

SPECIAL MEETING DE SMET COMMON COUNCIL
May 27, 2026

The De Smet Common Council met in special session on May 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., with the following present: Council members Mykel Anderson, Bret Jensen, Pam Spader (via speaker phone), Lowell Hansen, George Cavanaugh, Dustin Mc Cune, Mayor Gary Wolkow, 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.

WATER STUDY PRESENTATION: Helms & Associates conducted a water study of the De Smet water infrastructure system. Present from Helms & Associates were Engineers Leif Redinger and Michael Schmit. Engineer Redinger presented information from the water study conducted. The focus of the water study was the source of water, water storage, and water distribution. The existing water tower will hold 100,000 gallons of water. The town's average demand for water is 141,000 gallons per day. There are 14 miles of water lines in the water distribution system. The water study identified three system issues: 1) Iron and Manganese, 2) Cast iron and asbestos cement pipe, and 3) Pressure and flow. Iron and manganese are a common problem. Engineer Redinger discussed three system alternatives: 1) Do nothing, 2) Connect and purchase water from Kingbrook Rural Water, and 3) build a city treatment plant. Connecting to Kingbrook Rural Water would have a lower initial cost but would have a higher annual cost for the city and residents. Building a treatment plant would have a higher initial cost but would be a lower annual cost for the city and residents. Installing a city treatment plant would require additional certification for the water superintendent, and additional staff as backup for the water department. The next step would be to submit the water study solution options to be placed on the State Water Plan for review. Questions from the council and public were answered by Engineer Redinger.

Council person Jensen left at this time.

Mayor Wolkow thanked Helms and the public for attending the meeting and for the input for the water study.

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

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

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