

April 6, 2026

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEWISTON, IDAHO, met for a Work Session in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Bell Building at 215 D Street. Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

I. CALL TO ORDER

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Mayor Dan Johnson; Council President Jim Kleeburg; Councilor Kasee Forsmann (3:03 p.m.); Councilor Jessica Klein; Councilor Bryan Moree; Councilor John Spickelmire; Councilor Matt Wright.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. CITIZENS COMMENTS

No comments were offered from the public.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

- A. MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD PROCLAMATION:** Proclaiming the month of April 2026 as "Month of the Military Child" in the City of Lewiston - Action Item (Mayor Dan Johnson)

Mayor Johnson read the "Month of the Military Child" proclamation and presented it to Staff Sergeant Palmer and his family.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Please note that identifying an item as an "Action Item" does not require the City Council to vote on that item.

- A. HAZMAT REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** Overview of the Lewiston Regional Emergency Response Team, including its history, current operations, and an upcoming interagency agreement with the State of Idaho Military Division - Action Item (Fire Chief Greg Rightmier)

Fire Chief Greg Rightmier provided an overview of the program, including its background, structure, and implementation timeline, noting that without participation the City would need to independently fund specialized equipment and resources. He outlined next steps, including consideration of the Agreement with the State of Idaho on the April 27th agenda, and added that without Lewiston's participation, the City would continue to respond to incidents but would rely on delayed resources from Spokane.

- B. FORFEITURE FUND ALLOCATION:** Discussion on the proposed use of funds received through criminal forfeiture proceedings to support the purchase of critical public safety equipment needed for the Lewiston Police Department - Action Item (Police Chief Jason Kuzik)

Police Chief Jason Kuzik and Captain Chris Reese presented the proposed use of forfeiture funds for the purchase of a new SWAT armored vehicle, estimated at \$380,000, and patrol rifles, estimated at \$33,000. They explained that the current armored vehicle is inoperable due to electrical and mechanical issues, with replacement parts no longer available, and noted that it was acquired approximately 10 years ago after prior use in combat. While it previously met operational needs, it is now unreliable amid an increase in SWAT-related calls and poses a significant safety concern.

Councilor Forsmann and Council President Kleeburg moved and seconded, respectively, to approve the use of funds received through criminal forfeiture proceedings to support the purchase of critical public safety equipment, a SWAT armored vehicle estimated at \$380,000 and new patrol rifles estimated at \$33,000, needed for the Police Department. The motion carried 6-0.

- C. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE 4948:** Introduction of Ordinance 4948, which proposes to amend Lewiston City Code Chapter 19 related to health and sanitation - Action Item (Community Development Director Grow)

Community Development Director Shannon Grow summarized Chapter 19 (Health and Sanitation) and the proposed updates to clarify definitions, streamline language, and strengthen enforcement. Changes include expanding pest regulations beyond rats, addressing bed bug infestations, allowing the City to abate violations and recover costs, enhancing inspection and reporting requirements, and granting authority to declare certain violations a public nuisance.

Councilors did not offer any changes, and Community Development Director Grow noted the next step would be to have the first reading of the ordinance at the April 13, 2026 City Council meeting.

- D. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OVERVIEW:** Presentation providing a general background and overview on the roles, responsibilities, and decision-making framework for planning and zoning matters within the City of Lewiston - Action Item (City Attorney Jennifer Tengono)

City Attorney Jennifer Tengono provided a detailed overview related to Planning and Zoning, along with the Idaho Statutes and documents that are the core planning tools. Ms. Tengono also explained the roles, responsibilities and decision-making framework that is provided by the Planning and Zoning

Commission, as well as the role City Council plays.

VI. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. **CITY COUNCILOR COMMENTS:** Comments shall not be related to an item currently before the City Council or an item that may come before the City Council in the foreseeable future, and shall be limited to comments, not discussion.

Councilor Forsmann noted that April is Child Abuse Prevention month, and the Seaport River Run is on April 25th.

B. **CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilor Wright shared an update on the Cemetery and Urban Forestry Commission.

C. **MAYOR COMMENTS**

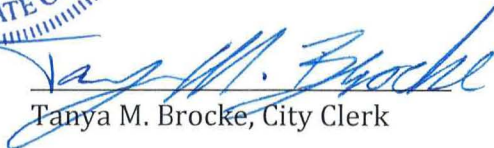
Mayor Johnson highlighted several upcoming items, including Idaho Listens at the Lewis Clark Hotel on April 14, the City's Employee Appreciation Committee trash pick-up on April 16, and a meeting with neighbors on April 7 to discuss concerns regarding Ziplly Fiber.

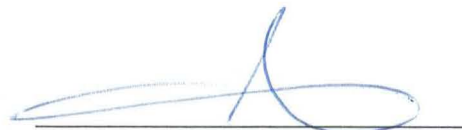
D. **AGENDA TOPICS:** - Action Item

VII. ADJOURNMENT - Action Item

There being no further business to come before the Lewiston City Council, Councilor Forsmann and Council President Kleeburg moved and seconded, respectively, to adjourn the April 6, 2026 Work Session. The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.




Tanya M. Brocke, City Clerk



Daniel G. Johnson, Mayor

