

City Council Regular Minutes
February 23, 2026

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

Roll call was taken with the following City Council members present: Kim Pexton, Ron McNare, Perry Hershberger, Matthew Schmidt, Joel Weeks. Also present: JD Cox, City Manager; Mike Armstrong, City Attorney; Clara Chaffin, Community Development Director; Devon Litzsinger, City Clerk; Todd Byerly, Chief of Police; John Harbarger, Public Works Director; Michele Carter, Human Resources Director; and Linda Doane, Deputy City Clerk.

2. Disclosures by City Council Members

None.

3. Approval of General Agenda (Corrections or Additions)

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

4. Leadership Moment

Mayor Pexton provided an inspirational speech.

5. Public Comments

Mike Hageman commented regarding Douglas Community Center and 7 Trails. Deanna Brow discussed liquor license server training. Mike Hollenback had concerns over water, multifamily development, and TIFs.

6. Approval of Consent Docket

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

a. Minutes

Minutes: Regular City Council Meeting February 9, 2026

b. Bills & Claims

c. Other – Consent

7. Presentations

a. High Performing Organization Presentation of Survey Results and Recommendations by Public Management Center (University of Kansas)

Marilu Goodyear and Alex Terwilliger, *University of Kansas*, provided the

results of the employee-wide survey.

b. Water: Monthly Update

Ben Jordan, *Forsgren & Associates*, provided the monthly water report.

8. Discussion Items

a. Project Update: Seven Trails

An update on the project was provided by Mark Christenson, *AVI*, and Nate Stencil *Stencil Group*.

b. Douglas Community Center: Staffing

Director Carter led a discussion.

9. Public Hearing

a. Liquor License Renewals: License Term 04/01/2026-03/31/2027

Mayor Pexton opened the public hearing at 5:11 pm. City Clerk Litzsinger provided an overview. Public comment in favor or opposition: Deanna Brow, Darryl Parrett, Mike Hollenback and Deanna Cheny commented on liquor serving training. Closed public hearing at 5:28 pm. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve all liquor license renewals for the April 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027, license term. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 5-0.

[1. Beggar LLC](#), dba The Liquor Cabinet, (1/19/2026), Retail, 1709 Muirfield Ct.; [2. CIB LLC](#), dba College Inn Bar, (1/12/2026), Retail, 103 N. 2nd St.; [3. Depot \(The\) LLC](#), dba The Depot, (1/16/2026), Restaurant, 100 E. Walnut; [4. Douglas Liquors LLC](#), dba Douglas Discount Liquors & Tobacco, (1/5/2026), Retail, 1812 E. Richards St.; [5. Four Seasons Chinese Restaurant](#), (12/31/2025), Restaurant, 1020 E. Richards St.; [6. Barkandi Inc.](#), dba Indian Curry House (1/20/2026), Retail, 1450 Riverbend Dr.; [7. 5 Rivers Inc.](#), dba Plains Restaurant and Bar, (1/13/2026), Retail, 528 E. Richards St.; [8. Homax Oil Sales Inc.](#) dba Sunset Liquor, (12/2/2025), Retail, 1117 W. Yellowstone Hwy; [9. Kota LLC](#), dba White Wolf Saloon, (1/6/2026), Retail, 318 E Center St.; [10. Los Espinos Inc.](#), dba La Costa Mexican Restaurant, (1/15/2026), Restaurant, 1213 Teton Way; [11. Moose Lodge #602](#), (1/9/2026), Limited Retail/Fraternal Club, 122 N. 2nd St.; [12. P&Z Inc.](#), dba Double D Liquors, (1/20/2026), Retail, 323 E. Center St.; [13. Pinz LLC](#) dba House of Pinz, (1/20/2026), Retail, 116 N. 3rd St.; [14. 307 Horse Racing LLC](#) dba 307 Horse Racing, (1/20/2026), Bar & Grill, 1793 Muirfield Ct; [15. Round Rock Entertainment LLC](#), dba LaBonte Bar, (12/9/2025), Retail, 206 Walnut; [16. Samuel Mares Post Number](#)

[8](#), dba The American Legion, (1/20/2026), Limited Retail/Veterans Club, 6th & Oak; [17. TBK Club LLC](#) dba Douglas Community Club 19th Tee, (1/21/2026), Retail, 64 Golf Course Rd.; [18. Three Boys Inc.](#), dba The Waterhole, (1/20/2026), Retail, 811 S. 9th St.; [19. Underwood Ventures Inc.](#), dba Northgate Liquor & Lounge, (1/20/2026), Retail, 711 N. 4th St.; [20. Ramos Café LLC](#), dba Ramos Café, (1/14/2026), Bar & Grill, 206 E Walnut St.; [21. Douglas Lodging Investors LLC](#), dba Homewood Suites by Hilton, (12/8/2025), Retail, 25 Cynch Loop; [22. Los Molcajetes Mexican Grill, LLC](#) dba Si Señor, (1/19/2026), Restaurant, 1840 E Richards St.

- b. **Resolution 2026-13: A Resolution Authorizing a Conditional Use Permit to BLS Properties LLC to Allow the Short-Term Rental of a Dwelling in a R-3 Limited Mixed Residential Zoning District at 900 North 6th Street (Dorothy-Diane Addition, Lot 5).**

Mayor Pexton opened the public hearing at 5:29 pm. Director Chaffin provided an overview. Applicant Hillary Brown answered questions from council. Public comment in favor or opposition: None. Closed public hearing at 5:33 pm. Councilmember McNare moved to approve resolution 2026-13 with the additional requirement of the sex offender checks. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Council Action Items

- a. **Resolution 2026-15: A Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Level II Grant Application to the Wyoming Water Development Commission for the Purpose of the Investigation and Development of a Wellfield that is Non-tributary to the North Platte River System**

Chief Water/Wastewater Operator Oberlander provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to approve resolution 2026-15 as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. **Pawnbrokers License Renewal: Douglas Pawn**

City Clerk Litzsinger provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve renewing the Douglas Pawn pawnbrokers license for the term March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. **The 112: Change Order No. 1**

City Manager Cox provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve change order no. 1 in the amount of \$39,699 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 5-0.

d. Change Order: Douglas Community Center - Advanced Geotechnical Services Construction Materials Testing

Geof Graham, NV5, provided an overview. Councilmember McNare moved to approve the change order of \$52,745 to increase total not to exceed to \$101,715 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 5-0.

e. Douglas Community Center: Dedication Sign Approval

Councilmember McNare moved to approve the proposed dedication sign. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 3-2, with Councilmembers Hershberger and Weeks voting against.

f. Grant: Wyoming Division of Victim Services

Chief Byerly provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to approve the Douglas Police Department's application for grant funding through the Wyoming Division of Victim Services. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0.

g. Policy Revision: Drug and Alcohol Policy

Director Carter provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve the revised policy in section O of Chapter VII in the Human Resources Policy and Procedures Manual as presented. Seconded by Councilmember McNare. Motion carried 5-0.

h. Retail Coach: Renewal Agreement

City Manager Cox provided an overview. Councilmember McNare moved to TABLE the 2nd amendment to the Retail Coach Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Financial Report

None.

12. Public Comments

None.

13. City Manager's Report

City Manager Cox provided a report on current happenings.

14. Council Information

a. Aid To Others Quarterly Reports: The Gathering Place (Q1 & Q2)

b. Minutes - Douglas Historic Preservation Commission: February 18, 2026

15. Circle Back Recap

City Clerk Litzsinger provided the circle back recap.

16. Good People Doing Good Things

Mayor Pexton gave a shout-out to Ben and Bonnie Jordan who donate two tickets every Cowgirls game. Councilmember Hershberger gave a kudos to Serve Douglas.

17. Community Update

a. Event Calendar

A video highlighting upcoming events was played.

18. Executive Session

19. Adjourn

Mayor Pexton called for a motion to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember McNare moved to adjourn the regular city council meeting of February 23, 2026. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-1, Councilmember Hershberger voting against. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:39 PM.

Kim Pexton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Devon Litzsinger, City Clerk

Published: