

	CITY OF LANDER		
	SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING		
	Tuesday, September 23, 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: Dan Hahn, Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, John Larsen, Chad Cassidy and Mayor White. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Melinda Cox. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Interim Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Treasurer Charri Lara, City Attorney Adam Phillips, City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Motion to approve made by Council Member Laren and seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassidy, D Hahn, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.
3. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR** Public Comment. None.
4. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES**

Council Member Stuble reported no liaison meetings since the last report but highlighted two public interest items. She noted that Saturday is Wyoming and National Public Lands Day, with local events and a proclamation by Governor Gordon. She also reported on NOL’s 60th anniversary celebration this week, including a Trail Mixer on Friday, a Film Fest on Saturday, and a free concert Saturday night, noting strong attendance, full hotels, and community economic benefit.

Council Member D Hahn commented on the beautiful fall colors.

Council Member Cassidy reported attending the Planning Commission meeting with Council Member Dan Hhan on Thursday, commending the commission for their hard work on difficult issues and noting a fruitful follow-up discussion to provide feedback. He also highlighted a community forum titled *Where Do We Go From Here?* to be held Thursday from 6–8 p.m. at the Lander Library, featuring Representatives Lloyd Larson, Ivan Posey, and others, focused on finding common ground in divisive times.

Council Member Larsen reported attending the Popo Agie Conservation District meeting last week, noting their recent Wind River Outdoor Education Camp for about 90 middle school students, which provided multiple educational opportunities. He expressed appreciation for the district’s wide range of work in the community beyond agriculture.

Mayor White reported attending the One Shot event, commending its volunteerism and fundraising efforts, which have raised nearly \$3 million for habitat and conservation, and noted the Western Sportsman team’s win. She mentioned the upcoming NLS event. She also attended the Region 4 WAM meeting, where rebuilding partnerships with the National League of Cities was discussed, including a plan for WAM to cover one registration per community for the annual Salt Lake conference and explore collective membership to support smaller municipalities. Finally, she expressed appreciation for city staff, recognizing the water crew for their quick response to a difficult water break.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

Interim Chief Waugh announced that Wyoming Pathways will host a WYDOT-funded safety open house at Lincoln Street Bakery on Monday from 9–11:30 a.m., focused on pedestrian, cyclist, and driver safety. He also noted that on October 1st the city will hold its first Coffee with a Cop at Loaf and Jug at 9 a.m., with additional events anticipated due to community interest.

Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen announced that LCAN will sponsor a Walk to Gannett Peak event for young students next Friday to promote safe walking and street crossing near construction zones. She reported that the Planning Commission has requested a Council work session in late October to discuss proposed changes on short-term rental definitions and the appeals process. She also noted that the Popo Agie Conservation District will join the city during the PL566 grant field tour with NRCS on Thursday, related to additional water storage at Worthen Fry and upstream.

6. **NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)**

- A. Approval of the Popo Agie River Park Subdivision
- Motion to approve made by Council Member Larsen and seconded by Council Member Cassidy.

DISCUSSION: Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen reported that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Popo Agie River Park addition, which rezones the city’s portion of the park from R3 to public lands and includes adjacent land purchases while retaining R3 zoning for the mobile home park. She noted this step will lead to future annexation of the county portion of the park and possibly nearby properties, a process expected to take 6–18 months due to required studies and service planning. She added that landowners were first notified in 2022, following the city’s 2021 purchase of the park with Land and Water Conservation grant funds that deed-restricted the property for recreation use.

Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, D Hahn, Cassady, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

7. OLD BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Approve third and final reading of Ordinance 2025-09 Rezoning Original Town of Lander, Block 29 Lots 5-10 From R-5 Multi-Family Residential District to C- Commercial District

Motion to approve made by Council Member Larsen and seconded by Council Member J Hahn.

DISCUSSION: Council Member Stuble stated that despite additional time for consideration, she remained opposed to the proposed rezoning, citing the lack of a clear plan from the property owner, concerns about vague future uses, and the size of the proposal encompassing all six lots. She suggested she might support a smaller proposal limited to the Mason’s Lodge and adjacent parking but could not support the broader rezoning. In response, Assistant Mayor Strube Fossen read from Planning Commission minutes noting that the owner intended to restore the building, keep the lots intact, and allow future uses to be determined later.

Council Member D Hahn move to table this agenda item until the October 14, 2025, council meeting and the owners can be present. Council Member Cassady seconded.

Council Members voting Yea to table the motion to October 14, 2025: Cassady, D Hahn, Stuble and J Hahn. Council Members Voting Nay: Larsen. Motion passed.

- B. Approve third and final reading of Ordinance 2025-10 Rezoning Earl & Farlow Addition, Block 110, Lots 5-6 from R-5 Multi-Family Residential District to C- Commercial District

Motion to approve made by Council Member D Hahn and seconded by Council Member J Hahn.

DISCUSSION: Stuble stated her opposition to the proposed rezoning, emphasizing the importance of preserving limited R5 zoning in the heart of Lander to support high-density residential and mixed commercial uses that encourage walkability and community vitality. She acknowledged the clarity of the warehouse proposal but concluded that its benefits did not outweigh the community value of retaining R5, suggesting such uses were better suited to industrial or peripheral areas rather than Main Street. Council Member Cassady reflected on prior discussions and noted that, after considering neighborhood comparisons and the potential benefits of walkable housing near Main Street, he believes the area would better serve the community with residential use. He concluded that maintaining R5 zoning is the preferable option and stated that is his vote.

Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, and D Hahn. Council Members voting Nay: J Hahn, Stuble, and Cassady. Motion and Ordinance failed.

- 8. ADJOURNMENT** Motion to adjourn made by Council Member J Hahn and seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 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, dexual orientation, or other characteristics protected by law.

