

	CITY OF LANDER		
	REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING		
	Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM		
	City Council Chambers, 240 Lincoln Street		
	MINUTES		

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Richardson led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Roll Call. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: John Larsen, Dan Hahn, Josh Hahn, Missy White and Mayor Monte Richardson. COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Melinda Cox and Julia Stuble. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, Chief Peters, Assistant Public Works Director Hunter Roseberry, City Treasurer Charri Lara, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember White, seconded by Councilmember J Hahn. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Hearing opened for Ordinance 2023-4 Vacating a partial alley adjacent to 473 S 4th at 6:02 PM.
- B. City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine read Ordinance 2023-4 into the record.
- C. Public comment- Councilmember D Hahn inquired if there is an advantage to the City for partial vacation of alleys. The Public Works Director Lance Hopkin answered that after vacation the City is no longer responsible for the care and the property becomes developable acreage for private owners.
- D. Hearing closed at 6:05 PM.

4. COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

- A. Public Comment-None.

5. MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES

Councilmember Larsen complimented the Street Department and City crews. He stated it is nice to see three of the four projects paved. He hopes we can get one more paved before winter.

Councilmember White echoed Councilmember Larsen’s comments concerning the Street Department and City crews. She participated in the Wyoming Business Council Community Review Workshop assessing some of Lander’s assets and identifying challenges. The Planning Commission met, and they addressed the alley vacation and considered a re-zoning request which was denied by the Board of Adjustments.

Councilmember D Hahn commented that he was driving down South Fifth and there were bicycle riders in the middle of the road backing up traffic. We need to respect each other as road users.

Mayor Richardson commented he will be out of town for HR training and on the second he and Charri are headed to Cheyenne to testify on the proposed SRF program interest rate increase.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Chief Peters commented that the multijurisdictional DUI team starts this weekend. There will be twenty-four events. The goal is to keep everybody safe.

Assistant Public Works Director Hunter Roseberry commented that the City is aware of the Main Street lighting issues. The City is seeking grant funding for streetlights and working on short-term resolutions. Additionally, he is working on resurrecting the Board of Appeals.

City Treasurer Charri Lara suggested an amendment to Resolution 1292. The resolution requires a delinquency charge of 10% of the unpaid water and sewer balances with no leeway. There was a house that had a major water break. Her water bill is \$4,000 and her late fee is \$300-400 a month. She is only able to pay \$125-150 per month payment. Staff recommends an amendment allowing for a suspension of these late fees under certain circumstances if payments are made monthly.

City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine commented that she will also be presenting the Council with drafts of ordinances updating employee bonding requirements and defining entertainment for Bar and Grill licenses. The City is advertising for mechanic and police captain positions.

7. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Approve Ordinance 2023-4 on First Reading - An Ordinance Vacating a Partial Alley located in the JI Patten Addition Adjacent to 473 South 4th.

Motion made by Councilmember White, Seconded by Councilmember Larsen. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Approve JAG Hill Subdivision

Motion made by Councilmember Larsen, Seconded by Councilmember White. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. LEDA recommendations for LIFT funds.

Councilmember White made a motion to take LEDA recommendations for LIFT funds off the table, seconded by Councilmember J Hahn. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

Eric Andrews from LEDA was present. Upon request from Councilmember White concerning how the recommendation was made, he informed the council LEDA had received a lot of feedback. The LIFT committee did their job and scored them but neither LIFT nor LEDA were excited about the applications. No application set itself apart. They did not see a project that provided a lot of economic development for the community. Councilmember White commented she is hearing as LEDA gains more experience reviewing applications there should be baseline score prior to funding recommendations. Discussion ensued concerning changes that have already been made to the process, potential further changes and how to achieve the "best bang for the buck" for economic development. Councilmember D Hahn thanked Eric Andrews for his explanation and efforts. Councilmember White commented that some applications were less business orientated. In her mind that does not meet the definition of economic development and she wondered if there is a way to better define economic development for the application process. Eric commented that part of the issue is a lack of defined economic goals and objectives as a community.

The Council addressed each application individually:

1. Salt-Taco & Tequilla Bar.

Mayor Richardson commented this would create jobs and bring a new business to town.

Motion made by Councilmember White to approve the \$50,000 funding for the Salt-Taco & Tequilla Bar. Mayor Richardson called for a second. The motion died for lack of second.

2. Benessere Clinic.

Councilmember White moved to approve for purposes of discussion. Councilmember Larsen second the motion for discussion.

Discussion: Councilmember White appreciates that they are looking for equipment and potentially increasing a part-time job, but it is not the robust application she is looking for. Councilmember D Hahn appreciates the request but commented they have already received money from another source. He is not in favor of repeat half-cent funding.

Councilmembers voting aye: None. Councilmembers voting Nay: Larsen, White, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion fails.

3. The Grand Marquee Renovation.

Councilmember Larsen moved and Councilmember White seconded.

Discussion: Councilmember Larsen stated this application is for updating the physical facility and he struggles to see that as an economic development.

Councilmembers voting aye: None. Councilmembers voting Nay: Larsen, White, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion fails.

5. Lander Performing Arts.

Fails for lack of motion.

6. Capital Improvements 228 Main Street.

Councilmember White moved to approve for purposes of discussion. Mayor Richardson called for a second. The motion died for lack for lack of second.

7. Hub for Conservation & Non-Profit.

Councilmember White moved to approve for purposes of discussion, second by Councilmember Larsen.

Discussion: Councilmember White this is one where she values the role the non-profits provide in the community. This one does not generate tax dollars and offers a repeat of services already available. Councilmember Larsen mentioned this was discussed at the Chamber meeting and there are several meeting facilities already available.

Councilmembers voting aye: None. Councilmembers voting Nay: Larsen, White, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion fails.

8. Onsite Laundry & Showers.

Fails for lack of motion.

A general discussion ensued between the Council and LEDA concerning the scoring, the scoring matrix and changes to eligibility.

D. Approve Resolution 1313 Amending Resolution 1285 City of Lander Fee Schedule for the purpose of adding a New Nonconforming Setback/Utility Registration Fee.

Motion made by Councilmember Larsen, Seconded by Councilmember White. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilmember White, Seconded by Council Larsen. Councilmembers Voting Yea: Larsen, White, D Hahn, J Hahn and Mayor Richardson. Motion passed unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

The City of Lander

ATTEST:

By: _____

Monte Richardson,
City of Lander Mayor

Rachelle Fontaine, City Clerk