

	<b>CITY OF LANDER</b>		
	<b>CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING</b>		
	Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 6:00 PM		
	City Council Chambers, 240 Lincoln Street		
	<b>MINUTES</b>		

Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Hahn, Chad Cassady, Melinda Cox, Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, John Larsen, and Mayor White. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Treasurer Kristy Koehn, and City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.

**1. MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Larsen thanked first responders, including council members Dan and Josh Hahn, and residents for helping during recent emergencies. He also shared that there’s interest in collaboration on Parks and Main Street, possible grant support tied to a rec center feasibility study, and a Solid Waste District effort to help clean up illegal dump sites.

Council Member Cassady said the Planning Commission meeting was canceled. He added that he’s been hearing positive feedback from residents who have noticed strong effort and good work from City staff.

Council Member Dan Hahn spoke about the recent WYDOT meeting. Twenty-nine acres of state land will be transferred to WYDOT for a future new facility. The current 3-acre site is too small and outdated. He praised Wyoming legislators for supporting the land transfer and said the new facility will improve safety for the traveling public and highways.

Council Member Cox's update covered Chamber events, support for the new girls’ softball team, and growing safety concerns around e-bikes and scooters.

Council Member Stuble thanked Parks staff for storm cleanup after the recent high winds. She highlighted Tree Board outreach ahead of the April 18 Garden Expo. The Energy and Environment Task Force is now reviewing progress toward the city’s emissions and energy-efficiency goals, and the WYDOT public meeting was described as a useful early step in a long-term process for a new facility. She closed by previewing a Thursday feedback session on Title II to discuss possible amendments with staff, council, and license holders.

Mayor White praised city staff, firefighters, and volunteers for their response to multiple emergencies, noting some responders worked nearly 22 hours. She discussed an April 7 special/work session for continued Title II feedback ahead of an April 14 vote, recognized the Chamber’s award to Mayor Monte Richardson, and highlighted her recent city networking efforts in Washington, D.C.. Additional updates included early exploration of a possible recreation center, discussions on how the Business Council could better support local economic development, concerns about school district budget cuts affecting recreation facilities like the pool, and strong results from volunteers providing free tax returns.

**2. STAFF REPORTS**

Public Works Director Lance Hopkin praised firefighters, city staff, volunteers, and local businesses for containing a serious wind-driven fire to one house and helping prevent a much larger disaster. He gave updates on field improvements using bentonite and early progress on the Lincoln Street project.

City Treasurer Kristy Koehn’s update focused on finance and audit transition planning. She reported that training costs with WAM are well below the \$100,000 budgeted, with about \$7,200 spent so far and an estimated total of \$12,000–\$14,000 by fiscal year end. She said next year’s needs will likely be limited to targeted professional help, especially for audit-related work and learning the detailed F66 annual report, which she expects to take over in-house to save money long term.

City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine provided a brief update on employee health insurance, saying she is gathering information on alternative plan options.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

#### A. 2026 Lander Golf Course Update

Scott Peters presented the 2026 Lander Golf Course update. The golf course update emphasized that it is a major community recreation asset and is being run as a self-sustaining operation that reinvests all revenue back into the facility rather than generating profit. He reported strong growth since 2021, with rounds and revenue rising sharply, more than \$500,000 reinvested over the past few years, and major improvements including new carts, pump upgrades, sprinkler replacements, clubhouse remodeling, a winter simulator, and turf restoration. They are trying to keep golf affordable while gradually adjusting prices, building reserves for aging infrastructure, and avoiding asking the City for funding unless a major system failure forces it. Council Members praised the transparency, business strategy, and long-term planning, while discussion also touched on future infrastructure needs, the value of tournaments and visitors to the local economy.

#### B. Draft Resolution 1383 Updating the City of Lander Fee Schedule for 2026-2027 Discussion

The discussion focused on revising the city fee schedule, with staff explaining that this year's review was more thorough because of a team-based process and a shift to CivicPlus online booking, which requires simpler, clearer categories. Proposed changes included modest increases for the community center and cemetery, adjustments to FOIA request fees, and ending the practice of City-provided mowing or spraying for unsafe private lots in favor of charging actual contractor costs.

Part of the conversation centered on rodeo grounds fees. Council and staff debated whether to simplify rates, distinguish between day use and large events, or pause changes entirely while pursuing a broader partnership or concessionaire model—possibly through LOTRA—to increase use of the underutilized facility. Questions remain about long-term management, infrastructure needs, fairness compared with support for the golf course, and how to balance recreation access with cost recovery.

The group also discussed park rental structures, especially whether Lions Shelter and the stage should remain bundled because of shared parking, sound overlap, and event conflicts. Other questions covered contractor licensing fees, insurance requirements for large events at the Lions Shelter, and whether annual fee reviews should be tied more directly to inflation. Staff said they would return with revised recommendations before the fee schedule takes effect July 1.

### 4. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23PM.

The City of Lander

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Missy White,

\_\_\_\_\_  
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.

