

City Council Regular Minutes
June 9, 2025

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call was taken with the following City Council Members present: Mayor, Kim Pexton; Council Member, Ron McNare; Council Member, Perry Hershberger; Council Member, Matt Schmidt; and Council Member, Joel Weeks.

Also present: City Manager, JD Cox; City Attorney, Michael Armstrong; City Clerk, Sonya Ortega; Chief, Todd Byerly; Public Works Director, John Harbarger; Planning Technician, Heidi McCullough; and Administrative Services Director/Treasurer, Mary Nicol.

2. Disclosures by City Council Members

None.

3. Approval of General Agenda (Corrections or Additions)

Councilperson Perry Hershberger moved to approve the general agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Ron McNare. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Approval of Consent Docket

Councilperson Matthew Schmidt moved to approve the consent docket as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Joel Weeks. Motion carried 5-0.

a. Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes: May 27, 2025

b. Bills & Claims

Warrant Register: May 2025

c. Other – Consent

**Ordinance No. 1057: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6.080.160
Pertaining to Dog or Other Animal Bite Examination, Third Reading**

6. Presentations

a. Douglas Historic Preservation: Annual Update and Award Presentation - Heidi McCullough, Commissioner/Staff Liaison

Douglas Historic Preservation Commissioner/Staff Liaison, Heidi McCullough, gave a presentation highlighting the achievements of the Historic Preservation Commission, including, but not limited to, signs and QR codes on historic buildings and the cemeteries, talk of the town 3rd grade work books have been printed and were distributed to all schools in the district for 3rd graders including rural schools, KPI completion, collaboration with The Enterprise, partnering with UW worth initiative, completed a walking tour of down town, and hosted a workshop on repair and cleaning of headstones that was open to the public. They will begin working on the damage to the headstones at the pioneer cemetery. Additionally, in collaboration with Douglas Park cemetery, they will begin cleaning headstones due to hard water on the headstones, which will be on the current year's cemetery tour, occurring on the 1st Sunday of October. In honor of May being national preservation month, posters were provided to downtown businesses showcasing the historic photos of the building. The 3rd grade students were led on a tour of the historic downtown and the Pioneer cemetery. The public tour of the pioneer cemetery was well attended. For the first time, the rural schools were led on a virtual tour of downtown Douglas utilizing printed historical photos and the Douglas Rec Center gymnasium. The Historic Preservation Commission recognized LeeAnne Siebken, an invaluable committee member and citizen who is dedicated to the history of the City. LeeAnne has completed several books and oral interviews to ensure the history of Douglas is preserved for future generations.

b. New Employee Introduction: Streets and Alleys - Matt McClure

City Manager Cox introduced Matt McClure as the newest employee to our Streets and Alley department.

c. New Police Officer Swear In and Introduction: Thomas Wells

Mayor Kim Pexton swore in Thomas Wells, a new Douglas Police Department Officer, after an introduction from City Manager Cox.

7. Discussion Items

a. Strategic Doing: 2526

City Manager Cox presented the new Strategic Doing Priorities and KPI's and provided a staff report on strategic doing for FY2526. Council was in favor.

b. Water Update: Forsgren

City Manager Cox introduced Forsgren water consultant, Ben Jordan, who provided a report regarding City of Douglas water state of affairs.

c. Public Fireworks: 4th of July

Chief Byerly presented moving the fireworks display from high school parking lot to John Lambert subdivision on the 4th and public fireworks on July 5th. Discussion was had with council request to complete an additional meeting with the fire department.

8. Public Hearing

None.

9. Tabled Items

a. Remote Meter Read for Golf Course

Director Harbarger provided staff report. Council requested additional proposals be obtained and to keep the item tabled.

10. Council Action Items

a. Resolution No. 2025-14: Resolution Pursuant To Wyoming Statute §15-9-106 Finding That Blight Exists Within The City of Douglas And That Rehabilitation, Redevelopment And Conservation Are Necessary

City Manager Cox provided a report. Councilperson Perry Hershberger moved to approve Resolution No. 2025-14 as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Ron McNare. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Douglas City Hall Site Improvements: Change Order No.2

Director Harbarger provided a report. Councilperson Perry Hershberger moved to approve Douglas City Hall Site Improvements Change Order No. 2 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents and furthermore allow the City Manager to authorize change orders up to 10,000.00 on this project and remain under budget. Seconded by Councilperson Ron McNare. Motion carried 5-0.

c. Board Appointment: Arts & Culture Board of Trustees - Shea Burke

Planning Technician McCullough provided a report. Councilperson Ron McNare moved to re-appoint Shea Burke to the Arts & Culture Board of Trustees for the term ending June 30, 2028. Seconded by Councilperson Matthew Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0.

11. City Manager's Report

City Manager Cox provided a report of the current city doings and council priorities.

12. Council Information

a. Minutes: Converse County Tourism Promotion Board May 2025

b. Minutes: Douglas Historic Preservation Commission

13. CircleBack Recap

City Clerk Ortega provided a listing of the Circle Back requests.

14. Good People Doing Good Things

Councilmember Hershberger recognized the citizens attending the car show who jumped into action to move the road closed barricades, allowing emergency vehicles to pass through. Chief Byerly recognized Councilperson Hershberger for assisting the elderly in maintaining their property; recognizing the time, energy, and money required to clean up the properties.

15. Community Update

a. Event Calendar

16. Executive Session

17. Adjourn

Mayor Pexton moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting at approximately 5:30 pm. Councilperson Perry Hershberger moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Ron McNare. Motion carried 5-0.

Kim Pexton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sonya Ortega, City Clerk
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