

Regular Meeting

The Town of Chester Council held the Regular Scheduled Council meeting on January 14, 2026, at 7:45 pm following the Special Meeting at 6 pm at the Liberty County Senior Center.

Members Present: Mayor James Dahlen, Council Persons, Sonja Dahlen, Scott Decker, Rachel Ghekiere, Garrett Graff, Tina Neer, and Jim Sivils

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Dave Ghekiere (PWD)
Ashley Wickum (Clerk/Treasurer)

Guests: Rudy Cicon, Rich & Deb Dolzal, Morb Wicks, Inez Keith, Phil Nordstrom, Chris Hayes and Bill Hunt

1. Mayor James Dahlen called the regular meeting to order at 7:45 pm
2. Reminder that the Meeting is Audio Recorded
3. Rachel Ghekiere made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, December 10, 2025. Tina Neer seconded the motion. Motion to approve the minutes passed with all voting ayes.
4. Claims were presented to the council for approval. Scott Decker made the motion to approve the claims submitted for payment. Ck # 21335-21365 & 21368 electronic payment -99926-99929 (-99928 was canceled and replaced with -99929) & Payroll Advances Ck # 21366-21367. Jim Sivils seconded the motion. Motion to approve claims passed with all voting ayes.
5. The council reviewed the adjustments and journal entries made in December. Rachel Ghekiere made the motion to approve the JV & Adjustments. Garrett Graff seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.
6. Public Comments: Rudy Cicon wanted to thank Ashley Wickum for all the work she did to organize the meeting with the floodplain.
7. Sheriff's Office Report: no report was provided by the Sheriff's office.
8. New Business:
 - Approval Resolution #07-2026: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER, MONTANA TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL TO ALLOW PRE-EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND SCREENING OF CANDIDATES FOR EMPLOYMENT. Rachel Ghekiere made the motion to approve resolution #07-2026. Scott Decker seconded the motion. Tina Neer asked if this was brought on by anything? No, it is a necessary step that needs to be implemented. Motion passed with all voting ayes.
 - Approval Resolution #08-2026: Request Membership in North Central Montana Regional Water Authority. Scott Decker made the motion to approve resolution #08-2026 to Request Membership in North Central Montana Regional Water Authority. Jim Sivils seconded the motion. Motion passed with all voting ayes.

