Piedmont Board of Trustees
Piedmont City Hall
102 Walnut St.

January 6, 2026
Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance; Roll Call
The Meeting of the Piedmont Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. In Attendance: Phil Anderson, Jack Parks, Mike Johns, Bruce Lutz & Clint Petersen.
2) Approval of Agenda
Lutz made a **Motion** to move 11a) to after the Minutes. **Seconded** by Johns.
Motion carried 5-0.
3) Approval of Minutes
Anderson read the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 16, 2025; **Motion** to approve Minutes by Johns, **Second** by Petersen. **Motion carried 5-0.**
11) a) Discuss how to address the Mining Operation planned in the Piedmont Area:
The Board of Trustees heard public comments on the proposed mining operation and why they were present. There were about 40 plus people from the public attending to hear and share concerns and ideas on how to address the situation. Items brought up were: Here to support, Here because concerned, information is still sought about the licenses and many other aspects of this project. It was reported that vehicles were seen moving into the area in the dark. Licensing and Permits were discussed and the difference explained.
*Parks left the meeting at 7:03 p.m./Returned at 7:07p.m.
Particulate matter was discussed and Dr. reports accessibility. It was stated that we are not just trying to save Piedmont, we want to save the Black Hills. Rain and flooding were discussed. Board President Anderson addressed the Petitions for Voluntary Annexation that were brought in. He has talked to various attorneys and if the Petitions are re-done in proper form the City will accept them. Possible different legal channels will happen after that.
There will be a Cracker Barrel at the Legion in Piedmont on Saturday Jan. 10th at 1:30 for further discussion about the Mining Operation. There will also be another one on Feb. 14th.
At 7:33 p.m., it appeared that all areas of Public Comment had been addressed so the Board called a recess for 5 minutes and then will move on with their meeting and the published agenda.
*Meeting resumed at 7:50 p.m.
4) Comprehensive Plan: Everyone has a copy. Look it over and it will be on the next Agenda for 1st Reading.
5) Library:
A) Report is in the packets
6) Planning & Zoning: Upcoming items: Robbins will be waiting until May to finish his Plat. Hauer has a Plat coming up. This was briefly discussed. Upcoming Septic Permit was discussed.
7) Park
A) Report: Christmas lights are down. Stump was ground from tree taken down in the Fall. After a short explanation Johns made a **Motion, Seconded** by Petersen to reimburse Lutz $300.00 for the stump being ground. With Parks and Lutz abstaining from the vote, **Motion carried. 3-0.**

8) Street Maintenance

A) Report: Received the Engineering Plan for 2nd & Walnut Street Project. Estimate is high but Bids are ready to be let.

*Parks left the meeting at 8:24 p.m. /Returned 8:27 p.m.

9) Water System

A) Report: Report in packet. Discussed Jeffs frustration with the numbers not coming out right.

B) Mary Myher had a water leak that was fixed. After looking at the numbers created by Mary Jean, Parks made a **Motion** to approve the adjustment, **Seconded** by Lutz. **Motion carried 5-0.**

10) Finance:

A) Approval to Pay Bills: **Motion** to approve payment of bills by Lutz, **Second** by Parks. **Motion carried 5-0.** Bills paid: Merchant Bank fees: $.02, $17.21, $.72. BH Energy $625.15, MDU $320.20, BH Community Bank-yearly requirement $2,712.00, United States Treasury $2,679.14, SD Dept. of Labor $59.45 & $2.24, SD Dept. of Revenue $22.94, USDA Rural Development $2,407.00, A&B Business Solutions $ 291.84, BH Pioneer $162.33, Bruce Lutz-Tree Stump grinding $320.00, Diana Evans-mileage $112.00, Mastercard $465.65, Meade County Register of Deeds-copies $16.00, Stan Houston $359.25, Trail West $6,265.54, Bluepeak $322.75, Jims Private Utility Locate $95.00. Payroll: Board of Trustees $1,541.31, Planning & Zoning $554.08, Library $4,855.58, Office $4,208.13, Maintenance $1,044.54, Water $576.26.

B) SDPAA Loss Control**:** Items were discussed and Evans will respond.

11) Old Business:

A) Already discussed Mining

B) Joint Powers Agreement will be discussed in Executive Session

C) Letters sent about Right-of-Way violations were discussed. Discussed other letters that need to be sent.

12) New Business:

A) Issues with County concerning Building Permits: Need to have a meeting

B) Attorney for Mining issues: Petersen made a **Motion, Seconded** by Lutz to direct Anderson to sign the Engagement Letter from Zachery Peterson and the Richardson Law Firm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

C) Petitions have already been discussed.

D) Anderson & possibly Petersen will be attending the Rib Dinner and Legislative Day. A couple rooms will be reserved.

E) Beginning of the Year Business:

1) Election date: Petersen made a **Motion, Seconded** by Johns to set the Election date for June 2, 2026, Combining with the County. **Motion carried 5-0.**

2) City Attorney: Petersen made a **Motion, Seconded** by Johns to name Gunderson, Palmer, Nelson & Ashmore as our Attorney office. **Motion carried 5-0.**

3) Newspaper designation: Lutz made a **Motion, Seconded** by Petersen to name the Black Hills Pioneer as the City Newspaper. **Motion carried 5-0.**

4) Salaries: After some discussion Lutz made a **Motion, Seconded** by Petersen to raise Board of Trustees and Planning & Zoning $5.00 per meeting. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Petersen made a **Motion, Seconded** by Parks to raise all other positions by $1.00. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Board of Trustees –$60.00 per meeting
Planning & Zoning-$55.00 per meeting
Water -$27.00 an hour
Finance Officer -$27.00 an hour
Deputy Finance Officer -$25.50 an hour
Librarians -$25.00 and $22.00 and $22.00 per hour
Maintenance -$25.50 an hour
Trustee Admin. - $25.00 an hour

5) Roster of Library volunteers is on file for Worker Comp purposes.
6) Open Law Meetings Brochure was shared with the Board.

15) Public Comment: None

16) Executive Session: No need.

17) Adjournment:

Having concluded all business, Lutz made a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting, **Second** by Petersen. **Motion carried 5-0.** 9:45p.m.

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Philip C. Anderson, President
Piedmont Board of Trustees

Diana L. Evans
Finance Officer

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