

	CITY OF LANDER		
	CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING		
	Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 6:00 PM		
	City Council Chambers, 240 Lincoln Street		
	MINUTES		

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: John Larsen, Dan Hahn, Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, Melinda Cox (via Zoom).
COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Chad Cassady and Mayor Missy White. STAFF PRESENT: Interim Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Treasurer Charri Lara, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.

1. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

A. Staff Updates

Interim Chief Waugh reported on recent police activities and upcoming training on domestic violence.

Public Works Director Hopkin provided updates on ongoing construction projects and a new cemetery ditch agreement with the city of Lander.

Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen discussed grant applications and security vulnerability assessments.

City Treasurer Lara stated that the auditors are at City Hall this week conducting audit testing.

City Clerk Fontaine commented that HB0172, the repeal of the gun free zones, will go into effect July 1. The City may consider adding a policy concerning concealed carry for its employees. Additional potential policies to consider include Fraud, AI, Social Media and ADA.

B. Proposed Lander Urban Forest Council (Tree Board) Ordinance 2025-6 Discussion

The council reviewed a proposed tree board ordinance, which had been drafted by the Urban Forest Council to consolidate and update existing tree-related ordinances. Council Member D Hahn expressed concerns about the board's role in policing citizens, preferring to keep tree management under city administration. Council Member D Hahn expressed concerns about the high cost of removing problem trees in town, and questioned how to handle situations where property owners lack the funds to address the issue. The City Attorney noted that the City has options like placing a lien on the property or pursuing litigation but emphasized the need to enforce ordinances. The council discussed the new combined ordinance, which includes penalties outlined in the city fee schedule, and clarified that the maximum fine for misdemeanors remains \$750.

The meeting focused on tree management and safety regulations. Tree assessments are conducted for safety reasons and the process for addressing hazardous trees was outlined. Council Member Cox raised concerns about hedges interfering with traffic visibility, which led to a discussion about potentially strengthening the ordinance to include specific language about line of sight. The council discussed adding visibility requirements to Section 7 of the ordinance for clarity and safety.

C. Police Department and all Employee Manual update discussion

The council discussed a comprehensive update to the Lander Police Department's policy manual, which has grown from 98 to 430 pages. Interim Chief Waugh explained that the new policy, developed with CALEA and the Daigle Law Group, aims to establish the department as a national gold standard for policing, with clearer guidelines on procedures, training requirements, and officer authority. The council agreed to review the document over the next month, with Council Member Cox indicating they would address it at the next work session in July to allow for proper consideration of the extensive changes.

The council discussed two proposed changes to the employee manual: adjusting the payment method of on-call wages for the water department and updating the travel reimbursement policy. Council decided to proceed with the on-call wage change as presented, but after discussion, they opted not to allow employees the option of using personal credit cards for travel

expenses. The council agreed to bring both proposals to a vote at the July 8th meeting for approval via resolution, with the changes to take effect at the start of the new fiscal year.

2. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

The City of Lander

ATTEST:

By: _____
Julia Stuble,
City of Lander Mayor Pro Tem

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.