

REGULAR MEETING DE SMET COMMON COUNCIL

May 13, 2026

The De Smet Common Council met in regular session on May 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., with the following present: Council members, George Cavanaugh, Bret Jensen, Dustin McCune (arriving later), Pam Spader, Mykel Anderson, President Lowell Hansen, Finance Officer Tracey Larson, and City Attorney Todd Wilkinson. Absent: Mayor Gary Wolkow.

President Hansen 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:** None.

**MINUTES:** Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Anderson, to approve the minutes of March 16, 2026, Equalization/Special Meeting, and April 8, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes, all voting aye, motion carried.

**CLAIMS:** Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve paying the claims as presented, all voting aye, motion carried. The claims are as follows: PAYROLL \$40,091.29; OASI Benefit 3,067.00; Aflac, ins. premium 95.03; Madison National, life insurance 24.00 Delta Dental of South Dakota 471.92; VSP 159.60; The Health Pool of SD, health insurance 7,657.26; SDRS, retirement benefit 4,320.90; American Bank & Trust, deposit slips 25.00; VISA, supplies 724.96; 605 Companies, crushed concrete 2,110.00; AMG-Avera Occupational Medicine, drug testing 113.10; Anderson Lumber, supplies & repair 575.35; Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital, drug testing 306.00; Avid Hawk, monthly website fee 35.00; Castlerock, supplies 224.58; Center Point Large Print, books 83.89; City of De Smet, utilities 895.94; City of De Smet, supplies & postage 11.33; Coca-Cola of Mitchell, supplies 209.00; TwoTrees Technologies, off-site backup, supplies & software 79.42; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, city garbage collection 327.90; Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling, garbage collection 7,077.89; Cowboy Country Store, fuel 472.54; CR Corner, fuel 587.20; CR Mechanical, repair & maint 867.20; Dane Coughlin, meter deposit refund 125.00 SD DANR, project permit fee 250.00; Daves Window Cleaning, 400.00; De Smet Trustworthy Hardware, supplies & repair, 120.83; Demco, supplies 80.92; Department of Health, water labs 871.00; Display Sales, supplies 748.00; Ferguson Waterworks #2516, meters 3,611.00; Great Plains Zoo, zoo mobile 351.00; Hawkins, water chemicals 20.00; Hilex, repair & maint 1,676.53; Innovative Office Solutions, supplies 1,352.84; Kasey Pistulka, deposit refund 50.00; Kathy Dedeysne, deposit refund 50.00; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, repair & maint 2,971.23; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, maint contract 220.00; Kingsbury County Auditor, law enforcement contract 6,933.33; Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, utilities 307.45; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 903.56; Kingsbury Journal, publishing 51.50; Kristy Hubbard, reimburse for supplies 76.49; Level Lift, library sidewalk repair 675.00; Lyle Signs, supplies 109.68; Mary Overbay, meter deposit refund 125.00; Maynards De Smet, supplies 54.06; Maynards De Smet, library supplies 58.73; Michael Todd & Company, supplies & repairs 813.14; Micro Marketing, books 491.16; Northwest Pipe Fittings, repair & maint 221.90; Northwestern, utilities 482.98; O'Keefe Implement, mower, supplies, repairs 16,080.07; Office Peeps, copier contract- library

66.14; Office Peeps, supplies & copier contract 1,029.32; Olsons Pest Technicians, pest control 75.00; Ottertail Power Company, utilities 5,274.08; Renae Aughenbaugh, deposit refund 50.00; Richard Close, repair & maint 400.00; Roberta Elkins, deposit refund 50.00; Rods Repair, clean drainage ditch 753.06; SD Department of Revenue, recreation sales tax 200.18; SD Department of Revenue, sanitation sales tax 477.40; SD Department of Transportation, supplies 69.62; SD Assoc of Rural Water System, smoke testing 400.00; Share Corp, sewer chemicals 3,819.73; Sloan Mack, deposit refund 30.00; Socially Untapped, marketing 2 months 400.00; SD 811, locates 11.55; Southeast SD Tourism Assoc, marketing 275.00; Stacie Gruenhagen, deposit refund 50.00; Suzie Sinclair, deposit refund 30.00; Swimming Pool, start-up petty cash for pool 150.00; Team Lab, tack coat 147.00; The Penworthy Company, library books 328.48; Tracey Larson, reimburse for supplies 129.49; Upper Midwest Garage Door, repair door at old city shop 860.00; Valley Fibercom, utilities 388.37; Visu-Sewer, sewer relining 62,407.50; Wilkinson Insurance Agency, bond insurance prem 1,083.00; World Insurance Associates, recreation accident insurance 350.00; Halme, Main Street Project 425,995.42; Helms & Assoc, airport apron design project 10,560.03.

**ZONING:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, that the Council to be convened as the Board of Adjustment, all voting aye, motion carried. The Board of Adjustment was called to order by President Hansen.

This being the date and time public noticed for the hearing on Variance Application #121 submitted by Holly & Blain Beck, Holly Beck met with the board to discuss the variance application. Beck has requested a variance to allow them to move a residential structure with attached garage, to be placed closer than 25 feet from the front primary property line (East lot line), and less than six(6)feet from the side property line (West lot line) on the following legally described property: Lot 14, Block 16, Brown's Addition, and addressed as 402 Hwy 14 W, De Smet, South Dakota.

Notice of the hearing was properly given by certified mail and by publication of the Notice of Hearing in conformity with Section 3.04.05 of the City Zoning Ordinance. Nobody from the public appeared for discussion of the variance application.

The location of the proposed construction was reviewed by the zoning board. Upon conclusion of the hearing and the Board having considered the application and evidence presented, enters its findings as follows:

1. That property legally described as Lot 14, Block 16, Brown's Addition, De Smet, Kingsbury County, South Dakota, is located within the city limits of the City of De Smet and the Board of Adjustment has jurisdiction over the application.
2. That the property is currently zoned "R-2" General Residential District.
3. That adjacent properties to the North, West, and South are zoned "R-2 General Residential" and the property to the East is zoned "C-2 Commercial Industrial".

4. That Chapter 5.01 General Terms states that in the case of through lots and corner lots, there will be no rear yard, but only front and side yards.
5. That the Area Regulations of the "R-2 General Residential" zoning require a Primary front yard set-back of twenty-five (25) feet, a Secondary front yard set-back of fifteen (15) feet, and side yards of six (6) feet.
6. That the proposed residential structure with attached garage would be constructed eight feet one inch (8'1") for the 14'10" width of the garage, and the residential structure will be 18' from the from the primary front (east) property line.
7. That the proposed residential structure will be set back four (4) feet from the side (west) property line.
8. That the proposed residential structure will be set back 55' from the Front (south) property line.
9. That the applicant has filed the required application for the variance application and the notice of hearing was properly given.
10. That none of the adjacent property owners presented any objections to the proposed variance.
11. That the restrictive size and shape of the residential lot deems it necessary to grant a variance.
12. That granting of the variance will not be injurious to the neighborhood, or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.
13. That the reasons set forth in the application justify granting a variance.

**VARIANCE:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to recommend approval of the variance application #121 as submitted to Holly and Blain Beck for a residential structure with attached garage, all voting aye, motion carried.

**SIVER REPLAT:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Spader, to approve Resolution 2026-4, replating Lots 1 and 2 in Outlot 20 of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 33, Township 111 North, Range 56 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Kingsbury County, South Dakota, all voting aye, motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-4**

BE IT RESOLVED by the De Smet City Zoning Board of Adjustment the plat of "Lots 1 and 2 in Outlot 20 of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 33, Township 111 North, Range 56 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Kingsbury County, South Dakota" has been duly examined and it appears that said plat is in all respects lawful and proper and entitled to approval and is hereby recommended for approval.

Dated at De Smet, South Dakota this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.

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Chairman - De Smet City Zoning  
Board of Adjustment

ATTEST:

President Hansen declared the City Council back in session.

**VARIANCES:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Jensen, to approve variance application #121 as submitted to Holly & Blain Beck for a residential structure with attached garage, all voting aye, motion carried.

**BUILDING, CONCRETE, AND MOVE A BUILDING PERMIT:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve the building permit application submitted by Holly & Blain Beck for a residential structure with attached garage, all voting aye, motion carried.

Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Spader to building permits, concrete permits, and a permit to move a building as follows: The Main Street Beautification Committee - archway over Calumet Avenue; Castlerock for Chad Malone - concrete driveway; Castlerock for Kingsbury County - fence; David Sample - fence; Siver Rental, LLC - sign; Ultimed pending an easement from the City of De Smet - concrete pad and concrete anchors; and Holly & Blaine Beck to move a residential structure with attached garage onto a residential lot, all voting aye, motion carried.

De Smet resident, LeRoy Roth questioned and objected to variances being granted that do not meet the requirements of the zoning ordinance. The City Council and City Attorney explained that unless variances are granted when warranted, many lots would not be able to be built on or developed due to unusual circumstances.

**SIVER REPLAT:** Motin was made by Jensen, seconded by Anderson to approve Resolution 2026-5, to approve replating Lots 1 and 2 in Outlot 20 of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 33, Township 111 North, Range 56 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Kingsbury County, South Dakota, all voting aye, motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-5**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of De Smet, South Dakota, having examined this plat and having received a recommendation from the City Planning Commission, does hereby approve the plat entitled: "Lots 1 and 2 in Outlot 20 of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  NE  $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 33, Township 111, North, Range 56 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Kingsbury County, South Dakota" and the City Finance Officer is hereby directed to endorse on such plate a copy of this resolution and certify the same thereon. The forgoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Dated at De Smet, South Dakota this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

ATTEST:

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City Finance Officer - City of De Smet, SD

**SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSES:** Three applications for special liquor licenses were submitted by Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III, for May 30, 2026, June 13, 2026, and June 27, 2026, all three event to be held at the De Smet Event Center, and all three to be from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special liquor licenses to Lu Ann Klinkel, owner of Klinkel's III for May 30, 2026, June 13, 2026, and June 27, 2026, all three event to be held at the De Smet Event Center, and all three to be from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am, all voting aye, motion carried.

**AMANDA FIELDS:** Amanda Fields representing her and her husband David, inquired into the status of the backup that occurred at their residence on August 17, 2025. Fields asked about the project sewer relining completed, results from the smoke testing, and next steps. Fields were informed that the insurance company has outsourced the property claims for review and were waiting for those reviews to be completed. Questions about flow testing were answered and email correspondence to the insurance adjuster was shared with the Fields.

**RODEO ARENA:** Maggie Sprang and Steve Wienk met with the council to discuss the development of an arena. The landowner would like to know the status of this project, and if the arena will be developed, would like the less agreement signed and returned.

**MARK & LINDA HARRIS:** Mark & Linda Harris met with the council regarding a neighbor's garage they feel is built over the property line and on their property. Attorney Wilkinson stated that he confirmed with the title company that the quit claim deed for 33' was a legal conveyance. Confirmation of where the lot is to be measured from is still pending.

**DE SMET CHAMBER:** De Smet Chamber President, Chad Kruse, informed the council the Old Settler Day Celebration activities bill be held in and by Washington Park again. Kruse inquired about extra garbage cans for the event, barricades, and blocking Wilder Lane during activities for the day. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve usage of extra garbage cans, barricades, and blocking Wilder Lane on June 13, 2026, during the Old Settler Day activities, all voting aye, motion carried.

Council member Mc Cune arrived at this time.

**PICKLEBALL COURT UPDATE:** Lynn Lee met with the council to give an update on the pickleball court fundraising. To date, \$910.00 has been donated to the project. The court project will cost approximately \$56,750.00. Lee inquired if there would be any contribution that could be made by the City. The pickleball court will be in Washington Park and will be 52' x 60' in dimension.

**RENEWAL OF MALT BEVERAGE LICENSES:** This being the date and time advertised motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to re-issue on-off sale malt beverage with SD Farm Wine licenses as follows: Klinkel's III, Wheaties Sports Bar, General Store, Oxbow, Cowboy Country, The Main Stop, Half Pint, LLC, Prairie Fire Bar & Grill,

Maynard's, Dollar General, and De Smet Super Deluxe Inn & Suites all voting aye, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mark Siefkes stated that the highway streetlight is still on and interferes with his sleep and requested that the light be turned off.

**INFRASTRUCTURE, MAIN STREET & SHERWOOD PROJECTS:** Karen DeGeest and Carter Klapperich, Engineers for IMEG met with the council to discuss the infrastructure projects and Sherwood project updates. Engineer Klapperich reported that SD DANR was here to review the three projects, Halme, Inc. is working on the punch list items, traffic control is working on sign installation, and a final walk-through will be scheduled in the coming weeks. IMEG has issued a Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Calumet Avenue & 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE infrastructure project. The one-year warranty will start as of May 8, 2026. A pay request from Halme Inc. has been submitted for payment, and the Change Order #10 in the amount of \$4,049.90 is for as built quantities. The Sherwood storm sewer project will begin on Monday, May 18, 2026, and anticipate being finished by May 29, 2026, weather permitting.

**CHANGE ORDER #10:** Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve Change Order #10 in the amount of \$4,049.90 for as built quantities for the Calumet Ave. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE Infrastructure Project, all voting aye, motion carried.

**STREET REPAIR:** An estimate in the amount of \$6,122.46 to pave the street where a portion of sewer main was replaced was presented to the council. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Jensen to approve hiring Skinner Striping in the amount of \$6,122.46 to pave a small area of Calumet Avenue, call voting aye, motion carried.

**MAIN STREET RIBBON CUTTING & BLOCKING STREET:** The ribbon cutting for the grand opening of Main Street will be held on Friday, June 12, 2026, at 11:30 AM. The ribbon cutting will be at the intersection of Calumet Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Street with a light lunch to follow on the library lawn. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve blocking Calumet Avenue from in front of City Hall to south of the Railroad tracks, all voting aye, motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson to go into executive session to discuss contracts, litigation, and personnel at 6:39 pm, all voting aye, motion carried. President Hansen declared the council out of executive session at 7:28 pm.

**HORSE/RODEO ARENA:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to deny the City sponsoring the development of a horse/rodeo arena due to the costs involved, all voting aye, motion carried.

**DANR GRANT FOR WATER STUDY:** Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve signing the DANR Small Community Planning Grant, and designate the Mayor as the person to sign documents for the grant, all voting aye, motion carried.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:** Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve holding a special meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at the Event Center, at 5:00 pm for review of the water study, and reschedule the June regular council meeting on Monday, June 8, 2026 at 5:00 pm at the Event Center, all voting aye, motion carried.

**WATER TOWER LIGHTING:** Jason Springer, Water and Sewer Superintendent, presented two quotes to install lighting on the water tower. One quote was for white lighting, and the second quote was for colored LED lighting that could be changed. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve the quote from Efraimson Electric in the amount of \$11,883.10 for white lighting on the water tower, all voting aye, motion carried.

**STREET DEPARTMENT:** Casey Harty, Street Superintendent, presented a quote in the amount of \$3,474.50 to replace two overhead door openers at the old city shop building. Supt. Harty also informed the council that Upper Midwest Garage Door does offer an annual maintenance program to inspect all the overhead doors. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve

hiring Upper Midwest Garage Door to replace two overhead door openers in the old city shop building, in the amount of \$3,474.50, all voting aye, motion carried.

**RECORD DESTRUCTION:** Motion was made by Spader, seconded by Jensen, to approve destroying the listed records presented, all voting aye, motion carried.

**SEASONAL HELP:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve Owen Anderson helping the city departments in addition to lifeguarding, and to increase Mark Birkel's hourly wage to \$21.00 per hour, all voting aye, motion carried.

**PROJECT PAYMENTS:** Motion was made by McCune, seconded by Anderson, to approve the project pay requests - Helms, pay request #5, airport apron reconstruction project \$10,560.03, and Halme, Inc., pay request #11, Main Street project \$425,99.42 (water 128,345.43, sewer 211,428.25, city 86,221.74) all voting aye, motion carried. Airport project payments are reimbursed 95% by Federal and State grant funds.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY AND APPRAISAL COMMITTEE:** Motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Cavanaugh, to approve declaring the following property as surplus property: (6) Event Center black folding chairs, and one (1) HP ProBook Laptop to be disposed of in the De Smet RUS and Electronic recycling, 7' 3-point rotary mower with new blades, 1998 Green Ford F150 Pickup 6 cylinder, 1979 Onan Generator on trailer approx. 220 hours, 2016 Country Clipper Boss XL 35 HP with 60" deck Mower with approx. 820 hours, (2) swivel rocking chairs to be appraised and sold, all voting aye, motion carried. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Jensen to appoint Shawn Wolkow, Dustin McCune, and Jason Springer to appraise the items declared as surplus property and the 1988 Pumper Truck, all voting aye, motion carried. Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Jensen, to approve reappraising the 1988 Pumper Truck, all voting aye, motion carried.

**CONFERENCE:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by McCune, to approve Tracey Larson attending the annual SDML Human Resources & Finance Officer School, June 9-12, 2026, at Oacoma, all voting aye, motion carried.

**DE SMET DEVELOPMENT CORP:** Grace Aughenbaugh, Director for the De Smet Development Corporation, reported that the 2026 De Smet Community Guides are printed and distributed; they continue to work on housing in De Smet and are working on a grant for a housing study; 27 travel welcome center people were in town and toured De Smet; six (6) additional sculptures that have been placed along Calumet Avenue; several organizations helped remove old fencing, shrubs, and garbage for the HWY 14 Trail project; the new De Smet community website has been updated and running; and De Smet as featured recently on Dakota News Now.

**CONTINGENCY TRANSFER:** Motion was made by Cavanaugh, seconded by Anderson, to approve transferring \$2,971.00 from the Contingency to the Fire Department budget for converting some lights to LED lighting, all voting aye, motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Motion was made by Jensen, seconded by Spader, to approve the April 2026 Cash Balances Report, all voting aye, motion carried.

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

**OTHER:** Other non-action items of discussion were as follows: 1) the April law enforcement report; 2) the Main Street ribbon cutting on June 12, 2026, at 11:30 am; 3) the quote for landscaping at City Hall; and 4) and serving cake and ice cream at Old Settler Days.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Spader.

To comply with SDCL 6-1-10. Publication of Payroll information, the payroll changes as follows: Event Center Custodian, Ryan Bickett, \$19.52/hour, and Seasonal Parks & Buildings, Mark Birkel, \$21.00 per hour effective May 1, 2026.

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Gary Wolkow, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tracey Larson, Finance Officer

Published once at the approximate cost of \$ \_\_\_\_\_