

City of Leola -- Council Meeting Proceedings
March 2, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Brett Schaible. City council members present: Michael Yost, Jackie Leibel, McKlay Pettigrew, Brandon Lehmann, and Jackie Rau. Richard Reis called into the meeting. City personnel present: Terry Lehmann, Jeff Tschappat, and Sondra Waltman. Community members Mike Lapka, Wayne Weig and Jacey Weig were also present.

Mayor Schaible led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Yost moved with a second from Reis to approve the previous meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Rau moved with a second from Lehmann to approve the treasurer's report. All in favor, motion carried. The account balances are as follows: General Fund, \$559,147.89; Revolving Loan Fund, \$45,519.48; and Project Account \$9,638.41.

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

Bills to be Considered for March 2026		
Agtegra	Light kit, fuse, bolts, parts, batteries, grinding wheel	\$ 172.74
CHS	Shop propane	\$ 594.00
CorTrust Visa	Payroll fees, envelopes, SDML dues, office supplies, postage, gate	\$ 1,961.03
Dependable Sanitation	Garbage Collection	\$ 119.00
Gene's Oil	Fuel/gas	\$ 295.52
MARC	Foaming root control	\$ 200.25
McPherson County	Culvert payment 6 of 10	\$ 5,000.00
House of Glass	Handicap door button repair	\$ 153.06
McPherson Co. Herald	Minutes, notices	\$ 295.34
Montana Dakota Utilities	Electricity	\$ 3,007.06
ReadiTech/DRN	Websecurity/backup	\$ 75.55
Rural Development	197th Payment for Sewer	\$ 4,021.00
Runnings	New door handle, deadbolt & keys for CB	\$ 156.42
SD Public Health Lab	Water Testing	\$ 20.00
Telespire	Cell Phone	\$ 65.00
Valley	Telephone, Fax, Internet	\$ 332.21
Vestis	Mops/rugs, toilet paper	\$ 123.53
WEB Water	Water for Feb	\$ 7,658.64
February Payroll		
Payroll	Water Fund	\$ 7,291.66
Payroll	Finance Office	\$ 3,666.66

Payroll	Government Buildings	\$ 420.00
Payroll	Library	\$ 1,532.70
Payroll	SD Health Pool - March	\$ 2,069.56
Payroll	SS, Med, W/H, SDRS with Matches	\$ 2,794.95
	Total	\$ 42,025.88

OLD BUSINESS

2026 Election – The city election will be held in conjunction with McPherson County on June 2, 2026. Petitions can circulate February 2 through March 24 at 5 pm. Petitions can be obtained from the finance office, county auditor office, or printed online and notarized. Terms up for election include Ward 1 Council, Ward 2 Council, Ward 3 Council and Mayor. All terms are for two years.

Mobile Home/1302 Conklin St/Agreement – A summons and complaint was served to the owner. Further discussion will be held as needed under nuisance properties at 8 pm.

City Equipment – Discussion tabled to Buildings and Equipment under committee reports.

Meter Reading Software – The city’s current meter reading software is transitioning to the Cloud, and annual fees will be imposed along with some updated equipment and procedures. Rau moved with a second from Reis to become a customer of Mueller now for \$950, to obtain the transition discount when the software switches in the future. All in favor, motion carried.

Security Cameras – Price quotes are being explored.

Prairie Combine – The regional community app with local events and highlights was discussed as well as pricing options. Cost clarifications will be continued at the April meeting.

At 7:15 pm a public hearing for the transfer of the Retail On Sale Liquor License from Billy’s Bar & Grill to D&W Diner. With no objections from the public, Rau moved with a second from Lehmann to approve the transfer. All in favor, motion carried. Wayne Weig enlightened the council with an opening date of March 9, along with hours of operations. Wayne Weig and Jacey Weig left the meeting following the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

Board of Equalization – The Local Board of Equalization will meet at 7 pm on March 16 at the Municipal Building. Written appeals are due March 12.

District 6 Meeting – The District 6 Meeting will be held March 17 at 6 pm in Redfield. Interested individuals need to contact the finance office to register.

Campground Updates – Discussion was held on upgrades/repairs at the campground, along with plans with GFP regarding a dock at Pudwill Pond. Quotes were reviewed from Gappa Electric to repair the electrical box on the picnic shelter. Rau moved with a second from Yost to approve the quote and proceed with repairs for roughly \$1,500. All in favor, motion carried. Further discussion included electrical upgrades at the campgrounds. MDU will be contacted regarding additional fees to install/materials, and discussion will continue in April. Grant funding will be researched for general upgrades and a potential second campground location.

McPherson County Tax Deed Notices – The council reviewed the receipts of the county’s notice of intent to take tax deeds. Yost moved with a second from Pettigrew to sign the receipt and remit back to the county auditor. All in favor, motion carried.

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Updates were shared regarding snow removal, building and equipment improvements/maintenance and miscellaneous projects.

Brandon Pickell joined the meeting.

At 8:00 pm nuisance properties were reviewed on new, ongoing and properties in compliance. A reminder letter will be sent for the extension that was previously granted and additional notices will be sent. Further discussion was held regarding condemning property and steps will be taken accordingly. All towing, storage and abatement fees are at the owner’s expense. A list of nuisances can be found in the Finance Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets, Alleys & Restricted Use Site – Brandon Pickell of H&W Contracting, LLC talked about raising/lowering valves/manholes in the streets. Areas of concern will be inventoried to obtain a more accurate quote. The oversized dumpster will be available mid April to aid in community cleanup efforts. NECOG will be contacted on following up with the CAG Grant for Leola Avenue.

Pickell left the meeting following discussion.

Water & Sewer – None.

Park, Recreation & Pool – The chlorine tanks for the pool have been ordered. There has been some expressed interest in pool employment, but no applications have been received.

Building & Equipment – The 1998 International 2554 Dump Truck needs a new motor; Rau moved with a second from Pettigrew to surplus the truck, with a value/sell/trade option to be determined at the meeting on 3/16. All in favor, motion carried. Pettigrew moved with a second from Reis to surplus the Komatsu Dresser 520C and the 2003 Daewoo Mega V200 wheel loader, with a value/sell/trade options to be determined at the meeting on 3/16. All in favor, motion carried. Further discussion was held on purchasing a loader from Hokeness Farms, including budget concerns. Pettigrew moved with a second from Yost to purchase a 2009 John Deere Payloader 544K for \$119,900. Roll call vote: Yost, aye; Reis, aye; Pettigrew, aye; Lehmann, aye; Rau, nay; Leibel, nay. Motion carried by majority.

Code Enforcement, Law Enforcement & Library Reports – The monthly library report was reviewed. Ordinance books will be printed and distributed to council members.

Zoning – The next meeting will be May 4. Beck Law Office will be contacted for a timeline regarding ongoing litigations and abatements.

COMPLAINT FORMS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comments were heard regarding a SDCL reference and an inquiry about the city selling property to a potential buyer.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Lehmann and Tschappat will attend the MSHA Training in Aberdeen on March 10. The Local Board of Equalization will meet March 16 at 7 pm with a special city council meeting to follow. The District 6 meeting will be on March 17 in Redfield. Election petitions must be submitted to the finance office by 5 pm on March 24.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS: None.

At 9:36 pm, Rau moved with a second from Leibel 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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