



CITY OF LANDER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers, 240 Lincoln Street

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Chad Cassady, Julia Stuble, Melinda Cox, Josh Hahn, and Mayor Missy White. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: John Larsen and Dan Hahn. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Assistant Public Works Director Hunter Roseberry, Assistant Mayor Rajeane Strube Fossen, City Treasurer Kristy Koehn, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Moved by Council Member Stuble, seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

3. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR**

- A. Public Comment

Tim Nicholas Director of FCAG provided clarification about what FCAG is and how it works. He stated that the Fremont County Association of Governments (FCAG) is a collaborative regional body, not a governing authority that replaces or overrides local governments. FCAG's role is to provide a forum for elected officials, staff, advisory groups, technical experts, and community partners to study shared issues, coordinate information, and develop possible regional solutions.

FCAG does not have independent authority to levy taxes, impose tax measures, or bind member governments. Any proposals discussed through FCAG must still be considered and acted upon by the appropriate City councils, town councils, county commission, or other governing bodies. In the case of tax measures, elected bodies decide whether to advance a proposal, and voters make the final decision if the matter is placed on the ballot.

FCAG does not threaten local control; rather, it is a tool local governments use to address shared challenges while preserving the authority of elected governing bodies and voters.

Jesse Grossinger stated that FCAG is not out of control but is a forum for local governments to cooperate on regional issues like public safety, ambulance service, air service, and transportation. He emphasized that advisory committees only make recommendations, while elected bodies and voters retain final authority. FCAG was described as "the table at which the authorities gather," not an authority above the Council.

Brian Fabel, Executive Director Lander Chamber of Commerce, asked the City Council to formally review whether business owners who own property, operate businesses, and pay taxes in Lander—but live just outside City limits—should have some path to representation in municipal elections. He said the Chamber has confirmed 40 people in this situation, with possibly up to 125 affected, and requested that the issue be placed on a future agenda for fair public review.

4. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Cox supported Brian Fabel's request, saying the issue has value and should continue to be discussed rather than be dropped. She thanked him for bringing it forward and had no further update from LEDA.

Council Member Stuble gave a brief update from the Tree Board, noting that some terms expire in July and that applications are open to interested community members. Residents interested in helping advise on Lander's public and private tree canopy were encouraged to apply through the City website or contact the speaker directly.

Mayor White reported early plans for a July 8 Declaration of Independence reading, possibly at noon with lunch or food trucks. She also noted a draft proposal to revive County Consensus Funding, with \$100 million potentially available statewide for infrastructure projects like water and sewer, requiring county and municipal agreement. WAM's survey with 31 of 99 municipalities responding shows major statewide water needs, including \$26.5 billion overall and \$1.7 billion in immediate needs. The City is

also continuing discussions with schools and stakeholders about pool funding, use of the City's \$25,000 contribution, grant opportunities, and how other communities manage pools.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Chris Johnson, Lander Volunteer Fire Department Facilities Manager, reported that the Volunteer Fire Department believes fireworks could continue within City limits because Lander's fire risk is lower than the county's, with more irrigated lawns, maintained yards, and sufficient water supply. He identified open fields, river bottoms, and debris under decks or porches as the main risks, but said those can be reduced through property maintenance, public education, and safe firework practices rather than a full ban.

The Council discussion focused on whether to allow fireworks within City limits despite county fire concerns. Council members raised concerns about the short timeline for outreach and the risk from overgrown lots, but staff said code enforcement and public messaging are already underway. Captain Waugh said a ban would be very difficult to enforce and could push fireworks into less safe locations. The City plans to continue allowing fireworks unless conditions worsen, such as high winds, while urging residents and visitors to act responsibly during Fourth of July events.

Chief Waugh gave a brief update that the City has been busy preparing for the Fourth of July, including safety planning. He also plans to attend the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration

Assistant Public Works Director Roseberry noted that City crews are fully engaged in preparing for upcoming Lander events, including getting the rodeo grounds ready, finishing work on Lincoln Street, painting curbs, and coordinating across departments. Council thanked staff for the rodeo grounds fence work, support for the Indian Relays, and quickly planting a tree in honor of Linda Barton. Staff also explained that curb painting is focused on high-traffic areas near Main, Lincoln, and Garfield Streets, with school crosswalks and some longer-lasting thermoplastic markings planned before school starts.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen clarified that the sharrows were originally painted by WYOPATH volunteers. There is currently no program in place to repaint them.

City Treasurer Koehn reported that she is working on investment strategy proposals, strengthening internal financial controls, and improving transparency through dual-authorization processes for wire transfers and procurement approvals. She also met with Brian from Summit about setting up TAD accounts, which will require Council approval by resolution before funds can be deposited and administered.

She noted that the audit engagement is ready for Council approval, after which preliminary audit testing and the audit schedule can be arranged. Other current work includes closing out grants, fiscal year-end planning, budget rollout, and coordinating systems like Airtable, purchasing, and Caselle for the new fiscal year.

City Clerk Fontaine's update noted that the City received a new restaurant liquor license application for the Mediterranean restaurant, which will come before Council on July 14. The City also received an application to transfer the Catholic College retail liquor license to Solstice 23, likely coming forward in July or August. Staff will continue updating Council on when the Wind River Pizza license becomes operational and confirmed that the final Title II ordinance has been sent to liquor license holders.

6. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Approve Resolution 1387 Amended: Amending Resolution 1358 Fees and Utility Rates for Water and Wastewater Service July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027.

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Cassady.

DISCUSSION: Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen explained that snowbird water rates had been undercharged for about three years because of a staff training/calculation error. Rather than increasing the rate by the full amount at once, the City plans to phase the correction in over two years, starting with a snowbird water rate of \$25.05 per month, or about a \$13 monthly increase this year. Sewer service will not receive a snowbird discount.

Council Member Stuble moved to amend Resolution 1387 AMENDED Section 3B, from \$40.49 per month to \$25.05 per month. Seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea on the amendment: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Members voting Yea for the resolution as amended: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- B. Approve Resolution 1391 Establishing the Tourism Asset Development Special Revenue Fund for the Purpose of Accounting for and Administering Tourism Asset Development Revenues and Expenditures.

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- C. Authorize Mayor to sign Resolution 1392 A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of an Application for \$1,014,392.90 in Federal Funding through the Transportation Alternates Program (TAP) for the Gannett Peak Phase 2 project

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- D. Approve Resolution 1393 Exempting Blocks One Through Four of Main Street From the Open Container Provisions of City Ordinance 2-2-12

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Stuble and J Hahn. Council Members voting NAY: Cox and Cassady. Mayor White voting Yea to break the tie. Motion passed.

- E. Approve payment to Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County in the amount of \$35,000 pursuant to the Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County Agreement dated July 1, 2026.

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- F. Approve payment to the Lander Community Foundation Challenge for Charities in the following amounts: \$1,000 for Fireworks, \$500 for Almost Home, \$1,000 for the Care and Share Food Bank, and \$500 for the First Stop Help Center from the Mayor's Discretionary Fund.

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- G. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the FY 2025-2026 City Audit Engagement Letter with Summit West CPA Group

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

7. **ADJOURNMENT** Moved by Council Member Stuble, seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

The City of Lander

By: _____
Missy White,
City of Lander Mayor

ATTEST:

Rachelle Fontaine, City Clerk

The entire meeting is available to view at <https://www.landerwy.gov/meetings/recent> OR <https://www.youtube.com/@CityofLander>.

CITY OF LANDER MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a safe, stable, and responsive environment that promotes and supports a traditional yet progressive community resulting in a high quality of life.

VISION

Preserving the past, while embracing the future.

The City of Lander is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate. Qualified applicants are considered for positions without regard to race, religion, military status, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or other characteristics protected by law.

