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City of Lignite Council Proceedings

Special Meeting March 11, 2026
Interviews
Meeting called to order by CP W. Rick. Present CVP J. Ruby, Council members K. Termine, N. Sandberg and Auditor Knutson. Guests Tiffany Ryan and Gabby Zepp.
Interviews for the auditor position were conducted.
Motion to adjourn by K. Termine, second by J. Ruby. All in favor, motion carried.

Lisa Knutson, City Auditor
Special Meeting March 12, 2026
Interview & 250 Anniversary
Meeting called to order by Mayor L. Granrud. Present CP W. Rick, CVP J. Ruby, Council members K. Termine, N. Sandberg and Auditor Knutson. Guest Kimberly Jones, by phone Hope Vasquez & Betty Westenbarger.
Interviews for the auditor position were conducted.
Motion to purchase 12 street banners by K. Termine, second by W. Rick. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion to adjourn by W. Rick, second by N. Sandberg. All in favor, motion carried.

March 18, 2026

City of Bowbells Council Proceedings

March 9, 2026
Unofficial Minutes
PRESENT: Council members: Michael Bolton, Laurie Lemmon & Casey Beeter; Lanette Jager City Auditor, Dylan Bengé Maintenance Supervisor.
MEMBERS ABSENT: Archie Deckert. Mayor Shannon Holter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Motion was made by Bolton, second by Beeter, to approve the minutes as written for February 9th, 2025. Motion was carried.
Meeting opened up to public comments. No public comments.
Motion was made by Bolton, second by Beeter to approve the financial reports for February 2026. Roll call vote: Lemmon: Aye, Beeter: Aye & Bolton: Aye. Motion carried.
Motion was made by Bolton second by Beeter to pay the bills for March 2026 with discussion on the K Squared bill that the city paid for Knife River's warranty work on the water tower. Roll call vote: Lemmon: Aye, Beeter: Aye & Bolton: Aye. Motion carried.

BILLS: Burke County Sheriff \$400.00; Burke Tribune 81.34; Circle Sanitation 5447.75; Dakota Insurance 45.00; Dennis Bengé 334.10; DEQ 183.55; Elan Financial 1014.36; Farmers Union Hardware 30.71; Farmers Union Oil 331.80; FDHU 30.00; Lanette Jager 285.36; Menard's 21.38; MDU 3212.93; MW Industries 315.00; NCC 247.41;

Nett's Electric 3837.93; Upper Souris Water 4640.00; VESTIS 132.46; BC/BS 247.00. TOTAL \$20,838.08.

Dylan Bengé gave his maintenance report: 2 new heaters replaced in the shop by Nett's Electric. Plow truck was welded by MW Industries. Dylan presented council with a manhole map. Dylan will get a quote from HK Solution to fix manholes.

Archie joined the meeting at 7:15 pm. **Motion was made by Bolton, second by Beeter** for a 6-year contract with H & H Coating for biannual inspection of the water tower. Roll call vote: Deckert Aye, Lemmon Aye, Beeter Aye & Bolton Aye. Motion was carried.

Burlington Electric for the street light project would like to start early June. Street light poles are ordered.

Dylan will get some quotes on chip sealing streets.

Need to get on the list for the Dura Patcher early this year for patching streets.

Dylan is certified for spraying weeds; he has finished his pesticide training.

Dylan would like to look at trading in the Big Dog mowers for new ones for summer mowing. He will get quotes for new mowers.

Dylan will be attending State Water School April 6-8 for continued credits.
Discussion on city mowing will be done by Dylan & Dennis.

Motion was made by Bolton, seconded by Beeter to approve Vets gaming application of 3000.00 to the Bowbells Senior Citizens to help cover costs for monthly expenditures. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bolton, seconded by Beeter to approve Vets gaming application of 500.00 to the Bowbells Speech Program. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Beeter, seconded by Lemmon to approve Vets gaming application of 25,000 to the Bowbells Ambulance for a Lifepak 35. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Beeter, seconded by Bolton to approve Building Permit # 780 to Northstar Steel Inc. for a pre-engineered metal building 90 x 104 at 506 Centennial Drive. Motion was carried.

Tax Equalization meeting will be next meeting on April 13th, 2026, at the City Auditor's office.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. Next City Council Meeting will be April 13th, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

ATTEST: Shannon Holter, Mayor
Lanette Jager, City Auditor

March 18, 2026

Bowbells School Board Proceedings

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 17, 2026
Official Minutes

Present were J.R. Aufforth, Adam Jensen, Steven Pfeifer, Tyler Ross, Jill Wettstein, Superintendent Thingvold, teacher Golde, teacher Anderson, (representing the local teachers union), teacher Nelson and Business Manager Daugherty (Central Regional Education Association). The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Aufforth.

Motion by Wettstein, seconded by Pfeifer to approve the Consent Agenda with addition to add Charity Wrolson leave to agenda. (Agenda, January 12, 2026, minutes, and January 2026 Bills). Motion carried.

Public Comment: None
Student Outcomes: The local FBLA chapter gave a presentation about the various activities, fundraisers, and achievements of the chapter over the school year.

Administrative/Committee Reports: Business Manager report was presented by Business Manager Daugherty.

Building committee: Sound enhancement equipment will be installed over the summer. Equipment has been received onsite. Discussion about possible funding sources for upcoming roof repairs. Possible summer project to drop the ceiling in the shop room.

Transportation: Superintendent Thingvold received two minibus bids for board review and discussion.

Policy: Three policy updates provided to the board for review; Whistleblower Protections (ACF), Section 504 (AACA), and Wellness Policy (ABEA).

Administration: Student engagement survey was completed with results later this spring. Infinite Campus transition is underway with trainings planned throughout the spring and summer. The 2024-2025 on-site audit was completed on 2/16/2026 with final report to come. The results of the state complaint were received with a finding of no violation. Teacher Wrolson requested extended leave through the remainder of the 2025-2026 academic year.

Old Business:
Motion to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar as presented was made by Wettstein and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

New Business:
Motion to approve the first reading of policy ACF, AACA, ABEA was made by Jensen and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the bus bid submitted by IState Truck Centers was made by Jensen and seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the date of the 2026 school board election for Tuesday, June 9th was made by Wettstein and seconded by Ross. Motion carried.

Motion to extend leave to the end of the school year for Teacher Wrolson was made by Ross and seconded by Pfeifer. Motion carried.

BILLS: GENERAL FUND: City of Bowbells \$1062.01; Culligan Water 276.00; Farmers Union Oil 2003.99; MDU 9992.08; Northwest Communications 339.02; TMS 103.80; Dacotah Bank 465.50; AFLAC 2740.64; BCBS 9558.50; Colonial Life 219.53; Ameritas 369.48; Wex 140.00; WSI 221.84; Burke County Treasurer 2169.16; Burke County Tribune 46.48; Crea 8070.00; Connect Teletherapy 130.00; Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch 1725.00; Farmers Union Hardware 2573.05; Fireside Office 2573.05; Istate Truck 49.70; Jack & Jill 8.78; NDCL 1145.00; NDSBA 819.00; Northern Plains Spec. Ed. 2041.20; Stein's 1505.83; Twotrees 11,219.97; White Buffalo Construction 5100.00; Americlnn 125.00; Brittney Colbenson 188.50; Dacotah Paper 1625.80; Cat Madar 165.43; Overhead Door 350.00; Pye-Barker Fire Safety 529.00. Total: \$67,150.28.

FOOD FUND: Dacotah Bank \$99.80; E&E Beef 695.00; Magic Wrighter Efund 34.95; Terri Morgel 73.29; Sysco 5657.64. Total: \$6560.68.

ACTIVITY FUND: Dacotah Bank \$1071.10; 4N6 Fanatics 200.00; Coca-Cola 312.50; Courtney Ross 88.09; VSCU Elk Day 125.00; Full Steam Ahead 50.00; Nathan Allen 210.70; Mark

Crosby 120.00; Shawn Egge 355.15; Monty Lund 210.70; ND FBLA 1350.00; Jennifer Nelson 30.00; Sally Reading 30.00; Hunter Rodin 143.20; Courtney Seime 60.00; Alfred Smith 221.50. Total: \$4577.94.

Other Items: None
Adjourn: 8:08 PM
NEXT MEETING:
DATE: Monday, March 9th
TIME: 7 AM

Attest: JR Aufforth
Board President
Tarek Daugher (CREA)
Business Manager

March 18, 2026

Powers Lake School Board Proceedings

Unofficial Abbreviated Special School Board Meeting Minutes
Powers Lake School District #27
Wednesday, February 25, 2026
4:00 pm - Science Room
Powers Lake, North Dakota

Vice President Bullinger called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm. Other members present were Directors Grote, Breeding, Helseth, and new member to be appointed, Jody Schroeder. Superintendent Kranz and Business Manager Johnson were also present. Dean of Students Hoiby joined the meeting at 4:12 pm. Visitors present were Scott Huber from EAPC. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bullinger took over the role as Board President per policy BBBA - Officers of the Board - Vice President's Duties due to the resignation of Jacob Loeks.

Motion made by Helseth to appoint Jody Schroeder as a board member to fill a vacancy, seconded by Breeding, all in favor, motion carried.

President Bullinger asked the board for appointments for the position of School Board Vice President. Motion by Breeding to appoint Galen Grote as School Board Vice President, seconded by Helseth, all in favor, motion carried.

Strategic Planning - Ag. Ed. Addition - Bid Review:

Scott Huber presented to the board a summary of bids received for the Ag. Ed. Addition Building Project. Discussion on the bids received and what the next steps will be for the project. Recommendation by Scott to go with First Dakota Enterprises, Inc., Single Prime Contract Bid for \$2,172,000. Motion to approve the bid made by Helseth, seconded by Grote, all in favor, motion carried. Notice of Award will be given to the contractor by EAPC.

Storm Make-Up Day:

Superintendent Kranz presented her recommendation to the board not to make up the February 18th storm day due to having the required hours in our school calendar. Board consensus on the decision.

Executive Session - Negotiation Strategies:

Read by President Bullinger - The next item on the agenda is teacher negotiations strategy. This item may be discussed in an executive session only when an open meeting would have an adverse fiscal effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the board. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC Section 44-04-19.1(9).

The topic or purpose of this executive session is teacher negotiations strategy. At this time, a motion would be in order to discuss the next item in executive session rather than in an open meeting. Motion made by Grote, seconded by Schroeder, roll call vote as follows - Grote, Breeding, Schroeder, Helseth, Bullinger - all "aye". Motion carried. The executive session will be recorded. All members of the governing body are reminded to limit their discussion during the executive session to the announced topic. The prohibition on taking final action during the executive session does not apply to providing guidance or instructions to our negotiators. We will now ask the members of the public who are attending the meeting to leave the room. We anticipate adjourning the executive session and reconvening the open portion of the meeting at approximately 5:00 pm. The minutes will show that the executive session began at 4:22 pm and was attended by: Jeremy Bullinger, Galen Grote, Jon Breeding, Jody Schroeder, Roger Helseth, Sue Kranz, and Shayna Johnson. The topics discussed included the negotiation items presented by the teachers, as well as the recommendations of the board's negotiations committee and the reasoning behind those recommendations, in preparation for presenting counteroffers at the next negotiations meeting. The minutes will show that the executive session was adjourned at 5:08 pm. The public has been invited to return to the meeting room, and we are now back in open session.

Motion to adjourn made by Helseth, seconded by Breeding, meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Jeremy Bullinger,
School Board President
Shayna Johnson, Business Manager

Unofficial Abbreviated Special School Board Meeting Minutes

Powers Lake School District #27
Thursday, March 5, 2026
4:30 pm - Science Room
Powers Lake, North Dakota

President Bullinger called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm. Other members present were Vice President Grote, Directors Breeding, Helseth, and Schroeder. Superintendent Kranz, Principal Wisthoff, and Business Manager Johnson were also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Discussion on whether to offer a candidate the assistant principal position. Clarification on duties assigned, title, and responsibilities. Motion to approve offering a contract for the agreed-upon salary made by Breeding, seconded by Helseth, all in favor, motion carried. Contract was offered for PK-5 Principal

& 6-8 Asst. Principal for a term of 10 months with a salary of \$80,000 and \$11,225 cash in lieu of benefit.

Motion to approve updating the bank resolution at Liberty State Bank from former President Loeks to current Board President Jeremy Bullinger, made by Schroeder, seconded by Grote, all in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session - Negotiation Strategies:

Read by President Bullinger - The next item on the agenda is teacher negotiations strategy. This item may be discussed in an executive session only when an open meeting would have an adverse fiscal effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the board. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC Section 44-04-19.1(9). The topic or purpose of this executive session is teacher negotiations strategy. At this time, a motion would be in order to discuss the next item in executive session rather than in an open meeting. Motion made by Grote, seconded by Schroeder, roll call vote as follows - Grote, Breeding, Schroeder, Helseth, Bullinger - all "aye". Motion carried. The executive session will be recorded. All members of the governing body are reminded to limit their discussion during the executive session to the announced topic. The prohibition on taking final action during the executive session does not apply to providing guidance or instructions to our negotiators. We will now ask the members of the public who are attending the meeting to leave the room. Seth Wisthoff was approved to stay for the meeting. We anticipate adjourning the executive session and reconvening the open portion of the meeting at approximately 5:30 pm. The minutes will show that the executive session began at 4:58 pm and was attended by: Jeremy Bullinger, Galen Grote, Jon Breeding, Jody Schroeder, Roger Helseth, Sue Kranz, Seth Wisthoff, and Shayna Johnson. The topics discussed included the completion of negotiation items, as well as discussion on the undecided negotiation items and the recommended offers from the Board's negotiation committee. The minutes will show that the executive session was adjourned at 5:40 pm. The public has been invited to return to the meeting room, and we are now back in open session.

Motion to adjourn made by Grote, seconded by Breeding, meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Jeremy Bullinger,
School Board President
Shayna Johnson, Business Manager

March 18, 2026

(More Legals on Page 6)

Portal Ambulance District
ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, March 26 - 7:00 PM
Portal Ambulance Building - 103 2nd Ave W - Lignite

LIGNITE FIRE DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
Election & Budget Approval
Wednesday, March 25 - 6:00 PM
Lignite Fire Hall

PORTAL RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 24 - 7:00 PM
Portal Fire Hall

Bowbells Country Club
Annual Meeting
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2026
Time: 2:00pm
Location: Dacotah Bank Board Room
(*Backside Entrance*)
Topics: Year review, build progress, summer plans, and member input.



ANNUAL MEETING of the Powers Lake Rural Ambulance District
Tuesday, March 24 - 8:00 AM
at the Ambulance Hall **Note Time is AM**

CAN THEY DO THAT?



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THE NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF REGULATIONS AND CHANGES FOR THE 2026 BIGHORN SHEEP, ELK AND MOOSE PROCLAMATION.

Applications must be submitted online. The deadline to apply is March 25, 2026.

SPECIES	SEASON	SEASON BAG LIMIT
Anticipated Bighorn Sheep Regular Season	Oct. 30 - Dec. 31	One Male Bighorn Sheep
Elk Bow Season (Unit E1E, E1W, E2, E6, E7)	Sep. 4 - Sep. 27	One Elk of the type designated on license
Elk Regular Season (Unit E1E, E1W, E2, E7)	Oct. 2 - Jan. 3	
Elk Regular Season (Unit E3, E4, E5)	Sep. 4 - Jan. 3	
Elk Regular Season (Unit E6)	Oct. 2 - Nov. 5 & Nov. 23 - Jan. 3	
Antlerless Elk Season (E1E, E1W, E2, E6, E7)	Aug. 7 - Sep. 27*	One Antlerless Elk
Antlerless Elk Season (E3, E4)	Aug. 7 - Aug. 30*	
Antlerless Elk Season (E1E, E1W, E2, E3, E4, E6, E7)	Jan. 9 - Jan. 17	One Moose of the type designated on license
Moose Bow Season (Unit M5, M6, M8, M9, M10, M11)	Sep. 4 - Sep. 27	
Moose Regular Season (Unit M5, M6, M8, M9, M10, M11)	Oct. 9 - Nov. 1	

* Restricted to private land only within boundaries of assigned unit. Hunting on private land enrolled in PLOTS is prohibited, except by the enrolled landowner.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR

- A bighorn sheep hunting season is scheduled to open in 2026, unless there is a recurrence of bacterial pneumonia. Applicants may apply for a license at this time, but not in a specific unit. The status of the bighorn sheep season will be determined by Sep. 1.
- Total elk licenses increased by 102 to 1062.
- Total moose licenses remained the same at 296.
- All moose licensees and units E1E, E1W, E2, E6 and E7 elk licensees may hunt during both the bow season and the regular season until license is filled.
- Moose hunting units M4 and M1-C are being absorbed into units M8 and M5 respectively. There will no longer be closed units for moose.

A complete 2026 bighorn sheep, elk and moose hunting proclamation is available from the NDGF Department, 100 North Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, (701) 328-6300, or online at gfd.nd.gov.

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March 9th - April 30th
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