



CITY OF LANDER
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers, 240 Lincoln Street

MINUTES

1. MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES

Councilmember J Hahn presented a letter of concern from Ken and Millie Rhoads and Linda Williamson regarding building code variance procedures at 377 Canyon and a lack of notification by the board of adjustments.

Councilmember Stuble provided an update from the County Emergency Management Service Committee. The members include Commissioners Allen and Jones, as well as County Clerk Freese, County Assessor Berg and County Treasurer Anderson. Julia Stuble, Tracy Rue, Mike Barton, John Brown are committee members from Lander. She explained the committee's purpose is very narrow. She thanked the staff for the press release concerning activities and the influx of people expected this weekend.

Councilmember D Hahn commented on the ambulance noting that over the past 16-17 years almost every managing entity has presented to the City Council. The ambulance has a long-term account receivable issue. A young businessman in town spoke with Councilman D Hahn recently expressing his belief that the city is responsible for water, sewer, streets, police and fire he is not happy with the extras and is concerned rising costs will force him out of town.

Councilmember White gave a shout out to the crews working on water line and paving repairs. She has seen several postings on City social media for reduced rates and she appreciates that communication. The Senior Center always needs volunteers. She attended the Air Service meeting in Jackson. A lack of pilots continues to be a challenge. The Healthy Rivers Initiative just completed a cleanup on the Popo Agie.

2. STAFF REPORTS

Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen was asked to address the 377 Canyon concerns. She spoke with Millie Rhodes and RaJean produced all the due process documents and notice concerning the variance proceeding including the public meeting notice published in the newspaper. She does not know about the mailings.

City Treasurer Charri reported that she received a Department of Revenue letter stating that an energy company was charged sales tax for electrical usage in error and Fremont County is required to reimburse the sales tax and the City's portion is \$64,484.25.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion concerning camping fees in the City Park on Fremont Street

Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen- explained this item is on the agenda to close the loop. Council had previously discussed this matter, some in favor and some not in favor. City Staff recommend no fees be charged for camping but implement some things to make the process better and enforceable via resolution. Attorney Phillips addressed the question of legally charging for camping, using taxpayer money to compete with private businesses. There are a number of statutes that address this issue. Colorado's constitution prohibits it. There are specific instances when a government agency can compete in private sector activities, such as hospitals, education, and prisons. W.S. §9-2-3220 states that the government shouldn't be competing with local businesses. A website was established in 2010 to file complaints against government agencies when that occurs. Councilmember D Hahn mentioned free camping seems to be more competitive. Attorney Adams agrees however, free is not considered competing. Councilmember Larsen asked if there are any issues with donations. Attorney Phillips said there is not an issue with donations. Treasurer Lara mentioned we have almost \$400 in donations to date.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation from Chief Peters concerning new data tracking software

Chief Peterson presented a data analytics report generated from new data tracking software the department has implemented and purchased with grant funds. The system was installed in March and the mapping went into play about two weeks ago. The software provides a quick view of incidences, part one and part two crimes, offenses, natures (actual calls), assaults, and traffic accidents to provide quick data and is a tool to illustrate what is occurring in the community.

B. Discussion concerning Mechanic Series and Police Department Captain Job Descriptions

Chief Peters explained the Captain position was approved in the Budget session and now a job description has been created to move forward with the hiring process.

Clerk Fontaine explained the mechanic series job descriptions were updated. Data entry and technology skills were added to reflect a change in the systems now used by the City and the CDL requirement was changed to a preferred attribute but not a requirement.

C. Housing Authority Board update on fundraising efforts and discussion of building assets

The Housing Authority Treasurer, Tracy Rue presented an update on the Table Mountain Living Facility as currently proposed by the Lander Housing Authority. The Authority proposes to own and manage the facility with a long-term lease from the City. This ownership arrangement allows the most latitude for both entities.

D. County MOU for Welcome Center

Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen explained that the Museum of the American West (MAWS) had a prior arraignment for ground and bathroom maintenance. Now that MAWS has dissolved, this agreement addresses those issues and has been reviewed by the museum board. The City requested the museum remove a fence on the parking area for snow removal purposes and the area will be a year-round welcome center.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Lander

ATTEST:

By: _____
Monte Richardson,
City of Lander Mayor

Rachelle Fontaine, City Clerk

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, dexual orientation, or other characteristics protected by law.