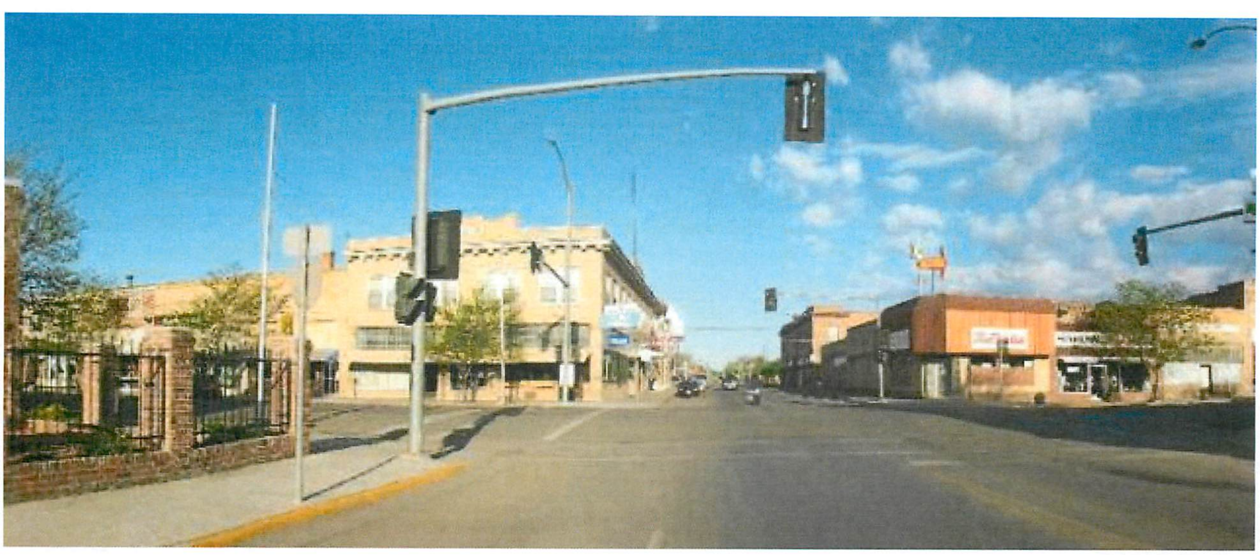
CITY OF HARDIN OFFICIAL SEAL BIG HORN COUNTY, MONTANA

2019

City of Hardin

Service Area Assessment

Water and Wastewater impact fees



City of Hardin Service Area Report to Establish Impact Fees

§ 7-6-1602 MCA

Existing Conditions

Current Water treatment facility was last upgraded in 2014 with an approximate cost of 1.8 million and the current Capital Improvement plan shows a current need of 1.5 million in upgrades. The wastewater treatment plants was last upgraded in 2003 with an approximate cost of 1.9 million and the current Capital Improvement Plan shows a current need of 11 million in upgrades.

Water Treatment- built in 1920, is having to perform Crypto testing over the next 2 years

Wastewater Treatment- built in 1979, is having elevated E-Coli levels. The recent Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) done by Stahly engineering reveals that the existing wastewater treatment plant is seeing a large volume of infiltration and inflow into the system, which indicates that major capital improvements in the collection system may be needed.

Level of Service Standard

To provide safe drinking water to the service area as well as an adequate water source for emergency services, as well provide wastewater treatment at generally acceptable levels for the present, and future growth, and to meet the requirements of the Montana DEQ and the US EPA.

Future Needs

To be able to provide safe and reliable services for increased residential and industrial growth within the city limits. A recent Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and an Infiltration and Inflow Study that the City conducted has identified the following future needs.

1. 10th Street and Lessard Ave wastewater line replacement
2. Headworks building
3. 13th Street Manholes replacement

The City is also aware of proposed growth in the City of Hardin with the construction of a new dentist office, a new bank, a new government office building, and a new proposed health facility. These will all add to the capacity of the wastewater treatment plant, as well as demand use of the water treatment plant.

Identify Capital improvement Needs

Wastewater CIP and Water Treatment CIP show a current need of 12.5 million for improvements

Capital Improvements needed for continued operation

All planned CIP are needed to maintain safe operation to provide services to the service area

Correlation between fees and benefits

Although there is only one service area, both the water and wastewater will require future service expansion related to economic development. Investment fees in both areas may help reduce service cost or minimize the need to increase the rate structure.

Transportation Facilities: N/A

Methodology and time period

To be defined in the yearly budget Monthly (Rates) and at least every 5 years, a fee schedule based on water line size and use. Previously the city used Resolution No. 1763 to establish criteria to allocate the proportionate use of water and sewer according to water line size for each connection.

Methodology to exclude operations and maintenance cost from the fee collection

All investment fees collected are kept separate and placed in the CIP fund for project funding. The Mayor, City Council, Public Works Director and the City Finance Officer will keep the operations and maintenance costs separate and impact fees will not be used for regular operations and maintenance.

Establish the amount of impact fee
See investment fee schedule related to line size and previously adopted impact fees. A base fee for a ¾ inch line will remain on the fee schedule, even though the City no longer permits a 3/4 inch connection. The purpose of having a base ¾ inch fee is so that the City does not hold new development to a higher level of service than existing users. In the event that a current user wants to replace or repair their service line, then they must install a 1 inch line, at a minimum, and must pay the difference between the ¾ inch base fee and the current investment fee for the 1 inch line, or whichever new service line size that is installed.

Budget Component: Fee revenue will be placed into the CIP fund by the Finance officer and identified in the budget **i) and ii)** Public works, Council and Engineers will coordinate project implementation, schedules, costs and service expansion. **iii)** Mayor and Council will approve allocation of funds for CIP projects. **iv)** Impact advisory committee, Council, Mayor, Public works and Finance will review fee schedule at minimum every 5 years for possible investment fee changes.

Sources: The Following Sources and methodologies were used to determine the requirements of subsection (2) and subsection (7) of § 7-6-1602: Resolution No. 1763, Impact fee information from:

Water and Wastewater Impact Fee Comparable

Hardin VS. Other Cities

	Water	Wastewater
Hardin	$1297.79	$3122.16
Whitefish	$2352.00	$2040.00
Missoula	$2000.00	$2100.00
Bozeman	$2547.00	$1179.00
Kalispell	$2567.00	$5757.00
Belgrade	$2308.00	$1489.00
Three forks	$1114.00	$3817.00

increase of 1% yearly over 5 year period

This Report shall be available to the Public, upon request.

Impact Fees

WATER

Size	2012 Current	2020 1.00%	2021 1.00%	2022 1.00%	2023 1.00%	2024 1.00%
0.75	$ 987.60	$ 997.48	$ 1,007.45	$ 1,017.52	$ 1,027.70	$ 1,037.98
1.00	$ 1,234.80	$ 1,247.15	$ 1,259.62	$ 1,272.22	$ 1,284.94	$ 1,297.79
1.50	$ 1,976.40	$ 1,996.16	$ 2,016.12	$ 2,036.28	$ 2,056.64	$ 2,077.21
2.00	$ 3,706.60	$ 3,743.67	$ 3,781.11	$ 3,818.92	$ 3,857.11	$ 3,895.68
3.00	$ 6,274.60	$ 6,337.35	$ 6,400.72	$ 6,464.73	$ 6,529.38	$ 6,594.67
4.00	$ 6,655.20	$ 6,721.75	$ 6,788.97	$ 6,856.86	$ 6,925.43	$ 6,994.68

Increase by year						
		9.88	9.97	10.07	10.18	10.28
		12.35	12.47	12.60	12.72	12.85
		19.76	19.96	20.16	20.36	20.57
		37.07	37.44	37.81	38.19	38.57
		62.75	63.37	64.01	64.65	65.29
		66.55	67.22	67.89	68.57	69.25

SEWER

Size	*Resolution 1763* 2012 Current	2020 1.00%	2021 1.00%	2022 1.00%	2023 1.00%	2024 1.00%
0.75	$ 2,396.40	$ 2,420.36	$ 2,444.56	$ 2,469.01	$ 2,493.70	$ 2,518.64
1.00	$ 2,971.20	$ 3,000.91	$ 3,030.92	$ 3,061.23	$ 3,091.84	$ 3,122.76
1.50	$ 4,792.80	$ 4,840.73	$ 4,889.14	$ 4,938.03	$ 4,987.41	$ 5,037.28
2.00	$ 8,986.80	$ 9,076.67	$ 9,167.44	$ 9,259.11	$ 9,351.70	$ 9,445.22
3.00	$ 14,497.20	$ 14,642.17	$ 14,788.59	$ 14,936.48	$ 15,085.84	$ 15,236.70
4.00	$ 16,152.00	$ 16,313.52	$ 16,476.66	$ 16,641.43	$ 16,807.84	$ 16,975.92

Increase by year						
		23.96	24.20	24.45	24.69	24.94
		29.71	30.01	30.31	30.61	30.92
		47.93	48.41	48.89	49.38	49.87
		89.87	90.77	91.67	92.59	93.52
		144.97	146.42	147.89	149.36	150.86
		161.52	163.14	164.77	166.41	168.08

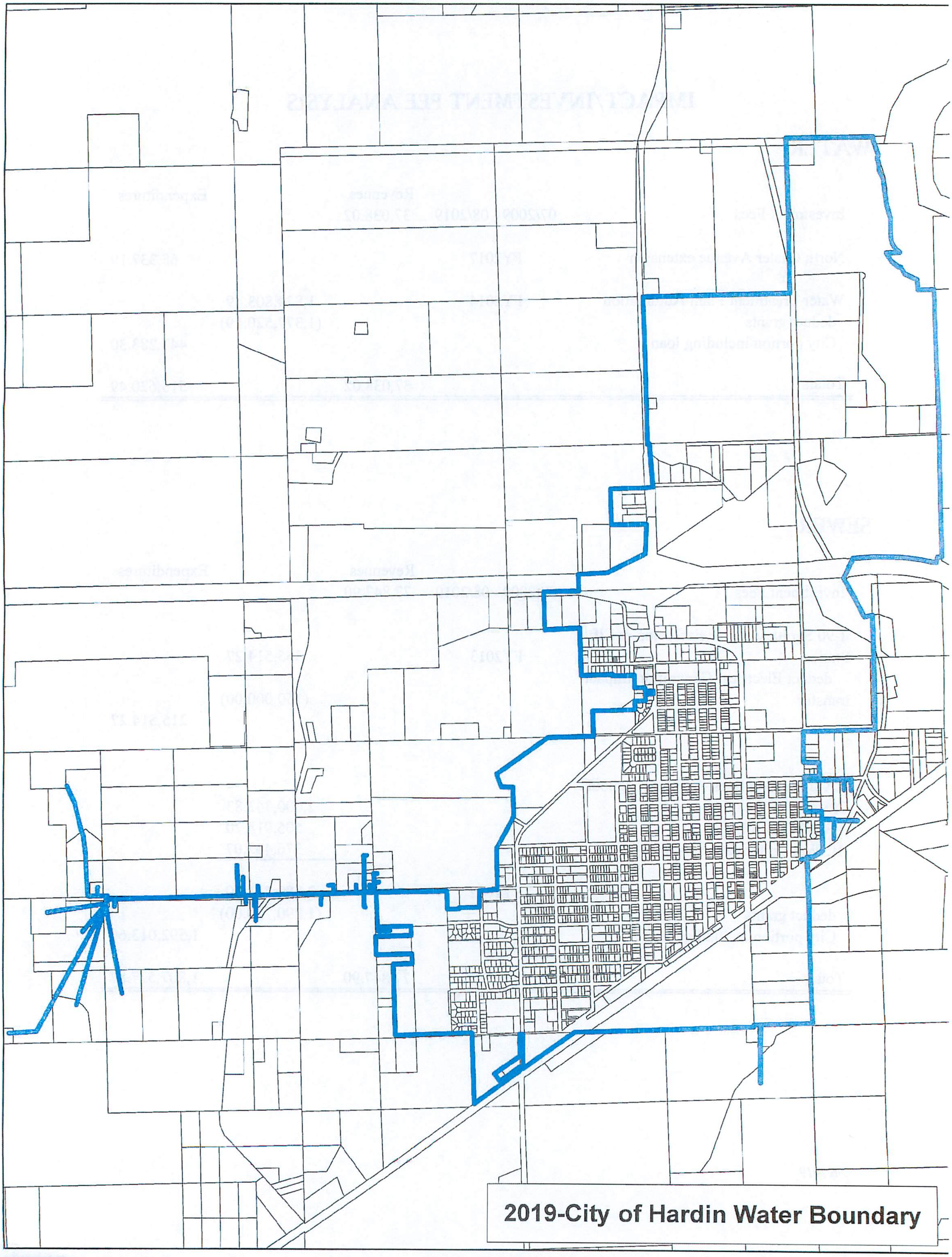
IMPACT/INVESTMENT FEE ANALYSIS

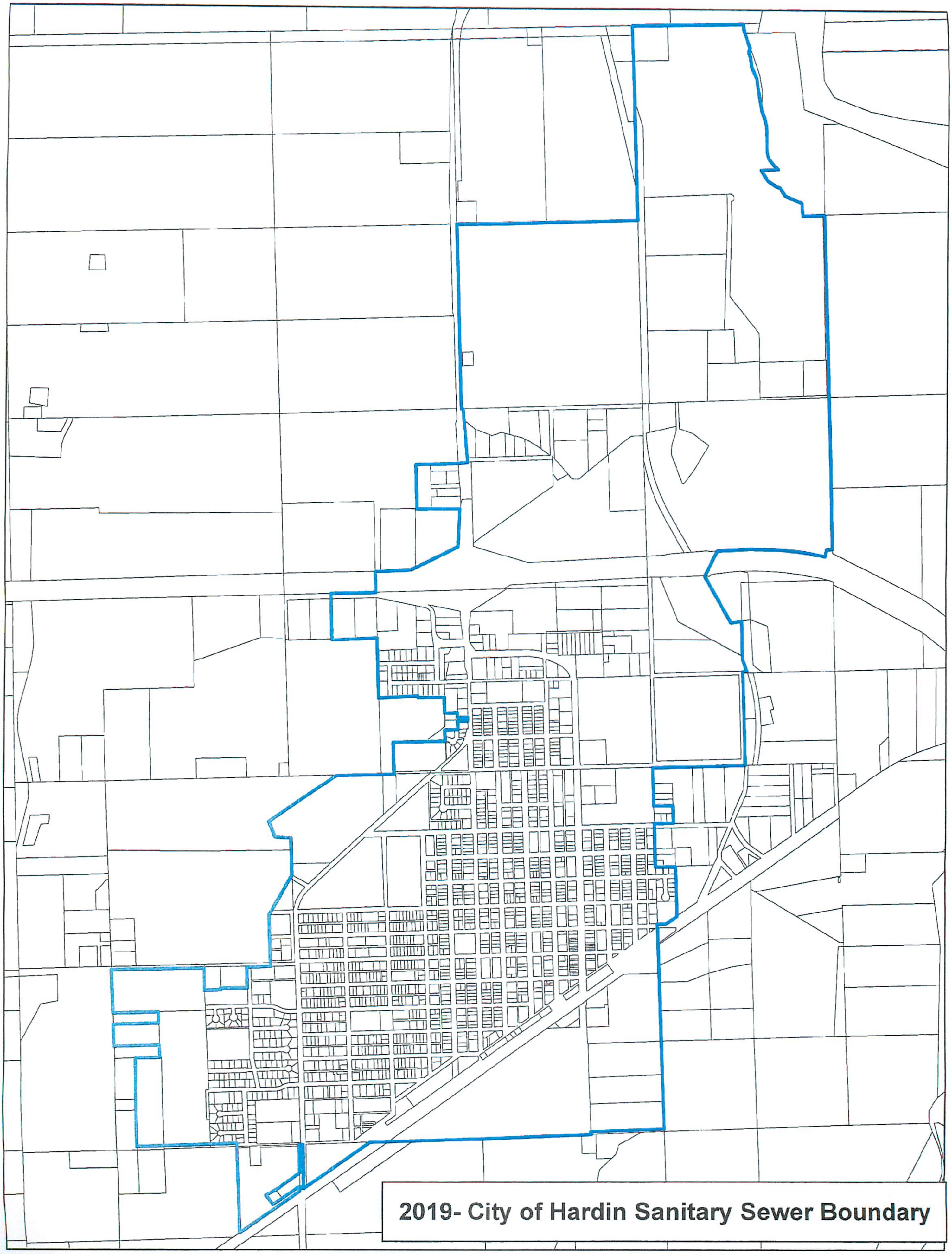
WATER

		Revenues		Expenditures
Investment Fees	07/2009 - 08/2019	37,038.02		
North Custer Avenue extension	FY2017			68,337.19
Water Treatment Plant Automation	FY2014		1,824,803.49	
deduct grants			(1,377,520.19)	
City portion including loan				447,283.30
Totals		37,038.02		515,620.49

SEWER

		Revenues		Expenditures
Investment Fees	07/2009 - 08/2019	77,847.90		
I-90 Sanitary Sewer Extension & Lift Station	FY2013		365,514.27	
deduct Electrical Generation Impact transfer			(150,000.00)	
				215,514.27
1A Collection lines -CIPP throughout City			2,000,342.83	
1B WWTP to UV			505,918.70	
1C Watson Drive extension			376,452.07	
	FY2012		2,882,713.60	
deduct grants			(1,290,700.00)	
City portion including loans				1,592,013.60
Totals		77,847.90		1,807,527.87


2019-City of Hardin Water Boundary



2019- City of Hardin Sanitary Sewer Boundary

RESOLUTION NO. 2222

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA INCREASING WATER AND SEWER IMPACT FEES

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin desires to continue to implement Impact Fees to fund the capital improvements of the water and sewer facilities, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-1601 (2019) and desires to increase those rates;

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin has previously approved a Service Area Report for the water and sewer facilities, pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 7-6-1602 (2017), which shows the actual cost of public facility expansion and improvements or the reasonable estimates of the costs to be incurred by the City of Hardin as a result of new development;

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin provided notice of a hearing to be held on November 19, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. and said hearing was held for members of the public and residents of the City of Hardin;

WHEREAS, the City had previously established water and sewer impact fees in Resolution No. 1763 and desires to update those fees.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA:

The water and sewer impact fees for the next five years, as presented in Exhibit A, are hereby adopted and effective January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2024. The City shall review and update the Service Area Report and Impact Fees at the end of a five-year period.

Any person that is charged an impact fee and feels that an error has been made may appeal the charge within 30 days to the Mayor of the City of Hardin. The Mayor then has 30 days to respond with a decision. The Mayor's decision may be appealed to the City Council within 30 days. The decision of the City Council is final.

The Council further resolves that employees of the City shall have the authority to make any actions necessary to effectively execute this resolution, for the resolution to have full effect and to comport with all parts of the laws of the State of Montana.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Hardin, Montana, and APPROVED this 19TH day of November, 2019.

YEA VOTES 6 NAY VOTES Ø

CITY OF HARDIN

BY: ______________________ ATTEST: Michelle Dyckman
Mayor City Clerk

CITY OF HARDIN
OFFICIAL
SEAL
BIG HORN COUNTY, MONTANA

Impact Fees

WATER

Size	2020 1.00%	2021 1.00%	2022 1.00%	2023 1.00%	2024 1.00%
0.75	$ 997.48	$ 1,007.45	$ 1,017.52	$ 1,027.70	$ 1,037.98
1.00	$ 1,247.15	$ 1,259.62	$ 1,272.22	$ 1,284.94	$ 1,297.79
1.50	$ 1,996.16	$ 2,016.12	$ 2,036.28	$ 2,056.64	$ 2,077.21
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SEWER

Size	2020 1.00%	2021 1.00%	2022 1.00%	2023 1.00%	2024 1.00%
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2.00	$ 9,076.67	$ 9,167.44	$ 9,259.11	$ 9,351.70	$ 9,445.22
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4.00	$ 16,313.52	$ 16,476.66	$ 16,641.43	$ 16,807.84	$ 16,975.92

AGENDA

The City of Hardin
406 N. Cheyenne Avenue
Hardin, MT 59034

July 21, 2026

AUDIO RECORDING BEGINS

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:30 P.M.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor: _________

Alderpersons: Steven Hopes	_________	Clayton Greer	_________	Chris Sharpe	_________
George Toyne	_________	Jeremy Krebs	_________	Antonio Espinoza	_________

CONSENT AGENDA:
Council Meeting 07/07/2026 **Claims**

PUBLIC COMMENT (agenda items only): 3 minutes per person

MAYOR:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- **Personnel Committee/City Policy**: Mayor
- **Sewer & Water:** Hopes
- **Streets & Alleys:** Hopes
- **Law Enforcement:** Toyne
- **Parks & Playgrounds:** Krebs
- **Finance/Landfill:** Greer
- **Impact Fee Advisory:** Greer
  - Investment Fees
- **Resolutions and Ordinances:** Sharpe
- **Economic Development:** Toyne

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:
- Montana League of Cities and Towns 95th Annual Conference
- City-County Planning Board Minutes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:
- Northcon, Inc. Change Order NO. 4 – $15,829.49
- Auditor Bid for Fiscal Years 2025, 2026, & 2027

STAFF REPORTS
- **Public Works:**
- **Finance:** ○ First Interstate Investment Account Update
- **Police:**
- **Legal:** ○ Big Horn Hospital Settlement
- **Economic Development:**

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Resolution NO. 2443 – Authorizing the Submission of Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board Application in Support of the Purchase of Sewer Inspection Camera

PUBLIC COMMENT: 3 minutes per person

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Employee Anniversaries: Nathan McConnell, 3 years; Michael O'Riehl, 4 years; Kimberly Schaak, 1 year; Tina Toyne, 2 years

Alley Clean-Up: Monday, July 27 2026. Have items out by 8:00 a.m.

Public Hearing: Budget Amendments FY 2025/2026: Council Chambers Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 6:10 p.m.

Public Hearing: Street Maintenance District & Levies and Assessments FY 2025/2026: Council Chambers Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 6:20 p.m.

City of Hardin Job Openings: Full-time positions: Police Chief, Police Officer, School Resource Officer SRO, Maintenance Worker I, and Animal Control/Code Enforcement

LEGAL: Closed Session: Update on Pending Litigation

Meeting adjourned at _________P.M.

AUDIO RECORDING ENDS

Additions to the Agenda can be voted on by Council to add to the Agenda for the next Council meeting.
Agenda items will need to be submitted by Wednesday noon before a Tuesday Council meeting.

THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY of HARDIN, MONTANA

COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Council Meeting for July 7, 2026 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Riley Ramsey presiding by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Aldermen were present: Steven Hopes, Clayton Greer, Chris Sharpe, George Toyne and Jeremy Krebs. Antonio Espinoza was excused.

Also present: Finance Officer/City Clerk Andrew Lehr, Public Works Director Michael Hurff, Jr., Economic Development Director Tina Toyne, Deputy City Clerk Angela Zimmer, Attorney Jordan Knudsen, and Interim Chief of Police Tyler Nedens.

Also present: Several Members of the Public

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS & CLAIMS: Hopes motioned to approve the Council Meeting of June 16, 2026 as written. Motion seconded by Greer. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Greer made a motion to approve the claims for July 7, 2026.

	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
April, 2026	33932-33933, 33952,	$ 9,217.29
May, 2026	33965	527,925.92
June, 2026	33934-33938, 33940-33951, 33953-33964 33966-33977, 33979-33985, 33988-33992 33994-34012, 34015-34106, 34018-34022 34024-34027	279,913.83
July, 2026	33939, 33978, 33986, 34013-34014 34017, 34023	177,910.88
Claims Total (Expenditures)		**$ 994, 967.92**
June, 2026		**271,486.35**
TOTAL Submitted		**$ 1,266,454.27**

Hopes seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 3 minutes per person N/A

MAYOR:

Mayor Ramsey reported the City has offered the Chief of Police position conditionally to someone; the candidate is going through the background process.

Corrina Kirschenmann-Kuntz asked if they will be living in the community. Mayor Ramsey noted they would.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Personnel Policy/City Policy:

Sewer & Water:

Hopes reported the Water and Waste Water Plant are doing alright.

Streets & Alleys:

Hopes reported there were bid openings for three garbage trucks. The City crew has been patching streets; they are working hard to get that done.

Law Enforcement:

Toyne reported things seem to be going good.

Parks & Playgrounds:

Krebs reported there was a really good turn-out for the Grand Opening for South Park; people were having a lot of fun; there were door prizes; and people enjoying their day. He extended a

"Thank You" for the help to the City and everyone that volunteered for the event. There was further discussion about the splash pad drain; Hurff reported a clean-out drain will be dug in. Krebs noted he hoped to get cameras up at the park soon. There was further discussion about vandalism at the park.

Hurff noted the City received a certificate from the Library for helping with their event at the South Park Splash Pad.

Finance/Landfill:

Greer reported Budget Meetings are coming up on July 14^{th}, 15^{th}, 16^{th}, and continuing as needed. He noted work is expected to begin on the septic tank at the landfill.

Resolutions & Ordinances:

Economic Development:

Alderman Toyne reported the City Economic Development Director, Tina Toyne, is working on the Infill and Redevelopment project and she has been attending meetings for the Pilot Tourism Grant. Tina Toyne reported she attended a Visit Southeast Montana Board Meeting in Broadus and the Visit Southeast Montana Executive Board Meeting today online.

Corrina Kirschenmann-Kuntz asked how it is coming along with the Wayfinding signs. Tina Toyne noted the City will be putting out a Request for Proposal for the project.

<u>SPECIAL COMMITTEES</u>:

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Ramsey reported the City received a newsletter from the Montana Department of Transportation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Knudsen reported he sent the Big Horn County Hospital the proposal that Council had decided; to pay $25,000 last fiscal year plus $10,000 each fiscal year after that to settle hospital debts for those taken to the hospital after arrests. He corresponded with their attorney and the proposal came back with one of the most important portions of the proposed agreement cut out which was no future billing. Knudsen noted the City, by Montana Law is not responsible for these medical bills unless we cause the injury. Their counter proposal is they will accept the payment of $25,000 plus $10,000 for the next four years to settle past debt, but does not address any future billing. Toyne recommended to negotiate an exam fee with the hospital and if they want to do other tests they can cover it. Knudsen noted the City does not ask for the evaluation, the County jail turns the City away and says to get them evaluated; they ask for it. They have no legal authority to say no when the City brings somebody in; they have no legal authority to say go get a medical screening first. He added he understands why they do it. The City has been compliant. There was further discussion by Council. Krebs noted he would like the paragraph that Knudsen liked to be put back in the agreement. Hopes voiced to send it back. Knudsen noted no action is to be taken now, he was just looking for guidance.

Lehr reviewed sewer repair bills from the emergency repair at Mitchell Avenue and 3^{rd} Street; Pace Construction - $38,577.98, Mountain West - $6,475.00, and Fisher Sand & Gravel – $15,150. Hurff reported Pace Construction gave a fifteen percent discount and Mountain West gave about an eight percent discount. It was reported the total is around $60,202.98. Hurff reported there will be a cost for the blacktop; waiting on the invoice. Greer motioned to approve the sewer bills. Hopes seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Officer Raymond Longstreth was sworn in by Mayor Ramsey.

Hurff reviewed the four bids the City received for 3 Tandem Axle Dump Trucks. Hopes asked Hurff what his recommendation was. Hurff reported his recommendation is to move forward with I-State Truck in the amount of $170,677.00 for each truck. Greer motioned to approve the bid from I-State Truck in the amount of $170,677 each for three dump trucks. Hopes seconded. There was further discussion about the current trucks and the new ones. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Hurff reviewed the two bids the City received for a Crawler Loader for the Landfill. The lowest bid was submitted by RDO Equipment Co. in the amount of $320,000. Hopes motioned to accept the bid from RDO for $320,000, Greer seconded. There was further discussion about the equipment and what it will be used for. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Ramsey reported Northcon, Inc. submitted Pay Application No. 12 in the amount of $834,564.90 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. Toyne motioned to approve the Pay Application. Krebs seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed Amendment NO. 1 of the Interlocal Agreement with Lodge Grass. Greer motioned to approve Amendment NO. 1. Hopes seconded. Krebs asked Knudsen if he was okay with this. Knudsen verified he is. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Lehr reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Hardin, Town of Lodge Grass, and Western Municipal. Greer motioned to approve the money for the MOU. Hopes seconded. On a voice cote the motion was unanimously approved. Greer seconded. On a voice vote the motion was unanimously approved.

Hurff provided an overview of the EJCDC agreement between the City of Hardin and Stahly Engineering for professional services. The work to be completed is at the 200 Block of Crawford Ave. is estimated to be around $80,000 to replace the water line and street. The project is expected to be complete by August 31st, before school starts. Toyne asked if this could be partially funded by a grant if applied for. Lehr noted there are CDBG Grants opening up soon for construction; the City could apply for a grant. He added there is funding available in the street and water funds. Greer noted this needs to be done right now. There was discussion about waiting to apply for a grant as to doing the project now. Hurff noted this project has been on the books for a while. Toyne noted he would make a motion to wait and apply for the grant and apply for it for two blocks instead of one and plan it next year. Hopes noted they have to patch that street all the time. Krebs noted if the City can get an $80,000/$90,000 grant, the money could be used somewhere else; other streets in town. Krebs asked Lehr what his opinion financially of the best route to go. Lehr noted his opinion is the City should move forward with this one block and apply for other grants for streets. Knudsen noted there is a motion pending with no second. Ramsey asked if there was a second to the motion to delay. The motion died for lack of a second. Hopes motioned to get the project done. Greer seconded. Knudsen asked Hopes to clarify his motion. Hopes motioned to go with Stahly Engineering, EJCDC, for the 200 Block of Crawford Avenue. On a voice vote the motion passed. (3/2) Krebs and Toyne voting Nay.

Mayor Ramsey requested approval of his appointment of Brian Seely to the Impact Fee Advisory Committee. Greer motioned to approve Brian Seely as the appointment to the Impact Fee Advisory Committee. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote the motioned passed. (4/1) Hopes abstained.

Mayor Ramsey reported Wharton Asphalt is doing road repairs for the County near the Fairgrounds; a block on the south side of the railroad tracks on Center Ave. The bid is for this side of the tracks of Center Avenue, $32,659. He reported he and Hurff have spoken with County Commissioner Larry Vandersloot; the County would pick up and procure the asphalt, the estimated City portion would be $17,069. The County will pay for that. Mayor Ramsey reviewed the scope of the project. Krebs motioned to approve the amount of $32,659 to get the rest of the work done. Sharpe seconded.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works:

Hurff reported the City received a certificate of appreciation from the Library for the Splash Pad.

Finance:

Lehr reported the Audit RFP's are due in a couple of weeks. The new website will be coming out in the next few weeks; emails will change with the new website. Budget Meetings are scheduled for next Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and continuing as needed.

Police:

Interim Chief of Police Nedens reviewed calls for service. He reported Officer Joshua Sederes will be graduating from the Montana Law Enforcement Academy July 21st and Officer Raymond Longstreth is scheduled to go to the Academy in September.

Legal:

Economic Development:
Tina Toyne reported she and Alexandria Edwards attended the Reimagining Rural Conference in Townsend; the focus was on strengthening rural communities through volunteerism, partnerships, and community engagement. She provided more information on the key takeaways from the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

PUBLIC COMMENT: 3 minutes per person
Corrina Kirschenmann- Kuntz, resident, asked if the City was hiring Animal Control. Ramsey noted the City is looking to combine Animal Control with Code Enforcement.

Karleen Pitsch, resident, reported someone in town has rabbits. Knudsen read City Code regarding rabbits. Toyne noted she can fill out a complaint form.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Mayor Ramsey reported Budget Meetings are scheduled for July 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2026 and Continuing as needed. The City-County Planning Board has Public Hearings and a Regular Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 13, 2026 in Council Chambers for the Hill-Scott Garage and Zoning Ordinance for Marijuana. At 7:00 p.m.

The City of Hardin has the following Job Openings: Full-time positions – Police Chief and Police Officers.

Carole Fox asked didn't the City settle that ordinance for the marijuana. Mayor Ramsey noted as for City Council, it is.

Greer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Sharpe seconded. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

____

Riley Ramsey, Mayor

ATTEST:

____

Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

City of Hardin

Submitted for Approval

July 21, 2026

Month	CLAIM No.	Monthly Total
April, 2026	34037, 34079	**$ 39,730.93**
June, 2026	34028, 34032-34035, 34038, 34041, 34046-34047, 34053-34054, 34056, 34060, 34068-34070, 34072, 34080	213,240.75
July, 2026	34029-34031, 34036, 34039-34040, 34042-34045, 34048-34052, 34055, 34057-34059, 34061-34066, 34071, 34073-34078, 34081-34082	60,792.60
TOTAL Submitted		**$ 313,764.28**

Claims or Expenditures over $5,000

per Resolution #2189

Vendor	Purpose	Check #	Amount
STAHLY ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES INC	Waste Water Project Engineering	42920	39,685.93
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK (MASTERCARD)	Credit card purchases	-99245	19,384.93
STAHLY ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES INC	Waste Water Project Engineering	42920	34,231.30
US BANK NATIONAL ASSOC	Trustee Fees	-99240	8,635.00
MORRISON-MAIERLE	Lodge Grass Project Engineering	-99233	114,728.70
EUNA SOLUTIONS, INC	Grant Management software	-99238	11,000.00
CJK CONSTRUCTION LLC	Drain field repair & Distribution box	42895	6,134.00
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTI	July debt payment to USDA RD Loan	-99243	6,024.00

Exempt from Resolution 2189

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	Electric Utilities	42914	21,478.28

CITY OF HARDIN
Claims Report

For the Accounting Period: April, 2026

Vendor	Claim #		Check	Amount
STAHLY ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES INC	CL	34037	42920	39,685.93
PAYA SERVICES INC	CL	34079	-99241	45.00
				39,730.93

CITY OF HARDIN
Claims Report

For the Accounting Period: June, 2026

Vendor	Claim #		Check	Amount
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK (MASTERCARD)	CL	34028	-99245	19,384.93
ANGELA ZIMMER	CL	34032	42883	245.62
ALEX EDWARDS	CL	34033	42882	250.00
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	CL	34034	-99239	8,429.95
THE TAP INN	CL	34035	42921	600.00
STAHLY ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES INC	CL	34038	42920	34,231.30
US BANK NATIONAL ASSOC	CL	34041	-99240	8,635.00
HARDIN PROPANE	CL	34046	42905	35.70
BIG SKY EXPRESS WASH	CL	34047	42892	40.50
SCL Medical Group - Billings LLC	CL	34053	42919	150.00
BIG HORN COUNTY ELECTRIC	CL	34054	42891	2,763.11
STAPLES	CL	34056	-99236	910.62
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	CL	34060	42914	21,478.28
* CASH	CL	34068	42889	58.71
SCHOOL DISTRICTS 17H & 1	CL	34069	42918	500.55
MORRISON-MAIERLE	CL	34070	-99233	114,728.70
MILLENNIUM ELECTRIC	CL	34072	42910	633.00
RILEY RAMSEY	CL	34080	42917	164.78
				213,240.75

CITY OF HARDIN
Claims Report

For the Accounting Period: July, 2026

Vendor	Claim #		Check	Amount
MT DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY	CL	34029	42884	58.57
BAMBOOHR LLC	CL	34030	-99244	875.33
EUNA SOLUTIONS, INC	CL	34031	-99238	11,000.00
KNIFE RIVER INC	CL	34036	42908	790.40
AMBER STEWART	CL	34039	42890	39.00
BRANDON LIMING	CL	34040	42894	52.08
HARDIN DO IT BEST	CL	34042	42904	387.15
HARDIN BUILDING CENTER	CL	34043	42903	68.59
BIG SKY TIRE & SERVICE CO LLC	CL	34044	42893	3,060.00
IBS, INC.	CL	34045	42906	485.51
APG YELLOWSTONE NEWS GROUP	CL	34048	-99237	118.00
MMCT & FOA	CL	34049	42911	100.00
ENERGY LABORATORIES INC	CL	34050	42899	845.00
JAMES MARTIN	CL	34051	42885	1,550.00
DIS TECHNOLOGIES	CL	34052	42897	1,373.29
FIREMASTER DEPT 1019	CL	34055	42901	2,724.08
CENTRAL SQUARE TECHNOLOGIES	CL	34057	-99235	1,560.00
RCI ENERGY INC	CL	34058	42916	973.47
VERIZON WIRELESS	CL	34059	-99242	464.96
TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO	CL	34061	-99234	108.80
GOLD BUCKLE REAL ESTATE	CL	34062	42902	1,000.00
CJK CONSTRUCTION LLC	CL	34063	42895	6,134.00
LYNN'S SUPERFOODS	CL	34064	42909	67.32
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE	CL	34065	42923	460.00
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	CL	34066	-99243	6,024.00
DESTINATIONIQ	CL	34071	42896	3,083.00
FERGUSON WATERWORKS #1701	CL	34073	42900	2,592.86
MONTANA SEPTIC	CL	34074	42912	300.00
ECOLAB INC	CL	34075	42898	93.28
NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS	CL	34076	42913	1,796.40
IN CONTROL, INC	CL	34077	42907	1,569.25
TRU PIPE INC	CL	34078	42922	3,875.00
PEAK WATER SERVICES LLC	CL	34081	42915	3,406.78
HAWKINS, INC	CL	34082	-99232	3,756.48
				60,792.60

CITY OF HARDIN
Check Report

7/21/2026

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CITY OF HARDIN
Check Report

7/21/2026

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				313,764.28


MONTANA LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS
LOCAL STORIES
2026
95th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
REGISTER
NOW
OCTOBER 7 - 9
DELTA HOTEL | HELENA, MT
REGISTER BY AUGUST 14TH FOR EARLY BIRD PRICING

LOCAL STORIES

The League's 95th Annual Conference

Every Community Has a Story.

For 95 years, League members have come together to exchange ideas, tackle challenges, and celebrate the work that strengthens our communities. This year, we're gathering in Helena to spotlight the people, places, and stories that shape Montana.

Connect with your peers from across the state, gain fresh insights, and leave inspired with new ideas to bring home.

Featuring keynote speaker **Chris Averill, Chair of the Montana 250th Commission**, plus evening receptions at the **Montana Heritage Center** and the historic **Montana Club**.

Register by **August 14th** and save with Early Bird Pricing:

BY AUGUST 14TH
Municipal Members: $210
First-Time Attendees: $150

AFTER AUGUST 14TH
Municipal Members: $260
First-Time Attendees: $200

REGISTER NOW at
mtleague.org/events/95th-annual-league-conference

Montana League of Cities and Towns
3115 McHugh Lane
Helena, MT, 59602

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Clayton Greer
Council Person
406 N Cheyenne Ave
Hardin, MT 59034-1811

CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD PO BOX 305
CITY OF HARDIN / BIG HORN COUNTY HARDIN MT 59034-0305

City County Planning Board Meeting
Date: June 8th, 2026
Location: City Chambers
Time: 7:00 PM

Absent: Michael Ebert / Larry Vandersloot / Bill Hodges
Vacant Seat(s): County Commissioners Appointed seat

---

1. Call to Order Regular Meeting(7:00 PM)

The regular meeting of the City–County Planning Board was called to order at **7:00 PM** by the acting chairwoman Corrina Kuntz-Kirschenmann. No applications to review.

---

2. Approval of Minutes for 3/9/2026

- Motion: Taylor Sidwell
- Second: Karla Roods
- **Approved unanimously at 7:01pm on 6/8/2026.**

---

3. Financial Statement(s) (March & April 2026) & Bills to be Paid

- Motion: Taylor Sidwell
- Second: Karla Roods
- **Approved unanimously at 7:02pm & 7:03pm on 6/8/2026.**

---

4. Old Business

4.1 County Commissioners appointed member update:

Position is advertised. No further update.

5. New Business

5.1 County Growth Policy Update:

The County Planning Board met last Monday to review data from the public meetings at Crow, Lodge Grass and Hardin. County used information from the City growth policy and population density to update what they had. Stahly Engineering & Associates will be drafting the county growth policy. Review and further discussion will happen at the July County Planning Board meeting.

5.2 Zoom Virtual Meeting Expense:

CCPB will no longer be able to use the City of Hardin's Zoom account for meetings. It has been brought to the board to decide if the board will continue a subscription and what plan will be purchased.

Mr. Taylor Sidwell motions to continue the use of Zoom and requests a "Pro" plan is purchased for flexibility.

- Second: Karla Roods
- **Approved unanimously.**

5.3 Assembling meetings with no applications for review:

It has been decided by the CCPB that a regular meeting will be held quarterly if there is no application(s) to review within that time period.

Public Comments:

- Cody Meeks: Missed request to be added to the meeting agenda. Would like to have the CCPB add meeting item to next month's agenda. Has presented to the City Council in the past for medical marijuana dispensary application to add additional sites within city limits, within industrial.
- Mr. Meeks will be added to next month's agenda to present as a public hearing for City of Hardin Zone Ordinance Text Change. A public notice will be published in the newspaper and posted at the city post office, county courthouse and city hall.

5.4 City: Drew Lehr and Alex Edwards:

Not in attendance at this meeting. The CCPB will await further discussion.

PO BOX 305
HARDIN MT 59034-0305

6. Announcements:

- CCPB will continue to post notices for cancelled meetings at the City of Hardin post office, city office and county courthouse.
- City needs to add a code enforcement position.
- **City Council Meeting:** 6/16/2026
- **Next Meeting for CCPB:** 7/13/2026
- **Grand Opening of Splash Pad in Hardin:** 6/20/2026

7. Adjournment

- Motion: Taylor Sidwell
- Second: Karla Roods
- **The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm on 6/8/2026.**

RECEIVED
JUL 15 2026
BY:

CHANGE ORDER NO.: 4

Owner: City of Hardin, Montana
Engineer: Stahly Engineering / HDR Engineering
Contractor: Northcon, Inc.
Project: WWTP Upgrades
Contract Name: WPCSRF
Project #C301316
Date Issued:

Owner's Project No.:
Engineer's Project No.: 2223-08Q21
Contractor's Project No.:

Effective Date of Change Order:

The Contract is modified as follows upon execution of this Change Order:

Description: This Change Order incorporates Modification 14, which includes the temporary replacement of the 14" SRS line located between the Headworks, Oxidation Ditch and Screw Pump Lift Station.

Attachments: Modification 14

Change in Contract Price	**Change in Contract Times [State Contract Times as either a specific date or a number of days]**
Original Contract Price: $ 13,385,736.00	Original Contract Times: Substantial Completion: 630 Calendar Days Ready for final payment: 30 Calendar Days
[Increase] **[~~Decrease~~]** from previously approved Change Orders No. 1 to No. 3: $ 538,687.75	**[Increase]** **[~~Decrease~~]** from previously approved Change Orders No.1 to No. 3 : Substantial Completion: 28 Calendar Days Ready for final payment: 0 Calendar Days
Contract Price prior to this Change Order: $ 13,924,423.75	Contract Times prior to this Change Order: Substantial Completion: 658 Calendar Days Ready for final payment: 30 Calendar Days
[Increase] **[~~Decrease~~]** this Change Order: $ 15,829.49	**[Increase]** **[~~Decrease~~]** this Change Order: Substantial Completion: 3 Calendar Days Ready for final payment: 0 Calendar Days
Contract Price incorporating this Change Order: $ 13,940,253.24	Contract Times with all approved Change Orders: Substantial Completion: 661 Calendar Days Ready for final payment: 30 Calendar Days

Recommended by Engineer (if required)	Accepted by Contractor
By: [signature]	
Title: Chief Operating Officer	Senior Project Manager
Date: July 15, 2026	

Authorized by Owner	Approved by Funding Agency (if applicable)
By:	
Title:	
Date:	

Modification Request

Northcon, Inc.

10615 N Government Way, Hayden, ID 83835

Phone: 208.772.6003 Fax: 208.772.2533

Crow Agency, MT

Project Name:	Hardin WWTP Upgrades	Contract Number:	C301316 / 10332175
Location:	Hardin, MT	Modification Number:	14
Date: 7/10/2026			

Item #	Description Indicate Critical Path Schedule impact for each item.	Amount
	14" SRS Temporary Replacement	
1	Demo Line	
	1 op 2- 8hrs @ $57.00 per hr.	$456.00
	foreman 8 hrs. @ $70.00 per hr.	$560.00
	2 laborer 2- 16 hrs. @ $48.00 per hr.	$768.00
	Med ex 8hrs @ $105.00	$840.00
	Loader 4hrs @ $95.00	$380.00
	Skid steer 4 hrs @ $65.00	$260.00
	Small Tools 20hrs. @ $7.00 per hr.	$140.00
2	Install Pipe	
	1 operator 2- 10hrs @ $57.00 per hr.	$570.00
	foreman 10 hrs. @ $70.00 per hr.	$700.00
	2 laborer 2- 20 hrs. @ $48.00 per hr.	$960.00
	Med ex 10hrs. @ $105.00 per hr.	$1,050.00
	Loader 5hrs. @ $95.00 per hr.	$475.00
	Skid steer 5hrs. @ $65.00 per hr.	$325.00
	Small Tools 30hrs. @ $7.00 per hr.	$210.00
	Parts	$4,850.54
	Water stop	$275.00
	Concrete 3yds @ $199.00 per yd.	$597.00
	Total	$13,416.54
	G&A	$1,341.65
	Profit	$737.91
	Bond	$176.66
	MGRT	$156.73
	Total Modification Cost	$15,829.49

Change in Contract Duration/Time by This Change Order:

☐ No Change ☑ Increase ☐ Decrease By 3 calendar days.

New Contract Completion Date: ____________

Contract Status

Original Contract Amount	
Net Change by Previous Modification Requests Current Contract Amount Current Modification Request Total	 $0.00 $15,829.49
New Contract Amount	$15,829.49
Total Cost of All Modification Requests to Date	$15,829.49

Modification Request

Project Name:	Hardin WWTP Upgrades	Contract Number:	C301316 / 10332175
Location:	Hardin, MT	Modification Number:	14
Date:	July 14, 2026		

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE(S) Describe the details which mandate the change(s).

CPR #5 was received on 7/8/26 requesting the proposal.

Justification for Cost Adjustment Describe the basis used to calculate the cost adjustment.

Replacement of existing pipe failure and potential failure during other utility installations.

Justification for Schedule Adjustment Describe the impact of adjustment(s) to the critical path.

The time increase is justified by the amount of additional time added outside of the original scope and sequence of work.

APPROVALS
By signature on this modification request, the Contractor certifies that this modification request is complete and includes all direct costs, indirect costs, and consequential items (including any additional time, if any) and is free and clear of any and all claims or disputes (including, but not limited to, additional costs, additional time, disruptions, and impacts) in favor of the Contractor, subcontractors, material suppliers, or other persons or entities concerning this change order and on all previously contracted Work and does hereby release the Owner from such. Not valid until signed by all parties. Signature indicates agreements herewith, including any adjustments to contract value or contract time. All work to be performed under terms of original contract unless otherwise stipulated herein. Payment to be made under terms of original contract.

Approved by Contractor: ______________________ Date: __________

By: **Marc Donnot, Senior Project Manager**

Approved by : ______________________ Date: __________

By: ______________________

Response to Request for Proposal for Auditing Services

Prepared for Board Review: City of Hardin Audit Services

Proposed Audit Team

Curt Wyss, CPA

Role: Shareholder

Experience: More than 30 years of local government auditing and consulting experience.

Responsibilities: Responsible for all phases of the audit.

Matt Hjelm, CPA, CFE

Role: Senior Auditor

Experience: 15 years of public accounting experience, with a concentration in local government auditing.

Tyler Kaftan, CPA

Role: Senior Auditor

Experience: 12 years of public accounting experience, with a concentration in local government auditing, tax, and nonprofit accounting.

Comparable Municipal Clients

- City of Laurel – Kelly Strecker
- City of Lewistown – Holly Phelps
- City of Red Lodge – Loni Hanson
- City of Glasgow – Stacey Amundson
- City of Columbus – Cherrie McAlexander
- City of Colstrip – Michelle Richards
- City of Forsyth – Sandy Donley
- City of Miles City – Melissa Moua
- City of Plentywood – Elizabeth Samuelson

Olness & Associates also serves approximately 15 county government clients, 20 school district clients, and 2 fire district clients.

Price Proposal

Fiscal Year	Proposed Fee	Scope
FY 2025	$76,000	Initial audit; Single Audit with one major program
FY 2026	$74,000	No Single Audit
FY 2027	$74,000	No Single Audit

Audit Approach and Schedule

Matt Hjelm, Tyler Kaftan, and Curt Wyss will be on-site for all phases of planning and audit fieldwork. Due to current client commitments, the FY 2025 audit is expected to be conducted in fall 2026, and the FY 2026 audit is expected to be conducted in spring 2027.

FY2025-FY2027 Audit Services Proposal

CITY of HARDIN MONTANA

Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC

Relentlessly Pursuing Our Passion of Service to Our Clients

3888 Grooms Lane
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 748-6855
travis.kennedy@kentrapros.com
www.kentrapros.com

Table of Contents

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Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC

City of Hardin
FY2025-2027 Audit Proposal

July 15, 2026

Andrew Lehr
Finance Officer/City Cleark
City of Hardin
406 N. Cheyenne
Hardin, MT 59034

Dear Mr. Lehr,

I am pleased to present this audit proposal on behalf of my accounting firm, Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC regarding the City of Hardin's audit for fiscal years ending 2025, 2026 and 2027. We would also be willing to renew for future fiscal periods beyond these years if the city wishes to have us continue past these years.

Our proposed audit will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards applicable to your organization and in compliance with the rules set forth in the Montana Single Audit Act. The audit will include an examination of the elements of the financial statements of your organization as well as compliance requirements (when applicable) of regulatory laws set forth by the State of Montana and any other regulatory bodies applicable to your organization. In addition, we believe your organization will need a federal single audit for Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027. The audit will include the following areas:

1. Financial statements: Our team of experienced auditors will conduct a comprehensive audit of your financial statements, including balance sheets, income statements, cash flow statements and note disclosures.

2. Assistance with the preparation of financial statements, note disclosures to the financial statements and various schedules related to the notes to the financial statement will also be performed. (Excluding preparation of the Management's Discussion and Analysis report).

3. Montana Compliance Audit for FY24-25, FY25-26, FY26-27 and Federal Single Audit Compliance Audit for FY25-26 and FY26-27.

Our audit team will work closely with your organization's management team to ensure that the audit is conducted efficiently and effectively. We will provide you with a detailed report of our findings, which will include recommendations for improvement where necessary.

We understand that each organization has unique needs, and we are committed to providing customized audit services that are tailored to your specific requirements. Our team is highly responsive and available to answer any questions you may have throughout the audit process.

Thank you for considering our proposal. We look forward to collaborating with you to provide you with the highest quality audit services.

Sincerely,

Travis Kennedy, CPA, CFE
Travis Kennedy, CPA, CFE
Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC

Audit Methodology

Areas of Expertise:

- Accounting and Auditing
- Internal Controls
- Risk Assessment
- Compliance

Relevant Experience:

Professional Standards require that we respect our clients confidentially and thus, we cannot share or discuss client information with other third parties without our client's express, written consent. Kentra's current client list includes Federally recognized Native American Tribes, Montana local governments, and Montana special purpose districts. We also provide accounting and advisory services to non-profit entities.

Independence:

We are not aware of an independence issue related to performing attest work. The AICPA Code of Professional Conduct mandates that we must disclose any potential conflicts of interest.

Staff Continuity

Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC is a sole practitioner firm. We have had no staff turnover in the past six years.

Team Members:

I assemble teams of experienced professionals who share my commitment to delivering high-quality audits. All team members are highly skilled and possess a range of certifications, including CPAs, CFEs, and MBAs. My team consists of well-respected CPAs in the State of Montana.

Methodology:

Our auditing methodology is focused on providing clients with an efficient and effective audit that adds value to their organization. We are committed to staying up to date with the latest industry trends and regulations and utilizing the best industry practices to ensure that each audit is conducted with the highest level of quality and integrity.

We will provide a list of items that are needed once we have had time to plan the audit. Generally, we will plan our procedures around material balances in the financial statements as well as mandated compliance issues.

Staff will need to be available during the weeks of fieldwork to answer questions related to the accounting cycles used by your organization as well as the internal control structure and compliance processes.

Timeline and Milestones:

We will plan the audit around your schedule. We plan for an audit or a financial period to take 4-6 weeks per period under review.

Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC
City of Hardin
FY2025-2027 Audit Proposal

Differentiators:

What sets us apart from other auditing firms is our commitment to providing personalized service to our clients. We take the time to understand each client's unique needs and tailor our services to meet those needs. We also pride ourselves on our ability to communicate complex financial information in a clear and concise manner.

We use advanced audit software and technology to ensure that we can provide the highest quality services to our clients. Our software provides us with insights into the audit industry and uses intelligence from the industry to help us determine risk and our audit procedures.

Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC, is a 100% Native American-owned business. I grew up on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana, and I am listed as a descendant on the enrollment records of the Blackfeet Nation located in Montana.

Kentra Accounting Professionals Firm Profile

- Native American Owned Small Business
- Founded in May of 2020 to provide outsourced CFO and compliance consulting services.
- Added attest services in 2023.
- Founder has 26 years of accounting & financial management with industry experience that includes: Tribal governments, Native American casinos & resorts, Native American Water Departments, retail, construction, remediation, public accounting, transportation, and non-profits.
- 15+ years of senior level finance experience in Comptroller/ CFO positions.
- Expert in financial and compliance audits of tribal governments, tribal casinos, tribal entities, schools, and cities.
- Expert in Class II and Class III MICS Audits, Uniform Guidance Audits, BSA/Title 31 AML risk assessments.
- Managed over $27M in Coronavirus Relief Funds.
- Experienced with preparation of financial statements in accordance with GASB 34.
- Experienced with resolution of accounting issues, implementation of GAAP/GASB, tax department implementation, oil and gas taxation, design of internal control procedures, and working with government agencies to resolve audit issues.
- Experienced with design and implementation of policy and strategy.
- Leadership and accountability.
- Personable, dependable, charismatic, empathetic, and enthusiastic.

TEAM LEADER & POINT Of CONTACT

Travis Kennedy, CPA, CFE, Managing Member & Founder, Kentra Accounting Professionals
www.linked.com/tkkenn

PROFESSSIONAL LICENSES

- Certified Public Accountant License # PAC-CPAP-LIC-19780 - Montana – active
- Certified Fraud Examiner Member Number 784130 – Association of Certified Fraud Examiners – Active
- Montana CPA Firm License # PAC-FIRM-LIC-47373

ASSOCIATIONS

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Montana State Society of CPAs
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

Schedule of Values

The cost of the audit is based on several factors such as the size and complexity of the organization, the scope of the audit, and the time required to complete the audit. Additionally, the cost may also depend on the rates charged by the auditing firm you select.

Kentra does not have an hourly rate schedule. Our fees are derived from analyzing the amount of knowledge, skills, and expertise that we have acquired through years of experience, and we offer potential clients an upfront, fixed fee based on our understanding and nature of the engagement.

We believe we can make a fair offer for our services and still be within the industry benchmark. Our price to perform your audit is as follows.

Financial Statement Audit Services

- 2025 Financial Statement Audit, Montana Compliance Supplement - $60,000.00
- 2026 Financial Statement Audit, Montana Compliance Supplement, Federal Single Audit - $70,000.00
- 2027 Financial Statement Audit, Montana Compliance Supplement, Federal Single Audit - $73,000.00

  These services include the performance of the financial and compliance audit and relevant testing procedures as well as reports on the results of procedures. This also includes services to discuss matters throughout the audit period and after the audit period. Our jobs do not begin and end with field work but are a continuing effort to understand your organization and provide general guidance when appropriate.

Non-Attest Services

- 2025 Non-Attest Services - $12,000.00
- 2026 Financial Statement Preparation with notes - $23,000.00
- 2027 Financial Statement Preparation with notes - $23,000.00

  These services include assistance with non-attest services. Examples include assistance with financial statement presentation, assistance with the presentation the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and notes, submission of the reports to various governing agencies, discussions with various officials, and assistance outside of the audit (for example calls for guidance, suggestions or advice on accounting and other issues). There are no hourly charges for phone calls, emails, text messages, requests to attend meetings, and other requests for assistance.

Total for all Services

- FY24-25 - $72,000.00
- FY25-26 - $93,000.00
- FY26-27 - $96,000.00

Explanation of the schedule of values

During our examination, we will be gaining an understanding of your organization and testing various components of your internal control systems and compliance over federal expenditures. Due to the ever-changing nature of generally accepted accounting principles and new pronouncements by GASB, and an analysis of the opening balances, and the completeness of the information you provide, there may be unforeseen price updates during the audit. If we find this is the case, we will disclose to you the reason for the increase, an estimation of the increase in fees and wait for your approval before proceeding. We have also factored into our proposal the time between the period under review and when the procedures will be performed.

Out of Pocket and Reimbursements

Out-of-pocket costs including necessary business travel, mileage, lodging, meals, and other incidentals generally are not included and are usually billed using per diem rates, IRS mileage rates and actual costs incurred. **Currently, we do not plan to charge out-of-pocket costs, travel reimbursements or per diems for field work.** We absorb these costs to help provide value to our clients. However, if the situation arises were we need to consider charging these fees, we will discuss this with you and get your approval in writing before incurring those costs.

Payment Terms

We offer up front, transparent pricing for our fixed fee contracts. We require 100% of the Fees up front for our services. However, after careful consideration, we are making an exception for the City of Hardin and creating a schedule of payments. The schedule of payments is as follows:

FY24-25 Fees - Due upon commencement of the 24-25 Audit
FY25-26 Fees - Due upon commencement of the 25-26 Audit
FY26-27 Fees - Due upon commencement of the 25-26 Audit

Acceptance

I would like to extend my gratitude for giving my firm the opportunity to provide this proposal. Should you choose to accept this proposal, please sign and return it by email. Auditing standards require that we speak with your former auditor prior to accepting and engagement. Once we speak with them, we assist with the preparation of the State Contract for submission to the State for approval. When the contract is approved by the State and we receive payment for our audit fees, we will issue an engagement letter outlining our responsibilities and the scope of the audit.

Our fees assume that the organization's records, supporting documentation and other records, are in order, are sufficient, are appropriate, and are complete. We expect there will be no delays in the sharing of information. If these challenges should arise, Kentra may submit change orders for the increased costs of working through incomplete and insufficient documentation.

If you have any questions, I would be more than happy to provide any additional details and clarification.

Sincerely,

Travis Kennedy, CPA, CFE

Travis Kennedy, CPA, CFE
Managing Member,
Kentra Accounting Professionals, PLLC.

____
Client Signature

____
Printed Name, Title, Date

City of Hardin Managed Agency
****

Investment Objective: Strategic - Fixed Income Only

Investment Activity Through 06/30/2026

First Interstate
Wealth Management

City of Hardin Managed Agency (************)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: September 01, 2022

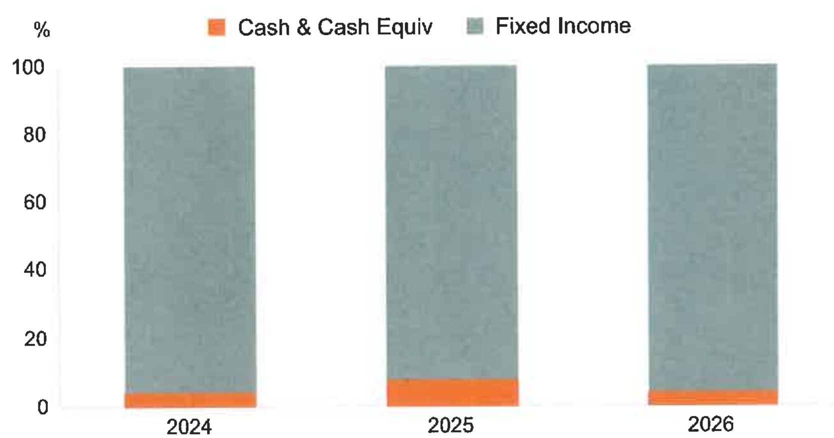
Allocation Overview

	Market Value	% of Mkt Val
Cash & Cash Equiv	$ 151,595	4.7%
Fixed Income	$ 3,097,298	95.3%
Total	**$ 3,248,892**	**100.0%**

Allocation Detail

	Market Value	% of Mkt Val
Cash & Cash Equivalents	$ 151,595	4.7%
US Treasuries	$ 2,318,376	71.4%
Government Agencies	$ 778,921	24.0%
Total	**$ 3,248,892**	**100.0%**

Annual Allocation



First Interstate Wealth Management

City of Hardin Managed Agency (************)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: September 01, 2022

Portfolio Holdings

	ID	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Price	Market Value	Weight	Unit Income	Annual Income	Current Yield
Cash & Cash Equivalents										
Goldman Sachs Financial Square Treasury	38141W323	151,154.250	1.00	151,154.25	1.00	151,594.73	4.7	.03	5,242.03	3.468
Total for Cash & Cash Equivalents				***151,154.25***		***151,594.73***	***4.7***		***5,242.03***	***3.468***
TBills, Treasury Zeros/Strips										
United States Treasury Bill Zero 06 Aug	912797RG4	350,000.000	96.51	337,797.25	99.64	348,736.50	10.7	.00	.00	.000
United States of Amer Treas Bills 0% T-B	912797TP2	250,000.000	98.28	245,710.21	99.78	249,452.50	7.7	.00	.00	.000
United States Treasury Bill Zero 15 Apr	912797UE5	250,000.000	96.51	241,273.75	96.98	242,442.50	7.5	.00	.00	.000
United States Treasury Bill Zero 13 May	912797UX3	200,000.000	96.46	192,920.89	96.69	193,384.00	6.0	.00	.00	.000
Total for TBills, Treasury Zeros/Strips				***1,017,702.10***		***1,034,015.50***	***31.9***		***.00***	***.000***
Notes and Bonds										
United States Treasury Note/Bond 2.25% 1 2.250% 08/15/2027	9128282R0	350,000.000	97.42	340,976.56	97.93	345,713.56	10.6	2.25	7,875.00	2.298
United States Treasury Note/Bond 2.25% 1 2.250% 02/15/2027	912828V98	175,000.000	94.92	166,113.50	98.92	174,592.78	5.4	2.25	3,937.50	2.275
United States Treasury Note/Bond 1% 31 J 1.000% 07/31/2028	91282CCR0	200,000.000	85.69	171,376.00	93.75	188,334.25	5.8	1.00	2,000.00	1.067
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.625% 3.625% 03/31/2028	91282CGT2	150,000.000	99.97	149,953.50	99.09	149,995.80	4.6	3.63	5,437.50	3.658
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.5% 30 3.500% 09/30/2026	91282CLP4	175,000.000	99.09	173,414.50	99.91	176,382.12	5.4	3.50	6,125.00	3.503
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.75% 1 3.750% 05/15/2028	91282CND9	250,000.000	99.50	248,750.00	99.26	249,342.35	7.7	3.75	9,375.00	3.778
Total for Notes and Bonds				***1,250,584.06***		***1,284,360.86***	***39.5***		***34,750.00***	***2.726***
Bullets										
Federal Home Loan Banks 3% 11 Sep 2026 3.000% 09/11/2026	3130A2VE3	125,000.000	97.90	122,378.75	99.81	125,912.08	3.9	3.00	3,750.00	3.006
Federal Home Loan Banks 2.625% 11 Dec 20 2.625% 12/11/2026	3130AAAG3	110,000.000	96.46	106,103.80	99.40	109,504.82	3.4	2.63	2,887.50	2.641
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 2 2.600% 11/20/2026	3133EHU43	125,000.000	96.21	120,260.00	99.46	124,693.89	3.8	2.60	3,250.00	2.614
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp . .600% 08/18/2026	3133EL4F8	125,000.000	88.94	111,173.75	99.57	124,739.58	3.8	.60	750.00	.603
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 2 2.030% 01/21/2028	3133ELHN7	150,000.000	92.44	138,654.00	96.87	146,650.83	4.5	2.03	3,045.00	2.096

First Interstate Wealth Management

Portfolio Holdings

	ID	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Price	Market Value	Weight	Unit Income	Annual Income	Current Yield
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 1 1.530% 03/02/2027	3133ELPV0	75,000.000	93.66	70,247.25	98.31	74,112.56	2.3	1.53	1,147.50	1.556
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 1 1.020% 04/27/2027	3133ELXZ2	75,000.000	91.13	68,346.75	97.56	73,307.50	2.3	1.02	765.00	1.045
Total for Bullets				***737,164.30***		***778,921.26***	***24.0***		***15,595.00***	***2.012***
Total				**3,156,604.71**		**3,248,892.35**	**100.0**		**55,587.03**	**1.718**

Buys & Sells - Three Months

Asset	Ticker	Trade Date	Settle Date	Units	Unit Price	Principal
Fixed Income						
Purchases						
United States Treasury Bill Zero 15 Apr 2027		04/21/2026	04/22/2026	250,000.000	96.510	-241,273.75
United States Treasury Bill Zero 13 May 2027		05/26/2026	05/26/2026	200,000.000	96.460	-192,920.89
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.75% 15 May 2028		05/26/2026	05/26/2026	250,000.000	99.500	-248,750.00
Total: Fixed Income Purchases						**-682,944.64**
Total: Fixed Income Trades						**-682,944.64**
Total: Portfolio Purchases						**-682,944.64**
Total: Portfolio Sales						**.00**
Total: Portfolio Trades (Net)						**-682,944.64**

First Interstate Wealth Management

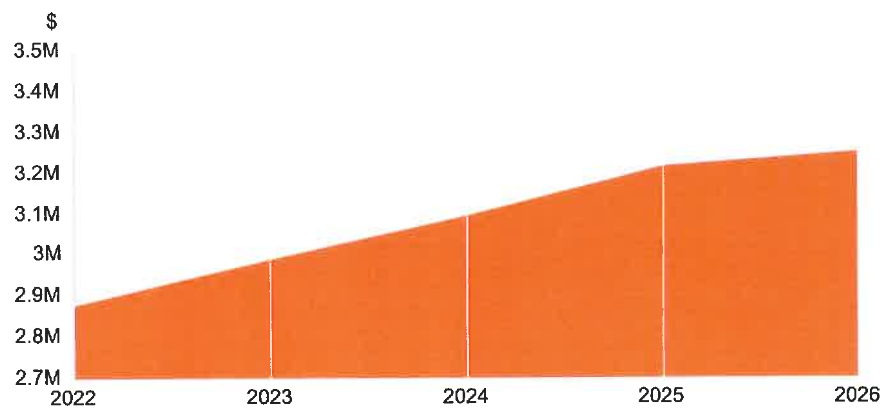
City of Hardin Managed Agency (************)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: September 01, 2022

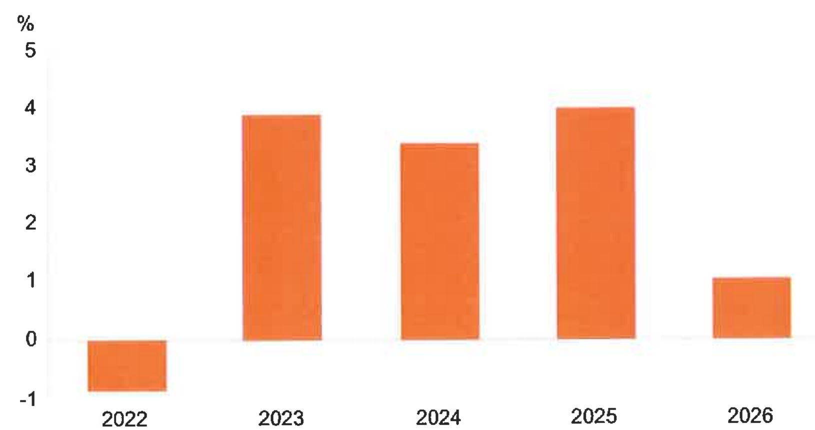
Investment Summary

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	9 Months	1 Year
Beginning Portfolio Value	3,244,959.95	3,231,679.22	3,216,335.06	3,188,490.58	3,158,445.46
Net Contributions/Withdrawals	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Fees Deducted	-2,193.83	-6,574.30	-13,114.26	-19,617.01	-26,056.62
Income Earned	4,596.73	21,483.42	34,552.00	64,161.30	80,852.99
Market Appreciation	1,529.50	2,304.01	11,119.55	15,857.48	35,650.52
Ending Portfolio Value	3,248,892.35	3,248,892.35	3,248,892.35	3,248,892.35	3,248,892.35

Annual Portfolio Value



Annual Net Returns



First Interstate Wealth Management

Performance

	Market Value	3 Months	Year to Date (6 Months)	1 Year	3 Years	Inception to Date 09/01/2022
Account Net of Fee	**3,248,892**	**.53**	**1.01**	**2.86**	**3.78**	**2.96**
Cash & Cash Equivalents	**151,595**	**.79**	**1.63**	**3.43**	**4.33**	**4.24**
Fixed Income	**3,097,298**	**.72**	**1.39**	**3.67**	**4.56**	**3.68**
BB US Aggregate Bond Index (USD)		.67	.62	3.79	4.16	3.11
US Treasuries	**2,318,376**	**.70**	**1.35**	**3.58**	**4.37**	**3.56**
BB Intermediate US Government Bond Index (USD)		.18	.23	2.67	4.10	3.11
Government Agencies	**778,921**	**.78**	**1.49**	**3.86**	**4.68**	**3.78**
BB Intermediate US Government Bond Index (USD)		.18	.23	2.67	4.10	3.11

First Interstate Wealth Management

City of Hardin Managed Agency (************)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: September 01, 2022

Fixed Income by Maturity

	Units	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Call Date/Price	S & P Rating	Moodys Rating	Market Value	Annual Income	Yield to Maturity	Duration
Matures 2028										
United States Treasury Note/Bond 1% 31 Jul 2028	200,000.000	1.000	07/31/2028		N/A	Aa1	188,334.25	2,000.00	4.160	2.066
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.75% 15 May 2028	250,000.000	3.750	05/15/2028		N/A	Aa1	249,342.35	9,375.00	4.163	1.867
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.625% 31 Mar 202	150,000.000	3.625	03/31/2028		N/A	Aa1	149,995.80	5,437.50	4.169	1.711
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 2.03% 21 Ja	150,000.000	2.030	01/21/2028		AA+	Aa1	146,650.83	3,045.00	4.128	1.566
Total Matures 2028							**734,323.23**	**19,857.50**		
Matures 2027										
United States Treasury Note/Bond 2.25% 15 Aug 2027	350,000.000	2.250	08/15/2027		N/A	Aa1	345,713.56	7,875.00	4.149	1.158
United States Treasury Bill Zero 13 May 2027	200,000.000	.000	05/13/2027		N/A	N/A	193,384.00	.00	3.894	.917
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 1.02% 27 Ap	75,000.000	1.020	04/27/2027		AA+	Aa1	73,307.50	765.00	4.050	.832
United States Treasury Bill Zero 15 Apr 2027	250,000.000	.000	04/15/2027		N/A	N/A	242,442.50	.00	3.909	.833
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 1.53% 02 Ma	75,000.000	1.530	03/02/2027		AA+	Aa1	74,112.56	1,147.50	4.089	.749
United States Treasury Note/Bond 2.25% 15 Feb 2027	175,000.000	2.250	02/15/2027		N/A	Aa1	174,592.78	3,937.50	4.008	.665
Total Matures 2027							**1,103,552.90**	**13,725.00**		
Matures 2026										
Federal Home Loan Banks 2.625% 11 Dec 2026	110,000.000	2.625	12/11/2026		AA+	Aa1	109,504.82	2,887.50	3.975	.500
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp 2.6% 20 Nov	125,000.000	2.600	11/20/2026		AA+	Aa1	124,693.89	3,250.00	4.001	.417
United States Treasury Note/Bond 3.5% 30 Sep 2026	175,000.000	3.500	09/30/2026		N/A	Aa1	176,382.12	6,125.00	3.846	.251
Federal Home Loan Banks 3% 11 Sep 2026	125,000.000	3.000	09/11/2026		AA+	Aa1	125,912.08	3,750.00	3.930	.251
Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corp .6% 18 Aug	125,000.000	.600	08/18/2026		AA+	Aa1	124,739.58	750.00	3.839	.167
United States Treasury Bill Zero 06 Aug 2026	350,000.000	.000	08/06/2026		N/A	N/A	348,736.50	.00	3.602	.167
United States of Amer Treas Bills 0% T-Bill 23 Jul	250,000.000	.000	07/23/2026		N/A	N/A	249,452.50	.00	3.512	.083
United States Treasury Note/Bond .75% 31 May 2026	.000	.750	06/04/2026		N/A	WR	.00	.00	.000	.000
Total Matures 2026							**1,259,421.49**	**16,762.50**		
No Maturity										
Goldman Sachs Financial Square Treasury Obligation	151,154.250						151,594.73		.000	.000
US Uninvested Cash	.000						.00	.00	.000	.000
Total No Maturity							**151,594.73**	**.00**		
Total							**3,248,892.35**	**50,345.00**		

First Interstate Wealth Management

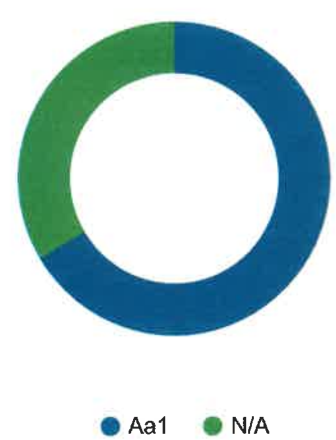
City of Hardin Managed Agency (************)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: September 01, 2022

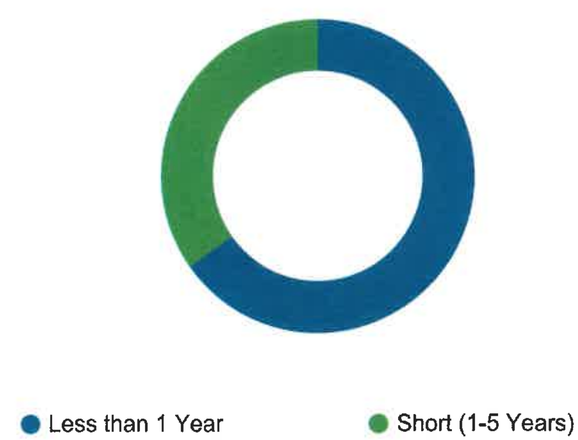
Fixed Income Analysis

	06/30/2026	03/31/2026	12/31/2025	09/30/2025	06/30/2025
Coupon	1.61%	1.39%	1.66%	1.74%	2.12%
Current Yield	1.63%	1.41%	1.68%	1.76%	2.15%
Yield to Maturity	3.94%	3.74%	3.54%	3.59%	4.14%
Maturity	.86	.84	1.07	1.17	1.13
Duration	.85	.83	1.06	1.15	1.11
Face Amount	$ 3,135,000	$ 3,010,000	$ 2,985,000	$ 3,190,000	$ 3,040,000
Market Value	$ 3,084,100	$ 2,965,547	$ 2,936,022	$ 3,130,381	$ 2,981,815
Cost	$ 3,005,450	$ 2,885,257	$ 2,861,051	$ 3,053,059	$ 2,910,074

Quality Allocation by Market Value



Maturity Allocation by Market Value



First Interstate Wealth Management

FROM SHOCK TO RECOVERY

After a difficult start to the year, equity markets rebounded sharply in the second quarter. One of the central focuses was the U.S.-Iran conflict and the prospect of reopening the Strait of Hormuz. News flow was often volatile, with reports of progress frequently interrupted by renewed tensions or conflicting comments. Despite the uneven path, markets increasingly priced in the view that a resolution would eventually emerge. As the probability of a reopening improved and negotiations advanced toward a memorandum of understanding, commodity prices retreated from their highs, helping ease concerns around both higher inflation and weaker global growth. The global economy proved more resilient than many anticipated. Economic data generally held up well, particularly in the U.S., where consumer spending continued to expand, labor market conditions showed some signs of improvement, and technology capital expenditure was strong. The combination of resilient demand and easing energy pressures helped shift the balance of risks in a more constructive direction by quarter-end. Against this backdrop, central banks signaled a bias toward a more restrictive policy posture. One of the more notable monetary policy developments came in the U.S., where Kevin Warsh's inaugural meeting as Chair of the Federal Reserve resulted in higher yields at the short-end of the Treasury curve. While policy rates were left unchanged, markets moved to price additional tightening and adjusted to Warsh's message that forward guidance would play a smaller role in future communications. Outside the U.S., policy paths were more mixed, but most major central banks enter the second half of the year with a more restrictive stance than at the start of 2026. The European Central Bank and Bank of Japan were among central banks delivering rate increases during the quarter. In terms of financial market performance, equity markets significantly outperformed fixed income markets as investors looked through near-term geopolitical uncertainty and focused on strong earnings fundamentals. Corporate profit growth trended strongly across most major regions, allowing equities to generate outsized returns without a significant increase in valuation multiples. The AI buildout continued to be a defining market theme. Persistent shortages in semiconductors and memory components, coupled with continued growth in technology investment, drove exceptional performance in AI-linked markets and sectors, including global semiconductors, Korea, emerging markets, and U.S. large-cap technology stocks. Yet the advance was broader than just remarkable returns in those pockets of the markets. Financials, banks, and small cap equities also posted strong gains, reflecting confidence in the durability of economic and corporate profit growth. Nearly every U.S. large-cap sector outside energy and utilities finished the quarter in positive territory. By the end of the quarter, technology stocks started to experience some pressure, and leadership had begun to rotate from AI beneficiaries.

SECOND QUARTER 2026 TOTAL RETURNS (%)

Equities delivered an exceptionally strong quarter on the back of receding geopolitical risks and ongoing technology strength.

	FIXED INCOME						EQUITIES			REAL ASSETS		
	Cash	Muni	Inv. Grade	TIPS	High Yield	EM Debt	U.S.	Dev. Ex-U.S.	EM	NR	GRE	GLI
	0.9	2.5	0.7	0.9	2.5	3.9	15.7	10.1	22.8	-8.5	8.5	1.6
YTD	1.8	2.3	0.6	1.2	2.0	1.5	11.2	9.3	22.6	9.7	9.4	10.0

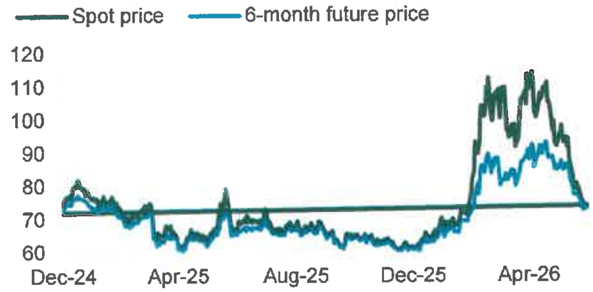
Source: Northern Trust Asset Management, Bloomberg. NR: Natural Resources; GRE: Global Real Estate; GLI: Global Listed Infrastructure. Indexes are gross of fees. Past performance is not indicative or a guarantee of future results. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in any index.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Growth Through The Shock

Despite one of the largest oil supply disruptions in history, oil markets and global growth proved notably resilient. While spot crude prices surged, longer-dated oil prices remained more contained, supported by existing supply buffers and confidence that disruptions would prove temporary. Amid higher headline inflation driven by energy prices, global growth remained firm, aided by reduced tariff uncertainty, accommodative financial conditions, U.S. consumer tax refunds, and continued strength in technology investment.

Price of Brent crude oil ($ per barrel)



Higher For Longer

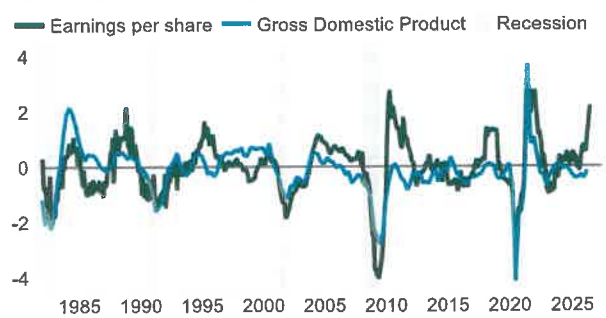
In the face of the energy shock, many central banks continued to maintain a more restrictive posture. The agreement to reopen the strait reduced market pricing of near-term inflation pressures, but elevated core inflation and the absence of major economic cracks kept expectations for rate hikes tilted upward. This was reinforced at June's Fed meeting, where new Chair Kevin Warsh expressed a commitment to price stability and indicated that forward guidance will play a smaller role in shaping policy expectations than in the past.

2-year Treasury yield vs. breakeven inflation rate (%)

Profitability Beyond Economic Growth

While economic growth remained resilient, corporate earnings growth was particularly exceptional. The gap between U.S. large cap profit growth and economic activity widened to one of its largest levels in decades, a dynamic more commonly seen during recoveries. This cycle has been different, with AI-related profits proving more structural than cyclical in nature. Although many sectors posted gains, the AI ecosystem was the primary driver of above-average earnings growth and the key engine behind the quarter's outsized equity returns.

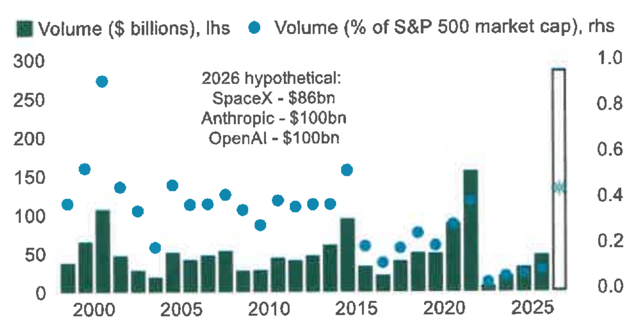
Standardized y/y change in U.S. GDP and EPS



Financing Innovation

The IPO market came back to life with the SpaceX listing and other potential mega offerings (i.e., OpenAI, Anthropic). If these deals come to market, issuance volumes could reach historic levels. While the size may be manageable relative to overall market capitalization, they reflect a broader trend: the high capital needs of next-generation technologies. From equity issuance and debt financing to index concentration and corporate fundamentals, the innovation buildout is reshaping how investors evaluate markets and allocate capital.

U.S. initial public offering (IPO) volumes by year



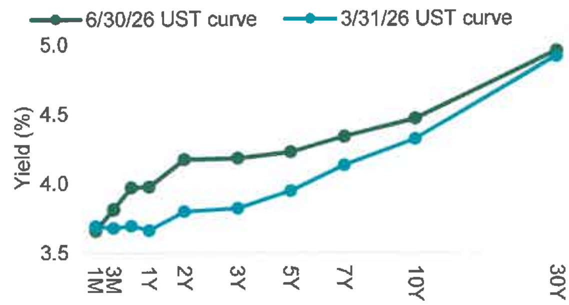
Source: Northern Trust Asset Management, Bloomberg, Macrobond. Data as of 6/30/2026. Note: EPS (earnings per share) is for the S&P 500 Index (third chart); 2026 hypothetical estimates from ASR (fourth chart). Past performance is not indicative or a guarantee of future results. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in any index.

MARKET REVIEW

Interest Rates

The 2-year Treasury yield rose 38 basis points (bps), significantly outpacing the 15-bp increase in the 10-year yield. The 10-year Treasury yield climbed through mid-May, peaking just below 4.7% alongside the peak in oil prices before retreating to under 4.5% by quarter-end as concerns surrounding the U.S.-Iran conflict eased. Beyond the energy shock, economic resilience allowed central banks to maintain a hawkish stance. While the Fed remained on hold, markets shifted from pricing 7 bps of cuts to 38 bps of hikes by year-end.

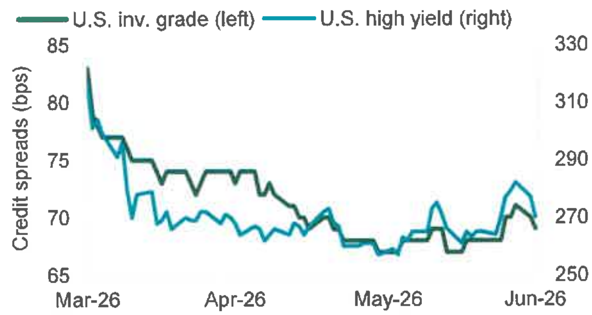
U.S. TREASURY YIELD CURVE



Credit Markets

Investment grade (IG) credit spreads contracted 14 bps to 0.69%, while high yield (HY) spreads tightened 47 bps to 2.70%. IG bonds returned 0.7%, and high yield gained 2.5%. Although U.S. interest rates moved higher, the drag was more than offset by starting yields and spread tightening for bonds with exposure to credit risk. After facing pressure in the first quarter from higher energy prices and AI-related concerns, credit spreads spent most of the second quarter retracing those moves, ending not far from record lows.

CREDIT SPREADS



Equities

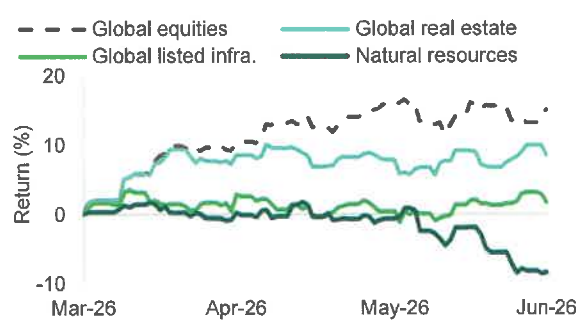
Similar to oil futures, equities traded ahead of both the peak in spot oil prices and the formal reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. Global equities gained 15% during the quarter, approximately 1.5 standard deviations above their 30-year average. While U.S.-Iran de-escalation helped, technology stocks led the advance on the back of remarkable semiconductor strength. This led to outsized gains in tech-heavy markets such as Korea (+68%) and contributed to the outperformance of U.S. and emerging markets relative to developed ex-U.S.

REGIONAL EQUITY INDICES

Real Assets

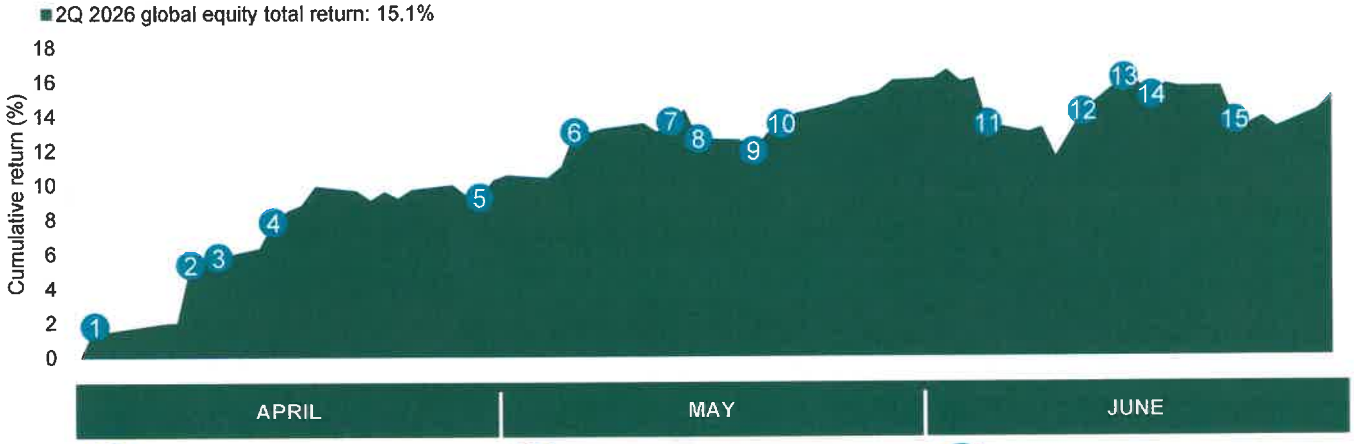
Real assets exhibited significant dispersion during the quarter. Global real estate gained 8.5%, followed by a 1.6% return for global listed infrastructure, while natural resources declined 8.5%. All three lagged global equities (15.1%). Natural resources was the clear underperformer after returning 20% in Q1, trading largely sideways before selling off in late May as commodity prices fell 14% from that point through quarter-end. Despite the volatile path, all three real asset categories remain up roughly 10% year-to-date.

REAL ASSET INDICES



Source: Bloomberg. Returns in U.S. dollars. Indexes are gross of fees. Past performance is not indicative or a guarantee of future results. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in any index.

NOTABLE MARKET EVENTS DURING THE QUARTER



1 A 35-nation coalition weighed a push to persuade Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz, partially unwinding the war premium in oil prices.

2 A Pakistan-brokered U.S.-Iran ceasefire reduced near-term Hormuz closure risk, driving the quarter's largest single-day rally.

3 March U.S. CPI posted its sharpest annual rise in four years, fully pricing out 2026 Fed cuts.

4 The U.S. launched a formal Hormuz naval blockade and oil surged above $100 per barrel.

5 Powell's final FOMC produced four dissents — the most in 34 years — as the Fed remained on hold.

6 Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) surges 19% as data center spending helped drive above-consensus revenue and guidance during its first-quarter earnings release.

7 April PPI hit its fastest pace since 2022 while the 10-year Treasury yield rose to its highest level since July.

8 Brent oil hit $123 per barrel on its ninth consecutive daily gain.

9 The 30-year Treasury yield hit 5.18% — its highest since 2007 — as investors considered inflation, economic resilience and a rising term premium.

10 Nvidia guided Q2 revenue higher, prompting widespread analyst upgrades and reinforcing the AI supercycle thesis.

11 May payrolls intensified pressure on the Fed to hike. Tech stocks sold off, contributing to one of several circuit-breaker events in South Korea during a very robust but volatile quarter.

12 SpaceX's record IPO surged 19% on debut, lifting U.S. equity issuance.

13 The U.S. and Iran reached a peace deal, leading to lower oil prices and interest rates, while pushing equities higher.

14 Fed President Kevin Warsh's inaugural FOMC abandoned forward guidance and vowed price stability, prompting Treasury curve flattening.

15 Tech stocks sold off, leading to the quarter's worst single-day drop for global equities. Equities still proceeded to finish the quarter up a robust 15%.

Source: Bloomberg. Returns in U.S. dollars. Indexes are gross of fees. Past performance is not indicative or a guarantee of future results. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in any index.

Indexes used:

Bloomberg (BBG) 1-3 Month UST (Cash): The Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Bills: 1-3 Months Index tracks the market for treasury bills issued by the U.S. government with time to maturity between 1 and 3 months. US Treasury bills are issued in fixed maturity terms of 4, 8, 13, 17, 26 and 52 weeks.

BBG Municipal (Muni): The Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index is a flagship measure of the US municipal tax-exempt investment grade bond market. Included in the index are securities from all 50 US States and four other qualifying regions (Washington DC, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands). The index includes state and local general obligation bonds and revenue bonds. All bonds in the Municipal Bond Index are tax exempt and hence are not eligible for other indices that include taxable bonds, such as the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate.

BBG Aggregate (Inv. Grade): The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, fixed-rate agency MBS, ABS and CMBS (agency and non-agency). Provided the necessary inclusion rules are met, US Aggregate-eligible securities also contribute to the multi-currency Global Aggregate Index and the US Universal Index.

BBG TIPS (TIPS): The Bloomberg US Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index (Series-L) measures the performance of the US Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) market. Federal Reserve holdings of US TIPS are not index eligible and are excluded from the face amount outstanding of each bond in the index.

BBG High Yield 2% Capped (High Yield): The Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Bond Index measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed-rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below. Bonds from issuers with an emerging markets country of risk, based on the indices' EM country definition, are excluded. The US Corporate High Yield Index is a component of the US Universal and Global High Yield Indices.

JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified (Em. Markets Fixed Income): The J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified tracks total returns for U.S. dollar-denominated debt instruments issued by emerging market sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities.

MSCI U.S. Equities IMI (U.S. Equities): The MSCI USA Investable Market Index (IMI) is designed to measure the performance of the large, mid and small cap segments of the US market. With around 2,320 constituents, the index covers approximately 99% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in the US.

MSCI World ex-U.S. IMI (Dev. ex-U.S. Equities): The MSCI World ex USA Investable Market Index (IMI) captures large, mid and small cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries--excluding the United States. With around 2,955 constituents, the index covers approximately 99% of the free float adjusted market capitalization in each country.

MSCI Emerging Market Equities IMI (Em. Markets Equities): The MSCI Emerging Markets Investable Market Index (IMI) captures large, mid and small cap representation across 24 Emerging Markets countries. With around 3,000 constituents, the index covers approximately 99% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

S&P Global Natural Resources (Natural Resources): The index includes 90 of the largest publicly-traded companies in natural resources and commodities businesses that meet specific investability requirements, offering investors diversified and investable equity exposure across 3 primary commodity-related sectors: agribusiness, energy, and metals & mining.

MSCI ACWI IMI Core Real Estate (Global Real Estate): The MSCI ACWI IMI Core Real Estate Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that consists of large, mid and small-cap stocks across 23 Developed Markets (DM) and 24 Emerging Markets (EM) countries engaged in the ownership, development and management of specific core property type real estate. The index excludes companies, such as real estate services and real estate financing companies, that do not own properties.

S&P Global Infrastructure (Global Listed Infrastructure): The S&P Global Infrastructure Index is designed to track around 75 companies from around the world chosen to represent the listed infrastructure industry while maintaining liquidity and tradability. To create diversified exposure, the index includes three distinct infrastructure clusters: energy, transportation, and utilities.

Prepared by Northern Trust Asset Management for First Interstate Wealth Management.

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Forward-looking statements and assumptions are NTAM's current estimates or expectations of future events or future results based upon proprietary research and should not be construed as an estimate or promise of results that a portfolio may achieve. Actual results could differ materially from the results indicated by this information.

RESOLUTION NO. 2443

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COAL BOARD APPLICATION IN SUPPORT OF THE PURCHASE OF SEWER INSPECTION CAMERA.

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin desires to apply for a Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board Grant in order to a sewer inspection camera; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hardin has the authority to purchase equipment, subject to the bidding requirements of Mont. Code Ann. § 7-5-4302 (2025).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARDIN, MONTANA:

That the City Council of the City of Hardin does hereby authorize Mayor Riley Ramsey to submit an application to the Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board, on behalf of City of Hardin, in order to seek grant funds to assist with the purchase of a sewer inspection camera, and to provide such additional information to the Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board, as may be required.

The City of Hardin agrees to comply with all Federal and State laws and regulations and the requirements described in the Montana Department of Commerce Coal Board Application and all other requirements.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Hardin, Montana, and APPROVED this _________ day of July, 2026.

YEA VOTES __________ NAY VOTES __________

CITY OF HARDIN

BY:_____________________________ ATTEST:_________________________

Mayor City Clerk

MAYOR
Riley Ramsey

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Michael Hurff Jr.

FINANCE OFFICER/CITY CLERK
Andrew Lehr

Alley Clean-up

Monday, July 27, 2026

Have items out by 8:00 a.m.

City will be picking up items that are placed in the alley away from trash cans, not obstructing entry way through alley.
~Branches need to be less than 8 feet~
(NO tires. NO appliances that contain Freon.)

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve the citizens of Hardin. Please follow us on the website, www.hardinmt.com, for extended details of the ordinances. Please contact us by phone, email, or simply stop by and let us know how we can improve our services.

City Hall at 665-9260
Ext. 104

MAYOR
Riley Ramsey

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Michael Hurff Jr.

FINANCE OFFICER/CITY CLERK
Andrew Lehr

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given, that on August 4, 2026 at 6:10 p.m. a Public Hearing will be held in the Public Utility Facility, located at 401 North Cheyenne, Hardin, Montana concerning Amendments to the Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Any taxpayer or citizen may appear at the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the City's proposed 2025-2026 budget amendments. Comments may be oral and/or written. The budget amendments can be inspected by the public from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Finance Office, City Administrative Offices, 406 North Cheyenne Avenue, Hardin, MT.

Council intends to take action on the Budget Amendments for the 2025-2026 fiscal year on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at the Regular Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter the Public Hearing is concluded.

For further information please contact Andrew Lehr at the City Finance Office, 406 North Cheyenne Avenue, Hardin, MT 59034 or 406-665-9260 Ext. 102.

Dated at Hardin, Montana, this 13th day of July, 2026.
/s/ Andrew Lehr, Finance Officer/City Clerk

Publish July 22 and July 29

MAYOR
Riley Ramsey

CITY of HARDIN MONTANA

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Michael Hurff Jr.

FINANCE OFFICER/CITY CLERK
Andrew Lehr

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given, that on the 4th day of August, 2026 at 6:20 p.m., the City of Hardin will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers, located at 401 North Cheyenne Ave, Hardin, Montana, concerning the Street Maintenance District, and Street Maintenance levies and assessments for the ***2026- 2027*** fiscal year.

All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with oral and/or written comments concerning the City's Street Maintenance District, Levies and Assessments. The district, levies and assessments can be inspected by the public from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Finance Office, City Administrative Offices, 406 North Cheyenne Avenue, Hardin, Montana.

Council will take action on the levies and assessments FOR ***2026-2027*** fiscal year on ***Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at the Regular Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.*** or as soon thereafter the Public Hearing is concluded.

For further information please contact the City Finance Office at 406 North Cheyenne Avenue, Hardin, MT 59034 or 406-665-9260 Ext. 102.

Dated at Hardin, Montana, this ***15th day of July, 2026.***

/s/ Andrew Lehr

Finance Officer/City Clerk

Publish July 22 and July 29