

	CITY OF LANDER		
	SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING		
	Tuesday, October 28, 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, Melinda Cox, Josh Hahn, Julia Stuble, John Larsen, Chad Cassady and Mayor White. Declaration of a quorum. STAFF PRESENT: Interim Police Chief Kelly Waugh, Public Works Director Lance Hopkin, Assistant Public Works Director Hunter Roseberry, Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen, City Treasurer Charri Lara, City Attorney Adam Phillips, Deputy Treasurer / Clerk Kevin Kulow and City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.
3. **PUBLIC HEARING** Ordinance 2025 12 GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO NORTHERN ARAPAHO TRIBAL INDUSTRIES, INC., D/B/A WIND RIVER INTERNET, ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS AFFILIATES TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF LANDER, WYOMING

A. Mayor White opened the hearing at 6:02 PM

B. Introduce and read. Public Works Director Lance Hopkin explained that this ordinance continues the efforts to have current and consistent franchise agreements. Mayor White summarized Ordinance 2025-12, as an ordinance granting a franchise to Northern Arapaho Tribal Industries, Inc., doing business as Wind River Internet. The ordinance would grant the company a non-exclusive right, privilege, and authority to construct, maintain, operate, upgrade, and relocate its telecommunications facilities within the City of Lander. The franchise would allow the company to place its wires, conduits, conductors, cables, and related infrastructure in, under, along, over, and across the city’s present and future streets, roadways, avenues, courts, lanes, alleys, sidewalks, and rights-of-way. The franchise area is defined as all areas within the legal boundaries of the City of Lander.

C. Public comment. None

D. Mayor White closed the hearing at 6:04 PM
4. **PUBLIC HEARING** Ordinance 2025 13 Amending Title 2 Sale, Licensing and Use of Alcoholic and Malt Beverages Revoking, Replacing and Superceding Ordinance 1120 and 2024-5

A. Mayor White opened the hearing at 6:04 PM

B. Introduce and read. Mayor White stated that most license holders are responsible and greatly appreciated, but occasional issues highlight the need to improve the licensing system. The proposed changes aim to clarify due process and encourage proactive management, including free TIPS training through the Lander Police Department. She explained the multi-step process for addressing violations, emphasizing fairness and opportunities for resolution before city involvement. Interim Chief Waugh added that over 80% of reported crimes in Wyoming involve alcohol and stressed the importance of collaboration to enhance public safety.

C. Public Comment

Michelle Motherway opposed the proposed suspension process, warning it could hurt businesses and employees. She stressed shared responsibility between servers and sellers, noting Mr. D’s has a zero-tolerance alcohol policy. She questioned the legality of requiring police calls for every intoxicated person, citing privacy and practicality issues. Motherway supported mandatory TIPS training but asked for more than 30 days to comply due to staffing and cost challenges, urging transparency and collaboration with business owners.

Mike Bailey said his business enforces a zero-tolerance policy for sales to minors or intoxicated individuals. He warned that stricter rules and short training deadlines could hurt hiring and

retention. While supporting a demerit system, he argued the proposal was too harsh, especially suspensions after 15 demerit points. Bailey stressed employee accountability and questioned the fairness of requiring police calls for every over-served person, urging the Council to balance safety with practical enforcement.

Christine Gilberson said the proposed point system is too harsh on bar owners. She noted all bartenders complete TIPS training, preferring the online version, and stressed that bartenders—not absent owners—should be accountable for violations. Judging intoxication is difficult and opposed mandatory police calls for every incident, citing staff and law enforcement burdens.

Ron Hansen said the ordinance surprised business owners and lacked retailer input. He argued responsible license holders shouldn't be punished for others' actions or employee mistakes. Citing his strict training policies, he warned that suspending licenses would devastate Lander's seasonal economy. Hansen supported training and accountability but urged the Council to favor fines and collaboration over punitive suspensions.

Clerk Fontaine read an email from Tauna Groomsith, who recommended defining "bar and grill" to require a kitchen, updating license holder contact rules, clarifying training timelines, and revising open-container and "lawful request" language for clarity and consistency.

D. Mayor White closed the hearing at 6:41 PM

5. PUBLIC HEARING Ordinance 2025 14 Amending Section 7-10-1-7-10-6 Tobacco Products- Age Requirements within the City of Lander

A. Mayor White opened the hearing at 6:41 PM

B. Introduce and read. Interim Chief Waugh explained that Wyoming state law now sets the legal age to purchase and possess alcohol at 21, while the City of Lander's ordinance still lists 18. The proposed change simply updates the city code to align with state statute, ensuring compliance.

C. Public hearing

Karen Wetzel suggested that, under the City's home rule authority, Lander could consider banning the use of kratom. She acknowledged it may not fit within the current ordinance discussion but urged the City to address the issue in the future.

D. Mayor White closed the hearing at 6:43 PM

6. COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

A. Public Comment. None

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES

Council Member Larsen reported that the Fremont County Solid Waste District plans to close the Lander landfill in July 2028. The Lander Senior Center's Wimpy Burger fundraiser was also a success, selling 450 tickets.

Council Member Dan Hahn said the Title II revisions began after a past liquor license issue to improve communication and clarity, not overhaul rules. After speaking with business owners, he believes the current system works well and the proposed changes are unnecessary and overly complex. He urged the Council to slow down, stay transparent, and avoid overregulating local businesses.

Council Member Stuble thanked business owners and residents for their feedback on the Title II ordinance, stressing collaboration between the City and local establishments to balance safety with practicality. She acknowledged timing concerns, explaining the draft was meant to start discussion—not exclude input—and apologized if it seemed otherwise.

Council Member Josh Hahn thanked attendees for their input, noting past ordinance issues arose from limited information that caused misunderstandings. He apologized for the oversight, encouraged ongoing communication, and congratulated the Lander Tiger varsity football team for reaching the state playoffs, inviting the community to Friday's home game.

Mayor White announced the City's updated strategic plan is available in the Council's shared drive for review and a November vote. She emphasized its role in guiding priorities and proposed biannual progress updates. She also discussed creating a Council code of conduct, shared updates on the police chief hiring process, reminded members of Thursday's open house, and noted her

work with the renewed WAM Leadership and Training Committee, which will survey members on training needs.

8. STAFF REPORTS

Public Works Director Lance Hopkin reported the meter replacement project is nearly finished, with 12 unresponsive property owners. Street paving continues, with plans to work with Riverton contractors to finish Lincoln Street and other areas before weather delays. Recent water main breaks were linked to pressure changes from the new tank and pump system; staff are adjusting valves and may add pressure tanks to protect aging infrastructure.

Assistant Mayor RaJean Strube Fossen reported that the Jefferson Street extension project will hold a pre-bid meeting this week, with bids opening November 12. Since that coincides with the next council meeting, the award will be delayed until December to allow time for review.

City Treasurer Charri Lara announced that she has accepted a position with WAM and the process to replace her will commence.

City Clerk Rachelle Fontaine explained that the regular November council meeting falls on Veterans Day, so it will be moved to Wednesday, November 12 as a special meeting. The council agreed to keep the November 25 meeting during Thanksgiving week and move the December meeting to December 16 to avoid holiday conflicts. A possible special meeting on November 25 may also be held

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Approve second reading of Ordinance 2025 11 rezoning Popo Agie River Park Addition from R-3 Single and Multi-Family Residential District to PL Public Land

Moved by Council Member Larsen , seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- B. Approve Resolution 1370 Adopting the City of Lander Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Council Member D Han moved to untable the item, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Moved by Council Member D Hahn to approve, seconded by Council Member Cassady.

DISCUSSION: Council Member Cox asked to replace a Connecticut statute with the correct Wyoming statute defining controlled substances, remove references to nonexistent general order numbers, and delete a missing section reference. Discussion followed on the council's role, clarifying that it approves policy but not procedural details

Council Member Cox moved to adopt of the Policy and Procedure and remove general order number anywhere that appears in the document, seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Members voting Yea to approve as amended: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

10. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

- A. Approve first reading of Ordinance 2025 12 GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO NORTHERN ARAPAHO TRIBAL INDUSTRIES, INC., D/B/A WIND RIVER INTERNET, ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS AFFILIATES TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF LANDER, WYOMING

Moved by Council Member Larsen, seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- B. Approve first reading of Ordinance 2025 13 Amending Title 2 Sale, Licensing and Use of Alcoholic and Malt Beverages Revoking, Replacing and Superceding Ordinance 1120 and 2024-5

Moved by Council Member Larsen, seconded by Council Member Cassady.

DISCUSSION: Council Members held an in-depth discussion concerning the proposed ordinance page by page. Council proposed and voted on changes while acknowledging more changes were likely after the Town Hall discussion.

Council Member Stuble moved to amend the title to read an ordinance repealing City of Land or Municipal Code Title II, Sale, Licensing, and Use of Alcoholic and Malt Beverages Sections 2-1-1 through 2-5-1 in its entirety, and replacing it with Title II, Sale, Licensing, and Use of Alcoholic and Malt Beverages, Sections 2-1-1 through 2-6-1, Seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble. Council Members Voting Nay: D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Stuble moved to strike 2.1.2 Definitions F. Dispensing Room as well as the dispensing room language on page 14 under 2.4.1 B and return B to the original language, seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Stuble moved to amend 2.1.2 Definitions E. Demerit Points and add a period after violations, seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member J Hahn moved to table the approval and first reading until November 12, 2025, seconded by Council member D Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: D Hahn, Cox and J Hahn. Council members voting Nay: Larsen, Cassady, Stuble and Mayor White. Motion fails.

Council Member Stuble moved to strike the second (ii) paragraph in its entirety under 2.1.3 (B) (h) (ii), seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Cox moved to strike the language *from the licensee's accountant or accounting program* from 2.1.3 (B) (h) (iv), seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Cassady, Cox, D Hahn and J Hahn. Council Members voting Nay: Larsen and Stuble. Motion passed.

Council Member Cassady moved to amend 2.1.4 C (g) completion of an approved Alcohol Server Training Course by server employees within 90 days instead of 30 days of hire.

Council Member Larsen moved to remove 2.2.1 A. paragraph (f), seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Cox moved to remove the language *renewed* from 2.2.2 A, seconded by Council Member Stuble. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Stuble moved to change the language in 2.3.1 paragraph B *Demerit points shall be assessed as set forth below upon first and subsequent offense to second and subsequent offenses*, seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Cassady moved to strike Controlled Substance Violations from the demerit accumulative grid under 2.3. B and Title 2, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, D Hahn and J Hahn. Council Members voting Nay: Stuble. Motion passed.

Council Member Larsen moved to clarify and add that all reference to communication between the city and the license holder concerning *days* means business days and to add business before the word days throughout the proposed ordinance, seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble, D Hahn, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Council Member Stuble moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2025-13, revoking, replacing, and Superseding Ordinance 1120 and 2024-5 as amended, seconded by Council Member Cassady.

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

- C. Approve first reading of Ordinance 2025 14 Amending Section 7-10-1-7-10-6 Tobacco Products-Age Requirements within the City of Lander

Moved by Council Member Larsen, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- D. Approve Resolution 1371 Amending Resolution 1106 Appointing Lander Economic Development Association as the City of Lander Economic Development Commission

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member Cassady. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- E. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the updated Memo of Understanding Between the City of Lander and the Lander Economic Development Association

Moved by Council Member Stuble, seconded by Council Member Cassady.

Council Member Stuble moved to amend the MOU to start in October 2025, with a term of 4 years, seconded by Council Member Larsen. Council Members voting Yea as amended: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- F. Approve Customer Requested Work Agreement between the City of Lander and Rocky Mountain Power for Work Order #74599581 in the amount of \$2,891.00.

Moved by Council Member Larsen, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- G. Approve Lincoln Street Project Change Order No. 2, increasing the contract price by \$134,697.95 and the days to completion by 32 days plus winter.

Moved by Council Member Cox, seconded by Council Member J Hahn. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, Cox, Stuble. Council Members voting Nay: D Hahn and J Hahn. Motion passed.

- 11. ADJOURNMENT** Moved by Council Member J Hahn, seconded by Council Member Cox. Council Members voting Yea: Larsen, Cassady, D Hahn, Cox, Stuble, and J Hahn. Motion passed.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 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, sexual orientation, or other characteristics protected by law.