

THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOVELOCK MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON JANUARY 07, 2026, AT LOVELOCK CITY HALL AT 5:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Rodney Wilcox
Council members Jordan McKinney
Bonnie Skogleie

City Clerk Kirsten Hertz
Legal Council Nicole Reitz
Sean Rowe

Absent: Police Chief Michael Mancebo

Visitors: Lee Ann Gallagher, Officer Dickerman

Zoom: Brandon Chadock, Michelle, Peggy Jones, Jacky Orr, Rachel Dahl, Frankie Graham, Tina Gallagher

PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE :

There were no comments, communications or correspondence.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Council member Skogleie reported they had a meeting Monday January 5, 2026

MINUTES REVIEW-APPROVAL:

Council members were asked by the Mayor if they had received and reviewed the minutes. Council member Hertz indicated she had not read them. Council member McKinney proceeded to make a motion to approve December 3, 2025, minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

SEWER-DISPOSAL ACCOUNT DELINQUENCIES-ADJUSTMENTS-REFUNDS:

None at this time.

POOL/PACT AUDIT AND FINDINGS / CORRECTIVE ACTIONS / PROCEDURES TO ADOPT:

Clerk Reitz reported that there are no new formal findings ready for council action at this time. Reitz noted she has a meeting scheduled for this month with Lessly Monroy from POOL/PACT to work on the HR portion of the POOL/PACT requirements. Reitz also reported nearing the completion of the fiscal controls portion of the corrective work., *The next phase will* focus on updating and formalizing personnel policies and procedures, which will eventually come to the Council for review and approval.

POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF CITY REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO THE PERSHING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Council held a lengthy discussion on the City's role in economic development, focusing on its appointments to the Pershing County Economic Development Authority advisory board. Council member Skogleie reported that one city appointee has moved away and another has a history of poor attendance, making it difficult to achieve a quorum. Skogleie stated the City should immediately advertise and refill the two city seats so current projects and assignments can continue, noting existing board members are already overextended. Council member Hertz questioned appointing anyone before the City and County clearly define the board's purpose, expectations, and goals, and how it should relate to the RDA, future economic development

staffing, and broader priorities such as housing and workforce needs. Hertz had concerns about the structure of the board, whether city residents are adequately represented in county-level decisions, and whether RDA/GOED funds have been used to the City's benefit. Hertz also expressed unease about economic development duties potentially being placed under a county manager, noting that city priorities could be diluted. In the end, the Council agreed to advertise for letters of interest for the two city seats, with no automatic appointments, and to bring back agenda items to formally declare a vacant seat. Council member Skoglie made a motion to move forward with letter of interest.

Motion carried unanimously

POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LOVELOCK MUNICIPAL CODE TO REVISE THE NUMBER OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO ONE MEETING PER MONTH:

The Council held a public hearing on an ordinance that would amend the Lovelock Municipal Code to reduce the number of regular city council meetings to one per month. A letter from Patricia Burke Reese was read into the record opposing the change. The letter argued that the current schedule of more frequent meetings supports timely decisions, project updates, and strong communication with residents and businesses, and requested that the council retain the existing schedule. Council discussion reflected mixed views. Council member McKinney suggested a "hybrid" model: designating one standing meeting each month and only holding the second meeting if there was sufficient business, to avoid "meetings just for the sake of meetings." Council member Hertz stressed the importance of public accessibility and predictability, stating that residents should be able to rely on first- and third-Wednesday meetings and that the Council has ongoing issues and structural problems that should not be delayed. Sean Rowe, Legal Counsel explained that the current code requires two regular meetings, but meetings can be canceled when there is no pressing business, and that a policy could be developed to delegate limited discretion to the Mayor to cancel unnecessary meetings. After discussion, the Council declined to adopt the proposed ordinance. Council member McKinney offered a motion not to adopt the ordinance. Legal counsel is to bring back a separate policy on meeting scheduling and cancellation for future consideration, while leaving the two-meeting-per-month requirement in place.

Motion carried unanimously

POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LOVELOCK MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 15 BY REPEALING SECTION 15.263 AND ADOPTING NEW SPEED LIMIT REGULATIONS:

The Council considered an ordinance to amend Lovelock Municipal Code Chapter 15 by repealing Section 15.263 and adopting updated speed limit regulations. Sean Rowe, Legal Counsel explained that the existing code language was outdated and somewhat inconsistent, and that any change to speed limits currently requires a full ordinance amendment. The proposed ordinance would set a default speed limit of 25 mph on city streets and 10 mph in alleys; and allow the council, by resolution, to establish higher or lower limits on specific streets or segments as needed, rather than passing a new ordinance each time. This change is intended to give the City more flexibility and responsiveness, for example, to reduce speeds near the hospital and other high-pedestrian areas, and temporarily lower limits during events, with clear authority for the Mayor and Chief of Police to implement temporary reductions. Councilmember Skoglie highlighted a specific safety concern near 15th street and Central, where a jog in the street and nearby alley create a hazard; the new framework would allow that area's speed limit to be reduced

by resolution. Public comment was invited, and no written or Zoom comments were received. After discussion, Council member McKinney offered a motion to adopt the ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously

POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING LOVELOCK MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 29 SECTION 29.115 LICENSE FEES CHANGING THE BASIS FOR IMPOSING FEES:

Mayor Wilcox and Sean Rowe, Legal Counsel explained that this item remained on the agenda as a placeholder/project in progress and that no draft ordinance was ready for introduction or action at this meeting. The long-term intent is to modernize and restructure the license fee system and create a clear process for updating fees without needing a full ordinance change each time, similar in concept to the new speed-limit framework. Council member Hertz stressed that whenever license or other city fees are changed, the City has a responsibility to communicate clearly and broadly with affected businesses and residents. Hertz requested that future fee changes be publicized through multiple channels (website, social media, utility bill inserts, and newspaper notices) so people are informed before increases take effect. Clerk Reitz stated that recent utility rate changes were posted on Facebook, the website, and on the back of utility bills. Legal Counsel added that, once a concrete license-fee proposal is ready, there will need to be formal notice to existing businesses, as the ordinance will directly affect them. No ordinance language was introduced, and no formal action was taken on this item at this meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS:

None at this time

BUSINESS LICENSES-BUILDING PERMITS-LIQUOR LICENSES-SPECIAL EVENTS LIQUOR LICENSES:

There were no applications or items to be considered at this.

MAYOR-COUNCIL-STAFF REPORTS-PROPOSALS:

Council member Hertz reported that the Pershing Healthcare Foundation meeting was cancelled. She also reported that she cannot be at the LEPC meeting on January 8th, Mayor Wilcox will be there , providing the City with representation.

Council member Skoglie reports she has a PCEDA meeting Monday January 12th .A WNDD dinner is planned with Skoglie organizing. She had a meeting with Brandon Chadock, CEO for Pershing General Hospital . The hospital is willing to pay for the brakes on the City forklift and the hospital will purchase their own bins if the City would consider dumping the recycling bins.

The Mayor reported continued work on city-wide cleanup, including removal of abandoned vehicles, enforcement of the new unlicensed vehicle ordinance, and significant progress clearing old railroad properties. Mayor Wilcox also updated on the Amherst project, ongoing Public Works efforts (garbage collection, general maintenance), and improvements at the Animal Shelter. He noted staff are busy but doing an excellent job. Wilcox also reported a meeting scheduled with SPB Engineering on the sewer grant., Wilcox also mentioned looking for quotes on the pickleball court, which is pending weather and contractor review. The Amherst property is moving forward with help from multiple partner agencies. The Mayor highlighted the successful Angel Tree program, which served over 100 children, with significant assistance from office staff and community volunteers.

Sean Rowe, Legal Counsel reported ongoing work to update and modernize building and development codes (including Chapter 17 and construction codes) to current standards, which will return on a future agenda.

The Clerk Reitz reported an increased activity in building permits and inspections, with better valuation-based fee assessment. Creation of a trash pickup/holiday schedule calendar is available in the Clerk's Office and on the website. Clerk Reitz expressed difficulties reaching the newspaper about legal notices and board vacancy ads, with follow-up planned.

VOUCHERS, CLAIMS AND PAYROLL:

Council member McKinney offered a motion to approve the Vouchers, Claims and Payroll.

Motion carried unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lee Ann Gallagher reported that the committee working on Music and Murals is making good progress. Twenty-two (22) businesses have donated enough to fund two murals, with a goal of completing three murals this summer. The group intends to follow a structured process and keep the Council informed so that mural designs are acceptable to the community and consistent with City expectations. Gallagher also expressed graffiti and vandalism concerns. Nanny Joe's, her business, has been graffitied three times, leading to frustration and additional expense. A decorative bench installed with City help was destroyed when a vehicle hit it. Gallagher noted disappointment but was relieved the tree and planter were not damaged. Gallagher plans to install an additional camera to help identify vandals, noting that it often appears no one is caught. This prompted discussion by the Mayor and Council about ongoing vandalism and graffiti problems, especially at park restrooms; possible approaches such as better use of cameras, curfew enforcement, youth/community engagement, and coordinating with local youth programs; and potentially placing the issue on a future agenda to consider more formal solutions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm until the next scheduled City Council meeting on January 21, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

Rodney Wilcox

Rodney J. Wilcox, Mayor

Nicole Reitz

Nicole Reitz, City Clerk