

Lawton City Council

January 14, 2026

The Lawton city council met in regular session at 5:30pm on January 14, 2026, in the council chambers at 315 Ash St. Mayor Pedersen called the meeting to order around 5:30pm. Roll call was answered by Byers, Heiss, Nelson, Niehus, and Otto.

Ordinance 2026-01 Modifying the Speed Zone on Highway 20, Lawton, IA

IA-DOT representative, Bethany Waltersdorf presented a request to modify the speed limit on Highway 20 within Lawton city limits. Modifying the current 55mph zone to 45 mph. AJ Nitzschke presented statistics from the IA State Patrol in support of the change. After discussion, motion by Otto, second by Niehus to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2026-01 modifying the speed limit within city limits to 45 mph. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members voting aye.

Ordinance 2026-01 Second and Third Readings: Motion by Nelson, second by Niehus to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings of Ordinance 2026-01 Modifying the Speed Zone on Highway 20. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members voting aye.

Public forum: Diane Niewohner addressed the council on the can recycle cage and the mess that continually occurs.

Sheriff: Deputy Lynde shared the WCSO December report including 13 directed patrols and 6 calls for service.

Fire: Chief Ludwig reported one call for service, no training in the month of December, and total calls for 2025 was 63.

Mayor: Mayor Pedersen reported setting a meeting with the Woodbury County REC/USDA representatives about a loan funding opportunity for the fire station project, contacting a potential band for the 2026 street dance, and attending the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss the FY27 county library budget asking. Mayor also shared county library budget numbers and information from the county meeting.

Clerk: clerk reported there was one building permit approved for 414 E Main for a fence, 2025 W2s are completed and submitted, 1099s will be completed next week, and have been working on the FY27 budget.

Public Works: director reported submitting the 2025 annual water usage report where usage exceeded current permit with IA-DNR. Also, have until April to complete the required training to become a grade 2 water distribution operator.

Attorney: attorney shared a documentation letter for the fence building permit for 101 Eagle Court from December meeting.

Consent agenda: motion by Heiss, second by Otto to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025, regular city council meeting. Motion carried with all voting aye. Motion by Otto, second by Heiss to approve the January disbursements and December claims for payment and financial reports. Motion carried with all voting aye. Motion by Nelson, second by Heiss to approve the utility trial balance and accounts receivable audit report. Motion carried with all voting aye.

Fire station: a set of building drawings were presented for an approx. 3840 sq ft building. Discussion on funding sources, including grants, loans, fundraising, and other contributions. After discussions, motion by Heiss, second by Otto, to approve the building engineer, Eric Hanson-KC Engineering, to send requests for information for project, contingent on attorney approval. Motion carried with all voting aye.

Appointment: Mayor Pedersen appointed Kurt Miene as the Lawton representative for the Woodbury County Emergency Management-911 commission.

MRHD Event Grant: motion by Nelson, second by Byers to apply for the 2026 MRHD Community Event Grant for the annual street dance. Motion carried with Byers, Nelson, Niehus, Otto, voting aye, and Heiss abstaining.

Deed Restriction: Motion by Heiss, second by Otto to approve Resolution 2025-05 Releasing Deed Restrictions from 321 E Birch St, Lawton, IA. Motion carried with all voting aye.

Welcome sign: discussion on current "Welcome to Lawton" signs' replacement or repair. Item tabled to gather more information.

Resolution 2026-01 Appointing City Clerk, City Attorney, and Public Works Director

Motion by Heiss, second by Nelson to approve Resolution 2026-01 appointing Tricia Jernberg as city clerk, Ryan Beardshear as city attorney, and Justin Dunnington as public works director. Motion passed on a roll call vote with all members voting aye.

Resolution 2026-02 Depository Resolution

Motion by Niehus, second by Byers to approve Resolution 2026-02 naming Security National Bank as depository and naming the Jesse Pedersen, Tricia Jernberg, and Erin Nelson on bank accounts. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2026-03 Approval of Investment Policy

Motion by Otto, second by Heiss to approve Resolution 2026-03 approval of investment policy. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2026-04 Records Custodian

Motion by Nelson, second by Niehus to approve Resolution 2026-04 designating records custodians. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting aye.

Library budget: Item tabled to gather more information.

Fire budget: Motion by Otto, second by Heiss to approve the presented budget of \$67,976. Motion carried with all voting aye.

FY26-27 Budget: discussion on draft of the FY26-27 and potential tax rate.

With no further business, motion by Otto, second by Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 7:31pm. Motion carried with all voting aye.

Jesse Pedersen, Mayor

Tricia Jernberg, City Clerk

City of Lawton- December 2025- Claims & Revenues

ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	SHOCKS FOR F550	\$	101.88
BADGER METER	WATER READ SERVICES	\$	74.75
BEELNER SERVICE INC.	WINTERIZE SPRINKLERS	\$	150.00
BEKINS FIRE & SAFETY	ANNUAL EXTINGUISHER SERVICE	\$	337.52
BOMGAARS	JD CLOTHING ALLOWANCE-JEANS	\$	146.95
CARROT-TOP INDUSTRIES INC	AMERICAN FLAGS	\$	234.46
CITY OF LAWTON	FIRE UTILITIES	\$	40.05
COLLECTION SERVICES CENTR	CHILD SUPPORT	\$	353.52
CULLIGAN OF PIERSON	WATER	\$	28.50
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	WATER LINE SUPPLIES	\$	1,401.93
DANKO	FIRE-HAND ASCENDER & ETRIER	\$	153.44
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	\$	4,323.05
FELD FIRE	HOSEROLL STORAGE BOX-FIRE	\$	549.88
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB	WATER & LAGOON TESTING	\$	183.00
HAKA	PW & FIRE FUEL	\$	962.89
IA DEPT OF REV- PAYROLL	STATE TAXES	\$	1,328.69
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	\$	11.70
IPERS	REGULAR IPERS	\$	3,091.22
JUSTIN DUNNINGTON	PR ADVANCE	\$	1,180.00
LINDBLOM SERVICES INC	TREEPILE HAULX2 & MONTHLYRENT	\$	1,348.52
LOWES HOME IMPROVEMENT	WATER TESTING KIT	\$	13.57
MENARDS - SIOUX CITY	QUONSET MAINTENANCE/DOORHANDLE	\$	1,098.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITIES	\$	3,300.09
MIDWEST HONDA	UTV OIL CHANGE SUPPLIES	\$	67.60
MIDWEST WHEEL COMPANIES	BATTERIES- FIRE	\$	574.69
OFFICE SUPPLY.COM	OFFICE TELEPHONE	\$	62.89
SAMS CLUB	JANITORIAL CC/FC	\$	87.66
SECURITY NATIONAL BANK	SAFE DEPOSIT BOX RENT	\$	40.00
SOOLAND BOBCAT	TOOLCAT REPAIR	\$	5,575.67
SUTER SERVICES	SERVICE COMM CENTER	\$	834.60

T&W TIRE	REPAIR TOOLCAT TIRE	\$	59.36
TREAS ST IA	NOVEMBER WET	\$	866.37
TREE DOGS TREE SERVICE	TREEREMOVAL X25 & STUMP GRIND	\$	21,900.00
USABLUEBOOK	WATER TESTING SUPPLIES	\$	643.22
USPS POSTAL STORE	STAMPED ENVELOPES	\$	2,387.65
WELLMARK	HEALTH INSURANCE	\$	2,039.72
WESTERN IOWA TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$	529.32

Total claims by funds- General \$32,559.20, Fire \$1,392.83, Road Use Tax \$9,538.91, Water \$9,388.59, Sewer \$3,202.83

Total revenues by fund: General \$33,873.08, Fire \$6,470.56, Road Use Tax \$10,705.90, Local Option Sales Tax \$25,666.06, Building 2022 \$212.35, Water \$16,552.72, Sewer \$21,430.87