

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF PLEVNA - January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Plevna Community Center

Mayor Thielen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor/Council Present: In person - Gary Thielen, Kyle Vennes, Promise Miller, and Jason Castleberry.

Also present: Ashley Bondell - Clerk/Treasurer
Sam Thielen - Water/Wastewater Operator

Mark Thielen - Dump Site Operator - Absent

Members of the Public Present: Mylen & Diane Bohle, Desiree Thielen - DES Coordinator, and Lois Geving.

Approve Minutes from Town Council Regular Meeting - December 8th, 2025.

Minutes approved with the addition of Eileen's concerns of smoke from a neighbors chimney.

Approve Minutes from Town Council Claims Approval meeting - December 30, 2025.

Minutes approved with the correction of the date.

Public Comment and Questions:

None

Correspondence:

MMIA Updates - Clerk Bondell had an email update from MMIA in regards to the Worker's Compensation Program. As earlier stated the MMIA Worker's Compensation Program will no longer provide coverage as of July 1, 2026. The Worker's Compensation Program will still be open after the July 1, 2026 date, and will continue to be open until all open claims are closed out. MMIA offered the option to voluntarily withdraw from the program. This can be put with an effective date of July 1, or any other date that is chosen. If the town has a positive balance as of the withdrawal date that is chosen the town would then be eligible for disbursement payments. If the town does not voluntarily withdraw, the town would still receive disbursement payments, the town however would not receive any until the program and all open cases are fully closed. MMIA has no way to say how long until the Worker's Comp program is fully closed. It is Clerk Bondell's understanding that whichever way the town chooses to go, the town would receive payments but unsure as to how voluntarily withdrawing vs. not withdrawing will change the amount of payments that the town will receive back. Councilwoman Miller asked Clerk Bondell if she had checked into any other programs for worker's compensation yet. Clerk Bondell stated that as of now she has not looked into any other companies yet, as MMIA stated that even if advertised, companies cannot give accurate quotes of pricing until closer to April. Clerk Bondell plans to reach out to Jade Boggs with the Insurance Store in Baker once we get closer to that time to have Jade look into different options for the town's work comp program. Councilwoman Miller asked when the voluntary withdrawal needs to be turned in. MMIA would like to receive voluntary withdrawals by May. Mayor Thielen asked that we add worker's comp onto March's agenda to further discuss voluntary withdrawal vs not.

Clerk Bondell received an email from Rylan with Brosz Engineering earlier that morning stating that Arrow Restoration plans to begin construction the following morning.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Desiree Thielen DES Coordinator - Outdoor Warning Siren Policy - The town of Plevna has sirens in town that are owned and upkept by the County. The Town will have some activation authority through the fire department, as well as the Mayor. If the sirens are not going off and need to be for any reason the fire department or the Mayor can call into dispatch to activate them. Desiree Thielen's hope with this policy is to have the Commissioners adopt the policy and then start on some community education. In the community education they plan to go to the schools to teach when and why the sirens would be alerting and what the different sounds mean. Desiree also plans to add the different sounds to the Fallon County web page so that residents within the county can hear and understand the different sounds and meanings for the sirens as well.

Councilwoman Miller moves to adopt the Outdoor Warning Siren Policy as well as approve the Mayor having authority to activate the sirens. Councilman Castleberry seconded the motion.

Aye: 3 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0 Carried: 3:0

Conveyance Contract for Bohle - Mylen Bohle was in attendance. Mylen is hoping to get a conveyance from the Town to state that although they paid to have the water line bored and connected to their property, that the town now owns and is responsible for all maintenance and upkeep of the water line. Clerk Bondell believes that it is in the town code that from the curbstop to the main is the town's responsibility. Mayor Thielen believes that it would be from the pit back towards the main line that the town would be responsible for. Councilwoman Miller and Mayor Thielen asked Clerk Bondell to look into what would need to be done legally to show that the Town is responsible for the upkeep of the water line. Clerk Bondell stated that she will reach out to Darcy Wassmann, the Town's attorney to see what exactly needs to be done.

Department Reports:

- ***Water/Wastewater Operator*** - Sam shared pictures of a leak on the water tank. A revit believed to have come loose during the most recent wind storm. There was discussion on a potential insurance claim to get this fixed. The Town did have the tank inspected in October which shows that at that time there were no leaks or issues other than the ones that have previously been discussed which did not involve a leak. Sam emailed Clerk Bondell forms to print off of experience cards. Sam has to have a year and a half of experience to be officially licensed. The hinges arrived, Sam plans to get the hinges replaced on the tank hatch.
- ***Container Site Operator*** - Mark plans to get all the trees pushed together to the burn. Councilwoman Miller asked if there was still work to be done on the building at the container site. Mayor Thielen stated that the building is done and should work well for the winter.
- ***Clerks Report*** - Clerk Bondell brought a copy of the budget with updated amounts spent to date for council to review. Currently everything is close to or under 50% so the budget is on track.

Town Financials:

Financial Report(I)

The December 2025 financial report was reviewed and accepted by the Council.

Approve Claims/Voiced Checks –December 2025(A)

The Council reviewed the Claim Detail report for December 2025. See attached December 2025 Claims Check Register in the amount of \$116,489.97

Councilman Vennes motioned to approve the claims. Councilwoman Miller seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Action:

Aye: 3 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0 Carried: 3:0

Mayor/Council Comments:

Under old business Mayor Thielen informed the council that Clerk Bondell and himself had spoken with the County Commissioners about chip and sealing the roads. The Commissioners would like for the Town to alternate streets per year. Mayor Thielen has not yet been able to contact Mike Sharp to order chips.

Mayor Thielen sent an email on the leaking rivet on the water tank. Mayor Thielen was informed that the warranty on the tank was for a year but if Mayor Thielen sends pictures and the serial number for the tank the company could help us to get into contact with the appropriate company for repairs. Mayor Thielen also plans to speak with Jade Boggs with the Insurance Store about a possible insurance claim for the water tank.

Councilman Vennes stated that he had received a message about the amount of smoke in the air that was going directly to one of the churches. Councilman Vennes has spoken with Jerry Pree who is a Montana State Fire trainer. He informed councilman Vennes that he would need to reach out to DEQ as well as the local DES person who would be Desiree Thielen. Desiree did have an update for us on this issue. Desiree stated that we could contact the Air Quality Act. The downside in doing this would be that Fallon County does not currently have a sanitarian or an acting sanitarian. The County is trying to hire someone for that position. The other option would be to go to DEQ for air quality. Desiree is unsure if they could come in and do some air quality testing or what their course of action would be. Again it was discussed that the problem is believed to be that the chimney is not high enough to get the smoke up and away from the houses in the surrounding areas. Clerk Bondell asked if there was any legal action that could be taken, to force the resident to extend the chimney, as it would cost money to do so.

Councilwoman Miller wanted to give an update on the Plevna Jamboree. The Jamboree will be held over the same weekend as last year. It will be July 18th, 2026. There is already a band booked. The Plevna Jamboree committee is working on all the activities. The committee has also reached out to some school groups and 4-H groups about possibly volunteering. Some activities will be the same and there will be some new ones as well.

Adjournment:

Having no further business, Mayor Thielen adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Plevna Town Council will be Monday, March 9th, 2026

2/09/26
Signature Date:

Ashley Bondell
 Clerk, Ashley Bondell

Gary Thielen
 Mayor, Gary Thielen

December 2025 | Claims Check Register

01/13/26
 14:45:41

TOWN OF PLEVNA
 Check Register
 For the Accounting Period: 12/25

Page: 1 of 3
 Report ID: AP300

Claim Checks

Check #	Type	Vendor #/Name	Check Amount	Date Issued	Period Redeemed	Claim #	Claim Amount
-99691	E	19 Mid Rivers Communication	98.31	12/30/25		CL 2048	98.31
-99690	E	18 Montana Dakota Utilities	1153.93	12/30/25		CL 2050	1153.93
4044	S	20 Runnings Supply Inc.	14.98	12/30/25		CL 2041	14.98
4045	S	75 BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY	106.94	12/30/25		CL 2042	106.94
4046	S	17 Hawkins Inc.	833.00	12/30/25		CL 2043	833.00
4047	S	154 Montana Department of Environmental Qual	170.00	12/30/25		CL 2044	170.00
4048	S	174 Grasslands Federal Credit Union	257.91	12/30/25		CL 2045	257.91
4049	S	4 City of Baker	1080.00	12/30/25		CL 2046	1080.00
4050	S	174 Grasslands Federal Credit Union	20.75	12/30/25		CL 2047	20.75
4051	S	175 Dupree Building Specialties	600.00	12/30/25		CL 2049	600.00
4052	S	176 Arrow Restoration and Construction	40182.11	12/30/25		CL 2051	40182.11
4053	S	136 BROSZ ENGINEERING, INC.	35102.50	12/30/25		CL 2052	35102.50
4054	S	136 BROSZ ENGINEERING, INC.	25000.00	12/30/25		CL 2053	25000.00
4064	S	3 Black Mountain Software, Inc.	9119.94	01/12/26		CL 2054	9119.94
4065	S	155 SouthEast Garbage LLC	602.00	01/12/26		CL 2055	602.00
4066	S	123 Rachel's Accounting	570.00	01/12/26		CL 2056	570.00
4067	S	12 Farmer's Union Oil	147.61	01/12/26		CL 2057	147.61
4068	S	175 Dupree Building Specialties	599.00	01/12/26		CL 2058	599.00
4069	S	140 Ashley Bondell	46.73	01/12/26		CL 2059	46.73
4070	S	145 Samuel Thielen	50.00	01/12/26		CL 2060	50.00
4071	S	9 Energy Laboratories, Inc.	63.00	01/12/26		CL 2061	63.00
4072	S	174 Grasslands Federal Credit Union	48.15	01/12/26		CL 2062	48.15
4073	S	174 Grasslands Federal Credit Union	86.04	01/12/26		CL 2063	86.04
4074	S	5 Coral Creek Landfill	487.60	01/12/26		CL 2064	487.60
4075	S	20 Runnings Supply Inc.	49.47	01/12/26		CL 2065	49.47
Total for Claim Checks			116489.97				
Count for Claim Checks			25				