

City Council Regular Minutes
July 27, 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, Perry Hershberger, Matthew Schmidt, Joel Weeks. Also present: Michele Carter, Interim City Manager/Human Resources Director; Mike Armstrong, City Attorney; Clara Chaffin, Community Development Director; Devon Litzsinger, City Clerk; Todd Mathews, Interim Chief of Police; Avery Cowardin, Interim Lieutenant.; John Harbarger, Public Works Director; Mary Nicol, Administrative Services Director/Treasurer; Brandon Frye, Parks and Recreation Director; and Jacob Marcus, Community Center Manager.

2. Disclosures by City Council Members

None.

3. Approval of General Agenda (Corrections or Additions)

Councilmember Weeks moved to approve the general agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Leadership Moment

None.

5. Public Comments

Doyle Davis requested Council keep the stop signs at 5th & Center streets. Mike Hagemann spoke on the community center, requested the Council remove the stop signs at 5th & Center St, and Richards St flood concerns. Shea Burke spoke on an ordinance for sexual predators at public pools and parks. Noah Milmont spoke on pool predators and water restrictions.

6. Approval of Consent Docket

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve the consent docket as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 4-0.

a. Minutes

Special Call: July 13, 2026

Regular Meeting: July 13, 2026

Special Call: July 17, 2026

b. Bills & Claims

Warrant Register: June 2026

c. Other – Consent

7. Presentations

a. New Employee: Joseph Cowan - Maintenance Worker II Streets and Alleys

Interim City Manager Carter introduced Joseph Cowan as the Maintenance Worker II Streets and Alleys.

b. New Employee: George Laird - Maintenance Worker II Streets and Alleys

Interim City Manager Carter introduced George Laird as the Maintenance Worker II Streets and Alleys.

c. Service Thank You: Lieutenant Todd Matthews

Interim City Manager Carter thanked Lieutenant Todd Matthews for 36 years of service.

8. Tabled Items

a. Bar & Grill Liquor License: Princess Movie Theater

Councilmember Hershberger moved to remove bar & grill liquor license: Princess Movie Theater from the table. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 4-0. Mayor Pexton opened the public hearing at 4:21 pm. City Clerk Litzsinger provided an overview. Public comment in favor or opposition: Sara Borton answered questions from Council. Closed public hearing at 4:26 pm. Councilmember Hershberger moved to approve a bar & grill liquor license to Princess Movie Theater. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-0.

9. Discussion Items

a. Community Center: Operations

Parks & Recreation Director Frye and Jacob Marcus, Community Center Manager, provided an overview and answered questions from Council.

b. Community Center: Xeric Sod

Parks & Recreation Director Frye provided an overview.

c. Council Member: Compensation

Interim City Manager Carter led a discussion. Councilmember Weeks spoke.

d. N 9th St: Alley

Councilmember Hershberger led a discussion.

e. SS4A: Resolution Draft Guidance

Director Chaffin, along with Aubrey Thomas, *Ayres & Associates*, led a discussion.

10. Public Hearing

a. Resolution 2026-32: A Resolution Authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for Mckenzie Burgener to Operate a Pre-School in an R-1 Neighborhood Residential Zone at 999 Eagle Drive (Meadowlark Trails, Lot 8)

Mayor Pexton opened the public hearing at 5:22 pm. Director Chaffin provided an overview. Public comment in favor or opposition: None. Closed public hearing at 5:26 pm. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve resolution no. 2026-32 as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-0.

11. Tabled Items

a. Ordinance 1070: An Ordinance Amending Section 16.5.5 of the Douglas Municipal Code Pertaining to Landscaping, Buffering, and Screening

No action taken. Item remains tabled.

12. Council Action Items

a. Stop Signs: 5th & Center

Interim City Manager Carter provided an overview. Discussion was had. Commissioner Kaufman provided insight on the hospital parking. No action taken, item died due to lack of motion.

b. Approval of Legal Services: Contract

Interim City Manager Carter provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to approve the contract for professional legal services with Williams, Porter, Day, & Neville, P.C. as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 4-0.

c. Audit Engagement Letter: FY 2526

Director Nicol provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to authorize the audit engagement letter from Carver, Florek, & James, LLC for audit services for fiscal year 2526 in the amount of \$47,000 as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-0.

d. Bid Award: 2027 1/2 Ton Crew Cab Pickup 4x4

Director Harbarger provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to accept the bid from Greiner Ford of Casper for 2027 Ford 1/2-ton Crew Cab 4x4 pickup in the amount of \$52,549.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 4-0.

e. Bid Award: 4WD UTV with Snow Plow

Director Harbarger provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to accept the bid from Stotz Equipment of Casper for John Deere UTV in the amount of \$35,700.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Weeks. Motion carried 4-0.

f. Bid Award: Two 2027 Specified Police Package SUV's

Director Harbarger provided an overview. Councilmember Weeks moved to accept the bid from Fremont Motors for two 2027 interceptor SUVs in the amount of \$94,804.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-0.

g. Bid Award: Fork Lift

Director Harbarger provided an overview. Councilmember Hershberger moved to accept the bid from Octane Forklifts for new forklift in the amount of \$30,307.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign all associated documents. Seconded by Councilmember Schmidt. Motion carried 4-0.

13. Financial Report

a. Sales Tax Report: July 2026

Director Nicol provided an overview.

14. Public Comments

Deanna Brow spoke on the community center and sexual predators. Shea Burke spoke on the freedom of movement. Aaron Lore provided comments on community center costs and roundabouts. Noah Milmont discusses community center fees.

15. Council Information

Mayor Pexton noted the addition of notice of possible quorum, August 5, 2026, 7 am, MHCC Boardroom. Councilmember Hershberger discussed raw water lines and the fence at the pool. Councilmember Schmidt asked for river status update emails to continue and discussed the community center workshop. Councilmember Weeks asked for email updates on the flow from the springline and wells. He also asked the pickleball courts be monitored. Councilmember Hershberger questioned Parks & Recreation Director Frye about the need for additional staff.

a. **Aid-To-Others Quarterly Report: Boys & Girls Club, Children's Advocacy Project, Douglas Community Club & Golf Course, Laramie Peak Humane Society, Main Street Douglas, The Gathering, Wyoming State Fair Foundation, Youth Development Services**

b. **Minutes: Planning & Zoning Commission July 20, 2026.**

16. Circle Back Recap

City Clerk Litzsinger provided the circle back recap.

17. Good People Doing Good Things

Councilmember Weeks applauded city staff for wearing their seatbelts. Councilmember Hershberger shared Maria Webber's post about helping a citizen find her way home. Councilmember Schmidt gave a shout-out to Water/Wastewater Supervisor Oberlander for his work.

18. Community Update

a. Event Calendar

A video highlighting upcoming events was played.

19. Executive Session

20. Adjourn

Councilmember Weeks moved to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of July 27, 2026. Seconded by Councilmember Hershberger. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:18 p.m.

Kim Pexton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Devon Litzsinger, City Clerk
Published: August 5, 2026