

**LOWRY CITY BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2026 6:00 pm**  
**Draft Minutes**

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mayor Patricia Landes called the regular session of the Lowry City Board of Aldermen to order at 6 p.m. in the council room at city hall. Board members attending included East Ward Aldermen Charles Cone and Jackie Cutler, West Ward Aldermen Sean Langston and Shirley Edmunds. City Clerk John Farrell, Temporary Water Sewer Superintendent Mike Clark, Police Chief Charles Hodges, Fire Chief Justin Norris, Water and Sewer City Worker Deryk Meyer and several others from the community were also in attendance. Notice of the meeting was given pursuant to RSMo. 610.020. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Landes.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The board reviewed the regular session minutes from February 17, 2026. Cone moved and Langston seconded to approve the minutes. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. The board reviewed the closed session minutes from February 24, 2026. Langston moved and Edmunds seconded to approve the minutes. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Bills:**

A list of bills from February 18, 2026 through March 16, 2026 was presented for approval. It was noted in the list is the worker's compensation renewal due at the end of the month. The overall payroll amount decreased 9.8% which added to decreasing the overall premium 9.1% from last year. Langston moved and Cutler seconded the motion to approve the bills presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial reports:**

Financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2026 were presented and reviewed. It was noted total income at 69.5 percent and total expenses at 71.6 percent of budgeted amount for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Cutler moved and Cone seconded to accept the financial reports. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Old or unfinished business-**None

**New business-**

***Approval of health insurance coverage for employees (April 15 deadline)***

It was noted the city received a quote for employee health insurance for FY 2026-2027. Rates decreased 2.2% from last year to \$1,204.50 per month per employee. It was noted if the city decides to keep paying 80-percent, their portion equals \$963.60 monthly and the employee portion will go down to \$240.90 monthly. On a motion from Langston and a second from

Edmunds the board unanimously agreed to accept the quote and allow the city clerk to sign the 2026-2027 contract for employee healthcare coverage from Missouri Chamber Federation.

***Hazard Mitigation Resolution 2026-01***

Resolution 2026-01 was presented for approval. Langston noted he would like additional clarification on the resolution. Farrell noted that he could have a representative from Kasinger Regional Planning Commission, the group requesting the matter be approved, attend a future meeting for additional explanation.

***Fund transfer for wages in 2026***

Farrell requested the cemetery checking fund payback the general fund for 2026 cemetery wages. It was noted in years past; there has not been enough funds in the account to do so. It was noted currently the cemetery account has an estimated \$9,000. Last year, cemetery wages totaled \$8,918.52 and in 2024, wages totaled \$6,331.82. On a motion from Langston and a second from Edmunds the board unanimously agreed to have the cemetery fund payback the general fund for wages.

**Citizen input:**

Donneita Offield asked questions in reference to the city clerk's resignation at the last meeting. The mayor noted the clerk changed his mind. Langston stated the board did not accept the resignation. Offield questioned a closed session meeting planned and if it was in reference to the clerk. Landes confirmed the closed session scheduled was not regarding the clerk. Offield also had questions for each board member as to their past training.

**Department and group reports/updates:**

**City Hall:** Farrell noted Lauber Municipal Law and Missouri Municipal League are hosting city officials training seminars in various locations. He stated a report is included in the board packet with the number of views on Facebook and website noting the website has been up for a year. Farrell stated April 4 the Lowry City Community Betterment will host a City-Wide Garage Sale followed by a City-Wide Clean Up on April 11. He noted sign-up sheets for an advertising is at city hall. Farrell said several yard clean-up letters have been mailed out or hand delivered by the Lowry City Police Department to city residents and landowners in the past few weeks. City Resident Thad Jiles questioned the process and fines the city has in place for blighted properties. It was noted when a written complaint is signed, a letter is sent to the landowner that gives 10 days for action and the matter is turned over to the police at that point to issue citations.

**Police Department:** Police Chief Hodges noted a slow month with only a few tickets issued. He did report on a recent pursuit that ended with an arrest in Clinton.

**Fire Department:** Fire Chief Norris also reported a slower month. He noted response to a few accidents. Norris updated the board on maintenance of the fleet and upcoming classes that are being held and possibly being attended by firefighters. The chief noted the department is officially a member of the Firefighters Association of Missouri. He said the old brush truck, a 1985 Chevrolet

3/4-ton 4x4, will be taken to the Wade consignment auction set for March 28 to be auctioned. He praised Schaelyn Bell from the woman's auxiliary for applying and receiving a \$2,000 grant through MFA. Norris noted the funds will be used for lighting.

**Public Works:** Clark reported the city has a site inspection with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on March 19. He reported the water and sewer system are functioning properly. He praised Meyer, the new city employee hired to train for water and sewer, for doing a good job. Meyer stated he is learning as much as possible and is searching for training classes to begin attending within the coming months.

**Mayor's notes:** Mayor Landes had nothing to add.

**Adjourn to closed session:**

Langston moved and Edmunds seconded to adjourn to closed session pursuant to 610.021.3 Hiring, firing, promoting or discipline of a specific employee. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

**Adjournment of regular open session:**

Edmunds moved and Langston seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned.

{Seal}

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Patricial Landes, Mayor

Attest:

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John Farrell, City Clerk