

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF DEVILS LAKE, ND
AUGUST 3, 2026**

The special meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held on August 3, 2026, with the following members present: President Moe and Commissioners Pierce, Uhlenkamp, Hach, and Knowski.

MEETING ITEMS

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) 2027 Preliminary Budget -General Fund
 - a. Lake Region Heritage Center - Lisa Crosby

The City Auditor said that the city historically contributes 1.5 mills plus an extra \$7,500. This year, the amount will be \$45,605. The Art Center rent is not under the general fund. Lisa said that the budget is about the same as every other year. She said one thing coming up is starting the other part of the roof, but that is not included in the budget because they will be looking for grants.

- b. Lake Region Law Enforcement Center

The City Auditor said that he reached out to the LEC Director for some numbers and he was provided with projected rent and boarding. He was not provided with anything for the cost share, which is the biggest concern for us. Knowing Nelson and Eddy County are pulling out of the agreement, there will more than likely be a large increase. He said that he plugged in 2% increase on this. Commissioner Knowski and Uhlenkamp said that the LEC meeting is on Wednesday at 8am, so they can get us actual numbers after the meeting.

- c. Review of General Fund Projections

The City Auditor gave a brief overview of general fund projections. One thing that was pointed out is that a 4% cost of living will be around \$169,000 for the general fund. The City Auditor also said that the health projections are a 10% increase, but we will not hear from Blue Cross Blue Shield until, at best, the end of August but more than likely it will be October. The Commission discussed options for the cost of living and asked the City Auditor to run projections on \$100 for the cost of living instead of doing a percentage. The City Engineer said that he is concerned about the enterprise funds. They are some of the lowest paid employees within the city, so to keep these employees we need to look at the cost of living. Discussion continued on General Fund items.

The City Auditor went through the general fund expenses. President Moe asked if they could see numbers based on having a City Auditor and not a City Administrator. The City Auditor

said that he will run projections and present them at a future meeting. It was mentioned that one of the Police Department vehicles could potentially go to the Engineering Department instead of being traded in. It was also mentioned that there is nothing budgeted for fireworks in 2027. A brief discussion was held about the fireworks.

Commissioner Knowski asked if they could get an incremental breakdown for cost of living at the next meeting. President Moe said he likes that idea as well. Commissioner Pierce said everyone deserves a cost of living, but people cannot think that this is a guaranteed thing that can happen each year.

3) Next Special Meeting – Proposed for Wednesday, August 5th at 12:00PM

Commissioner Uhlenkamp said that she will not be able to make a 12:00pm meeting, but 1:00pm would work. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 5th at 1:00 PM.

ROB JOHNSON
INTERIM CITY AUDITOR/CITY ASSESSOR

JIM MOE
PRESIDENT OF CITY COMMISSION