

Lebo City Council Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026
Lebo Community Building
320 N. Ogden
7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

Call to Order

Council members present: Troy Friend, Jim Jones, Will Baker, Hatti Wright, and Amanda Hopkins

Clerk Griffin administered the oath of office to re-elected Mayor Ferguson and Council Member Baker, as well as newly elected Council Member Wright.

Oaths

Baker moved and Friend seconded to approve the minutes for the December regular meeting and the two December special meetings. Wright abstains from vote, recorded with popular vote. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Appr. Minutes

Buck Briggs, Shannon Kiefer, and Mark Vannocker were present to discuss financing options for the infrastructure needed to create a subdivision. Mr. Briggs discussed the potential use of Rural Improvement Districts (RIDs) and benefit districts as financing mechanisms. The applicants are still in the process of finalizing the plat. Zoning Administrator Nolan clarified that a plan must be in place prior to approval of the final plat. Jenny Tatman commented on recent actions taken by the Coffey County Commission. The Council noted the need to consider all current and upcoming projects scheduled for the year and the impact those projects have on the City's budget and its ability to fund additional improvements. The Council requested that the Clerk schedule a meeting with bond counsel, county representatives, and the Council to further discuss infrastructure financing options.

Sunflower Subdivision

Brayden Miller and Levi Goodell provided numbers from local contractors to tear out the foundation of the old police station and create a new pad and building for the maintenance workers. Rouch total for the building would be \$200,000. Council needs to discuss which buildings they would like to sell or re-utilize. Hopkins recommended Council table the matter until June 2026 regular meeting to be discussed during budget workshops.

Old Police

Department Reports:

PWWSD #12 – Mayor Eric Ferguson
No meeting.

Utility Report – Javier Muro & Scott Hein

December Maintenance Written Report:

Lift station maintenance, took down fence at Jones Park hauled to landfill, equipment maintenance, Christmas banners and lights put up/taken down, unclogged ditches, 33 utility locates, burned tree dump, cut pine trees down at Jones Park and kids' pond, ripped

out concrete, new water meter in at N. Apartments, Hein & Muro attended lift station training.

Hein requested Council allow him to remove more of the old and warped fencing at the Jones Park. After discussion, Baker moved to allow Hein to remove and dispose of fencing starting at the old concession stand going West to the South East Corner of the tennis courts. Friend seconded the motion. Vote 3/2, motion carried. Baker, Friend, and Jones in favor. Hopkins and Wright opposed.

Park Fencing

Griffin asked Council to review the APAC estimates included in their packets. She noted that she plans to have Muro review all streets scheduled for repair in 2026 to determine whether any could be completed next year. The goal is to potentially save funds for the lake dame project.

Streets

Police Report – Aaron Cathcard absent

2 dogs at large, 2 criminal report, 2 warnings, 1 citation and 5 assisting other agencies

Clerk's Report – Catherine Griffin

Griffin provided 2025-year end clerks cash report and the starting 2026 clerks cash report. Also provided a breakdown of what the water and sewer funds/budgets look like for 2026.

Finances

Municipal Court – Crystina Nolan

2 Court Cases

Zoning – Crystina Nolan

NA

Park and Recreation

P&R board members Chris Dolley and Jenny Tatman were at the meeting to present a plan for improvements to the grass on the football field. The Board approved the plan unanimously, with Quincy Colstrom abstaining due to ownership of the landscaping company that would perform the work.

Griffin requested that the Board ask the school district to consider splitting the cost of the field maintenance with the city.

Football Field Maint.

Jones moved and Friend seconded to approve the football field maintenance plan with work to be completed by Crazy C's Lawn & Landscape, not to exceed \$5,000. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Hein discussed two quotes for fountains for the kids pond, to help increase oxygen levels in the water. His recommendation that council select the fountain operating on 110 volts to match the electrical currently used for the existing aerator.

Kids Pond Fountain
Purchase

Baker moved and Hopkins seconded to approve the purchase of the recommended fountain not to exceed \$4,000 to be spent out of park and rec funds. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Park & Rec Cont.

Council also discussed the letter of intent with Integrity Sports and the contract between the school district and the city in regards to certain parts of Jones Park. No action was taken.

New Business

Friend moved and Baker seconded to renew all 2026 annual dues and subscriptions. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Annual Dues

Jones moved and Wright seconded to approve Will Baker as Council President. Baker abstained from the vote, recoded with the popular vote. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Council Pres.

Council agreed that all liaison positions would remain the same and that the finance chair should be the finance liaison – Will Baker.

Friend moved and Jones seconded to approve to spend \$2,000 worth of trout this year for the kids pond Trout Season. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Trout Purchase

Griffin included estimates for security cameras at several city owned properties. Due to the cost, Griffin recommended tabling this discussion. Security Cameras

Baker asked the council to consider starting the process to declare properties unsafe structures for three properties: 412 W. 2nd, 121 S. Walnut, and 108 E. Broadway. Baker moved and Wright seconded to move forward with this process. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Unsafe Structures

Griffin presented a quote for the purchase of 14 Christmas wreathes for the decorative light poles downtown. She explained that this would cover all of the City's larger poles, with the shorter poles to be addressed in a future year and noted that the City has twice applied for grant funding to cover the full purchase. Baker moved and Friend seconded to purchase the 14 wreathes at \$9,015.00 from the general fund. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Christmas Decor

Old Business

Hein received two new bids for the electricity for the lift station in Jones Park. Hein and Muro also attended a school on lift stations and after speaking with those at this school recommended to Council to approve the bid from Schumann Electric Inc. at \$10,643.81. Jones moved and Hopkins seconded to approve the bid from Schumann Electric Inc. for \$10,643.81. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Lift Station Electricity

Ordinance & Resolutions

Baker moved and Wright seconded to pass an ordinance establishing updated water rates for the City of Lebo. The rate per 1,000 gallons after the first 1,000 will increase by \$3.00, going from \$10.25 to \$13.25. Griffin explained that the increase is primarily due to higher wholesale water costs from Public Whole Sale Water District #12, including a \$0.50 increase in 2025 and a \$0.75 increase in 2026, as well as increased costs associated with the Ord. 632 Water Rates

maintenance and improvement of the City's water system. Vote 4/1, motion carried. Friend opposed. Clerk will assign Ordinance #632.

Hopkins moved and Jones seconded to pass an ordinance establishing updated sewer rates for the City of Lebo. The minimum monthly charge will increase by \$8.00 going from \$22.00 to \$30.00, and the rate per 1,000 gallons thereafter will increase by \$1.00 going from \$0.80 to \$1.80. Griffin explained that the increase is necessary to stabilize the sewer fund, noting that the City currently has approximately \$73,000 in cash compared to the \$258,000 budget for 2026. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Clerk will assign Ordinance #633.

Ord. 633
Sewer Rates

Friend moved and Hopkins seconded to pass a resolution waving GAAP. Vote 5/0, motion carried. Clerk will assign Resolution #2026-1.

Res. 2026-1
Waive GAAP

Other Non-Agenda Items

Hopkins moved and Wright seconded to have the 2026 fireworks show on July 3rd. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Fireworks

Friend moved and Wright seconded for the council to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel relating to the Maintenance Supervisor position, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The executive session will last 15 minutes, returning to open session at 9:49 p.m. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Exec. Session

Baker moved and Friend seconded to offer Charles Shedd the Maintenance Supervisor position at \$22.00 an hour starting wage. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Hire Shedd
Maint. Super

Friend moved and Baker seconded to pay bills. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Pay Bills

Baker moved and Hopkins seconded to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5/0, motion carried.

Adjourn

Approved: _____
Eric S. Ferguson, Mayor

Attest: _____
Catherine Griffin, City Clerk