

BROOKINGS CITY COUNCIL
May 19, 2026 (unapproved)

The Brookings City Council held a Study Session on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 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, and Holly Tilton Byrne. Deputy City Manager Johnny Mays was also present. Absent: Council Member Nick Wendell, City Manager Paul Briseno, City Attorney J. Vincent Jones and City Clerk Bonnie Foster.

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

Presentation: Bystander to Upstander Training. Jen Dreiske, Chief Operations Officer for South Dakota Voices for Peace, is host for the bystander to UPSTANDER intervention training. Throughout the presentation, City Council and the public will become empowered to advocate for others by being equipped with skills to realistically disrupt incidents of discrimination and hate. Jen educates the audience on microaggressions, apathy, and strength, while sharing with us how to use courage and bring victims of bigotry back into belonging.

Adjourn. A motion was made by Council Member Doran, seconded by Council member Tilton Byrne, that this meeting be adjourned at 8:04 PM. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

CITY OF BROOKINGS, SD

Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Foster, City Clerk