

City of Leola -- Council Meeting Proceedings
January 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Brett Schaible. City council members present: Michael Yost, Richard Reis, Jackie Rau, McKlay Pettigrew, Brandon Lehmann and Jackie Leibel. City personnel present: Terry Lehmann, Jeff Tschappat, and Sondra Waltman. Community members Brandon Swate, and Glenn & Kristi Spitzer were also present.

Mayor Schaible led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Yost moved with a second from Reis to approve the December and year-end meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Reis moved with a second from Pettigrew to approve the treasurer's report. All in favor, motion carried. The account balances are as follows: General Fund, \$543,574.89; Revolving Loan Fund, \$45,501.09; and Project Account \$9,638.41.

Reis moved with a second from Lehmann to approve the proposed bills. All in favor, motion carried. The bills are as follows:

Bills to be Considered for January 2026		
Agtegra	Fuel/gas, nuts/bolts, roller chain/connectors, grease	\$ 321.03
Beck Law	Nuisance Letters/postage	\$ 262.88
CHS	Shop propane	\$ 633.15
CorTrust Visa	Payroll fees, Postage, Certified letters, Microsoft renewal	\$ 292.72
Dependable Sanitation	Garbage Collection	\$ 86.00
Leola Library	2026 Donation	\$ 4,500.00
McPherson Co. Herald	Minutes, notices	\$ 143.51
Menards	Paint, nuts/bolts, sander, blades	\$ 162.70
Montana Dakota Utilities	Electricity	\$ 2,955.66
ReadiTech/DRN	Websecurity/backup	\$ 75.55
Rural Development	195th Payment for Sewer	\$ 4,021.00
SD Public Health Lab	Water Testing	\$ 20.00
Telespire	Cell Phone	\$ 65.00
USPS	Library PO Box Rent	\$ 84.00
Valley	Telephone, Fax, Internet	\$ 322.23
WEB Water	Water for Dec	\$ 8,822.34
December Payroll		
Payroll	Mayor/Council	\$ 8,250.00
Payroll	Street Fund	\$ 6,901.36
Payroll	Finance Office	\$ 3,570.66
Payroll	Government Buildings	\$ 374.90
Payroll	Library	\$ 1,235.40

Payroll	West Nile Spraying	\$ -
Payroll	Zoning	\$ 100.00
Payroll	Credit Board	\$ -
Payroll	SD Health Pool - January	\$ 2,069.56
Payroll	SS, Med, W/H, SDRS with Matches	\$ 3,273.92
	Total	\$ 48,543.57

OLD BUSINESS

Joint Law – Even though the city no longer has a contract with the county with Joint Law, the McPherson County Sheriff's Department is still active and should be called for emergencies. Further discussion was held on Neighborhood Watch.

John Hoyle called into the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Mobile Home/1302 Conklin St/Agreement – Hoyle shared updates on the mobile home at 1302 Conklin Street and requested a 24 hour extension to complete the skirting. After discussion regarding not complying with the previous deadline, Reis moved with a second from Pettigrew to remove the mobile home within 15 days and have it removed by January 20th by the end of the day. Roll call vote: Leibel, aye; Lehmann, aye; Pettigrew, aye; Rau, aye; Reis, aye; Yost; aye. Motion carried. If the structure remains after the deadline, the city will remove it at the owner's expense and charge a daily storage fee. Following discussion, Hoyle ended the call.

2026 Election – Rau moved with a second from Leibel to hold the 2026 election in conjunction with McPherson County on June 2, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution 26-01: 2026 Wages – Rau moved with a second from Lehmann to adopt Resolution 26-01: 2026 Wages. All in favor, motion carried. The resolution is as follows:

Resolution 2026-01
2026 Employee Wages

WHEREAS, the City of Leola has municipal ordinance which specify the salaries, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Leola has the power to establish the amount of salaries, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Leola has determined the amounts of the following salaries for the year 2026.

Maintenance Supervisor, Terry Lehmann, \$45,000 annually, Maintenance Jeff Tschappat, \$42,500 annually; Finance Officer, Sondra Waltman, \$44,000 annually; Librarian, Pam Walz, \$16.80 per hour; Fill-in Librarian Eileen Schock, \$11.85 per hour; and Custodian, Miranda Richter, \$20 per hour.

The salary for Mayor is \$300.00 per month plus \$150.00 per meeting attended, and the salary for Council members is \$150.00 per month plus \$150.00 per meeting attended. Maintenance will be paid \$25 per meeting attended and the finance officer will be paid \$75 per meeting attended. Zoning and Credit Board members are paid \$25 per meeting attended. All elected salaries/meeting pay is payable quarterly.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Leola adopt these amounts that apply for salaries to become effective retroactive to the beginning of the January 2026 pay period.

Dated this 5th day of January, 2026.

Brett Schaible

Brett Schaible, Mayor, City of Leola

ATTEST:

Sondra Waltman

Sondra Waltman, Finance Officer

2026 Appointments – After review and discussion, Rau moved with a second from Yost to make the following appointments and designations. All in favor, motion carried.

2026 Committee Appointments

Streets, Alleys & RUS	Reis, Pettigrew, Lehmann
Water & Sewer	Leibel, Yost, Lehmann
Parks, Recreation & Pool	Leibel, Yost, Lehmann
Buildings & Equipment	Reis, Pettigrew, Rau
County Law & Library	Leibel, Pettigrew, Rau
Golf Course & ADA	Reis, Yost, Rau

Other Board Appointments

Zoning Board: Mayor Brett Schaible, Lloyd Breitag, Jackie Rau, Dean Schock, Michael Yost, and Secretary Sondra Waltman

Credit Board: Janelle Kolb, Jackie Leibel, Joyce Carman, Brandon Lehmann, Mayor Brett Schaible, Michael Yost, and Program Director Sondra Waltman

*Library Board: Virginia Kessler, Deb Weiszhaar, Donna Breitag, Zack Walz, Becky Wolff, and one vote from the three council members on the committee: Leibel, Pettigrew, Rau

*Housing & Redevelopment Commission: President Becky Wolff, Secretary Pam Schaffner, Jackie Rau, Allen Aman, and Jeff Mueller

*Leola Golf Association: Set at local board level

*Leola Athletic Association: Set at local board level

Other Designations

Official depository: CorTrust Bank; Official newspaper: McPherson County Herald; Attorney: Vaughn Beck at Beck Law Office

2026 Rates/Fees – After review and discussion, Rau moved with a second from Leibel to set the 2026 Rates and Fees. A copy can be found on the city website (www.leolasd.com) and in the Finance Office.

City Equipment – Discussion was held regarding existing equipment and lease options from RDO Equipment. Repair expenses were reviewed and Glenn Spitzer (McPherson County Highway Department Superintendent) shared insight and suggestions. Reis moved with a second from Rau to

repair the plow/dump truck at Crawford's in Aberdeen by replacing the injectors and whatever else may need replaced for \$6,500 or less. All in favor, motion carried.

At 8:00 pm nuisance properties were reviewed. After certified letters were sent from the city and attorney, Pettigrew moved with a second from Yost to tow eligible nuisance properties, choosing a towing company that is timely and reasonably priced. All in favor, motion carried. All towing and storage fees will be at the owner's expense. A list of nuisances can be found in the Finance Office.

NEW BUSINESS

Library Computer Policy – Rau moved with a second from Pettigrew to adopt the policy for 2026. All in favor, motion carried. A copy of the policy is at the library, city office and on the city's website. The policy is as follows:

Leola Library – Computer Policy

- The Leola Public Library supports the right of all members of the community to have free and equal access to the entire range of library resources, regardless of content, approach, format or amount of detail. The Leola Public Library upholds and affirms the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected materials and also affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine and monitor their children's use of library materials and resources.
- In compliance with South Dakota law, the library does not collect materials found to violate Section 22-24-27(11).
- Library staff are not responsible for the supervision of children in the library. Parents or adult caregivers must assume responsibility for their children's access to, and use of library resources. Parents and adult caregivers are expected to monitor and supervise children's use of library resources, including the internet, in selecting material that is consistent with personal and family values. Parents are cautioned that the library and its available resources may contain materials that some find controversial.
- As with other library materials and services, parents or legal guardians are responsible for the information selected or accessed by children. Parents or legal guardians are ultimately responsible for their child's use of the Internet. An Internet Use Agreement Form is available and to be completed/filed accordingly.
- In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, the library utilizes a technology protection measure that blocks access to images deemed (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors). The Leola Public Library does not monitor and has no control over the information published by third parties that is accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for any such content access on the Internet.

Fireman's Fun Night – Reis moved with a second from Yost to set a public hearing for a temporary liquor license for Fireman's Fun Night on February 28, 2026 (or storm date of March 14, 2026). All in favor, motion carried.

MAINTENACE UPDATE

Updates were shared regarding snow/ice removal, sanding/salting of streets, general maintenance, fixing up some picnic tables and discussing painting of the shop floor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets, Alleys & Restricted Use Site – The renewal permit for the RUS was mentioned.

Water & Sewer – Mandatory letters will be sent from the city using a template from SD DANR regarding the possibility of lead lines in parts of Leola. Any questions regarding the matter can be directed to the finance office or an elected official. The generator on the main water pump was serviced. The Leola School is participating in the WIIN Grant – Lead Testing in Schools program.

Park, Recreation & Pool – The electricity is still on at the campgrounds, but the water is disconnected.

Building & Equipment – Leibel moved with a second from Yost to allow 4-H Shooting Sports to use the basement of the Citizen's Building at no cost for their 2026 season (Jan-May). Rau abstained. All remaining council members voted in favor; motion carried. The elevator in the Citizen's Building is also scheduled to be serviced.

Code Enforcement, Law Enforcement & Library Reports – The December library report was reviewed. The November and December monthly law reports were also reviewed.

Zoning – The next meeting will be February 2nd, 2026.

COMPLAINT FORMS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comments were heard from Brandon Swate regarding a town Marshall program and suggestions for the library.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday is January 19. There will be a Zoning meeting at 6:30 and City Council meeting at 7 on February 2. The District 6 meeting will be March 17th in Redfield.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter was shared from SDDANR regarding the proposed Air Quality general permit and a thank you for years of service was sent from Ryan Leimkuhl for his retirement from A&B Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS: None.

At 8:59 pm, Reis moved with a second from Rau to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Brett Schaible
Brett Schaible, Mayor, City of Leola

Sondra Waltman
ATTEST: Sondra Waltman, Finance Officer, City of Leola

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