

REGULAR MEETING DE SMET COMMON COUNCIL

November 12, 2025

The De Smet Common Council met in regular session on November 12, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., with the following present: Council members, George Cavanaugh (via speaker phone), Bret Jensen, Dustin McCune, Dane Coughlin, Lowell Hansen, Pam Spader, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Wolkow announced that there will be a retirement party for Street Supt., Ryan Petersen on Friday, November 21, 2025, at City Hall, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Mayor Wolkow read a statement about the water discoloration.

MINUTES: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Spader, to approve the minutes of October 8, 2025, 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 \$41,082.71; OASI Benefit 3,142.83; Aflac, ins. premium 95.03; Dearborn National, life insurance 105.60; Delta Dental of South Dakota 454.10; VSP 180.60; The Health Pool of SD, health insurance premium 9,115.88; SDRS, retirement benefit 4,690.26; Div. of Criminal Investigation, background check \$50.00; Mediacom, utilities 122.20; Visa, supplies, travel, and utilities 698.55; AA Motorsport, repairs & maintenance 907.88; Anderson Lumber, supplies 99.89; Avera, drug testing 51.00; Avera Medical Group, pre-employment physical 105.81; Avid Hawk, monthly website fee 35.00; Barco Products, picnic table-memorial 1218.57; Bria Helmes, meter deposit refund after utility payment 46.97; Butler Machinery Co, repairs & maintenance 3732.98; Candace Weller, deposit refund 30.00; Carol Bloomstrand Fox Estate, meter deposit refund 25.00; Center Point Large Print, books 121.05; Chesterman Company, supplies 79.40; City of DeSmet, deposit kept-event cancelled 275.00; 815.14; City of DeSmet, meter deposit applied to utility bill 103.03; City of DeSmet, utilities 1388.26; City of DeSmet, postage 21.10; TwoTrees Technologies, software, off-site backups 210.67; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, city garbage collection 327.90; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, residential garbage 6981.12; Cowboy Country Store, fuel 546.98; CR Corner, fuel & propane 429.09; Dave Harris Estate, meter deposit refund 10.00; Dave's Window Cleaning, window cleaning 400.00; Dawn Whitten, deposit refund 30.00; DeSmet Trustworthy Hardware, supplies 82.31; Department of Health, water labs 302.00; DJ Holt, meter deposit refund 125.00; Don Buchele, meter deposit refund 10.00; Don Churchill, meter deposit refund 125.00; Early Explorers, meter deposit refund 125.00; Ferguson Waterworks #2516, annual support contract & updates 1509.20; Hawkins, water chemicals 311.00; Hunter Kopman, meter deposit refund 125.00; Jaqueline Exner, meter deposit

refund 150.00; James Girard, meter deposit refund 75.00; Jeff's Vacuum Center, repair & maintenance 288.14; Jodi Jung, meter deposit refund 75.00; Johnson Fitness & Wellness, treadmill 5700.00; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, locates 160.00; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, maintenance contract 220.00; Kingsbury County Auditor, law enforcement contract 6,933.33; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, utilities 178.11; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 575.48; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 83.50; Lloyd Gehm Estate, meter deposit refund 25.00; Lorenda Anderson, deposit refund 50.00; M&T Fire & Safety, repair & maintenance-township 990.00; Mack Landscaping, winterize irrigation 480.00; Makala Passehl, replace ck#38665 59.69; Matthew Haglund, meter deposit refund 75.00; Maynard's DeSmet, supplies 77.95; Maynard's DeSmet, library supplies 110.04; Michael Todd & Company, supplies 857.96; Micro Marketing, books 808.51; Northwestern, utilities 161.37; O'Keefe Implement, supplies & repair 163.09; Octane Ink, FD Pickup 2200.00; Office Peeps, library copier contract 66.14; Office Peeps, supplies & copier contract 674.91; Olson's Pest Technicians, museum pest control 75.00; Postmaster, supplies 1830.00; Proline Watertown, supplies 14.50; Randi Albrecht, meter deposit refund 75.00; Rapid City, Pierre & Eastern, railroad land rent 127.63; Regan May, deposit refund 50.00; Robert Knadle, meter deposit refund 75.00; Robin Gigov, replace ck#40164 50.00; Sarah Anderson, deposit refund 30.00; SD Dept of Revenue, recreation sales tax 319.91; SD Dept of Revenue, garbage sales tax 484.16; SD Humanities Council, deposit refund 30.00; Share Corp, sewer chemicals 3487.92; Slumberland Furniture, event center chairs 2049.99; SD 811, locates 219.45; US Auto Force, supplies 551.92; Valley Fibercom, utilities 394.12; Victoria Winters, deposit refund 375.00; Ward's Store, meter deposit refund 10.00; Valley Fibercom, utilities 386.37; Mediacom, utilities 122.20; Ottertail, utilities 4,513.92; Visa, supplies & utilities 207.11; Flatland Enterprise, 2nd Street & Chase Street project \$122,759.30; Geotek Engineering & Testing, compaction testing 3,086.50; Geotek Engineering & Testing, compaction testing 3,711.50; Halme, Main Street project \$1,234,257.02; IMEG, Main Street water project engineering \$47,879.00; and IMEG, Main Street sewer project engineering \$5,265.00.

SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSES: One application for a special liquor license was submitted by Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III for an event to be held on November 29, 2025, from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, to be held at the De Smet Event Center. Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Spader, to approve the special liquor license submitted by Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III for an event to be held on November 29, 2025, from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm, to be held at the De Smet Event Center, all voting aye, motion carried.

BUILDING & DEMO PERMITS: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by McCune, to approve the building permit application submitted by Good Samaritan Society - catch/septic tank, and the demo permit application submitted by Kennth Biteler - remove house, garage, and accessory buildings, all voting aye, motion carried.

RIDING ARENA: Steve Weink met with the council to discuss the possibility of the City holding the lease agreement for the land area that would be developed for a horse arena. Additional information

will be needed about insurance coverage, liability, and cost of coverage.

NATHAN & KRISTA O'DEA: Krista O'Dea representing her and her husband Nathan, inquired to the status of the backup that occurred at their residence on August 17, 2025. O'Dea stated that there has not been much communication from the insurance company unless she contacts them. The insurance adjuster has asked for additional help from an expert for this claim. IMEG representatives have provided written summary and video of the sewer project that was completed in 2025.

DAVID & AMANDA FIELDS: Amanda & David Fields expressed their frustration with lack of information from the insurance company regarding the status of the backup that occurred at their residence on August 17, 2025. They feel like this is not going to get resolved and that the City should pay reimbursement to them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mark Siefkes informed the council that his water pressure still fluctuates, the new light along the highway has caused shadows and makes it harder to see, and a utility service was hit, and his campground was without internet service until it was repaired. Evangeline Fields stated to the council that her family is suffering from the backup that occurred in their home. She does not have a real bedroom yet, is uncomfortable, and her room is still torn up. Candy Weller informed the council that she also lives on Olivet where the backup occurred and was here to support the other neighbors and get information. Kristy Hubbard, representative for Kingsbury County Area Transit informed the council that a new transit bus will be delivered to De Smet next week and a replacement bus for the bus that was hit in an accident. Hubbard stated that until the government shutdown is resolved, another driver for the Lake Preston and Arlington area cannot be started.

INFRASTRUCTURE, MAIN STREET & WATER TOWER PROJECTS: April Bueller, Engineer and Kevin Goff, Senior Client Executive for IMEG met with the council to discuss the infrastructure projects, water tower, and Main Street project updates. Bueller reported that the 2nd Street & Chase Street project contractor's punch list has been completed except for the drainage issues. Bowes is scheduled to redo this before the asphalt plant closes for the year. Bueller explained the Change Order for the 2nd Street & Chase Street project area in the amount of \$12,936.00. This change order includes adjustments for asphalt quantities. Pay app #10, submitted by Flatland, was amended to include 5% of the original 10% retainage. The water tower project has been completed. The as-built plans still need to be submitted to the city. On the Main Street project, all the underground work has been completed. Timmons Construction will continue to work on concrete areas. The council inquired about asphalt areas that look different. Goff responded that it is not uncommon with a construction joint to look different but would have the on-site engineer look at to confirm it is ok. A walk-through date will be scheduled in November with city representatives, engineers, and contractors. Bueller explained Change order #8 in the amount of -\$12,732.00 to the council. Goff presented a proposal draft to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the wastewater flow testing options. The total cost if all three options are selected is \$15,000.00. This would not include flow monitoring. Also discussed was to camera the sewer system and smoke testing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by McCune, to go into executive session to consult with the City Attorney about contracts, and potential litigation at 6:40 pm, all voting aye, motion carried. Mayor Wolkow declared the council out of executive session at 7:28 pm.

MAIN STREET PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #8: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Coughlin, to approve the Main Street Project Change Order #8 in the amount of -\$12,732.02, all voting aye, motion carried.

2nd STREET & CHASE STREET PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #6: Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by Spader, to approve the 2nd Street & Chase Street Project Change Order #6 in the amount of \$12,936.00, all voting aye, motion carried.

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT: Motion was made by Coughlin, seconded by McCune, to approve the Development Agreement between the De Smet Development Corporation and the City of De Smet, all voting aye, motion carried.

AIRPORT PROJECT: Motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Coughlin, to approve signing the letter of agreement with Helm's Engineers & Surveyors, in the amount of \$105,600.26, for the design of reconstruction of the apron & connector taxiway, all voting aye, motion carried.

RUS: Casey Harty, Supt. of the Restricted Use Site, informed the council that the concrete and asphalt at the RUS will be crushed in December. Harty also reported that the RUS will be closed at the end of November for the season.

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL: The City of De Smet received notice that the current health insurance plan be an increase of 9.5% over the current policy. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Hansen, to renew the Plan HP1000 insurance policy for the full-time city employees, to be effective January 1, 2026, all voting aye, motion carried.

LIFE INSURANCE: Finance Office Larson inquired with the Health Pool of SD about life insurance. A \$20,000.00 policy through the Health Pool of SD would cost \$4.00/month per employee. The current \$20,000.00 policy costs \$17.60/month per employee. Motion was made by Jensne, seconded by McCune to approve changing the \$20,000 life insurance policy from Dearborn to the Health Pool of SD, all voting aye, motion carried.

PROJECT PAYMENTS: Motion was made by Coughlin, seconded by Jensen, to approve the project pay requests - IMEG, pay request 21005454.04-7- Main Street water \$47,879.00; IMEG, pay request 21005454.05-5 Main Street sewer \$5,265.00; Halme Inc., pay request #8 - Main Street \$1,234,257.02; Geotek Engineering & Testing Services, Inc., soil cement testing \$3,086.50 & 3,711.50; pay request #10 Flatland, 2nd Street & Chase Street \$122,759.30, all voting aye, motion carried.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Spader, to approve declaring the concrete and asphalt that was disposed of at the RUS as surplus property for disposal with Kings Crushing, a Matrix PaceMaster ProClub treadmill (serial #901 L 97124) as surplus property for disposal at the RUS, and the 2010 Case U85 with approximately 2,258 hours with L740 loader bucket and snowblower for trade-in to RDO Equipment Company, Sioux Falls, all voting aye, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Coughlin, to approve the October 2025 Cash Balances Report as presented by the Finance Officer, all voting aye, motion carried.

OVERTIME: Motion by Coughlin, seconded by Spader, to approve the overtime hours for the month of October as presented, all voted aye, motion carried.

OTHER: Other non-action items of discussion were as follows: 1) the October law enforcement report; and 2) nuisance property reviews

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 were effective as follows: Ryan Petersen, Street Supt. \$30.80/hour; and Dianne Mullner, Library Assistant \$19.45/hour effective October 1, 2025.

Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

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