

**City of Medicine Lodge
Council Minutes
September 8, 2026**

Call to Order

Mayor Tom Lee called the regular meeting of the Medicine Lodge City Council to order at 6:00 P.M. Councilmembers present were Jason Taylor, Allan Colborn, and John Hagood. Also, present was City Attorney Hannah Molz, City Administrator Brian Withrow and City Clerk Kandi Williams.

Pledge

Mayor Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Setting of Agenda

Mayor Lee approved the agenda

Consent Agenda

MINUTES

August 17, 2026

WARRANTS

Mayor Lee called for any objections to the consent agenda, with none, Mayor Lee approved the consent agenda.

Executive Session

Councilmember Hagood made a motion seconded by Councilmember Taylor to enter executive session for Attorney Client privilege at 6:02 P.M. for the period of ten minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilmember Julie Warner arrived at 6:04 and joined the meeting.

Council reconvened at 6:12 P.M. and resumed the regular meeting.

Public Comments and Petitions

Matthew McNamar of 707 N Main ML addressed the Council regarding the proposed mill levy increase

Jessie Ricke of 104 N Main ML addressed the Council regarding the proposed water sale to the proposed Google Data Center.

Presentations

Items for Governing Body Decision

REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING

Councilmember Taylor made a motion seconded by Councilmember Colborn to recessed the regular meeting at 6:13 P.M. and open the RNR hearing. Motion carried 5-0.

Matthew McNamar addressed Council, asked what the mill increase was for.

Administrator Withrow stated the increase would bring close to \$60,000 additional funds for the 2027 year, helping to fund the new airport manager, and code enforcement positions.

Councilmember Colborn made a motion seconded by Councilmember Taylor to close the RNR hearing at 6:24 P.M. and resume the regular meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF RNR RESOLUTION 2026-03

Councilmember Colborn made a motion seconded by Councilmember Hagood to adopt Resolution 2026-03 (Exceeding the RNR 72.07 to 77.07). Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION 2027 BUDGET

Councilmember Hagood made a motion seconded by Councilmember Colborn to adopt the 2027 budget Motion carried 5-0.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CONTRACT

Councilmember Forsyth made a motion seconded by Councilmember Hagood to approve of the code enforcement contract with Montana McCullough. Motion carried 5-0.

AIRPORT MANAGER CONTRACT

Councilmember Colborn made a motion seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the airport manager contract with JT Farney. Motion carried 5-0.

HVAC UPGRADES NEW AND PRESENT CITY HALL

Tabled

NEW CITY HALL FLOORING

Tabled

Items for Governing Body Discussion

COUNCIL EDUCATION

City Attorney Molz briefed the Council Kansas cash-basis law and Governing Body budget authority.

BARBER COUNTY PROJECT HELIUM AGREEMENT

Administrator Withrow presented the Council with a handout he received from the Barber County Commissioners.

PROJECT HELIUM WATER PROJECT

Administrator Withrow updated the Council on the project helium process.

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

Administrative Reports

PUBLIC WORKS

Provided in Packet

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Provided in Packet

ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Withrow reported there might be potential vacancies in both public works and the police department.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Lee stated a date needed to be set for the Administrators' annual evaluation.

Lee asked the status of the proposed pocket park on Main St and the corner lot on Main and Hwy 160 improvements.

Adjournment

Mayor Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:28 P.M.

APPROVED:

Tom Lee, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kandi Williams, City Clerk