

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the BPS Administration Building Board Room, 320 North 5th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska 68310.
Mayor Wirth led those in attendance in Pledge of Allegiance.

Barnard: Present, Doyle: Present, Eckhoff: Absent, Eskra: Present, Fairbanks: Present, Hydo: Present, McLain: Present, Ruh: Present.

Mayor Wirth announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.a. Approve agenda as submitted.

3.b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting.

3.c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.

3.d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on October 6, 2025, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.

3.e. Approval of Treasurer's Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,237,903.63.

3.f. Approval of Envision Landscapes, LLC claims in the amount of \$880.00.

3.g. Approval of BASWA Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,009,825.80.

3.h. Approval of BPW Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,630,235.40.

3.i. Approval of Change Order #1 increase in the amount of \$7,967.90 and Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$222,261.67 to Philip Carkoski Construction and Trenching for Lift Station #6 Rehabilitation Project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

3.j. Approval of Change Order #1 increase in the amount of \$19,092.31 and Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$112,113.29 to R.L. Tiemann Construction for the 4th and 5th Street Downtown Improvement Project – 2025, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

- 3.k. Approval of Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$396,747.55 to Judds Brothers Construction for the West Court Street Water Main Crossing project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.
- 3.l. Approval of Pay Request #9 in the amount of \$431,550.00 to Genesis Contracting Group for the BASWA South MSW Landfill Site Entrance Facility project.
- 3.m. Approval of Change Order #2 combining Phase 3 and Phase 4 of the Beatrice Municipal Airport Reconstruct Taxiway ‘C’ and Apron Project into a single phase.
- 3.n. Approval of Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$202,228.08 to Building Crafts, Inc., for the WPC Grit Improvements project.
- 3.o. Resolution Number 7638 executing an Agreement for Professional Services retaining JEO to provide engineering design for the Beatrice Chemical Feed Improvements Project, JEO Project #251912, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.
- 3.p. Resolution Number 7639 approving a request from Jay Husker Auto Club to close Highway 136, which is also known as Court Street, from 3rd Street to 6th Street, on Saturday, September 26, 2026, between 12:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. for a Car Show.
- 3.q. Resolution Number 7640 entering into a two (2) year lease between the City and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 84, for the purpose of a health and fitness training center for the Beatrice Police Department in a portion of the first and second floor of the Beatrice Police Station.
- 3.r. Resolution Number 7641 entering into an Agreement between the City and Carolina Software, Inc., for integrating the scale software with Caselle at the City Landfill.
- 3.s. Resolution Number 7642 executing the Letter Agreement extending the Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement between the City and the County of Gage, Nebraska, for the purpose of providing ambulance services in certain areas of Gage County, Nebraska through June 30, 2026.
- 3.t. Resolution Number 7643 terminating an Agreement with Ramsey SmartDollar regarding financial wellness training for full-time City employees.
- 3.u. Resolution Number 7644 executing the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Beatrice Community Hospital Foundation, Inc., in order to change the legal description of the Cancer Memorial Garden.
- 3.v. Resolution Number 7645 executing the Consulting Agreement, and any necessary documents, between the City and Alfred Benesch & Company, to retain Benesch for consulting services for the purchase and installation of new navigational assistance equipment at the Beatrice Municipal Airport.
- 3.w. Resolution Number 7646 executing the Amendment to the Professional Service Agreement, dated January 16, 2023, between the City and the Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND), to extend the term of said Agreement.

3.x. Resolution Number 7647 entering into an Agreement between the City and Carahsoft Technology Corp to utilize Samsara software for Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and Telematics for the Fire Department vehicle fleet.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Ruh, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented. item J - terry - thank engineering dept for job done of 4th & 5th, nothing but good comments 4 blocks, also thank tiemann for their work & talking with business owners. mayor - widened parking stalls, not street mclain nothing but compliments.

MOTION: Carried.

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS - None

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.a. Resolution Number 7648 executing the Union Contract with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 84.

mayor 2 yr 2.75% & 3.0% - increased sergeant. step - reasonable contract & negotiations went well.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Barnard, that Resolution Number 7648 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

5.b. Resolution Number 7649 executing the Loan Agreement, Promissory Note, Personal Guaranty, and Deed of Trust between the City of Beatrice and John A. Hydo and Rita R. Hydo, for a direct loan in the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from the City's CDBG Downtown Revitalization Grant 23-DTR-002.

same as others - mayor

doyle - congratulate major component & will be well taken care of.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Barnard, that Resolution Number 7649 be passed and adopted HYDO ABSTAIN. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Hydo: Abstain, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1

5.c. Resolution Number 7650 adopting the ADA Transition Plan for the City of Beatrice.

mayor - reviewed last meeting, logical way of doing these projects, now have playbook to outline what additional projects can be taken care of to come into compliance

Moved by McLain, seconded by Ruh, that Resolution Number 7650 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

5.d. Resolution Number 7651 appointing Mike McLain as the City Council's representative on the group to discuss combining the Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce, Gage Area Growth Enterprises, and Main Street.

mayor - rep on ngeage, merger process makes sense to appoint him on new board
Ted - had small group with council - mke, Alex, ted? can they attend on behalf of him to ensure city is represented?

Moved by McLain, seconded by Barnard, that Resolution Number 7651 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

5.e. Resolution Number 7652 executing the Amendment with Gage County and any and all documents necessary, regarding the disbursement of the remaining GCED funds.

mayor - discovered through conversations, has been \$ in GCED funds, money was given by city & county, taxpayer money, right place for it is the new organization, divide, in turn \$15,000 will be earmarked for the new organization.
rough patches with city, county, gCED - garnett will sign over funds to the City/County. Barnard - total given? ayor - up to \$150,000 reimbursable - must provide receipts.
ted - county intentions? Mayor - will go before them to pass & it is mirrored similar to our resolution

Moved by McLain, seconded by Ruh, that Resolution Number 7652 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6. ORDINANCES - None

7. PUBLIC FORUM

8. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

8.a. Main Street Quarterly Report.

virginia - passed around hard copy of business directory - will be put on website
annual promotional items & events - night of great pumpkin this Thursday, Santa rides & digital shopping guide
MS 2025 - E3 awards, 75 BRE visits - is community infrastructure _____ - large majority said yes - further information?
business directory - going around simple & straight forward - organize it digitally will work wit website manager
website refresh on hold currently
50% of downtown inventory is ____ tracked? have 100% completed. BOONS tracker - flyer insert - does not take into consideration if on more than 1 store front.- vacancies available - not vacant??
good starting point, room for improvement - BOONS
2 business training workshops - July & August - Shannon filing
barnard - would hope after merger could put together for entire community - the boons info
supporintg RAISE grant in progress
presnting quarterly report - completed - completed financial reports as well
sending out monthly newsletters - 1500 - out or close to 1st of each month
\$50,000 tmobile application resubmitted- were declined last time - other projects were 1 large cohesive project; ours is more small items - under impression they want a larger project vs smaller - should hear back by end of month
Doyle - grant - will grant be received timely? if approved, funds go out in November.
business training workshops - Shannon filing completed the workshops
state & national business recruitment - put together document - insert in flyer she handed out - short letter of inquiry for

businesses

community leadership & involvement - Lorraine riedesel has been very helpful - also working with leadership Beatrice group to get her to record some of the informational tidbits on the historical information of Beatrice & want to preserve somehow
NE arts counsel met in Norfolk - big topics was getting youth involved - big give Gage raised \$ _____; for west side of city office bldg along court street???

main street Nebraska network - hosted historic tax session in Beatrice - had good showing for that workshop
trail of treasurers - picked up slack & took that event on for chamber

downtown properties - paddock kensington - historic preservation - selected 2 properties to put together 513 Ella & 115 5th Street?? - history of property, idea of renovations, resources for owner & places to access funding. byproduct from main street
nebraska

MS - downtown sales event - had noticeable increase in customer traffic 2nd annual taste of downtown - 13 businesses participated
- 33 Beatrice, 2 - lincoln, pickrell, auburn, blue spring, 1 - Dewitt & wymore

feedback - well received
night of great pumpkin
_____ & Santa rides

Terry - enjoy new businesses that have sprung up in each quarter - 10 grand openings last quarter. no new openings this quarter

8.b. City Administrator's Monthly Report.

ted - page 1 dempsters - asbestos removal completed, look at builng north/south/west - windows still have asbestos & won't be replaced. due to asbestos -

also - dempsters committee in process to meet - putting ideas together & will make a recommendation back to full body
page 4 - landfill - had opportunity to be at compost - reached out if we had drone shots - suggest all look at drone footage. - so much work has been don & looks great

ruh - have had couple inquiries on sidewalk - can we fill it in? TR - not disturbing any soil at this time.

Ted - dempsters - talked about brownfield grant - charlie said he had an idea for state & federal - they are working on it, & after seeing site, broadened scope

Eskra - drone footage on website? TR - will talk to Amanda Mayor - also will have

barnard - 7th & Ella - 13th & Monroe? - shuffleboard court downtown - why can't we do something else? Mayor - will have to see since it was leadership Beatrice project

9. MISCELLANEOUS

9.a. The next regular City Council meeting is November 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the BPS Administration Building Board Room.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:53 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Erin Saathoff, City Clerk

Stan Wirth, Mayor