

February 2nd, 2026

The City Council of the City of Wessington Springs met in regular session at the Office of Finance Officer at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, February 2nd, 2026, with the following members being present: Pat Fastnacht, Cherie Maxwell, Layton Schimke, Kari Fagerhaug and with Mayor Ryan Knipfer presiding. Also, in attendance was Linda Willman, Finance Officer, and Gary Blue City Attorney. Councilman Scott Vaske joined later and Shawn Tobin was absent.

Meeting was opened with pledge of allegiance.

Fastnacht motioned, seconded by Maxwell to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of the SDPSAA Agreement received in the mail on 2-2-2026. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

Conflicts of Interest: none stated

Mayor Ryan Knipfer announced this was time for public comment.

Maxwell motioned, seconded by Schimke to approve the January 2026 Council meeting minutes. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

Schimke motioned, seconded by Fastnacht to approve the January treasurer's report as presented. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

Schimke motioned, seconded by Maxwell, and with all Council members voting aye to approve the following bills for payment.

BILLS

Fund:	101	GENERAL FUND	
Amkota		supplies	561.55
B & S Service		repair plow truck	124.48
Blue Law Firm LLP		professional service	1,000.00
Border States Electric Supply		supplies	580.79
CHS/Farmers Alliance		gas	120.50
City of Wessington Springs		utilities	2,690.71
Code Enforcement Specialist		retainer fee	1,500.00
Colopy, Nathan		professional service	801.49
Connecting Point		offsite backup & Microsoft	125.75
Doll Distributing LLC		beer-op agreement	3,154.20
EX Business Card		supplies, postage	464.10
Johnson Brothers		liquor-op agreement	1,219.02
Kelsey Service Agency		professional service	332.50
L & M Sanitation		professional service	7,765.07
Mid-Dakota		water at airport	55.00
Overdrive		dues	600.00
Planning & Dev. District III		dues	2,147.00
Porter		beer-op agreement	1,044.75
Republic		liquor-op agreement	859.50
SD Dept of Revenue		sales tax	544.36
Sanitation Products		street sweeper repairs	19,174.50
SD Airport Assoc.		dues	50.00

Sweet Grass		appreciation supper	373.78
Titan Machinery		blade repairs	8,256.43
Total Oil		supplies	91.49
True Dakotan		publishing	713.07
Venture		phone bills	521.19
		Fund Total:	54,871.23
	Fund: 212	ADDITIONAL SALES TAX - 2ND	
USDA Rural Development		loan repayment	3,051.00
		Fund Total:	3,051.00
	Fund: 501	CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS	
Brosz Engineering		professional service	4,905.00
		Fund Total:	4,905.00
	Fund: 602	WATER FUND	
AmKota		supplies	42.74
CHS/Farmers Alliance		gas	120.50
City of WS		utilities	621.54
Core & Main LP		supplies	915.75
EX Business Card		supplies, postage	5.52
Hawkins		chemical	2,220.90
J & M Specialties		supplies	48.72
S & M Enterprises		Haul lime from pit to dump	675.00
SD Dept of Health		lab testing	32.00
SD One Call		locates	0.75
Sweet Grass		appreciation supper	67.96
US Bank		loan payments	9,411.56
USA Blue Book		supplies	58.40
Venture		phone bills	101.08
		Fund Total:	14,322.42
	Fund: 603	ELECTRIC FUND	
AmKota		supplies	39.56
Border States Electric Supply		new sleeves & Testing	1,676.88
CHS/Farmers Alliance		gas	120.50
City of WS		utilities	606.85
DeWild Grant Reckert & Assoc.		professional service	211.00
EX Business Card		supplies, postage	273.29
Minnesota Municipal Utilities		dues	285.00
SD Dept of Revenue		sales tax	6,264.36
SD One Call		locates	0.75
Springs Food Market		supplies	25.14
Sweet Grass		appreciation supper	67.96
Venture		phone bills	339.03
WESCO		supplies	325.01
		Fund Total:	10,235.33
	Fund: 604	SEWER FUND	
Amkota		supplies	17.98
Bender Sewer & Drain		sewer cleaning	2,515.00
CHS/Farmers Alliance		gas	120.50
Dakota Pump & Control		professional service	569.90
SD One Call		locates	0.74
US Bank		Interest/ Principal	7,094.61
Venture		phone bills	101.08
		Fund Total:	10,419.81
	Fund: 701	UTILITY DEPOSIT FUND	
City of WS		utilities-customer readouts	392.18
		Customer deposit refund	6.01
		Customer deposit Refund	101.81
		Fund Total:	500.00
		Checking Account Total:	98,304.79

<u>Vendor Name</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	Fund: 101	GENERAL FUND	
Central Electric		utilities	366.13
Doll Distributing LLC		malt-op agreement	6,085.01
Johnson Brothers		liquor-op agreement	1,897.00
Mid-Dakotan		utilities	45.00
Porter		malt-op agreement	1,140.75
Republic		liquor-op agreement	921.55
SD Dept of Revenue		Malt Beverage transfer fee	75.00
Southern Wines & Spirits of SD		liquor-op agreements	553.87
		Fund Total:	11,084.31
	Fund: 603	ELECTRIC FUND	
Heartland		purchased power	40,653.23
WAPA		purchased power	22,623.95
		Fund Total:	63,277.18
Checking	1	Fund: 604 SEWER FUND	
CENTRAL ELECTRIC		utilities	249.84
		Fund Total:	249.84
		Checking Account Total:	74,611.33

PAYROLL

Payroll	Finance Office	3,272.03
Payroll	Street	482.55
Payroll	Landfill	518.67
Payroll	Library	2,224.64
Payroll	Water	3,179.02
Payroll	Electric	8,821.78
Payroll	Sewer	3,179.01
SD Retirement	contributions	6,615.10
Wellmark	insurance	7,080.36
Accounts Management	payment	564.84
AFLAC	insurance	704.82
Colonial	insurance	342.13
Division of OASI	social security/Medicare	4,849.76
Federal Tax Payment	withholding	2,158.89
Flex Account	contributions	110.00
	Total:	\$44,103.60

Troy Duxbury, representing the Wessington Springs Area Development met with the Council to discuss the plans for the Wessington Springs Area Development. Following the discussion, a motion was made by Fastnacht, seconded by Maxwell to approve increasing the annual support for 2026 by \$7,500.00 to a total of \$20,000. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Brady Duxbury met with the Council to discuss the tapping of maple trees so they can make maple syrup as a school project. There will be no damage to the trees due to the tapping. It was agreed that he could tap the maple trees that he has selected.

Phil LaBore and Brett Lambert met with the Council.

The annual GIS Agreement with the Midwest Assistance Program in the amount of \$500 was presented to the Council for approval. Fastnacht motioned, seconded by Fagerhaug to authorize the Mayor to sign the annual agreement and pay the annual fee of \$500.00. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Applications for summer help were presented to the Council. A motion was made by Schimke, seconded by Fagerhaug to hire Braydin LaBore at a hourly wage of \$15.00 for summer street help. Ayes: 4 Nay: 0 M/C.

City Gary Blue gave an update on 2nd Street.

The Annual Code Enforcement Contract was presented to the Council. Schimke motioned, seconded by Fagerhaug to authorize the Mayor to sign the Annual Code Enforcement Contract. Ayes: 4 Nay: 0 M/C

Due to the annual election being held in November, a motion was made by Schimke, seconded by Fastnacht to approve extending the Mayor and Council terms until after the election in November. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

A discussion was held on the park. It was decided to table until the next meeting.

A discussion was held on updating the personnel policy due to auditor recommendations for code and standards of conduct and holiday pay. Fastnacht motioned, seconded by Maxwell to approve the updates to the personnel policy. Ayes: Nays: 0 M/C

A discussion was held on the quote for additional cameras for the City for City Hall, Library and old firehall. Schimke motioned seconded by Maxwell to accept the quote of \$5,227.45 from On Star for the installation of the cameras and additional equipment. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C

Councilman Scott Vaske joined the Council meeting.

Fagerhaug motioned with Fastnacht seconding to enter into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel at 9:25 PM. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:54 PM.

It was decided to continue to advertise for the Public Works position and posting it at the Vo-tech schools.

A motion was made by Fastnacht, seconded by Fagerhaug to approve the following wage resolution for 2026 retroactive to January 1st, 2026.

Resolution #2026-1-1
2026 Wage Scale

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wessington Springs City Council adopts the following wage scale for Wessington Springs City Board Members and Employees effective for January 2026

Salaried Pay Rate

Ryan Knipfer	Mayor	\$1,400 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Kari Fagerhaug,	1 st Ward Councilman	\$1,200 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Scott Vaske,	1 st Ward Councilman	\$1,200 Plus \$60 per meeting attended
Cherie Maxwell ,	2 nd Ward Councilman	\$1,200 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Layton Schimke,	2 nd Ward Councilman	\$1,200 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Pat Fastnacht,	3 rd Ward Councilman	\$1,200 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Shawn Tobin,	3 rd Ward Councilman	\$1,200 plus \$60 per meeting attended
Linda Willman,	Clerk of Council	\$60 per meeting attended
Ryan Knipfer,	Zoning Board Member	\$60 per meeting attended
Lila Hoffman,	Zoning Board Member	\$60 per meeting attended
Betsy Schroeder,	Zoning Board Member	\$60 per meeting attended
Glenn Cooper,	Zoning Board Member	\$60 per meeting attended
Lloyd Kraft,	Zoning Board Member	\$60 per meeting attended

Linda Willman,	Zoning Administrator	\$60 per meeting attended
	Hourly Pay Rate-part-time-seasonal	
Landfill		
Neal Grohs	landfill attendant	\$15.92
Melford Bergeleen	landfill attendant	\$15.92
Curt Ness	landfill attendant	\$15.92;
Library		
Rhonda Behrens	Library Director	\$15.92
Gretchen Burnison	Library Assistant	\$14.32;
Street		
Melford Bergeleen	Seasonal	\$17.50
Curt Ness	Seasonal	\$17.50
	Hourly Pay Rate-full-time	
Electric/Street		
Phil Labore	Elect/Street Supt.	\$50.36
Lucas VanEngelenburg	Assistant Electric	\$30.23;
Finance Office		
Allie Diehl	Junior Finance Officer	\$19.32
Bethany Schimke	Dep. Finance Officer	\$19.47
Linda Willman	Finance Officer	\$35.02;
Water/Sewer		
Brett Lambert	public works	\$25.75

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the salaries of the City Officials and employees are hereby published as part of these minutes as required by SDCL 6-1-10.

Dated at Wessington Springs, South Dakota this 2nd day of February 2026

Councilman voting for Resolution: Fastnacht, Fagerhaug, Maxwell Vaske

Councilman Voting against Resolution: none

Councilman Abstaining: Schimke

Motion carried.

Published: February 18th, 2026

 Ryan Knipfer, Mayor

Attest: _____
 Linda Willman, Finance Officer

The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance Intergovernmental Agreement update was presented to the Council. Following a discussion, Fastnacht motioned seconded by Maxwell to authorize the Mayor to sign the document and authorize the Finance Officer to return it before the March 1st, 2026 deadline. Ayes: 5 Nay: 0 M/C.

Fastnacht motioned with Fagerhaug seconding to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

 Ryan Knipfer, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
 Linda Willman, Finance Officer

This minutes were published once at an estimated cost of \$

