

1876

DEADWOOD

ARCHIVES & ARCHEOLOGY



2027 BUDGET

August 7, 2026

In 2026 the Deadwood Historic Preservation and City Commissions allocated \$50,250.00 towards archival and archaeological equipment, programs and specialized projects managed by the City Archives.

The following budget provides an overview and explanation of archival and archaeological related projects slated for the 2027 calendar year. Supporting documentation for the City Archives budget is attached to this proposal.

1. Archival & Archaeological Collection Supplies:

Following professional collections management guidelines, acid free products help stabilize and protect the City's archival and archaeological collections. Unfortunately, the cost of these items is continually rising. The City Archives is requesting funds to purchase archival and conservation supplies for the City's archival and archaeological collections.

The City Archives is requesting \$12,000.00 be allocated towards archival supplies for the City and Historic Preservation's archival and archaeological collections.

2. PHASE IX Lawrence County Tax Records Indexing Project:

As of August 2026, the City Archives has transcribed nine Lawrence County tax ledgers from 1917 to 1919. This equates to 14,867 entries in the form of town lots, personal property and agricultural and mineral lands. There are 15 more years (1920-1934) with four ledgers per year (or remaining 60 ledgers) before completion of this project.

City Archives would like to budget \$10,000.00 for the transcribing of PHASE IX of the Lawrence County Tax Records for the years 1920 to 1924.

3. Oral History Project:

As of 2026, the City Archives oral history project contains 206 oral histories. The City Archives would like to continue its oral history project by collecting ten new interviews in 2027. An independent contractor will work with city staff, interview and prepare a transcription of the interview for payment (see attachment #01).

The City Archives would like to collect ten new oral histories in 2026 for the allotted price of \$6,750.00 or \$675.00 dollars per collected and transcribed oral history.

4. PastPerfect Collections Software Support / Online Hosting:

The City Archives would like to budget \$1,000.00 for annual support and hosting of the City Archives online collections through PastPerfect Museum software.

The City Archives would like to budget \$1,000.00 for the annual PastPerfect Software Support.

5. Special Needs & Proposed 2027 Projects

A. Digitization of Oral History Cassettes (PHASE II of III) \$7,300.00

The City Archives would like to continue to digitize 50 of the 148 oral history recordings from the 1990s and 2000s on audio cassettes. To keep the price down, the City Archives divided this project into three phases. Phase II will include audio recordings from 2008 to 2011.

B. Conservation of Gold Rush Era Wagon Parts \$5,000.00

The City Archives would like to hire archaeological metals conservator to clean and stabilize wrought iron wagon parts unearthed during the Deadwood Chinatown archaeological investigation. Upon conclusion of the project, the wagon parts will be integrated in a museum exhibit focusing on early transportation vehicles used during Deadwood's Gold Rush era (see attachment #02).

C. Retainer for Professional Services, NAGPRA \$5,000.00

The City Archives is requesting permission to hire a specialist to review the Native American ethnographic objects in the city owned Donald Clowser Collection and help facilitate consultation with local indigenous tribes. As part of this proposed agreement, the specialist and City and Deadwood History, Inc. staff will work together on this project.

D. Updates to Archives Online Search Engine: \$4,000.00

The City Archives is requesting funding to add additional content to its online search engine located at:

<https://archives.cityofdeadwood.com:4433/> This new content would include banking records from the Black Hills Trust & Savings Bank (Assn.1998.01) and Lawrence County Tax records (see attachment #03).

E. Part-Time Archaeology Data Entry Employee \$7,100.00

The City Archivist would like permission to hire an individual on a part-time basis (8 hours per week at \$17.00 per hour) to transcribe inventory sheets from the FourPoints and Gem Theater archaeological assemblage. This individual would work a total of 416 hours in 2026.

Proposed Funding for the 2027
City of Deadwood – Archives / Archaeology

1. Archival & Archaeological Collection Supplies	\$12,000.00
2. Indexing Project, PHASE IX – LC Tax Records	\$10,000.00
3. Oral History Project	\$6,750.00
4. PastPerfect Annual Support / Online Support	\$1,000.00

Sub-Total: \$29,750.00

5. Special Needs & Proposed 2027 Projects	
A. Digitization of Oral History Cassettes (PHASE II)	\$7,300.00
B. Conservation of Gold Rush Era Wagon Parts	\$5,000.00
C. Retainer for Professional Services, NAGPRA	\$5,000.00
D. Updates to Archives Online Search Engine	\$4,000.00
E. Part-Time Data Entry Employee	\$7,100.00

Sub-Total: \$28,400.00

TOTAL	\$58,150.00
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Michael Runge

From: Vicki Dar <nwwoman@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 1:02 PM
To: Michael Runge
Subject: Re: City of Deadwood Archives -

Hi Mike!

Yes, I can work with that.

Also, I wanted to let you know, if Kevin had not already, the Office of Historic Preservation is one of our Farmers Market Spotlight groups next Friday - August 14. It would seem it usually ends up being you in charge of that.

Thanks -

Vicki

On Aug 4, 2026, at 11:55 AM, Michael Runge <Michael@cityofdeadwood.com> wrote:

Hi Vicki:

Hope all is well and thank you for allowing Charles to help me today.

Working on budget – I know we haven't conducted an interview for 2026, but are you still OK with the arrangement (10 interviews at \$675 per completed interview for cost not to exceed \$6750.00)?

Please let me know when you have a minute if this works or if we need to adjust.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael Runge
City Archivist / Collections Manager
108 Sherman Street
Deadwood, SD 57732

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Michael Runge

From: N Doub <n.doub@maryland.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 10:50 AM
To: Michael Runge
Subject: Fwd: City of Deadwood Archives/Archaeology Question and Suggestion
Attachments: IMG_6140.JPG; IMG_6141.JPG; IMG_6142.JPG; IMG_6143.JPG; IMG_6144.JPG; IMG_6138.JPG; IMG_6139.JPG

I love how you decided to display the rough lock!

Regarding the items you selected, I'd quote the full lot at \$6,030, not including shipping. That said, I can offer a reduced rate of \$4,000 if you'd be willing to let us use these artifacts in our 2027 summer internship program. Each summer we provide paid internships for students in accredited conservation programs, giving them hands-on experience in a working lab environment. All work is overseen by me and our senior conservator.

Paid internships like these are hard to come by in our field, and honestly, we can't run this program without the support of partners like you. I'd be glad to discuss further if you're interested.

Nichole

On Tue, Aug 4, 2026 at 3:38 PM Michael Runge <Michael@cityofdeadwood.com> wrote:

Hi Nichole:

Thanks for the electrolysis explanation. So, question for you... how much can \$5000 cover for conservation of wrought iron wagon pieces? The rough lock would be a similar piece.

I am working on 2027 budget and would like to work you guys again. I included a few images of items that would be good candidates for 2027 project.

Thoughts?

M

Michael Runge

City Archivist / Collections Manager

108 Sherman Street

Deadwood, SD 57732

From: Zach Lampert <zachlampert@avid4eng.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 8:03 AM
To: Michael Runge
Subject: RE: Online Search engine and City Archives

Hi Mike,

Yes, apologies for not responding sooner. Mike Ward and I talked about a few things and I think conservatively we should estimate things on a per book basis, not necessarily per 100 pages.

The splitting and naming part is pretty much all automated, so that's not the tricky part. It's adding them into the database and the code that takes the most effort.

I think per book, 4 hours of Mike Ward and 4 hours of my time would certainly cover that effort and leave a little room if needed. I don't have his rates in front of me but let's call that **\$1,000.00 maximum per book. (4 books)**

While we were talking, we also discussed the preview functionality and noticed that it doesn't seem to work properly at the moment. I thought maybe some paths had been broken when we migrated server environments, but he thinks the code likely just needs some minor changes. For that effort, he thought 4 hours of his time would suffice. Just wanted to let you know we'd talked about that too.

Also, the estimate above assumes that you will provide the transcription spreadsheet.

Let me know if you have any questions, happy to discuss more if you want. Thanks.

Zachary Lampert, EI, GISP

[Geospatial Professional](#)

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From: Michael Runge <Michael@cityofdeadwood.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 3:03 PM

To: Zach Lampert <zachlampert@avid4eng.com>

Subject: Online Search engine and City Archives

Good afternoon Zach:

Just checking in on status of adding the .pdf files for the online search engine. Let me know if you need anything.

Best,

Mike