

REGULAR MEETING DE SMET COMMON COUNCIL

July 8, 2026

The De Smet Common Council met in regular session on July 8, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., with the following present: Council members, George Cavanaugh, Bret Jensen, Dustin McCune, Pam Spader, Mykel Anderson, Lowell Hansen, Mayor Gary Wolkow, Finance Officer Tracey Larson, City Attorney Todd Wilkinson, and incoming council member Brady Anderson. Absent: None.

Mayor Gary Wolkow called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The meeting started with the council and those from the public reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Wolkow thanked everyone who helped make the Old Settler Days in June another success and thanked the City staff who helped clean up trees after the storm last week.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve the minutes of June 8, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, all voting aye, motion carried.

CLAIMS: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Jensen, to approve paying the claims as presented, all voting aye, motion carried. The claims are as follows: PAYROLL \$59,774.94; OASI Benefit 4,572.77; Aflac, ins. premium 95.03; Madison National, life insurance 24.00; Delta Dental of South Dakota 471.92; VSP 159.60; The Health Pool of SD, health insurance 7,657.26; SDRS, retirement benefit 4,328.82; Mediacom, utilities 122.20; Visa, supplies, utilities, travel 711.42; AMG-Avera Occupational Medicine, drug testing 75.40; Anderson Lumber, repairs & supplies 709.67; Andrew Williams deposit refund 30.00; ARS A Tecta American Company, roof inspections 1,341.00; Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital, drug testing 102.00; Avid Hawk, monthly website fee 60.00; Center Point Large Print, books 109.08; Chantelle Kremer, lifeguard certification class 250.00; City of De Smet, utilities 1,395.70; City of De Smet, supplies & postage 25.04; TwoTrees Technologies, off-site backup software 79.42; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, City Garbage Services 327.90; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, garbage collection 7,325.30; CR Corner, fuel 2,705.66; CR Mechanical, replace city hall air conditioner 7,627.65; Dakota Data Shred, record destruction 169.58; Dakota Pump, repair & maint 1,782.07; De Smet Chamber, car show trophies 400.00; De Smet Trustworthy Hardware, supplies & repair, 64.54; Demco, library supplies 102.83; ; Department of Health, water labs 56.00; Duininck, patch mix 4,396.00; Efraimson Electric, water tower lights 11,883.75; Garden Gate, flower barrels & supplies 1,245.99; Hawkins, water chemicals 20.00; Innovative Office Solutions, supplies 562.72; Jenni Ransom, reimburse for supplies 53.44; Jenny Todd, reimburse books & supplies 480.63; Ken Biteler, meter deposit refund 25.00; Kingsbury Electric, museum lights 724.48; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, maint contract 220.00; Kingsbury County Auditor, law enforcement contract 6,933.33; Kingsbury Electric, utilities 164.20; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, utilities 211.75; Kingsbury Journal, ec marketing 150.00; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 779.50; Kingsbury Journal, library publishing 126.00; Kramer Mechanical, rooftop unit inspections 1,769.48; Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant, marketing 550.00; Lillyanna

Wagner, deposit refund 355.00; LIW Memorial Society, deposit refund 100.00; Maynards De Smet, library supplies 507.81; Maynards, supplies 1,226.55; MC&R Pool, supplies 405.72; Melanie Bachellet, meter deposit refund 125.00; Michael Bradfield, meter deposit refund 150.00; Micro Marketing, books 410.51; Monte Albrecht, deposit refund 355.00; O'Keefe Implement, repair & supplies 632.52; Office Peeps, library supplies 80.85; Office Peeps, supplies 595.21; Olsons Pest Technicians, pest control 75.00; Pheasantland Industries, safety clothing 349.46; Postmaster, supplies 234.00; SD Dept of Revenue, rec sales tax 862.72; SD Dept of Revenue, garbage sales tax 507.62; SDML-Affiliates, HR & FO school registration 150.00; Socially Untapped, marketing 200.00; The Road Guy Construction, chip sealing 84,002.10; Thein Well, annual inspection of well #8 219.39; Tom Gehm, meter deposit refund 150.00; Tracey Larson, reimburse for supplies 157.14; US Bank, 3rd street loan pmt 2,666.22; US Bank, water looping loan pmt 4,043.31; Ottertail Power Company, utilities 4855.47; Valley Fibercom, utilities 510.64; WRD Dakota, park playground swings 676.50; Imeg, Main Street project - water 11,049.00; Efraimson Electric, Well #9 equipment 11,763.00; Northwestern, utilities 118.41; Ottertail utilities 6,064.53; SD Dept. of Labor, supplies 35.67.

INSURANCE CLAIM: City Attorney, Todd Wilkinson, informed the council and public that he has communicated with the insurance company adjuster that the claim is being processed. Amanda Fields stated that homeowners have until July 10, 2026, to return their documents and hope to know what happened someday.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAIN STREET & SHERWOOD PROJECTS: Karen DeGeest, Engineer for IMEG met with the council to discuss infrastructure projects and Sherwood project updates. Engineer DeGeest reported that the Main Street ribbon cutting was held on June 13, 2026, Halme Inc. was given a punch list of items to be complete on June 23, 2026, and several meetings have been held to address some of the concrete that is cracking. A resolution for the cracked concrete has not been agreed upon yet. DeGeest explained Change Order #11 in the amount of \$1,618.00 was for billed items used and credit for items that were not used. Pay App #12 in the amount of \$192,961.56 was explained is for retainage and would reduce the amount of retainage to \$86,630.00. The Council was informed that the Pay App #12 could not be approved due to the pay request not being signed by the contractor or engineer. Warranty work for the 2nd Street & Chase Street Project needs to be completed by July 31, 2026, tree removal is still being discussed, and preparing a dollar value for punch list items. A proposal agreement for IMEG to complete Emergency Discharge Procedure Development in the amount of \$3,000.00 was presented to the council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Jensen, to approve going into executive session at 5:21 pm to discuss contracts and potential litigation, all voting aye, motion carried. Mayor Wolkow declared the council out of executive session at 6:00 pm.

CHANGE ORDER #11: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve Change Order #11 - Calumet Avenue Project in the amount of \$1,618.00 for quantity adjustments for the Calumet Ave. Project, all voting aye, motion carried.

PROJECT PAYMENTS: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve the project pay requests - IMEG, pay request, pay request #14, Water Main Street project \$11,049.00, all voting aye, motion carried. Airport project payments are reimbursed 95% by Federal and State grant funds.

WASTEWATER EMERGENCY DISCHARGE PROCEDURE AGREEMENT: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by McCune, to approve signing the Wastewater Emergency Discharge Procedure Agreement in the amount of \$3,000 with IMEG, all voting aye, motion carried.

WATER STUDY: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve Helms and Associates submitting the completed water study to be placed on the State Water Plan, all voting aye, motion carried.

AIRPORT PROJECT AMENDMENT: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve the Airport Apron & Taxiway Project Amendment to include updating the airport property inventory maps services for an additional \$51,693.56, all voting aye, motion carried.

SURPLUS PROPERTY APPRAISALS: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Spader, to approve the appraisals submitted as follows: 7' 3-point rotary mower with new blades \$2,000.00, 1998 Green Ford F150 Pickup 6 cylinder with approximately 118,044 miles \$1,200.00, 2016 Country Clipper Box XL35 HP with 60" deck mower with approximately 820 hours \$1,200.00, 1979 Onan Generator on trailer with approximately 220 hours \$1,000.00, and the reappraisal for the 1988 Chevy Pumper Truck with fire apparatus with approximately 3,090 miles \$4,000.00, and to advertise the items for sale by sealed bids to be opened at the August 12, 2026 Regular Council meeting, all voting aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mark Siefkes stated that the City is only charging \$10.00 for camping and the streetlight on the highway is making the mowing take longer and is a hazard.

COUNCIL THANK YOU: Council members Lowell Hansen and Pam Spader were presented with certificates by Mayor Wolkow thanking them for their years of service on the City Council.

ADJOURN: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by McCune, to adjourn as the old council, all voting aye, motion carried.

Mayor Wolkow declared the council back in session.

COUNCIL REORGANIZATION: The July meeting being the reorganization meeting, the Oath of Office was administered by City Attorney Todd Wilkinson to Brady Anderson - Alderman Ward I (2-year term), Brian Fischer - Ward II (1-year term), and George Cavanaugh - Ward III (1-year term).

The July meeting being the reorganization meeting for the Council, motion was made by Cavanaugh, to nominate Bret Jensen for the position of Council President, motion was seconded by Anderson, all voting aye, motion carried.

Motion was made by Cavanaugh to nominate Dustin McCune for the position of Council Vice-President, seconded by Jensen, all voting aye, motion carried.

APPOINTED OFFICIALS: Nominations were made by Mayor Wolkow to appoint Tracey Larson as Finance Officer, and Todd Wilkinson as City Attorney, Motion by Cavanaugh, seconded by M. Anderson, that the appointive offices for the year 2026-2027 shall be filled as follows: Tracey Larson reappointed as Finance Officer, and Todd Wilkinson reappointed as City Attorney, all voted aye, motion carried.

HOUSING STUDY: Suzanne Smith, Augustana Research introduced herself to the council. Smith will be working on a housing study for De Smet. The last housing study was completed six years ago. A resident survey will be available on-line or on paper. The Housing Study is an

important process to complete and offers valuable information when applying for grants and loans.

SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSES: Three applications for a special liquor license were submitted by Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III, for July 11, 2026, from 5:00 pm - 1:00 am, August 1, 2026, from 5:00 pm - 1:00 am, and August 8, 2026, from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am, all events to be held at the De Smet Event Center. Motion was made by McCune, seconded by M. Anderson, to approve the special liquor licenses to Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III, for July 11, 2026, from 5:00 pm - 1:00 am, August 1, 2026 from 5:00 pm - 1:00 am, and August 8, 2026 from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am, all events to be held at the De Smet Event Center, all voting aye, motion carried.

LIQUOR VENDOR: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve Dakota Beverage, Sioux Falls, as an approved liquor vendor, all voting aye, motion carried.

BUILDING and DEMO PERMITS: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by M. Anderson, to approve the building permit application submitted by DeSCO Architectural, Inc. by Jim Girard for a lean-to, concrete, and loading dock, and demo permit applications submitted by Brady Anderson for removal of a house and unattached garage, and James Jesser for the removal of an unattached garage, all voting aye, motion carried.

KINGBROOK NOTICE OF INTENT TO PROVIDE WATER: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve signing the Kingbrook Notice of intent to provide water to George and Cindy Cavanaugh's new residence that will be located outside of city limits, all voting aye, motion carried.

AERIAL SPRAYING PERMIT: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the 2026 aerial spraying permit submitted by Fast Ag Air, all voting aye, motion carried.

RECORD DESTRUCTION: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve destroying the listed records presented, all voting aye, motion carried.

WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENTS: Jason Springer, Water & Sewer Superintendent reported to the council that the annual inspection of Well #8 had been completed. The well is not pumping as many gallons of water per minute in comparison to the inspection completed in 2025. The City will need to budget the rehab for Well #8 in the 2027 budget. Supt. Springer presented a quote from Halme construction to do the piping for the new Well #9 in the amount of \$42,971.00 and a quote from Efraimson Electric in the amount of \$47,052.00 for electric work on Well #9. Supt Springer reported that the heating and cooling in the Fire Hall needs to be replaced. Two quotes were obtained as follows: CR Mechanical LLC \$37,357.32, and Kramer Mechanical \$39,936.00.

WELL #9: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve and sign the quote in the amount of \$42,971.00 from Halme, Inc. to do the piping for Well #9, all voting aye, motion carried. Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Fischer, to approve and sign the quote in the amount of \$47,052.00 from Efraimson Electric to do the wiring for Well #9, all voting aye, motion carried.

FIRE HALL HEATING & COOLING: Motion was made by M. Anderson, seconded by B. Anderson, to hire CR Mechanical, LLC in the amount of \$37,357.32 to replace the Fire Hall heating and cooling, all voting aye, motion carried.

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES/NEWSPAPER: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to designate the American Bank & Trust and Dakotaland Federal Credit Union as the official depositories, and The

Kingsbury Journal as the official newspaper, all voting aye, motion carried.

COMMITTEES/APPOINTMENTS: The Mayor presented the Alderman Committee appointments as follows: Streets & Alleys: Bret Jensen, George Cavanaugh, Dustin McCune; Water & Sewer: Mykel Anderson, Brady Anderson; Parks/City Buildings/Museum/Library: George Cavanaugh, Dustin McCune, Brian Fischer; Law Enforcement Board: Gary Wolkow, Mykel Anderson; Fire Department: Brady Anderson, Gary Wolkow, Mykel Anderson; Hospital: George Cavanaugh, Gary Wolkow, Brian Fischer; Budget & Finance: Bret Jensen, George Cavanaugh, Brian Fischer; Garbage & Restricted Use Site: Bret Jensen, Brady Anderson, Dustin McCune; Airport: Brady Anderson, Dustin McCune, Mykel Anderson; Zoning Officers: Dustin McCune, Gary Wolkow, Bret Jensen, Brady Anderson; Zoning Board: Bret Jensen, Mykel, George Cavanaugh, Dustin McCune, Brady Anderson, Gary Wolkow, Brian Fischer; Safety Committee: George Cavanaugh, Bret Jensen, Brian Fischer; Tree Board: Brady Anderson, Jason Springer. Motion was made by McCune, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Alderman Committees as presented, approve appointment of Judy Wilt to the Museum Board; Lynn Beck to the De Smet Housing & Redevelopment Board; Daryn Warne to the Fire Department Board; Bret Jensen to the Hospital Advisory Board; Delmer Wolkow, Chris Bjorkman, Skye Thomsen, and Grace Aughenbaugh to the Event Center Advisory Board and Brady Anderson to the Tree Board, all voting aye, motion carried.

VOLUNTEERS: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Fischer, to approve the following individuals as Museum volunteers: Gale Anderson, Billie Baird, Dee Baker, Jeanie Colwell, Deb Hafey, Barb Hansen, Jeff Hed, Roxene Helms, Sharry Knock, Kathy Ostrander, Suzanne Roeder, Sheila Smith, LeAnn Stofferson, Will Ward, Candy Weller, and Safa Bendorf; and the following individuals as Event Center volunteers: Dee Baker, Janice Doll, Merle Klinkel, Mike Frey, Lynn Beck, Judy Wolkow, Skye Thompson, Gordy Skyberg, Bernie Stoel, Mavis Stoel, Greg Skyberg, Arlys Skyberg, Glenda Haines, Joleen Schultz, Connie Kruse, and Bonnie Menzel, the following individuals as Fire Department volunteers: Jake Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Mykel Anderson, Shon Asleson, Nathaniel Bendorf, Mark Birkel, Rob Cleveland, Preston Collier, Dane Coughlin, Matt Currier, Curt Eichacker, Cameron Garry, Ryan Griffith, Nick Henrich, Lane Hildebrandt, Mark Hojer, Matthew Hojer, Austin Janssen, Austin May, Dustin McCune, Cole Munger, Tate Munger, Derek Sprang, Jason Springer, Jake Vincent, Darin Warne, Kristopher Warne, Mikel Warne, Michael Warner, and Shawn Wolkow, all voting aye, motion carried.

DE SMET DEVELOPMENT CORP: Grace Aughenbaugh, Executive Director for the De Smet Development Corporation, reported that there has been a lot of media attention on De Smet. There have been over 4,000 De Smet Community Guides handed out this year. Aughenbaugh and three other people were in Chamberlain at the visitor center to promote De Smet; the Development Corporation continues to look into housing development; Aughenbaugh is working with the Boys & Girls Club out of Brookings in regard to partnering to bring childcare options to De Smet; the Trail Project committee will be applying for grant funding for the Trail Project; and The Locker is booking appointments for 2026 and 2027.

Council member McCune left at this time.

CONFERENCE: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve Jason Springer attending the 2026 Annual Water Conference in Aberdeen, September 15-18, 2026, all voting aye, motion carried.

OVERTIME: Motion by Cavanaugh, seconded by Fischer, to approve the overtime hours for the month of June as presented, all voted aye, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion was made by Fischer, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve the June 2026 Cash Balances Report, all voting aye, motion carried.

OTHER: Other non-action items of discussion were as follows: 1) the June law enforcement report; and 2) the water allocation permit meeting in Pierre on July 8, 2026.

ADJOURN: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Jensen, seconded by Fischer, all voting aye, motion carried.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

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