

REGULAR MEETING DE SMET COMMON COUNCIL

March 11, 2026

The De Smet Common Council met in regular session on March 11, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., with the following present: Council members, George Cavanaugh, Bret Jensen, Dane Coughlin (via speaker phone), Lowell Hansen, Pam Spader, Mayor Gary Wolkow arriving later in the meeting, Finance Officer Tracey Larson, and City Attorney Todd Wilkinson. Absent: none.

Mayor Wolkow called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Congratulations to the Boys' Basketball Team advancing to State, and congratulations to the Girls' Basketball Team on their advancement to the SoDak16 Tournament.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve the minutes of February 11, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes, all voting aye, motion carried.

CLAIMS: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve paying the claims as presented, all voting aye, motion carried. The claims are as follows: PAYROLL \$34,578.96; OASI Benefit 2,645.29; Aflac, ins. premium 95.03; Dearborn National, life insurance 88.00; Madison National, life insurance 72.00 Delta Dental of South Dakota 471.92; VSP 159.60; The Health Pool of SD, health insurance premium 7,657.26; SDRS, retirement benefit 3,915.94; VISA, Event Center supplies 477.89; SD Municipal League, District Mtg. registration 100.00; ANCO Wireless, tower antenna repair & maint 1,1809.80; Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital, drug testing 204.00; Avid Hawk, monthly website fee 35.00; Betz Blinds, repair & maint 175.00; Book Systems, annual system renewal & supplies 1,455.00; City of De Smet, utilities 674.53; City of De Smet, supplies & postage 19.95; City of De Smet, deposits toward outstanding bill 150.00; TwoTrees Technologies, off-site backup, supplies, and software 79.42; Continental Western Group, equipment prem 998.00; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, city garbage collection 327.90; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, residential garbage collection 6,755.58; CR Corner, fuel 169.00; Dakota Pump, well #8 repair & maint 1,001.96; De Smet Development Corp, March contribution 18,000.00; De Smet Trustworthy Hardware, supplies 73.30; Delano Gross, meter deposit refund 25.00; Department of Health, water labs 76.00; Duininck, patch mix 2,252.25; Elo CPS & Advisors, audit fees 15,507.40; Ferguson Waterworks #2516, meters 1,772.59; Gumdrop Books, books 686.00; Hawkins, water chemicals 1024.66; KDLT, event center marketing 75.00; Kierra Hiter, deposit refund 30.00; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, repair & maint 88.71; Kingbury Electric Cooperative, maint contract 220.00; Kingsbury County Auditor, law enforcement contract 6,933.33; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, utilities 798.65; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 465.12; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 42.00; Klinton Weets, replace deposit refund 40.00; Kristy Hubbard, reimburse for supplies 38.32; KSFY, marketing 140.00; KSFY.COM, marketing 1100.00; Lauren Doyle, deposit refund 50.00; Lyle Signs, supplies 26.95; Maynards De Smet, supplies 43.96; Mediacom, utilities 122.20; Michael Parry, deposit refund 275.00;

Micro Marketing, books 568.58; Napa De Smet, supplies 16.98; Northwest Pipe Fittings, repair & maint 231.90; Northwestern, utilities 1,427.76; O'Keefe Implement, repairs & supplies 50.37; ODLT, marketing 255.00; Office Peeps, library copier contract 66.14; Office Peeps, supplies & office copier contract 357.43; OSFY, marketing 30.00; Ottertail Power Company, utilities 7687.39; Pam Gutzmer, deposit refund 50.00; Division of Agricultural Service, supplies 35.00; SD Federal Property Agency, supplies 202.00; Share Corp, supplies 246.61; Socially Untapped, marketing 400.00; Steve Weerts, deposit refund 50.00; The Main Stop, fuel 240.84; The Penworthy Company, books 170.75; Valley Fibercom, utilities 390.62; Wayne Nichols, meter deposit refund 150.00; WW Tire Service, repairs & maint 30.00; Helms & Associates, airport apron project design 5,280.01; Imeg, Main Street sewer project 8,424.00; Imeg, Main Street water project 7,366.00.

SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSES: Two applications for special liquor licenses were submitted by Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III, for March 27, 2026, at the De Smet Event Center from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am; and April 25, 2026, at the De Smet Legion Hall from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm. Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve two special liquor licenses to Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III for March 27, 2026, from 5:00 - 12:00 am at the De Smet Event Center; and on April 25, 2026 at the De Smet Legion Hall from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, all voting aye, motion carried.

AMANDA FIELDS: Amanda Fields representing her and her husband David, inquired into the status of the backup that occurred at their residence on August 17, 2025. Fields was informed that an email was received stating that the insurance company is still waiting for two property owners to submit their expenses. The smoke testing to be conducted by Rural Water Association has been scheduled for March 31, 2026.

MARK & LINDA HARRIS: Mark & Linda Harris inquired about the status of the neighbor that had built an addition that they feel is over the property line onto their property. DOT maps have been obtained so now the lot can be measured.

DALE THOMSEN: Dale Thomsen met with the council to show them two samples of water taken when he drained his water heater and expressed the importance of draining and flushing of water heaters to prevent damage to the heating elements and wondered about a public notice to remind property owners to drain and flush their water heaters.

RODEO AREANA: Maggie Sprang and Steve Wienk met with the council to discuss the development of an arena. They are looking for a place for kids to practice for 4H. The landowner would lease five acres of land for 50 years. Brian Bindert, Insurance Agent for American Trust Insurance gave an estimate of premium and coverage for one company and was waiting for information from another company.

MAIN STREET COMMITTEE: Grace Aughenbaugh & Rita Anderson, representing the Main Street Committee, to request permission to place a doner's display in front of City Hall; request for the City to pay the electric billing for the beautification additions; and the Main Street Committee has a contributor that will match monetary donations. Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Jensen, to approve the City paying for the electric usage of the beautification additions, all voting aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Patti Ward-Slatter announced that the De Smet Chamber was donating funding to install new banners on the Main Street and side street light poles. A check in the amount of \$1,601.70 was presented to the City. A design reference with two different fonts

was shown to the council for their input. Mark Siefkes thinks that it is discrimination to city residents that they are required streetlight license and out of town people do not; he thinks the survey done for another property adjacent to his is incorrect; and he was told by the DOT that the street light by his property would not shine in his house and would like it turned off.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by McCune to go into executive session to discuss contracts, and litigation at 6.06 pm, all voting aye, motion carried. Mayor Wolkow declared the council out of executive session at 6:47 pm.

CHIP SEAL COATING & CRACK SEALING BIDS: Sealed bids for chip sealing and crack sealing and publicly noticed were opened on March 5, 2026, at 10:30 am, at the De Smet City Hall. Bids received were presented to the council as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Bituminous Paving, Inc.	\$2.99/sq. yard =\$119,600.00
The Road Guy Construction Co., Inc.	\$2.10/sq. yard =\$ 84,000.00

Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve and accept the bid from The Road Guy Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$84,000.00 for chip seal coating, all voting aye, motion carried.

WATER & SEWER: Jason Springer, Supt. of Water & Sewer, informed the council that he has been replacing water meters. He is out of meters and will need three meters for new structures. A grant was inquired for purchasing meters. That grant application will be put on the July agenda of that board. Springer reported that the smoke testing is scheduled for March 31, 2026, he has received a quote in the amount of \$63,139.50 to reline 970 liner feet of sewer main from the company that will be doing the sewer relining for the Main Street water & sewer project, and inquired about asking for quotes for ash tree removal.

WATER METERS: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve purchasing up to an additional \$10,000.00 for water meters, all voting aye, motion carried.

SEWER RELINE: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by McCune, to approve hiring Visu-Sewer to reline 970 liner feet of sewer main in the amount of \$63,139.50, all voting aye, motion carried.

TREE QUOTES: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve asking for quotes for ash tree removal up to a maximum of \$15,000.00, all voting aye, motion carried.

PROJECT PAYMENTS: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve the project pay requests - Helms, pay request #3, airport apron reconstruction project \$5,280.01; IMEG, pay request #9, Main Street Sewer project \$8,424.00; and IMEG, pay request #11, Main Street water project \$7,366.00, all voting aye, motion carried. Airport project payments are reimbursed 95% by Federal and State grant funds.

WATER LEAK ADJUSTMENT: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Jensen, to approve a one-time water leak adjustment request for account #620, adjusting \$701.48 off the water and \$701.48 off the sewer for a 117,500 gallon water leak, all voting aye, motion carried.

LIBRARY: Two library policies were submitted to the council for consideration. The first policy defined the borrower's policy, and the second policy was for reconsideration of library materials. Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Cavanagh, to approve Resolution 2026-1 Hazel L. Meyer Memorial Library Borrower's Policy and Resolution 2026-2 Hazel L. Meyer Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy, all voting aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2026-1

HAZEL L. MEYER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BORROWER'S POLICY

1. It shall be the policy of the Hazel L. Meyer Memorial Library to serve all people of all ages, sex, creed, and color without prejudice.
2. Every individual who enters the library shall be received in a dignified, friendly, cheerful, and courteous manner. Each request shall be given the librarians' greatest possible effort of assistance.
3. Materials in the library shall be loaned free of charge to registered patrons. A registered patron is an individual that is at least 18 years of age, is a resident of the city of De Smet or resides within 20 miles of the city of De Smet, and has signed up for a library number.
4. Individuals younger than 18 years of age may borrow library materials from the Children's Library and the Young Adult section of the library under their parent or guardian who must be a registered patron of the library.
5. At the discretion of the library staff, privileges of the library may be denied a person who consistently abuses the privilege of borrowing. The cost of library materials damaged or lost will be assessed to the last known borrower.
6. Registered patrons may request books and materials through interlibrary loan when not available in the local library. If the librarian is able to secure the requested materials through interlibrary loan, a postal return charge of \$3.00 shall be paid by the patron for each item borrowed.
7. The Registered Patrons' File shall be checked annually and inactive registered patrons removed through selective elimination by the Library Director.
8. Patrons will be charged for color photocopies at a rate determined by the governing board. A freewill donation will be accepted for non-color copies and for the use of the fax machine.
9. Users of the micro-reader shall be properly instructed on its operation before using. A fee may be charged for research work by the librarians.

Passed and approved this 11th day of March, 2026.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

Resolution 2026-2

Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy Hazel L. Meyer Memorial Library

In the event that an individual has a concern about a particular book or other material in the collection of the Hazel L. Meyer Memorial Library in De Smet, SD, and wants the material to be reconsidered, the following steps will be taken.

1. The individual will be directed by library staff to the Library Director, who will discuss the issue with the individual and listen to their concerns.
2. The Library Director will share and discuss the Library Material Selections Policy with the individual, explaining the process the library uses for making decisions on material selections.
3. If the individual would still like to have the material reconsidered, they will be given a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form to be filled out. This form is available at the library, on the library website and on the De Smet City website.
 - a. All requests to review materials must be on the "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials" form that the library provides.
 - b. Only one item may be included on each form.
 - c. Only signed requests submitted by individuals who are registered patrons of Hazel L. Meyer Memorial Library and have been active users of the library within the last year will be considered. A registered patron is an individual that is at least 18 years of age, is a resident of the city of De Smet or resides within 20 miles of the city of De Smet, and has signed up for a library number.
4. Once the completed request has been submitted, the Library Director will review both the material in question and the objection to the material and search for outside reviews for this item.
5. Subject to the above policies, the item will be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Library Board of Trustees meeting. The Library Board of Trustees will evaluate the request and make a decision within 60 working days. All decisions made by the Board are final, with the exception of determination regarding whether material is obscene, as defined by South Dakota Codified Law 22-24-27.
6. The Library Director will inform the individual in writing of the Board's decision.
7. If the complainant disagrees with the decision of the Library Board of Trustees and believes the material is obscene, as

defined by SDCL 22-24-27, the complainant may appeal the decision of the Library Board to the De Smet City Council.

8. The complainant may appeal a decision of the De Smet City Council as to whether any material is obscene to a court of competent jurisdiction for judicial review pursuant to SDCL 22-24-56.

Passed and approved this 11th day of March, 2026.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

KINGSBURY COUNTY KNIGHTS YOUTH SOFTBALL POLICY: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by Hansen, to approve Resolution 2026-3, Kingsbury County Knights Youth Softball Team determination Policy, all voting aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2026-3

Kingsbury County Knights Youth Softball Team Determination Policy

PURPOSE

This document outlines the Age Determination Policy for player placement, emphasizing adherence to the USA Softball Age Chart to ensure age-appropriate brackets. It details the procedures for advancing brackets, including the need for a formal written request from the gaining coach and from parents. The policy also notes that rosters should aim to have close to 12 players to allow for a complete team for fielding in case of absences. We will follow League rules and regulations when forming age-appropriate teams.

<https://www.interlakesyouthsoftball.com/aboutus>

AGE-APPROPRIATE TEAMS

1. Players should play on an age-appropriate team whenever numbers allow (example - if there are twelve 12U players, no other players will move up).
2. Movement to a higher age bracket should occur in descending age order only.
3. If a team does not have enough players to fill a roster for an age bracket after eligible movement up, players from the league may be used to fill the roster.
4. If children from surrounding areas want to join, they may be allowed to join our program.
5. No child under age 5 at the start of the season will be allowed to play.

ADVANCING BRACKETS

1. A player may advance only one age bracket above the players age group.
2. No player will be permitted to skip an age division.
3. Coach from the gaining team must use the request form to request advancement to next age bracket.
4. If parents choose to allow movement up, parents sign request and present to lower bracket coach.
5. If player is rostered in two age brackets and games are at the same time, player should play with upper bracket (due to need to have full team) first, and may join lower bracket team if opportunity/need arises.
6. Participation decisions must remain consistent for the entire season.

COACHING POLICY

1. Coaches are hired by the De Smet and Lake Preston City Councils. A total of four coaches will be hired to accommodate all four teams.
2. No coach has more power than any other coach.
3. All other parents assisting are considered volunteers.
4. Any fundraising or donations will be placed in Knights' Parent Account. One De Smet coach and one Lake Preston coach will have access to the account.
5. The Interlakes League point of contact will be the current Recreation Director.

It is the primary goal to keep our youth in our community.

When an age bracket has been filled either by pulling up from a younger bracket or due to sufficient age-appropriate numbers, should any player choose to play outside this program, they forfeit the support and equipment provided by this program.

Passed and approved this 11th day of March, 2026.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

EVENT CENTER ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER & VOLUNTEER: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Spader, to approve appointing Grace Aughenbaugh to

the Event Center Advisor Board and as an Event Center Volunteer, replacing Jamie Lancaster, all voting aye, motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT: Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve the Fire Department applying for a grant in the amount of approximately \$7,000.00 for Ice Rescue Equipment, all voting aye, motion carried.

FLOWER BARRELS: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Spader, to advertise for quotes to provide and plant flowers in 25 barrels on main street and 2 containers at the library, with the quotes to be reviewed at the April 8, 2025, council meeting, all voting aye, motion carried.

DE SMET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: De Smet Development Coordinator, Grace Aughenbaugh informed the council that the final proofing of the 2026 De Smet Community Guides is being done; on March 17th, Dakota Resources will be holding their regional conference here in De Smet; the Main Street Committee was presented a check in the amount of \$150,000.00 from De Smet Farm Mutual for the Main Street Beautification Project; Aughenbaugh attended the GOED conference in February; and this will be the last year to receive funding from the destination Marketing Grant. The council asked Aughenbaugh about updates on the townhome project, the former Dairy Queen building, and when the new locker business will be opening.

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

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

OTHER: Other non-action items of discussion were as follows: 1) the February law enforcement report; 2) painting the front of the old city hall building; and 3) barking dogs; 4) and people not cleaning up after their dogs.

ADJOURN: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Hansen.

To comply with SDCL 6-1-10. Publication of Payroll information, the payroll changes as follows: Event Center Director, Kristy Hubbard \$4,943.47/month effective March 1, 2025.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

Published once at the approximate cost of \$ _____