

# AGENDA

## CITY OF LARAMIE, WYOMING

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 406  
IVINSON AVE  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026, 6:00 PM

City Council Meetings are open to the public in accordance with W.S. 16-4-403.

Meetings are currently available in-person on a first come first serve basis, YouTube Live Feed ([www.youtube.com/cityoflaramie/live](http://www.youtube.com/cityoflaramie/live)), Cable Channel 191, or Zoom Webinar- Meeting ID: 873 4416 4958 Passcode: 126323 via internet, app, or telephone 1(669)900-9128. Public comments during the meeting may be provided in-person or via Zoom meeting. Public comments may also be submitted via email: [council@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:council@cityoflaramie.org). **Please email: [clerk@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:clerk@cityoflaramie.org) to request speaking time during the 30-minute public comment periods on non-agenda items by no later than 3:00 pm on the day of the meeting. Limited speaking slots may be assigned by lottery for non-agenda items when more than 10 requests are received; public comments may also be submitted in writing to [council@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:council@cityoflaramie.org) for the record. Requests for accommodations from persons with disabilities must be made to the City Manager's Office 24 hours in advance of a meeting.**

**Please be advised no additional agenda item will be introduced at a Regular City Council meeting after the hour of 9:30 pm, unless the majority of the City Council members present vote to extend the meeting.**

**Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. When attending a meeting remotely, the public must have their video cameras enabled and turned on when addressing the council. See Rule 1.G. When commenting on non-agenda items, the comments must be germane to City business over which Council has control. Written public comment shall be submitted to the City Clerk for dissemination and retention for official City records, or submitted to the City Council through electronic correspondence at [council@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:council@cityoflaramie.org). Full text available in Council Rules of Procedure and Code of Conduct 4.02 and Appendix B and C.**

**Written materials and other items must be submitted six (6) days in advance of the meeting (sooner if there are holidays prior to the meeting) in order that copies may be included with the agenda and to give the council an opportunity to review the material in advance of the appearance.**

Zoom Link: <https://cityoflaramie.zoom.us/j/87344164958?pwd=WxVhuzLFPbLqnmO3yGQbgTIGd11UKS.1>

#### **1. WORK SESSION**

- 2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (Aggregate time limit 30 minutes)  
(Limit of 3 minutes per speaker. When attend a meeting**

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**3. WORK SESSION: Life Saving Awards**

**[Brian Browne, Police Chief]**

**3.A. Public Comment on Agenda Item**

**4. WORK SESSION: Presentation Related to Possible Building Code Updates**

**[Derek Teini, Community & Economic Development Director; Lucas Whitt, Chief Building Official]**

Documents:

[Summary City Council WS 2.10.2026.pdf](#)

**4.A. Public Comment on Agenda Item**

**5. WORK SESSION: Staff Presentation on the Forge Laramie Comprehensive Planning Effort**

**[Gabathuler, Planning Manager]**

Documents:

[Summary\\_Forge Comp Plan Work Session 2.10.26.pdf](#)

**5.A. Public Comment on Agenda Item**

**6. WORK SESSION: Civic Cents**

**[Jennifer Wade, Administrative Services Director]**

Documents:

[Civic Cents Summary.pdf](#)  
[Civic Cents Introduction.pdf](#)

**6.A. Public Comment on Agenda Item**

**7. City Council Updates/Council Comments**

**8. Agenda Review**



	<p><b>Agenda Item: Presentation</b></p> <p><b>Title: Presentation Related to Possible Building Code Updates</b></p>
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**Recommended Council MOTION:**

No action will be taken.

**Administrative or Policy Goal:**

To protect the health and safety of the public by regulating minimum requirements for new and existing buildings, facilities, storage and processes; and to regulate and govern the safeguarding of life and property from deficiencies in design, construction, and maintenance of buildings that are occupied or will be occupied in the future.

**Background:**

The amendments and updates being considered and discussed during this Work Session are related to the Building Code, which is adopted in its entirety within Municipal Code. The International Building Codes are a nationwide code adopted and used by most Cities, Towns and Counties across the country, and is considered the industry standard in building codes.

As the City continues to consider how these codes may affect our local community, we have heard that these codes cause difficulty in some areas of construction. Due to this concern, the City of Laramie Code Administration Division (Building Department) has tracked issues we have noted as staff over the last couple of years. Additionally, on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 the City held a “Contractors Meeting” to discuss possible changes that could be made that would help address issues experienced by the contracting community. This meeting was intended to give contractors a voice in how building codes affect the way they build and construct in our community.

This work session will be focused on reviewing suggested changes proposed by contractors at the Contractors Meeting, changes suggested through an online survey provided to every licensed contractor in the City and staffs recommended changes. The desire is to receive feedback from Council on suggested code changes so staff can begin drafting necessary language to be included in an ordinance that will be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council.

**Responsible Staff:**

Lucas Whitt, Chief Building Official,  
721-5293


Derek Teini, Community and Economic  
Development Director, 721-5245

Attachments:

- None

Future dates are subject to change

Work Session	2/10/2026
PC Public Hearing Advertised	
Public Hearing Held	
CC Public Hearing Advertised	
Introduction/1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading/Public Hearing	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading	

	<p><b>Agenda Item: Discussion Item</b></p> <p><b>Title: Update on the Forge Laramie Comprehensive Planning Effort</b></p>
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**Recommended Council MOTION:**

No motion. No action can be taken.

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**Administrative or Policy Goal:**

The Comprehensive Plan serves as an overarching framework that reinforces and advances the full range of City Council goals, providing long-term policy direction without prioritizing any single objective.

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**Background:**

The City of Laramie is updating its Comprehensive Plan, a long-range vision that will guide development, land use, and policy direction over the next 20 years. During this work session, Clarion and City staff will provide a presentation outlining where we are in the planning process so far, including a recap of community engagement to date, major themes emerging from public input and analysis, and the anticipated next steps as we move into the drafting phase of the plan.


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**Responsible Staff:**

City Planning Department  
Philipp Gabathuler, AICP, Planning Manager,  
721-5232

**Attachments:**

- None

	<p><b>Agenda Item: Discussion Item</b></p> <p><b>Title: Civic Cents</b></p>
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**Recommended Council MOTION:**

None

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**Administrative or Policy Goal:**

A solid foundation in municipal finance supports many policy goals of the City Council. More granularly, this work session series is an outgrowth of a 2024 council goal to develop improvements in financial transparency.

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**Background:**

The City's finance division, collaborating with the City Manager's Office, has been working to improve financial transparency for the past several years. This work started small, with a redesign of the budget publication in 2019, and has grown and morphed since this time into a larger initiative. Accomplishments to date have included launching an open data tool for Laramie's budget and spending (made possible by the City's new financial software), establishment of the City Manager's Budget Advisory Committee, and publishing more concise financial information (the Community Financial Report and the Budget in Brief).

The journey toward transparency continues with this work session series, where financial topics will be explored in bite-sized chunks determined by the City Council. At each work session this spring, leading up to budget season, there will be a short presentation and discussion.

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**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

Wyoming Statutes 16-4

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**BUDGET/FISCAL INFORMATION:**

None

**Responsible Staff:**

Jennifer Wade, Administrative Services Director  
(307) 721-5224 or [jwade@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:jwade@cityoflaramie.org)

**Attachments:**

Presentation – Introduction to Civic Cents



# CIVIC CENTS

Democracy is a slow process of stumbling to the right decision instead of going straight forward to the wrong one

# WELCOME TO THE CIVIC CENTS WORK SESSION SERIES

Let's make sense of Laramie's finances, moving away from the traditional model of communicating mountains of financial information in the month of budget work sessions. This series is grounded in the idea that, together, we create our government.





## ESSENTIAL FOR DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE SERVICES

The money tree myth counsels that prosperity and good fortune result from effort and attention. We must engage about and plan for our public finances in a meaningful way to get the most out of them for our community. These conversations are especially important for making sound budget decisions.



## INFLUENCES HOW OUR COMMUNITY GROWS

Once we understand 1) what our finances look like 2) what our community wants and 3) what our opportunities are, the City Council and City staff work to facilitate community growth in a way that best suits Laramie, recognizing the importance of it being a great place to live, work, and play.



## AFFECTS QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS

The financial decisions we make have a direct impact on our community. The user fees and taxes that our community members pay, and the revenue we receive from other sources (State of WY + grants), are the basic mechanisms for how we deliver services - public safety services, reliable and safe infrastructure, and quality of life amenities, like parks and recreation.



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY WITH COMMON CENTS



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BUT, WE TEND TO ONLY TALK ABOUT FINANCES ONCE A YEAR!



It's time for a change in approach - working towards true transparency.



The budget has been presented in a way that can be intimidating.



It's easy to get lost in the process.



We don't always talk about what matters most to our community.



It's easy to get stuck in the formal, feeling like it's necessary for trust.

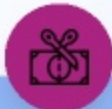
# CIVIC CENTS STARTS TO LAY DOWN DIFFERENT ROOTS

The City Council will chart the course forward on this journey, and I will follow your lead. We will build a strong financial foundation together by communicating about the finances (revenue, spending, reserves) in a way that is easy to digest.



# THE ROAD FORWARD

At each work session this spring, we'll take 10 minutes to explore a financial topic. Then we'll have a 10 minute discussion about the topic and determine what we explore next.



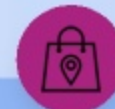
## Easy to Understand

I commit to making my presentations easy to understand and engaging.



## Relevant

Relevant topics will be covered because this direction will come from our elected officials.



## Impactful

Civic Cents will result in meaningful changes in how we communicate about financial information, which creates a foundation for even more trust.





# Easy to Understand

I commit to making my presentations easy to understand and engaging.



# Relevant

Relevant topics will be covered because this direction will come from our elected officials.



# Impactful

Civic Cents will result in meaningful changes in how we communicate about financial information, which creates a foundation for even more trust.

SO, WHERE DO WE START THE  
CONVERSATION?





# CIVIC CENTS

Democracy is a slow process of stumbling to the right decision instead of going straight forward to the wrong one



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