

City Council Regular Minutes
March 23, 2026

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

Mayor Pexton called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. 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; Todd Byerly, Chief of Police; John Harbarger, Public Works Director; Mary Nicol, Administrative Services Director/Treasurer; Michele Carter, Human Resources Director; Brandon Fry, Parks and Recreation Director and Linda Doane, Deputy City Clerk. Mayor Pexton led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Disclosures by City Council Members

None.

3. Approval of General Agenda (Corrections or Additions)

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve the General Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Leadership Moment

Mayor Pexton provided a Leadership Moment.

5. Public Comments

Mike Hagemann expressed concerns regarding Retail Coach and repaving the streets, had questions regarding the Pump House at Seven Trails, and requested a TIF historical comparison. Pat Nelson mentioned a vehicle incident involving a CSO. Vicky Weiss commented on code enforcement being stagnant despite having two CSOs. Michael Hollenback commented on the roadwork affecting small businesses, water concerns and asked if the development projects are considered affordable housing.

6. Executive Session (15 Minutes)

Councilmember Hershberger moved to recess into executive session for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, right to practice, dismissal, complaints or charges against a public officer, professional person or employee, in accordance with W.S. §16-4-405(a)(ii). Seconded by Councilmember McNare. Motion carried 5-0. Councilmember Schmidt moved to return from the executive session. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Approval of Consent Docket

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

a. Minutes

Council Work Shop: March 9, 2026

Regular Council Meeting: March 9, 2026

b. Other – Consent

Ordinance No. 1068: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5.16 of Douglas Municipal Code Pertaining to Alcohol Server Certification - Requirements, 2nd Reading

8. Discussion Items

a. Railroad Museum (5 Minutes)

Morryah McCurdy, *The Enterprise*, and Jenna Rose, *Douglas Railroad Museum*, presented information regarding future funding requests for the Douglas Railroad Museum.

b. City Hall Security: Update (5 Minutes)

Deputy City Clerk Doane provided an update.

9. Presentations

a. Promotion: Brandon Frye, Parks and Recreation Director (5 Minutes)

City Manager Cox introduced Brandon Frye as the Parks and Recreation Director.

b. Main Street Douglas: Jacey & Eber (5 Minutes)

Jacey Bauman and Eber Rodriguez, *Main Street Douglas*, and Morryah McCurdy, *The Enterprise*, provided a report.

c. Arts & Culture Board: Jenna Rose (5 Minutes)

Jenna Rose, *Arts & Culture Board of Trustees*, provided a report.

d. Douglas Community Center Update: Geoff Graham (5 Minutes)

Geoff Graham, *NV5*, provided an update.

e. Water Update: Ben Jordan (5 Minutes)

Ben Jordan, *Forsgren & Associates*, provided an update.

10. Tabled Items

a. Lease Agreement: City of Douglas and Douglas Broadcasting

Councilmember McNare moved to remove Lease Agreement with Douglas Broadcasting from the table. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0. City Manager Cox provided an overview. Dennis Switzer, *KKTY*, answered questions from Council. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve the lease agreement with Douglas Broadcasting and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Council Action Items

a. City Manager Search: Consultant Contract

City Attorney Armstrong provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to approve the Consultant Contract as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-1. Councilmember Weeks voted against.

b. Memorandum Of Understanding: Converse County School District #1 - Swimming Pool Operations (5 Minutes)

Director Frye presented an overview. Councilmember McNare moved to accept the Pool Operations Agreement between the City of Douglas and Converse County Rec. District #1 and authorized the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 5-0.

c. URA Development Agreement: Seven Trails (20 Minutes)

City Manager Cox provided an overview. Mark Christensen and Andrea Perdue, *AVI*, and Nate Stencil, *Stencil Group*, provided a presentation. Citizen Aaron Lore expressed a desire to continue building. Councilmember McNare moved to approve the URA Development Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-1. Councilmember Weeks voted against.

12. Financial Report

a. Financial Report: February 2026 (5 Minutes)

Director Nicol provided an overview.

13. Public Comments

Mike Hagemann commented on available housing in the community and not having detailed written meeting minutes. Heather Maxwell thanked the Council. Vicki Weiss thanked the Council and Police Department and asked if

Commissioner/Council meetings were open to the public.

14. City Manager's Report

City Manager Cox provided a report on current happenings. Mayor Pexton presented City Manager Cox with a recognition plaque for his service to the City.

15. Council Information

Councilmember McNare requested City Attorney Armstrong review the truck route ordinance regarding where trucks can go for service. Councilmember Hershberger asked citizens to reach out to council or staff when they have questions. Councilmember Weeks questioned if the public comments from the meetings were being responded to.

- a. **Notice of Possible Quorum: March 25, 2026, 2:00 P.M., City Hall, 101 N. 4th St.**
- b. **Notice of Possible Quorum: April 10, 2026, 5:00 P.M., Moose Lodge, 120 N. 2nd St.**

16. Circle Back Recap

Deputy City Clerk Doane provided the circleback recap.

17. Good People Doing Good Things

Councilmember Hershberger gave a shout-out to Stacey Popping for administering the "Choice Gas" vouchers. Councilmembers Hershberger and Weeks commended Kim Hiser for working to provide transportation to Casper for dialysis patients. Councilmember Weeks praised Converse County Bank for their friendliness.

18. Community Update

a. Event Calendar

A video highlighting upcoming events was played.

19. Adjourn

Mayor Pexton called for a motion to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember Hershberger moved to Adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember McNare. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 P.M.

Kim Pexton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Devon Litzsinger, City Clerk
Published: April 1, 2026