

The White City Council hosted its Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday August 11, 2025, at the McKnight Community Center. Mayor Lagerstrom called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Roll call was taken, council members were present: Haines, McManus, Wright, Cutler and Willmott; Sunderland was absent. Guests for the evening were Cedric Hay from Banner Associates, Jesse King with the Dolphin Foundation, Doug Wermdal from the Tri-City Star, Kathy and Lorne McKinney, Charles Mohler and Julie Westberg. All motions are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Mayor Lagerstrom began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by roll call.

Motion by Wright, seconded by McManus to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion by McManus, seconded by Wright to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion by Wright, seconded by Willmott to approve the bills as noted on the Claims Register. There was some discussion about a sewer cleanout bill – after explanation by Maintenance Superintendent Landmark, it was discovered that a portion of the old sewer system has failed and periodically needs to be cleaned to allow safe passage of materials from a residence on 5th Street. Mayor Lagerstrom further explained that this issue is a driving factor for the decision to focus Chapter Two of the Sewer & Water Project on the south-west corner of town.

Claimant	Check Amount	Description
Banner Associates INC	\$30,932.70	Water/Sewer Project
Cooks Wastepaper & Recyc	\$2,584.16	June 2025 Pickup
SD Assoc of Rural Water	\$445.00	Yearly Dues
Brookings County Sheriff	\$1,717.16	June Contract Hours
Western Area Power	\$1,589.95	AVG Mills per KWH 29.999
Banner Associates INC	\$61,070.20	Water/Sewer Project
SD Retirement System	\$2,513.38	June&July 2025 Retirement
SD Dept of Revenue	\$4,766.62	June&July 2025 Sales Tax
Heartland Consumers Power	\$35,932.74	122.91 Mills/KWH June
Heartland Consumers Power	\$4,436.80	July&Aug Fire Hall Payment
First Bank & Trust	\$161.87	ACH/Batch Fees, DEP Slips
RDO Equipment	\$1,124.65	Batteries for Loader
East River Power	\$6,468.10	June 2025 Wheeling fees
EFTPS	\$3,396.85	Payroll 14&15&16 Taxes
Infotech Solutions	\$192.00	June 2025 Contract
SD 811	\$43.05	41 Calls
Century Business Products	\$205.23	June Copier Contract
Steven Britzman	\$1,332.50	6.33 Hours
RFD News Group, INC	\$230.04	June Publishing
AFLAC	\$750.39	June Insurance
SD Dept of Health	\$15.00	Water Sample Fee
Riteway	\$225.26	Laser Utility Bills
Appeara	\$70.08	Towels/Dust Mops/Wet Mops
City of White	\$1,400.26	Monthly Utilities
Banyon Data Systems	\$2,990.00	Yearly Service Contract
ITC	\$383.76	Phone/Internet
First Bank & Trust CC	\$333.68	Spray Paint/TP/Paper Towels
Schwartz Manure Hauling	\$387.00	Mower Repair
Prunty Construction	\$334,684.44	Pay Request 9

Karen Jackson	\$128.24	Utility Dep Refund
Courtesy Plumbing	\$382.75	Sewer Jetting
Bizzy Bee Cleaning	\$475.00	July Cleaning
Bioag Energy	\$491.33	Gas/Diesel
Brkings-Deuel Rural Water	\$4,880.00	1,550,000 Gallons
Ferguson Waterworks	\$2,333.41	Man Hole Covers
Runnings Supply INC	\$40.14	Staples/Rake/Spray Painter
Pests B Dead	\$120.00	Aug-Oct Pest Control
East River Electric	\$6,032.24	July Wheeling Fees
Brookings County Sheriff	\$1,640.00	July Contract Hours
Heartland Consumers Power	\$37,183.52	97.28 Mills/KWH July
Western Area Power	\$1,679.00	Avg Mills Per KWH 32.288
Total Payroll	\$11,526.39	July Payroll
TOTAL	\$567,678.65	

END OF MONTH TOTALS

DDA	\$872,508.29
MONEY MARKET	\$1,335,421.02
CD	\$100,000.00

The Floor was opened for Public Comment. Mr. Mohler asked the Council about Library hours – Mayor Lagerstrom invited Mr. Mohler to the Library Board meeting held on the second Monday of September at 1730 to voice his concern. Mr. Mohler also commented on not being informed of the water shut-off that occurred early Monday 11AUG2025. Mayor Lagerstrom replied that he sympathized with the shock of being without water and that the City did all that it could to let people know what is going on. The City is working on getting a new accounting system which will allow the City to send out text messages similar to the “School Reach” program that many of the local school districts utilize. He further encouraged citizens to talk to each other especially if they do not have reliable access to internet resources.

With Public Comments completed, Mayor Lagerstrom introduced a variance application from Michelle Wenk to install a 240 square-foot shed in her backyard. After discussion, the variance was approved with a motion by Cutler and seconded by Wright.

Jesse King representing the Dolphin Foundation was then given the floor to discuss an upcoming improvement at the football field. When the stadium was first built, “bare-bones” concrete was installed to determine where people really wanted to walk and congregate at the new stadium. Now that the area has been used, the Foundation wants to install expanded sidewalks to help traffic and encourage gathering in areas that won’t cause significant problems with crowd control. Mayor Lagerstrom asked the board to consider “that since this was City-owned land that the School uses and the Foundation is a charitable organization seeking to improve the Arts, Academics and Athletics of the Deubrook School District that the City approve the permit so that the improvement can be properly logged, but to waive permitting fees so that the Foundation can save money for its mission.” A motion by Wright and seconded by Haines gave the Dolphin Foundation approval to proceed as they have planned.

Alderman McManus was given the floor to discuss two items that he had found at the Federal Surplus Property site in Huron. The first item was a 15-kilowatt diesel generator which the City has been seeking for emergency

shelter capabilities at the New Fire Hall – it is available at the Surplus site for \$2200 – after a motion by Wright and seconded by Haines, McManus was given approval to complete the process for transfer of the generator to the City. Mr. McManus also found a toolbox at the site for \$200 which after discussion with Superintendent Landmark was determined to be potentially very useful for maintenance uses – a motion by McManus and seconded by Cutler approved Mr. McManus to move forward with the acquisition of that material as well. Further discussion also encouraged Alderman McManus to seek out a 7000-pound capacity “car-trailer” for use by the Maintenance department for hauling around materials in town.

Mayor Lagerstrom then took the floor for his Mayor report. The first item he covered was the results of the City Survey. He apologized for not having the drawing materials for the two \$50 gift cards for respondents to the survey – he promised that he would have that for the September 2, 2025 meeting. He then proceeded to thank the various Community Organizations that do some very hard work to make our community work – and especially wanted to thank Kathy McKinney for her work as the “welcome lady” which was often pointed out in the surveys as being an extremely positive thing in town. Mayor Lagerstrom also highlighted that the City will work on addressing the various complaints about conditions within the City when it comes to ordinance violations. Citizens can expect to have a conversation with the City’s Ordinance Enforcement team to if they have conditions in their yards which are in violation of City Ordinances – the most common of which is unlicensed vehicles.

Continuing his Mayor Report, Mr. Lagerstrom informed the Council that the modules for the new electric meters will be completed very soon, and that the meters will be ready in January for installation early in 2026. Progress is being made with getting the City’s Load Management System up and running and we should start seeing some of those savings later this Fall as we resurrect the older system then start to transition to the “modern” system during the spring of 2026.

Finally, Mayor Lagerstrom informed the Council about the ongoing budget process, which was going fairly smoothly given that most of our expenses are mandatory leaving little room for debate. However, the City does have a small amount of money left over for improvements to City Buildings and the Budget Committee was trying to decide where we should focus our efforts. After some discussion, and a motion by McManus, seconded by Wright to conduct a “straw poll” of users of the McKnight Hall to what direction the Council should take in relation to remodeling efforts. The poll would ask one question: Which path the City should pursue first: 1) remodel of the kitchen to bring it up to current food service standards, with an estimated cost of \$15-\$20,000; or 2) remodel of the “Big Room” by installing new flooring and updating the finishes of the room, which will have an estimated cost of \$30-\$40,000? The City will work on remodeling the whole building – it is just a question of where we want to start with fundraising efforts to do so, as this will not happen without support of the Community Organizations that use the building. All users of the McKnight Hall are encouraged to vote in this Straw Pole, with ballots being available at the City of White Finance Office during regular business hours, and all ballots must be collected by 4:30PM on Tuesday 26AUG2025. The results of this poll will be announced at the 2SEP2025 meeting.

As Finance Officer Cooper was performing her roll as a School Board Member, Mayor Lagerstrom presented the Finance Office Report. The first item concerned building permits which had one resident seeking to move her garage in preparation for a new house being built on her property. The second item concerned selection of an Accounting firm for the 2024 audit – we had a proposal from ELO for \$27,000 to conduct the report. Mrs. Cooper had done a considerable amount of research and determined them to be the best option for performing this task. After further discussion, and a motion by Haines and seconded by Cutler, ELO was approved for selection as the auditing company for the 2024 audit.

Mayor Lagerstrom wanted to add a commendation to Mrs. Cooper for her work with our residents who are struggling to pay their utility bills. Through her tireless efforts to work with residents, we currently have no residents in danger of defaulting on their utility payments, which historically has been an issue. The Council

thanked her for her efforts in this area, and Mayor Lagerstrom encouraged the community to continue looking out for each other as we move into the winter season where this problem becomes more pressing.

Maintenance Superintendent Landmark was then given the floor. He reported that the city's lawnmower broke yet another spindle, resulting in both spindles on the mower being broken twice in the last few years. He spoke with Roelofsen's in Toronto about a replacement mower. They provided a new "commercial" grade mower that retails for \$14,953, but with government discounts and trade in on the new mower is available to us for \$5913. Discussion was had on our alternatives. After looking at the budget, we determined that we did have enough in our Public Works department supplies and materials to make it work. Further discussion was had on modifications that will help work load – A motion by Wright and seconded by McManus approved purchase of the new mower with "flex forks" and a hitch kit. Superintendent Landmark will speak with Roelofsen's about purchase of the new mower. Further, after the purchase is complete, Mr. Landmark will work with Mr. McManus on building a "push-bar" for the mower to help eliminate some potential issues when working around items in the park.

Mr. Landmark continued his report by stating that he had received a quote to repair the last two broken transformers in our yard for \$4950 at T&R Electric. A motion by McManus and seconded by Haines let Mr. Landmark move forward with getting those fixed so that we have them should an electrical problem occur in the future. He also mentioned that the City has a three-phase transformer which has been sitting in the yard for as long as anyone can remember – T&R Electric offered him \$4000 to purchase the transformer and take it off our hands. Mr. Landmark was asked to get the transformer to T&R for evaluation of its condition and then report back to the Council in September about what he learns so that we can make a decision about its fate.

Cedric Hayes of Banner Engineering was given the floor to discuss ongoing City Project activities. The first item was a pay request for construction efforts during the month of July 2025 for \$491,133.66. This payment was approved by motion of Wright and seconded by Willmott. He then introduced a bill from Foerster for soil and surfacing testing that was recently conducted – a motion by Willmott and seconded by McManus approved the payment of \$630.

Mr. Hayes then provided a project update. All water services are done for the year. There is one sewer service which needs to be completed – however, an underground fuel tank was discovered over the sewer line which complicated the installation of this line. Upon discovery of the tank, Banner Engineering contacted the State who manages an underground tank removal grant program which will cover all costs of removal of this tank – it is hoped that approval for these funds will be soon and that the last line can be hooked up in the next week or so. Otherwise, the main effort of the project has shifted to reconstruction of Main Street. It is currently anticipated that the paving crew will be here during the week of 11SEP2025 to pave all of Main Street; and then rebuild Evans Avenue and the portion of East 4th Street which had an asphalt compaction failure.

Mr. Hayes briefly discussed the County Highway resurfacing project. The County intends to start on this around the Labor Day weekend – it depends on the weather, but as planned, they should be here on the 2nd of September, however, it could be the week before the weekend if everything goes well. Interruption to residents should be minimal – the contractor intends to keep one lane of the highway open and use a pilot car during construction times. He also reminded the audience to remind those heading into school that work will start at 0600 and that delays due to construction are highly probable as people are rushing to get to school in the morning, so please plan accordingly.

Finally, Mr. Hayes informed the Council that the current Chapter of the Sewer & Water project will likely have money left over which may allow us to complete one more block with "Chapter One" funds. Mayor Lagerstrom pointed out that this money is sitting at a 1.5% interest rate and that using it all would be of a great benefit to future Chapters of the project. Mr. Hayes was asked to prepare a proposal for consideration at the September meeting.

City of White
August Regular Meeting
August 11, 2025

Mr. Lagerstrom then asked for an executive session under SDCL 1-25-2(3) – Legal Matters Discussion which was granted by a motion of Wright, seconded by Willmott at 2052.

The Council came out of executive session at 2057 with no action taken.

A brief discussion was held on plans for the September meetings. The next Regular Council Meeting will be Tuesday, 2SEP2025, at 1900 to account for the Labor Day Holiday.

With no further business, a motion by Wright and seconded by McManus to adjourn was made and the meeting ended at 2107.

Minutes compiled by,

Mayor Matt Lagerstrom