

THE LAKER

Volume LXXII issue no. 9

October 2026

MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

BY CHRIS HEIM, MAYOR

HELLO NEIGHBORS!

As the fall colors create a beautiful backdrop on the lake, I'm reflecting on this past summer. It was one of my favorites, with several sunsets on the boat. Now Halloween festivities are just around the corner, including the Kids' Party at City Hall, fire trucks at Memorial Park, Ghosts & Goblins at Jevne Park, Trick-or-Treat Trail at the Heims', and so many wonderful stops throughout town. I love our city's festive traditions!

A FEW CITY HIGHLIGHTS

- **2027 budget:** In September, the City Council approved the preliminary 2027 budget, with an increase under 5% – keeping our city's tax changes among the lowest in the state. Thank you to Treasurer Gary Englert for guiding this process.
- **Medicine Lake 2050 Comprehensive Plan:** We're updating our Comprehensive Plan, the long-term vision and decision-making guide for our city. The Planning Commission will share the draft soon, and we'd love your comments once it's live. Our current 2040 Comprehensive Plan, approved by the City Council in 2019, can be viewed [here](#).
- **New storage shed at City Hall:** With all the city's holiday decorations and party supplies, we've been short on storage space. A heartfelt thank you to Connie and Carl Shaffer, who donated their large storage shed to the city. It now sits behind City Hall and gives us plenty of room. Thank you also to the volunteers who moved it to its new home.
- **November election:** Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Thank you to Councilmember Nina Zelazny, our election clerk, and to all of our election judges. Running in-person voting takes a lot of preparation, and we're fortunate that so many neighbors give their time to keep voting right here in our city. Please get out and vote, and thank the election team while you're there.

Warm regards,

Chris Heim

Mayor, City of Medicine Lake



IN THIS ISSUE...

Looking for "City Council Votes" for September or October? Check out page 2.

Find the November Meeting Dates on page 2.

DATES TO NOTE

October 31

HALLOWEEN

November 2

City Council, 6pm

November 3

Election Day 2026

November 10

Laker Deadline

November 26

THANKSGIVING

COUNCIL VOTES & NOTICES



SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 COUNCIL VOTES

The following motions were approved with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Hovey, Zelazny in favor except as noted. Tomczik absent.

- Agenda
- August 3, 2026 city council meeting minutes and special.
- Summary spending, receipts and cash balances through August 31, 2026.
- Accept donation from Carl Shaffer to the ML Fire Department of an approximately 10'x16' shed/garage that the fire department will relocate from Carl Shaffer property to city property behind the fire hall. Yea – Heim, Hovey, Zelazny. Na – McNaughton. Absent – Tomczik.
- Approve resolution 26-11 accepting \$1,000 to MLFD from the Lions Club. Thank you!
- Approve the 2027 preliminary budget.
- Approve resolution 26-12 adopting preliminary tax levy for 2027.
- Approve maintaining our current snowplow provider.
- Adjourn

OCTOBER 5, 2026 COUNCIL VOTES

The following motions were approved with Mayor Heim, Councilmembers McNaughton, Hovey and Tomczik in favor. Zelazny absent.

- Agenda
- September 8, 2026 city council meeting minutes
- Summary spending, receipts and cash balances through September 2026.
- Resolution 26-13 approving certification to the county for delinquent utility accounts.
- Approve resolution 26-14 appointing election judges for November 3 general election
- Adjourn



GOT NEWS?

We hope you're enjoying the all-digital edition of The Medicine Laker! Issues are posted and distributed monthly.

Submit your articles by the **10th of each month to be included in that month's issue.** (If you're including images, please submit as separate files and indicate the order in which they are to appear.)

Watch for the latest edition on or after the 20th of each month.

Send your news to:

news@cityofmedicinelake.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 2 at 6pm

ELECTION DAY 2026

Tuesday, November 3

MLFD

Tuesday, November 3 at 7pm

Tuesday, November 17 at 7pm

PLANNING COMMISSION

Thursday, November 19 at 7pm

