

BROOKINGS CITY COUNCIL
August 26, 2025 (unapproved)

The Brookings City Council held a meeting Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 6:00 PM, at the Brookings City & County Government Center, Chambers, with the following City Council members present: Mayor Oepke Niemeyer, Council Members Wayne Avery, Brianna Doran, Lisa Hager, Bonny Specker, Holly Tilton Byrne, and Nick Wendell. City Manager Paul Briseno, City Attorney J. Vincent 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: 7 – Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne, and Wendell.

Open Forum. Kristin Zimmerman, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Director, shared the following details about the trees in the City following damage to a young tree on 4th Street: "I just wanted to make you aware of damage we experienced this past weekend. A three-year-old tree in one of our boulevards was killed due to people hanging or pulling on it. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident—last year nearly 20 trees were lost to similar damage, with an estimated cost of nearly \$10,000. It is not just about the financial impact—it is also the environmental impact.

Trees are one of the iconic elements of what makes our city great. They provide shade and cooling in the summer months, improve air quality, reduce stormwater runoff, support wildlife habitat, and increase property values. Beyond these practical benefits, trees also create welcoming public spaces and contribute to the overall character and beauty of Brookings.

For residents, this means cooler neighborhoods, cleaner air to breathe, safer and more attractive streets, and healthier spaces for children and families to gather. For future generations, it means leaving behind a community that is greener, more resilient, and more enjoyable to live in.

Our Forestry team is already working hard to manage Emerald Ash Borer, Pine Wilt, and Dutch Elm Disease, so having healthy trees purposely destroyed is both disheartening and unacceptable.

The good news is that Brookings is a community that values its trees, and we know that most residents care deeply about protecting and preserving them. Several departments within the City of Brookings are working together to raise awareness, monitor park and boulevard areas, and share reminders with the public about the value of trees and the long-term impact of these losses. Staff are also reviewing strategies to prevent and address this type of damage moving forward.

By working together, we can continue to grow a community where trees thrive, families enjoy their shade, and future generations inherit a stronger, greener Brookings."

Council Member Wendell expressed his gratitude for local media sources to be carrying local news: Brookings Register and Brookings Radio. He encouraged the public to support these entities, as they need revenue generation to survive.

Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Wendell, that the consent agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 7 - Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne, and Wendell.

A. Action to approve the August 12, 2025 City Council Minutes.

B. Action on an appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission: Walker Kropuenske (term expires 1/1/2026).

C. Action on Resolution 25-068, a Resolution declaring surplus property for the City of Brookings.

RESOLUTION 25-068 - DECLARING SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings is the owner of the following described equipment formerly used at the City of Brookings:

Fire Department: 2003 Ford F150, VIN: 1FTFW1T81PKE83495.

Police Department: #73 Blue Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #5630109524LB; #72 Purple Trek Mountain Tack, Serial #C45B1327; #57 Black and Blue Unknown, Serial #6S14507766; #4100 Silver Unknown, Serial #N/A; #41 Teal Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #5S31913524LB; #4098 Blue and White Huffy RC All Terrain, Serial #5630105924; #4064 Red Trek Mountain Track, Serial #N/A; #39 Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #5631914424LB; #22 Black Huffy Cranbrook, Serial #5643928023Y; #2074 White and Blue Huffy Cranbrook, Serial #HTC3024823; #2055 Purple and Silver Schwinn Sidewinder, Serial #N/A; #14 Purple Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #SNHT21C18157; #1027 Blue and Silver Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #SNHBT23D07351; #0600 Gray and Teal Schwinn Quest Omega, Serial #N/A; #0056 Gray Huffy Rockcreek, Serial #SNHTM9AA12208; #0047 Maroon Roadmaster Elevation, Serial #S1H0107331; #0030 Black and Green Gary Fisher Shimano, Serial #00TD201990; #0028 Purple and Silver Magna Great Divide, Serial #03TD1088704; #0018 Blue and Green Ridgeland, Serial #N/A; #0012 Red and White Huffy Trailrunner, Serial #N/A; #0008 Gray Schwinn, Serial #N/A.

Parks & Recreation Department: Railroad sign.

Brookings Regional Landfill: 1996 Cat 140H Blade, Serial #2ZK00669; 2 - 1998 Wildcat Semi Trailer Dolley; 2014 John Deere 950J Dozer, Serial #1LU950JXPZT013827; 2015 All Purpose Spraying Machine, CAPS Model 1200EL-514-08 Trailer, Serial #24514.

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.

D. Action on Resolution 25-074, a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an On-Sale Liquor Operating Agreement with Den Wil Hospitality Group, Inc., dba The End Zone.

RESOLUTION 25-074 - ON-SALE LIQUOR OPERATING AGREEMENT –
10-YEAR AGREEMENT

DEN WIL HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC., DBA THE END ZONE

BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Brookings, South Dakota, that the City Council hereby approves an Operating Alcohol Management Agreement for Convention Liquor between the City of Brookings and Dennis Bielfeldt, owner, Den Wil Hospitality Group, Inc., dba The End Zone, for the purpose of an alcohol manager to operate the on-sale establishment or business for and on behalf of the City of Brookings at 2515 6th Street. Legal description: Block 12, Telkamp Addition, City of Brookings, Brookings County, South Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager be authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City, which shall be for a period of 10-years, with a 5-year mid-term renewal.

E. Action on Resolution 25-073, a Resolution Awarding Bids on the 2025-2026 Contractor Snow Removal Equipment Contracts.

RESOLUTION 25-073 - RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR 2025-2026
CONTRACTOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings opened bids for Snow Removal Equipment on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 1:30 pm at the Brookings City and County Government Center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Brookings received the following bids for Snow Removal Equipment:

Five (5) Motor Graders with Wing: Six (6) bids received.

1. Bowes Construction, Inc.	CAT140M	\$255.00/hour
2. Bowes Construction, Inc.	CAT140M	\$255.00/hour
3. Austreim Excavating, LLC	JD 772CH	\$255.00/hour
4. Austreim Excavating, LLC	JD 770G	\$255.00/hour
5. Austreim Excavating, LLC	JD 772 G	\$255.00/hour
6. Bowes Construction, Inc.	CAT140M	\$240.00/hour (no wing)

One (1) 3 to 6 Yard Loader: Four (4) bids received.

1. Winter Contracting, LLC	644K	4.5CY \$198.00/hour
2. Winter Contracting, LLC	624K	3.5CY \$154.00/hour

3. Bowes Construction, Inc CAT966M 5CY \$220.00/hour
4. Bowes Construction, Inc CAT950M 4CY \$195.00/hour

Four (4) Loaders with Reversible Blades: Four (4) bids received.

1. Bowes Construction, Inc. CAT938K \$230.00/hour
2. Austreim Excavating, LLC JD544K \$255.00/hour
3. Austreim Excavating, LLC JD544K II \$255.00/hour
4. Austreim Excavating, LLC 624K \$255.00/hour

Four (4) End-Dump Trucks: Twelve (12) bids received.

1. Winter Contracting LLC #14 23.00CY \$145.00/hour
2. Prussman Contracting Inc. #19 22.80CY \$145.00/hour
3. Prussman Contracting Inc. #20 22.80CY \$145.00/hour
4. Austreim Excavating, LLC #28 22.20CY \$144.00/hour
5. Austreim Excavating, LLC #29 22.20CY \$144.00/hour
6. Prussman Contracting Inc. #22 22.20CY \$145.00/hour
7. Prussman Contracting Inc. #21 20.60CY \$145.00/hour
8. Prussman Contracting Inc. #23 19.50CY \$145.00/hour
9. Bowes Construction, Inc. T1 12.00CY \$145.00/hour
10. Bowes Construction, Inc. T28 12.00CY \$145.00/hour
11. Bowes Construction, Inc. T29 12.00CY \$145.00/hour
12. Bowes Construction, Inc. T30 12.00CY \$145.00/hour

Six (6) Side-Dump Trucks: Twelve (12) bids received.

1. Winter Contracting LLC #10 34CY \$179.00/hour
2. Winter Contracting LLC #12 34CY \$179.00/hour
3. Winter Contracting LLC #15 34CY \$179.00/hour
4. Austreim Excavating, LLC #27 25CY \$164.00/hour
5. Austreim Excavating, LLC #37 25CY \$164.00/hour
6. Austreim Excavating, LLC #23 25CY \$164.00/hour
7. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-5 17CY \$170.00/hour
8. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-11 17CY \$170.00/hour
9. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-12 17CY \$170.00/hour
10. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-18 17CY \$170.00/hour
11. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-31 17CY \$170.00/hour
12. Bowes Construction, Inc. T-32 17CY \$170.00/hour

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all bids be accepted.

F. Action on Temporary Alcohol / Special Event Alcoholic Beverage Licenses from existing alcohol license holders: Sodexo Catering (License Holder RB-28249 and RW-28251): SDSU TL25-079, SDSU TL25-080.

Introduction of promoted City of Brookings employee. Troy Hughes, Fire Department Chief, introduced promoted City of Brookings employee, Jeremy Scott, as the new Deputy Fire Chief.

Report: SDSU Student Association. Anna Hundt, SDSU Student's Assoc. Government Affairs Chair, provided an update on SDSU current affairs.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-030. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-030, an Ordinance Certifying the 2026 City of Brookings Property Tax Levy to the Brookings County Finance Officer. Second Reading and Action: September 9, 2025.

FIRST READING – Ordinance 25-031. Introduction and First Reading was held on Ordinance 25-031, an Ordinance Authorizing Budget Amendment No. 7 to the 2025 Budget. Second Reading and Action: September 9, 2025.

Ordinance 25-029. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Doran, that Ordinance 25-029, an Ordinance Authorizing Budget Amendment No. 6 to the 2025 Budget, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 7 – Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne, and Wendell.

On-Off Sale Malt License. A public hearing was held on a request to transfer an On-Off Sale Malt License, for 4300 South Main Avenue, from Edwin Alvarez, owner, Yessica's LLC, to Rebeca Maria Sala, owner, Qiubo Restaurant LLC. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Wendell, that the transfer of the On-Off Sale Malt License be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 7 – Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne, and Wendell.

Resolution 25-070. A public hearing was held on Resolution 25-070, a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a 10-year On-Off Sale Wine Operating Agreement with Rebeca Maria Salas, Qiubo Restaurant LLC. A motion was made by Council Member Tilton Byrne, seconded by Council Member Specker, that Resolution 25-070 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote: Yes: 7 – Avery, Doran, Hager, Niemeyer, Specker, Tilton Byrne, and Wendell.

RESOLUTION 25-070 - ON-SALE WINE OPERATING AGREEMENT – 10-YEAR
AGREEMENT: REBECA MARIA SALAS, QIUBO RESTAURANT LLC

BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Brookings, South Dakota, that the City Council hereby approves an Operating Alcohol Management Agreement for Wine between the City of Brookings and Rebeca Maria Salas, owner, Qiubo Restaurant LLC, for the purpose of an alcohol manager to operate the on-sale establishment or business for and on behalf of the City of Brookings at 4300 Main Avenue South. Legal description: Lot 1, excluding the South 92 feet of the West 40 feet, Block 3, Fishback Second Addition, City of Brookings, Brookings County, South Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager be authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City, which shall be for a period of 10-years, with a 5-year mid-term renewal.

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 Wendell, seconded by Council Member Doran, that this meeting be adjourned at 6:36 p.m. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

CITY OF BROOKINGS, SD

Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Foster, City Clerk