

THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOVELOCK MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON JUNE 17, 2026, AT LOVELOCK CITY HALL AT 5:30 P.M.

Present:

Mayor
Council members

Rodney Wilcox
Bonnie Skoglie
Christina Dickerman(ZOOM)
Jordan McKinney

City Clerk
Deputy Clerk
Legal Counsel

Nicole Reitz
Perri Stewart
Sean Rowe (ZOOM)

Visitors: Peggy Jones, Kristen Gonzalez, Patty Burke Reese, Gelan Reese, Jerry Allen, Happy Williams Sr.

Zoom: Michael Miller, Christina, Dale Rutherford

PUBLIC COMMENT-PERSONAL COMMUNICATION-CORRESPONDENCE :

Patty Burke Reese thanked the city for repairing the hole in the driveway behind Temptations, she expressed her appreciation for the prompt work. No further public comment or written correspondence was presented during this item.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kristen Gonzalez, County Manager and acting economic development reported on several projects. She stated that Zanskar, a geothermal company, is planning a town hall meeting in Lovelock on July 23 at approximately 5:00 p.m. The primary proposed location is City Hall, with the Community Center as a backup if attendance is high. The purpose of the meeting is for the company to introduce itself, explain its project, answer questions from officials and the public, and begin integrating with the community. Gonzalez further reported that Blue Moon Metals is still relatively new to the area and continues to conduct research and seek funding. The company has a consultant based in Winnemucca, and representatives plan to stop in Lovelock periodically to meet with her as they travel between Reno and Winnemucca. Blue Moon Metals operates a mine in California on the West Coast and intends to ship ore into the local area for processing, as well as process any material that may be extracted locally, with more detailed information to be provided as their plans develop. Regarding the Dunlieh Group and Rose Acre Farms, Gonzalez indicated that there have been no new updates since the last report and that both entities are continuing their due diligence and research. She noted that a future town hall meeting is anticipated in Lovelock for the Dunlieh Group project, and that the land they have purchased is located near the existing data center and energy project previously referenced. Finally, Gonzalez briefly addressed the Rural Development Authority (RDA) as it relates to economic development. She explained that there are ongoing concerns with the current 9580 RDA structure and Humboldt County's control of it. Pershing County and the City of Lovelock are evaluating options, including the possibility of forming their own RDA to gain more direct control over local economic development efforts. Existing agreements are being reviewed by legal counsel, additional information is being collected, and no action was requested of the council at this meeting.

MINUTES REVIEW-APPROVAL:

Council member McKinney offered a motion approval for the June 3, 2026 meeting minutes.

Motion carried unanimously

SEWER-DISPOSAL ACCOUNT DELINQUENCIES-ADJUSTMENTS-REFUNDS:

Staff reported on the current list of delinquent sewer and disposal service accounts and noted that arrangements had been made with those customers whose accounts were marked accordingly. Council members briefly reviewed the report, commented that the delinquent list is getting smaller, and thanked staff for their work in reducing the outstanding balances. No formal action or motion was taken on this item.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL NO. 276: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LOVELOCK LAND USE MAP, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO LOVELOCK MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 17, TO CHANGE THE REGULATORY LAND USE DISTRICT (ZONING) CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PERSHIGN COUNTY ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 001-241-11 (6TH STREET) FROM SF (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO PSF (PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES); AND OTHERS MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO

Mayor Wilcox briefly described the property and noted that the rezoning was needed for public use. Council member Skoglie stated the intention to introduce Bill No. 276. Sean Rowe the City Attorney, advised that a formal motion was not required for introduction and that staff would schedule the ordinance for a public hearing and provide all required notices to affected and adjoining property owners. The public hearing was set for July 15, and no further action was taken at this meeting beyond introduction of the bill.

CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF BILL NO. 277: PROPOSAL OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING LOVELOCK CITY CODE CHAPTER 29 TO RESTATE AND AMEND PROVISIONS FOR THE LICENSING, ZONING, AND REGULATION OF CANNABIS DISPENSARIES WITHIN THE CITY OF LOVELOCK

Council member McKinney offered a proposal of an ordinance amending Lovelock City Code Chapter 29 to restate and amend provisions for the licensing, zoning, and regulation of cannabis dispensaries within the City of Lovelock, City Attorney Sean Rowe explained that the ordinance would revise the previously enacted 2024 marijuana establishment regulations. He stated that the updates include changing the terminology from "marijuana" to "cannabis," updating statutory references, and clarifying the application and annual permit fees. Rowe further noted that the ordinance would establish a 3% excise tax on proceeds from the commercial activities of licensed cannabis establishments, which is the maximum rate allowed. In discussion, Council member McKinney expressed continued support for regulating and monetizing cannabis activity for the benefit of the community and then introduced Bill No. 277. Rowe confirmed that only an introduction was required at this time and that the ordinance would be scheduled for a public hearing at the next council meeting. No further action was taken beyond the introduction.

ACTION TO CHANGE THE SPEED LIMIT FROM 25 MPH TO 15 MPH ON 15TH STREET, BETWEEN CENTRAL AND DARTMOUTH AVE

Mayor Wilcox read a letter from resident Matthew Jurad requesting a reduction. Mr. Jurad cited his 52 years of residency on the street, noted increasing dangerous driving behaviors and frequent speeding above the current 25 mph limit, and expressed concern for the safety of families, children walking to school, and pets. He requested the speed limit be lowered to 15 mph, along with enhanced signage and increased police presence.

Council members discussed the request and expressed concern about addressing a single street in isolation, noting that approving this change could lead to similar requests from other residential streets and create a "slippery slope." Some members indicated they would prefer looking at a broader approach, such as lowering the speed limit in all residential areas or using tools like speed bumps, radar speed display signs, or targeted enforcement rather than changing the posted speed on one street alone. Law enforcement representatives reported that there are already natural speed-calming features on 15th Street (including dips in the roadway), that they patrol the area regularly, and that they have not observed significant speeding problems there. They

emphasized that lowering the speed limit is only effective if it can be consistently enforced and recommended increased enforcement in residential areas as needed.

Council member Dickerman, participating remotely, stated that the residents' concern appeared valid and suggested gathering data before denying the request outright. She proposed monitoring the area and collecting information over a set period to determine whether the problem is substantiated by data. Sheriff Jerry Allen offered to pull call history and related records for that street segment for a recent time period (e.g., the past quarter). The council ultimately agreed to continue the item at a future meeting to allow time for data collection and further review. No change to the speed limit was approved at this meeting, and the item was tabled/continued for additional information.

ACTION TO CONTINUE OR DISCONTINUE ASSOCIATION WITH 95-80 RURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RDA)

The council noted that the matter had already been discussed in detail earlier in the meeting during the economic development and RDA update provided by County Manager Kristen Gonzalez. That earlier discussion covered concerns about Humboldt County's control of the RDA, discrepancies in agreements, and the possibility of forming a separate RDA for Pershing County and the City of Lovelock. For this specific agenda item, Mayor Wilcox and council agreed not to take action at this time. The item was tabled and directed to be placed on a future agenda after additional information is gathered and legal review by the District Attorney and City legal counsel is completed. No decision was made at this meeting to either continue or discontinue the association with the 95-80 RDA.

ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE AND CAMPER OCCUPANCY, INCLUDING RESTRICTION ON LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL USE AND CONNECTION TO CITY UTILITIES WITHIN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS

City Attorney Sean Rowe explained that the City already has some provisions addressing temporary occupancy of travel trailers and RVs, but that these rules may not be clear or strong enough to address current issues. Mayor Wilcox reported that an increasing number of RVs and campers are being placed on residential lots around town, with some being connected to power, water, and sewer and used as long-term or permanent housing. Council member Skoglie expressed concern about the appearance of these setups, potential code and tax issues, and the lack of appropriate room-tax or utility connection fees in some cases.

There was discussion about existing limits (such as a 14-day stay or occupancy tied to an active building permit) and examples of prior enforcement situations. It was noted that more RVs and campers are now "popping up" in various parts of town and that some are being stacked or clustered in ways that are highly visible from the street. Council expressed interest in clarifying and, if necessary, tightening the rules to prohibit or strictly limit long-term habitation of RVs and campers in residential zones, particularly when they are connected to City utilities without proper approvals or fees.

Rather than taking immediate action on a new ordinance at this meeting, the council directed the City Attorney to review the existing code provisions, research options, and bring back proposed ordinance language for further discussion at a future meeting. The item was continued, and no final ordinance was adopted at this time.

PROCLAMATIONS-AWARDS:

None at this time

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

None at this time

MAYOR-COUNCIL-STAFF REPORTS-PROPOSALS:

Council member Skoglie reported attending a funding meeting for the museum, also expressed concern about increased ATV and motorized scooter use in town, requesting stronger local regulations for safety and enforcement. Law enforcement staff described frequent problems with juveniles on scooters and small motorized bikes in streets and on sidewalks, recommended adopting stricter local rules (such as age, helmet, and speed limits) and conducting public education, and noted a visible increase in traffic enforcement around town. Council Member McKinney reported on a recent Recreation Board meeting, stating that it was one of the most productive meetings in some time, with good discussion about the direction of recreation in the community and generally positive ideas and outcomes. Mayor Wilcox reported on an upcoming grant site visit to the sewer plant and review of City financial management, ongoing improvements to the pickleball and tennis courts (including replacement of a stolen tennis net), and continued weed and park maintenance. Clerk Reitz reported an MOU with JPO (Juvenile Probation Office) to host youth workers, preparation for the upcoming financial audit, and several active building projects, including major work at Sunwood Apartments and the remodeled Covered Wagon building. Police Chief Mancebo reported progress on transitioning department phones to Verizon, recent major incidents including a homicide that increased workload, an Office of Traffic Safety grant application for traffic equipment, and improvements at the animal shelter, which is less full and in good condition. City Attorney Sean Rowe reported no separate items but indicated he is working with staff on ordinance updates.

VOUCHERS, CLAIMS AND PAYROLL:

The Council reviewed the vouchers, claims, expenditures, and payroll presented for payment. Council member Skoglie offered a Motion to approve all vouchers, claims, expenditures, and payroll as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patty Burke Reese, owner of Temptations, inquired whether a previously submitted special event liquor license application for the upcoming weekend had been approved. Staff (Speaker 1) confirmed that the application had been approved, signed by the Mayor, and would be available to pick up the following day.

Rodney J. Wilcox, Mayor

Nicole Reitz, City Clerk