

	CITY OF LANDER		
	CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING		
	Tuesday, July 22, 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. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, Melinda Cox, John Larsen, Chad Cassady, and Mayor White. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT; Dan Hahn. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Interim Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Attorney Adam Phillips (arrived at 6:57 PM), City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Council Member Larsen moved to approve, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yeah: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passed.

3. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Larsen provided an update on the successful Pig Roast event and mentioned the upcoming Hazardous Waste Disposal day on July 26th.

Council Member Cassady thanked the council for their patience and commented that the Pig Roast was well attended.

Council Member Cox inquired whether the Golf Course was able to resolve the water issue. The problem was a power issue that is being fixed. The Golf Course is doing well. LEDA meets tomorrow. The Community Service Block Grant is still in limbo with funding activities.

Council Member Stuble thanked Council Member Larsen for his leadership with the Pig Roast. She provided an EE Task Force update. She will be reaching out to shuffle liaison assignments for Council Member Cassady. She thanked Council Member J Hahn for raising parade safety concerns. She would like the council to address the need for policy changes regarding candy distribution at parades. This process will start with meeting with the parade organizers.

Mayor White highlighted two impressive examples of community assistance. First, Lander Volunteer Fire Department and Council Member Josh Hahn participated in a collaborative response effort in a Fremont County house fire, involving various local departments. This example underscored the shared value placed on community support and mutual aid. Second, a significant search and rescue operation was conducted for a solo hiker missing on Gannett Peak. The operation involved assistance from multiple regions, including Sublette County, Teton SAR with helicopter support and technical climbers, and members from Dubois SAR, along with extensive participation from Lander-based responders.

She commended the Parks and Recreation team for their hard work during a very busy summer season. Recent events such as the Pig Roast, Lander Presents, and the Tour de Wyoming marked the tail end of their peak workload. The department manages over 50 acres across and often must adjust routine maintenance around scheduled events. She commented that Interim Chief Waugh is expected to provide additional details on the police department handbook. She reminded council that the council’s role is to review and provide feedback on policy elements only. Procedural components fall outside the council’s scope and should not be subject to edits or critique.

4. **STAFF REPORTS**

Interim Chief Waugh commented that his staff had some terrible calls. He his very proud of how they handled the calls. He discussed the proposed new department policy and procedure manual highlighting new policies on mobile data terminals, body cameras, and mental health support. The council agreed to review the policy sections of the manual and schedule a future work session.

Public Works Director Hopkin provided updates on several ongoing infrastructure projects, including the Bishop Randall paving and Lincoln Street construction, noting delays and challenges with contractor schedules. He explained the process of managing contracts, including liquidated damages for delays, and emphasized the importance of balancing project completion with local contractor capabilities.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen also discussed upcoming projects to be bid in the fall and mentioned a CISA risk assessment for city systems. Additionally, she shared that Lander was approached for a Brownfield Grant to

assess and potentially remediate hazardous sites, and the City is in the final plan review for the Jefferson Street extension.

Clerk Fontaine informed the council there may be several public hearings scheduled during the August 12, 2025, regular council meeting including a Budget Amendment, the Tree Board Ordinance, the Ordinance allowing elected officials to waive compensation, and the Visionary Franchise Ordinance.

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

### A. Discussion regarding allocation of remaining Half Cent Sales Tax funds.

The council discussed the allocation of remaining economic development tax funds, with approximately \$960,682 available for distribution. They reviewed funding needs for WRTA (\$312,602) and Fremont Air Service Team (\$1,264,636) through July 2027, with the county having approximately \$1.9 million in unobligated funds. The council discussed the original 30/70 spending ratio requirement. The council has discretion over how to allocate the remaining funds. Some council members expressed their belief that transportation infrastructure and economic development projects are eligible for additional funding from the 70% that was not specifically designated for the airport or WRTA.

Council Member Stuble proposed setting aside \$200,000 for recreational infrastructure projects for City parks, though some council members expressed concerns about diverting funds from the original voter intent. The council agreed to further consider the allocation options, with particular attention to staying true to the original ballot language while also addressing community needs and noted that future funding sources like Maven Revenue recapture and TAD grants might provide more flexibility for city projects.

### B. Proposed Draft Ordinance 2025-7 amending Title 12- City Administrative Provisions Section 12-5-5, "Compensation of Officers and Employees" of the Lander Municipal Code

The council reviewed proposed ordinance 2025-7. The compensation ordinance updates some language and would allow elected officials to elect not to receive compensation. This will move forward with a public hearing and first reading at the August 12, 2025, Regular City Council meeting.

### C. Proposed Draft Ordinance 2025-8 Visionary Communications, LLC Franchise Agreement

The council reviewed proposed ordinance 2025-8. The franchise agreement will be revised with minor changes suggested by the Civil City Attorney. This ordinance will forward with a public hearing and first reading at the August 12, 2025, Regular City Council meeting.

## 6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

### A. Litigation (W.S. 16-4-405 (a) (iii))

Council Member Larsen moved to adjourn to Executive Session for litigation. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cox. Council members voting Yeah: Larsen, Cox, Cassady, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passes. The Council entered Executive Session at 7:53 PM.

Council Member Cox moved to exit Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council members voting Yeah: Larsen, Cox, Cassady, Stuble and J Hahn. Motion passes. The Council exited Executive Session at 8:12 PM.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 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.