

	CITY OF LANDER		
	SPECIAL REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING		
	Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 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. Roll Call. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: John Larsen, Dan Hahn, Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, and Mayor White. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Melinda Cox. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Interim Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Green, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Motion made by Council Member Larsen and seconded by Council Member Stuble. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, D Hahn, Stuble, J Hahn, and Cassady. Motion passed.
3. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR** Public Comment

Kara Colovich expressed support for the Parks Plan’s focus on preserving riparian areas, increasing tree planting, and limiting overdevelopment. She praised several parks as positive examples but raised concerns about proposed developments in Popo Agie Park, especially new ballfields and a pickleball court, which she felt conflicted with community priorities. She recommended partnering with the school district and reconfiguring current fields for multi-use instead of new construction.

Monika Leininger thanked the city for acquiring parkland and acknowledged public enjoyment of the space. She emphasized preserving the natural environment, noting public input favored minimal development. Concerns were raised about excessive space allocated to sports fields and infrastructure. She suggested modest additions like trails and a playground, highlighted maintenance challenges, and recommended improved signage and reduced lighting to maintain the area's rural character.

Gina Colovich shared concerns about the proposed new ballfields, suggesting the city instead improve existing fields at Lander Valley High School. She advocated for an outdoor pool at the new park site due to high summer demand, proposing funding via a mill levy and user fees. As alternatives, she recommended a splash pad and natural landscaping for broader community benefit.

Griffin Lawrence expressed appreciation for the planning process and shared his frequent use of Popo Agie River Park. He supported city investment but opposed adding softball fields, noting the park is mainly used for walking and dog recreation. He cited cost and maintenance concerns of large sports facilities and urged revising the master plan to reflect community preferences. He concluded by praising the overall city plan and expressing optimism about Lander’s future.

Scott Rupp supported previous concerns about Popo Agie Park development and emphasized unresolved privacy and security issues for nearby residents. He shared personal incidents, including safety concerns involving his granddaughter and dog due to unclear signage. He noted confusion caused by the unmarked Poor Farm Road and the City’s delayed response in placing a barrier. He urged the city to address these matters seriously.

4. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Larsen announced that on July 26th, the Fremont County Solid Waste District is having a hazardous household waste disposal day. He is hoping there will be a Fly-In on September 9th.

Council Member Cassady met with Lance and did a tour last week. He hopes to do a ride-along with Chief Waugh.

Council Member Dan Hahn commented that Red Canyon is spectacular right now.

Council Member Stuble announced that the Energy and Environment Task Force met, and an update will be provided during the work session. The Tree Board reported a successful presence at the Garden Expo, where trees funded by the Parks and Recreation Department were given away. Appreciation was expressed for staff support and the Mayor’s Arbor Day Proclamation. One Tree

Board member has resigned, and the position will be advertised. The board also discussed tree replacements on Main Street and potential shade improvements at Baldwin Creek Elementary through tree planting.

Council Member Josh Hahn inquired about speed protocols for emergency response vehicles. The interim police chief explained that the current policy generally allows up to 10 mph over the speed limit. A new training class focused on safe response driving is scheduled. Separately, a zoning question was raised regarding the differences between agricultural, industrial, and commercial zones, particularly related to a mobile sawmill. Staff advised that details fall under Title 4.

Mayor White announced that County Commissioner Mike Jones will speak on healthcare and EMS districts at an upcoming WAM presentation. She highlighted the graduation parade set for tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. and graduation on Sunday, and congratulated the girls' track team. Treasurer applicant interviews are planned in 10–14 days, with cross-training to follow. The Wyoming Outdoor Weekend and wild game cook-off were praised, with thanks to Game and Fish. Council members will review a nine-page action steps spreadsheet via email to refine priorities and provide clearer staff direction.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Interim Chief Waugh invited all council members to attend department trainings and meetings, emphasizing transparency and collaboration. A full presentation on dispatch services and related fiscal considerations is planned for the next council meeting. Council members raised concerns about increasing traffic issues and speeding. The interim chief noted a spike in traffic activity and reported that a recent DUI team deployment in Lander resulted in a record 65 traffic stops in 4.5 hours, with participation from multiple agencies including the Wyoming Highway Patrol.

Public Works Director Lance Hopkin invited council members to schedule ride-alongs or site visits to projects like McFarlane Drive, the hospital site, and Lincoln Street to gain insight and ask questions. A closure notice was issued for Second Street as part of the ongoing Lincoln Street project, with work expected to take up to two weeks. The City is coordinating road and pedestrian closures to maintain access for businesses and emergency vehicles while ensuring public safety throughout the construction area.

6. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Consider and award the Request for Property Insurance Proposals for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2030, to the low bidder Tegeler & Associates in the amount of \$139,515 for FY 2025 2026 and authorize the Mayor to sign the Insurance Services Agreement.

Motion made by Council Member Stuble and seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members Voting Yea: Larsen, D Hahn, Stuble, J Hahn and Cassady. Motion passed.

7. ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Council Member J Hahn and seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members Voting Yea: Larsen, D Hahn, Stuble, J Hahn and Cassady. Motion passed.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

The City of Lander

ATTEST:

By: _____
Missy White,
City of Lander Mayor

Rachelle Fontaine, City Clerk

The entire meeting is available to view at <https://www.landerwyoming.org/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.

