

BROOKINGS CITY COUNCIL
November 25, 2025

The Brookings City Council held a meeting Tuesday, November 25, 2025 at 5:00 PM, at the Brookings City & County Government Center, Chambers, with the following City Council members present: Mayor Oepke Niemeyer, and Council Members Wayne Avery, Brianna Doran, Lisa Hager, Bonny Specker, and Holly Tilton Byrne. Absent: Council Member Nick Wendell. City Manager Paul Briseno, City Attorney J. Vince Jones, and City Clerk Bonnie Foster were also present.

Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, that the agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 6 - Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne; Absent: 1 - Wendell.

Executive Session. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Mayor Niemeyer, to enter into Executive Session at 5:01 p.m., pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2.1, for discussing the qualifications, competence, performance, character or fitness of any public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. The term, employee, does not include any independent contractor. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, to exit Executive Session at 5:55 p.m. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, that the consent agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 6 - Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne; Absent: 1 - Wendell.

A. Action to approve the November 18, 2025 City Council Minutes.

B. Action on Volunteer Board, Committee, and Commission appointments: Board of Appeals: reappoint Paul Sahr (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Gabriel Lowe (term expires 1/1/2029). Brookings Disability Awareness Committee: reappoint Ali Teesdale (term expires 1/1/2029); reappoint Carrie Smith (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Lacy Knutson (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Jamy Shomaker (term expires 1/1/2027). Dacotah Bank Center Advisory Committee: reappoint Elena McKeown (term expires 1/1/2029); reappoint Jeff Holm (term expires 1/1/2029). Historic Preservation Commission: reappoint Walter Kropuenske (term expires 1/1/2029); reappoint Matthew Weiss (term expires 1/1/2029); reappoint Sandra Callies (term expires 1/1/2029). Human Rights Commission: reappoint Dianne Nagy (term expires 1/1/2029); reappoint Sydnie Peters (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Kamerra Brown (term expires 1/1/2029). Library Board: reappoint Kathryn Miller (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Moriah Flanagan (term expires 1/1/2029). Planning Commission: reappoint Billie Jo Henrichs (term expires 12/31/2028); reappoint Scot Leddy (term expires 12/31/2028); reappoint Roger Solum (term expires 12/31/2028). Public Arts Commission: reappoint Donna Merkt (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Colton Runge (term expires 1/1/2029); new appointment Mark Stemwedel

(term expires 1/1/2029). Sustainability Council: new appointment Bailey Tevedal (term expires 1/1/2029).

C. Action on annual renewals for Medical Cannabis Establishment Licenses in the City of Brookings: The Flower Shop, LLC – 1004 6th Street; and Genesis Farms, LLC – 2035 Orchard Drive, #5.

D. Action on Temporary Alcohol / Special Event Alcoholic Beverage Licenses from existing alcohol license holders: Pints & Quarts (License Holder RL-19736): TL25-029 (12/04/2025) – KD Diamonds / KWD Ventures (1208 South Main Avenue)

E. Action on Resolution 25-096, a Resolution declaring surplus property for the City of Brookings.

RESOLUTION 25-096 - DECLARING SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings is the owner of the following described equipment formerly used at the City of Brookings:
Community Development Dept.: misc. office furniture

WHEREAS, in the best financial interest, it is the desire of the City of Brookings to dispose of as surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager is hereby authorized to sell or dispose of said surplus property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the City of Brookings, SD, that this property be declared surplus property according to SDCL Chapter 6-13.

Proclamation – Small Business Saturday. Mayor Niemeyer presented a Proclamation recognizing Small Business Saturday to Kirsten Gjesdal, Downtown Brookings Director, and Stephanie Mason, Brookings Economic Development Corporation.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Independent Business Alliance, spending at independent local businesses puts 3.5 times more money in the local economy as shopping at a chain store; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, there are 33.2 million small businesses in the United States and they employ 61.6 million workers; and

WHEREAS, the Saturday after Thanksgiving is Small Business Saturday in communities across the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor of the City of Brookings, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 29, 2025 as Small Business Saturday, and urge residents to shop, dine, and support locally throughout the year.

Presentation – Mass Notification System. Sherry Fuller Bordewyk, Public Information Officer, provided an overview of the City's new mass notifications and alerts software system which enhances communication efforts with citizens. A mass notification system is a communication tool that enables entities, such as local governments, to send messages simultaneously to a large number of subscribers.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-039. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-039, an Ordinance to Rezone Lot 3 of Block 2 of Telkamp Industrial Addition from an Industrial I-1R Restricted District to an Industrial I-1 Light District. Public Hearing and Action: December 9, 2025.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-040. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-040, an Ordinance for a Conditional Use Permit to Establish an Office in a Residence R-2 Two-Family District (709 Main Avenue). Public Hearing and Action: December 9, 2025.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-041. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-041, an Ordinance to Rezone NE ¼ NW ¼ excluding Outlot A in Section 3-T109N-R50W from the Residential R-3 Apartment District to a Residential R-1A Single Family District (1115 West 20th Street South). Public Hearing and Action: December 9, 2025.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-037. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-037, an Ordinance Setting the Annual Election Date. (June) Second Reading and Action: December 9, 2025.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-038. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-038, an Ordinance Setting the Annual Election Date. (November) Second Reading and Action: December 9, 2025.

Ordinance 25-036. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Specker, that Ordinance 25-036, an Ordinance Authorizing Budget Amendment No. 8 to the 2025 Budget, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 6 - Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne; Absent: 1 - Wendell.

Resolution 25-088. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, that Resolution 25-088, a Resolution to build a splash pad at the Fishback Soccer Complex, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 6 - Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne; Absent: 1 - Wendell.

RESOLUTION 25-088 - RESOLUTION TO BUILD A SPLASH PAD
AT FISHBACK SOCCER COMPLEX

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings has determined a need for free outdoor aquatic play options; and

WHEREAS, the City has budgeted funds to build a splash pad; and

WHEREAS, the City has completed a Request for Proposals and will build a splash pad with Ascend Contracting in the amount of \$684,000; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Brookings hereby authorizes the approval to build a splash pad at Fishback Soccer Complex.

Progress Report. Samantha Beckman, Assistant to the City Manager, provided a progress report highlighting the City's initiatives and projects.

Adjourn. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, that this meeting be adjourned at 7:04 p.m. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

CITY OF BROOKINGS, SD

Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Foster, City Clerk