

## City Council Proceedings.

The City Council of the City of White Lake, South Dakota met in regular session on Monday, January 5, 2026 the library at the city building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with the following council members present: Sharon Reeves, Mark Guericke, Nathaniel Schroeder, and Tia Heltand, together with the Mayor Kim Ehlers, Public Works Director Josh Podzimek, and Finance Officer Kimberly York. There were also four patrons present.

Motion was made by Hetland, seconded by Guericke to approve the agenda with the additions of water and sewer rates, code enforcement specialists, and District III renewal. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Schroeder, seconded by Hetland to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2025 meeting. Motion Carried.

Public comments were invited.

Daycare P&L was reviewed by council. Thank you to Pam Hallman for getting the Thrivent \$250.00 to purchase Christmas presents for the daycare.

December 2025 Finance reports were reviewed. Checking account: \$55,932.24, Savings Account: \$111,442.19, Library Account: 5,136.38, and CDs: \$118,886.27. Motion was made by Reeves, seconded by Schroeder to approve the financials. Motion carried.

Received notification from Aurora Brule Rural Water that the water rate will increase. Minimum water will remain the same but anything over 1000 gallons will increase 7%. Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Reeves to increase water rates 7% and sewer rates by 2% over 1000 gallons. Motion Carried. Letter will be sent out to residents. John Ehlers came to council to talk about bill. They had a water break which flooded the crawl space. Asked council to approve that he receives a discount on the sewer portion of the bill. Motion made by Schroeder, seconded by Hetland to bill according to the meter. Motion carried.

Linda Dodds was at the meeting to discuss the library. There will be training held on January 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 so the electronic catalog system can go live. Linda also had a patron interested in volunteering at the library and she inquired about the necessary steps to allow this.

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Vouchers: Aurora Brule Rural Water-Monthly water purchase- \$4,355.00, Badger Meter, Monthly communication fees-\$64.02, CHS-monthly LP-\$610.00, Code Enforcement Specialists-Monthly Services: \$437.44, DSG-supplies-\$60.57, JABAS Main Street Eats- Promoting the City-\$160.00, Jake's-fuel-\$455.72, Konechne Hardware-supplies-\$111.87, L&L Sanitation-monthly garbage-\$105.00, Menards- Supplies- \$168.38, Midstate Communications-Monthly Internet/Telephone-\$356.67, Northwestern Energy-Electric-\$3,277.24, Plankinton Lumber-Supplies-\$186.77, Post Master-Utility Billing-\$122.00, Public Health Laboratory-Monthly Sample-\$20.00, Randi Christensen-supplies-\$35.52, Ron's Market-Food/Supplies-\$415.31, SDRS-Monthly Contribution-\$3,592.44, White Lake School-Meals-\$789.00, District III-2026 Membership-\$921.00. Motion by Guericke, seconded by Hetland to approve bills. Motion Carried.

Paid Bills in between December 1-31: Aflac-Monthly insurance-\$638.67, Cellphone-\$126.08, Payroll-\$35,401.81, FM Bank-ACH Feeds/Loan/VISA-\$3,053.55, IRS-Federal Tax Deposit-\$7,827.43, National Rural Water Association-Water Tower Loan-\$859.27, USDA-Water/Main Street Loan-\$2,435.00.

Motion by Hetland seconded by Schroeder to declare official municipality election the first Tuesday in June. Motion Carried.

Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Hetland to declare FM Bank as Financial Institute. Motion Carried.

Motion by Reeves, seconded by Schroeder to declare The Standard as official paper. Motion Carried.

Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Hetland to declare 2026 wages with the 2% increase. Motion Carried.

Mayor	\$655.00 Annual base + \$109 per meeting
Council Members, Hetland, Reeves, Schroeder, Guericke	\$437.00 Annual Base + \$109.00 Per Meeting
Public Works, Josh Podzimek	\$60,261.93 Annual Salary
Finance Officer, Kimberly York	\$29.58 Per Hour
Library, Linda Doods	\$10,451.01 Annual Salary
Summer Reading Program	\$1,600.00
Daycare Director, Brooklynn Kieffer	\$20.30 per hour
Daycare worker, Adison Podzimek	\$13.26 per hour
Daycare worker, Arianna Renteria	\$13.26 per hour
Daycare worker, Ashley Geyer	\$14.63 per hour
Daycare worker, Izabella Swindell	\$15.10 per hour
Daycare worker, Kris Cudmore	\$14.63 per hour
Daycare worker, Pam Hallman	\$14.63 per hour
Daycare worker, Rhiannon Pickens	\$14.54 per hour

Starting wage for daycare is \$14.25 for 18+years. \$13.00 for under 18 years of age.

Jeff Gray came to council to see if there is anything that can be done to enforce the sump pumps being dumped into sewers. Council stated that we cannot go into houses to check but Jeff stated according to ordinance we can. Council stated we will follow up with lawyers. Kim York will reach out to lawyer for clarity.

Reviewed Banner Associates possible engineering services for chip and seal streets. Motion by Guericke, seconded by Reeves to see if we can get a full mapping of streets in town for \$3500.00 for the project.

Received renewal from Code Enforcement specialists. This is going to be tabled until the February meeting as the councils had questions for the lawyers. Kim York will reach out to lawyer for clarity.

District III membership was presented to council. Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Guericke to approve the membership. Motion carried.

Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Guericke to enter executive session at 8:41pm.

Motion by Hetland, seconded by Schroeder to end executive session at 8:55 pm. Motion Carried.

Next council meeting will be held February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at City Hall.

Motion was made by Hetland, seconded by Guericke to adjourn at 8:57pm. Motion Carried.

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Kim Ehlers, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly York, Finance Officer