

January 5th, 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, January 5th, 2026, with the following members being present: Scott Vaske, Pat Fastnacht, Cherie Maxwell, Shawn Tobin and with President of Council Kari Fagerhaug presiding. Also, in attendance was Linda Willman, Finance Officer, and Gary Blue City Attorney. Mayor Ryan Knipfer and Councilman Layton Schimke were absent.

Meeting was opened with pledge of allegiance.

Maxwell motioned, seconded by Vaske to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

Conflicts of Interest: none stated

President Kari Fagerhaug announced this was time for public comment.

Maxwell motioned, seconded by Tobin to approve the December 2025 Council meeting minutes. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

Fastnacht motioned, seconded by Tobin to approve the December treasurer's report as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

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

BILLS

Fund:	101	GENERAL FUND	
Alpena Coop		diesel	1,038.88
AmKota		supplies	10.99
Banyon		annual support	236.00
Blue Law Firm LLP		professional service	1,000.00
Border States Electric Supply		supplies	287.22
CHS/Farmers Alliance		budget	450.00
City of Wessington Springs		utilities	1,626.04
Connecting Point		computer software	104.32
DMC Wear Parts		blade parts	1,239.00
Doll Distributing LLC		op agreement	3,421.65
Elan Financial Services		renewal	7.97
Elan Financial Services		renewal	53.10
Johnson Brothers		op agreement	2,850.59
L & M Sanitation		garbage service	8,005.32
McLeods		utility bill forms	188.34
Mitchell Daily Republic		renewal	302.29
Porter		op agreements	3,410.26
Republic		op agreement	3,553.83
SD Assoc. of Code Enforcement		professional service	75.00
SD GOV. Finance Officers Assoc.		dues	50.00
SD Human Resource Assoc.		dues	25.00
SD Municipal League		dues	1,242.00
SD Airport Management Assoc.		dues	75.00
SD Municipal League Atty Assoc.		dues	50.00
SDML Workers' Compensation Fund		workers Compensation insurance	3,918.55

SD Magazine	renewal	29.00
Southern Wines & Spirits of SD	op agreement	577.93
True Dakotan	publishing	479.31
Venture	utilities	417.96
	Fund Total:	34,725.55
Fund: 212	ADDITIONAL SALES TAX - 2ND	
USDA Rural Development	loan repayment	3,051.00
	Fund Total:	3,051.00
Fund: 501	CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS	
Meierhenry Sargent LLP	bond Counsel fee	28,100.00
SPN	engineering-Waste Water	12,900.00
	Fund Total:	41,000.00
Fund: 602	WATER FUND	
AmKota	supplies	10.99
Banyon	annual renewal	236.00
City of WS	utilities	275.46
Dept of Ag and Nat Resources	NPDES Municipal Dues	375.00
Elan Financial Services	renewal	7.96
Elan Financial Services	renewal	53.10
EX Business Card	supplies	53.09
Hawkins	chemical	1,937.23
McLeods	utility Bills	334.98
Milbank Winwater Works	supplies	9,884.20
SD Dept of Health	lab tests	20.00
SD One Call	locates	1.86
SDML Workers' Compensation Fund	workers Compensation insurance	1,170.26
True Dakotan	public works help wanted	20.60
Venture	utilities	152.89
	Fund Total:	14,533.62
Fund: 603	ELECTRIC FUND	
Alpena Coop	diesel	7,861.06
AmKota	supplies	37.93
Banyon	annual renewal	236.00
City of WS	utilities	482.53
Connecting Point	computer software	21.43
Elan Financial Services	renewal	7.96
Elan Financial Services	renewal	53.10
McLeods	utility Bills	334.98
Merchants JT & S	Book 3	550.00
SD Municipal Electric Asso.	dues	926.00
SD One Call	professional service	1.88
SDML Workers' Compensation Fund	workers Compensation insurance	3,096.76
Venture	utilities	339.52
	Fund Total:	13,949.15
Fund: 604	SEWER FUND	
AmKota	supplies	10.98
Banyon	annual renewal	236.00
Bender Sewer & Drain	professional service	588.50
Dept of Ag and Nat. Resources	NPDES Municipal	375.00
Elan Financial Services	renewal	7.96
Elan Financial Services	renewal	53.09
EX Business Card	supplies	53.10
McLeods	utility Bills	334.97
SD Dept of Health	lab tests	206.00
SD One Call	locates	1.86
SDML Workers' Compensation Fund	workers Compensation	953.43

True Dakotan	public works help wanted	20.60
Venture	utilities	152.88
	Fund Total:	2,994.37
	Checking Account Total:	110,253.69

Fastnacht motioned, seconded by Maxwell, to authorize the official signatories to sign payroll checks and checks for all other regular monthly bills in a timely manner, prior to board approval, to avoid penalties and to take advantage of discounts. Such prepaid vendors may include liquor suppliers, power and utility bills. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

Rhonda Beherens, Librarian and Eileen Thomas met with the Council to discuss the library building and repairs.

Troy Duxbury and Katie Jackson Wessington Springs Area Development Board members met with the Council to discuss plans and future changes for the Wessington Springs Area Development.

Phil LaBore and Brett Lambert met with the Council.

Tobin motioned, seconded by Fagerhaug to approve the expenses for the annual MSHA training. Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 M/C.

A discussion was held storm sewer by the park and fire hall. It was decided to camera it to make sure it was still working okay.

City Attorney Gary Blue gave an update. He reported that he has not had a reply back on the 2nd Street Project.

Vaske motioned, with Maxwell seconding to not issue the liquor license to the American Legion/Prairie Lounge, but just have the City hold on to it. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

A discussion was held on 4th St NE. It was decided that a couple of councilmen are going to go look at the street and report back to the Council.

A discussion was held on surplus Christmas decorations from another town. It was decided that we would take the extra Christmas decorations.

A discussion was held on the quote for cameras for City Hall and the library. It was decided to table until the next meeting.

The wastewater inspection report was discussed. A reply letter prepared to send to Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources was presented to Council outlining the changes that will be made regarding the sewer lagoon.

An easement received from Mid Dakota for the water project to give access on City Property to Mid Dakota to install the water pipes was presented to the board for approval. Vaske motioned seconded by Maxwell to approve the easement and authorize the President of the Council to sign the document. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C

A discussion was held on the annual salary resolution. Tobin motioned, Maxwell seconded to table the annual salary resolution until the full council is available. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

Salaries of the City Officials and employees are hereby published as part of these minutes as required by SDCL 6-1-10. Mayor: \$1,400.00 per annum plus \$60.00 per meeting; Councilman: \$1,200.00 per annum plus \$60.00 per meeting, Clerk of Council, \$60.00 per meeting; Zoning Board \$60.00 per meeting; Neal Grohs \$15.45 hourly landfill, Melford Bergeleen \$15.45 hourly landfill and \$17.50 hourly seasonal street, Curt Ness \$15.45 hourly landfill and \$17.50 hourly seasonal street, Rhonda Behrens \$15.45 hourly library, Gretchen Burnison \$13.90 hourly library, Phil LaBore \$48.89 hourly electric & street, Lucas VanEngelenburg \$29.35 hourly electric, Allie Diehl \$18.75 hourly finance office, Bethany Schimke \$18.90 per hour finance office, Linda Willman \$30.45 hourly finance office, Brett Lambert \$25.00 per hour water & sewer, and Mike Mebius \$15.45 per hour seasonal street.

The following list of volunteer firemen are included for workmen's compensation insurance purposes: Jim Vavra, Richard Powell, Brian Kolousek, Darrick VanDyke, David Ness, Jerry VanDenOever, Kenneth Cudmore, Kevin Mebius, Kim Schultz, Mike Krueger, Mike Mebius, Scott Miller, Curt Ness, Scott Vaske, Craig Heumiller, Jared Bultsma, Jake Krohmer, Ryan Knipfer, Pat Wetzel, Chris Schimke, Cody Barber, Ryan Jungemann, Layton Schimke, Eric Schroeder, Bailey Willman, Blake Willman, Brady Duxbury, Lucas VanEngelenburg, Aryan Schooler, Tyler Fastnacht, Eric Kurth, Aaron Cashman, Jonathan Jooste, and Coy Fastnacht. Reserve fireman Jason Weber, Dusty Weber, Jason Hine and Randy Willman. A list will be maintained at the Finance Office when a new volunteer fireman is appointed.

A list of all library volunteers, summer recreations volunteers and coaches and any other volunteers for the City of Wessington Springs will be held at the Finance Office for workmen's compensation insurance purposes.

Tobin motioned, seconded by Maxwell to adjourn. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 M/C.

_____ Kari Fagerhaug, President of Council	ATTEST: _____ Linda Willman, Finance Officer
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