



CITY OF LANDER REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, July 14, 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 6:01 PM. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: John Larsen, Dan Hahn, Julia Stuble, Melinda Cox, Josh Hahn, and Mayor Missy White. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Chad Cassady. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Treasurer Kristy Koehn, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passed.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING** Restaurant Liquor License #11 Didemella, LLC, d/b/a Ella's Mediterranean Cuisine, 175 N. 4 th St., Lander, WY 82520 Application Filed on the 21 st day of May 2026. Proposed Location: 175 N. 4 th St., Lander, WY, BLOCK 15 N100 OF LOTS 1 & 2, ORIGINAL TOWN OF LANDER
 - A. Mayor White opened the hearing at 6:03.
 - B. Introduce and read. City Clerk Fontaine introduced the subject, explaining that the City received the restaurant liquor license application on May 21 and submitted it to the State for review. The State confirmed in late June that all requirements had been met. The license is requested for Ella's Restaurant, located in the former Domino's building. Because restaurant liquor licenses are not subject to a statutory population cap, approval is at the Council's discretion.
 - C. Public comment

Charles Woolwine opposed issuing an additional restaurant liquor license, arguing that Lander already has enough alcohol establishments
 - D. Mayor White closed the hearing at 6:08 PM.
4. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR**
 - A. Public Comment

Charles Woolwine requested an ordinance requiring exit breath-alcohol testing and transportation assistance at alcohol-related events to help prevent impaired driving.
5. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Larsen praised the airport terminal renovations, thanked residents for celebrating responsibly over the holiday weekend, and invited the community to attend the July 25 pig roast.

Council Member Dan Hahn discussed complaints about sprinkler and yard damage from Visionary's fiber-optic installation. Residents may contact Hunter Roseberry, who will coordinate with the contractor.

Council Member Cox requested an update on lighting at the softball fields, promoted upcoming Coffee with the Chamber events, and asked that LEDA provide a future update on its mission and economic development efforts.

Council Member Stuble thanked City staff, volunteers, police, and firefighters for supporting a safe and successful July 4th celebration. She reported that the Energy and Environment Task Force is updating its emissions reduction report and reviewing its future role. Tree Board appointments are expected next month.

Mayor White thanked City staff and community members for the July 4th events and encouraged attendance at ambulance education sessions. She shared updates on ambulance funding and CWC's new EMT training programs, outreach for the proposed bike ordinance, fire fuel reduction work at

McManus Park, swimming pool stakeholder meetings, efforts to restore Lander's Opportunity Zone designation, Buena Vista project information, and the airport's estimated \$8.7 million tourism impact in 2025.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Chief Waugh reported progress on staff training, partnerships with federal and state law enforcement, substance-abuse recovery programs, officer mental-health training, and less-lethal certification. He described the July 4th celebration as highly successful, with increased call volume but no violence, open-container violations, or alcohol-related crimes on July 4th.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Hopkin reported that fuel-reduction work has begun at McManus Park. He discussed drainage damage and unsafe, obsolete lighting at the softball fields, noting that Council direction and funding will be needed for improvements. Additional updates included sewer-system planning at the Wyoming Life Resource Center, delays on Lincoln Street, the start of Buena Vista construction, progress on Jefferson Street and the airport apron project, and efforts to reduce engineering costs through in-house staff where permitted. New three-way stops and pedestrian improvements are also planned near schools, and Council discussed using traffic data and roadway design to improve safety and manage speeds.

City Treasurer Koehn reported that the property tax cap could reduce City revenue by about \$13,400. The City's state loan interest rate was reduced from 2.5% to 1.5%. Staff is preparing for the annual audit, strengthening internal financial controls, and documenting procedures. She also explained that duplicate-looking entries in bills and claims resulted from a system issue while assigning expenses to the correct fiscal year.

City Clerk Fontaine reported that CivicPlus is phasing out the City's current agenda, minutes, and meeting-recording platform. Due to ongoing system glitches, she expects to request Council approval to transition to CivicPlus's replacement platform and asked that any errors be reported so they can be corrected.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve June 9, 2026 Regular City Council Minutes
- B. Approve June 16, 2026 Special City Council Minutes
- C. Approve June 23, 2026 Regular City Council Minutes
- D. Approve June 23, 2026 Work Session City Council Minutes
- E. Approve Bills and Claims

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

DISCUSSION: Council discussed the bills and claims need to be amended to add \$1,000 to the LOBOS Baseball Club Association TAD grant, bringing the total award to \$2,000. The updated amount was highlighted on page 12 of the revised bills and claims provided to council at the meeting.

Council Member Stuble moved to correct the bills and claims and add another \$1,000 to the LOBOS in order to complete the \$2,000 TAD grant award. Seconded by Council Member D Hahn. Council Members voting Yea on the amendment: Larsen, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Members voting Yea on the consent agenda as amended: Larsen, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passed.

8. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County update and FY 2026 2027 Funding Request.

Sage Goff and Hattie Calvert, the Director and Assistant Director of Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County presented an overview of its evidence-based juvenile diversion and probation programs, including individualized supervision, substance-use testing and education, moral recognition therapy, family support, and community service. Staff reported 36 Lander juvenile citations so far this year, with alcohol remaining the leading issue, drug citations decreasing, and thefts, fights, and incidents involving Orbeez guns increasing. They expressed serious concern about high juvenile blood-alcohol levels, increased juvenile DUIs, and alcohol being supplied primarily by parents, older siblings, and other adults rather than licensed retailers. Council

discussed expanded parent education, stronger agency collaboration, longer-term trend reporting, and additional community-service partnerships.

B. Annual Lander Volunteer Fire Department update.

Eric Siwik, Lander Volunteer Fire Department Chief, reported 230 calls in 2025, up from 137 in 2024, and 125 calls through June 2026. The department has 32 firefighters, with four probationary members and two applicants, but remains below its goal of 45. Only four fireworks-related calls occurred over July Fourth due to extensive preparation and community cooperation. A new training structure has been purchased with donated funds and is expected to be installed at no cost to the City. Major concerns include replacing the 37-year-old Engine 6, aging air packs and fire hose, and a likely change in the City's ISO rating from 3 to 4. Council discussed developing an equipment replacement plan and pursuing state matching funds for a new engine.

C. Building Permit Application process presentation.

Hunter Roseberry, Assistant Public Works Director, provided an update on the City of Lander Building Permit Application process. He reported that building permits increased from 95 in 2021 to more than 450 annually in 2024 and 2025, with 220 issued so far in 2026. He emphasized that the permitting and inspection process improves safety and has become more consistent and transparent. The City is beta testing Cloudpermit to allow online applications and payments, while GIS tools are being used internally to review zoning, utilities, and easements. He stated that contractors generally appreciate the current process and encouraged anyone experiencing problems to contact staff directly.

9. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

A. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County Agreement for FY 2026 2027.

Moved by Council Member Larsen, seconded by Council Member Stuble.

Council Member Cox moved to amend the dates on page 4, from 2024 to 2025 and from 2026 to 2027. Seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea on the amendment: Larsen, D Hahn, Cox, and Stuble. (J Hahn temporarily exited the room) Motion passed.

Council Members voting Yea as amended: Larsen, D Hahn, Cox, and Stuble. (Council Member J Hahn temporarily exited the room). Motion passed.

B. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Star Playgrounds Sales Order and Addendum to Star Playground Agreement for the purchase of two post hip fabric shades and installation.

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

C. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Wayfinding Signage Ownership and Responsibility Agreement.

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

D. Approve new Restaurant Liquor License #11 Didemella, LLC, d/b/a Ella's Mediterranean Cuisine, 175 N. 4 th St., Lander, WY 82520 Application Filed on the 21 st day of May 2026. Proposed Location: 175 N. 4 th St., Lander, WY, BLOCK 15 N100 OF LOTS 1 & 2, ORIGINAL TOWN OF LANDER

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

E. Approve Resolution 1394 Approving and Adopting the Police Department Support Services Coordinator Job Description, and Superceding and Replacing the Job Description For the Position of Police Department Records Clerk.

Moved by Council Member Stuble, seconded by Council Member J Hahn.

Council Member Stuble moved to amend that the required certifications be obtained within one year of hire. Seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea on the amendment: Larsen, D Hahn, Stuble and J Hahn. Council Members voting Nay: Cox. Motion passes.

Council Members voting Yea as amended: Larsen, D Hahn, Stuble and J Hahn. Council Members voting Nay: Cox. Motion passed.

- F. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the County10 Community Partnership Advertising Agreement from August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027.

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

- G. Approve the five-year lease agreement for Baycom body-worn camera equipment between the City of Lander and Vantage Financial in the annual amount of \$63,618.00, and authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.

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

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

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 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.