

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, February 2, 2026 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: Absent, Doyle: Present, Eckhoff: Present, 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. PRESENTATION OF BEATRICE SERTOMA CLUB DONATION

Leech, Dageford & Brin Behrens - raised \$85,000. THanked Mark & Amanda with grant writing, all money raised in Beatrice, individuals, businesses, foundations, lot of work, ut when all work together, good things can happen. splash pad & park - very well used. JOHN - day after Christmas had grandkids, all really Iowa & kansas many plates out of state & out of county.
Mayor - behalf thank for partnersnip, splashpad, restrooms, playground.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.a. Approve agenda as submitted.

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

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

4.d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on January 19, 2026, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.

4.e. Approval of Treasurer's Report of Claims in the amount of \$113,970.42.

4.f. Approval of BASWA Report of Claims in the amount of \$28,753.05.

4.g. Approval of BPW Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,474,214.24.

4.h. Approval of Pay Request #4 in the amount of \$147,785.83 and Pay Request #5 in the amount of \$147,729.60 to Building Crafts, Inc., for the WPC Grit Improvements project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

4.i. Resolution Number 7717 executing the Letter Agreement Amendment No. 2, and any and all other documents necessary, between the City and Olsson, Inc., to update the labor rate schedule to 2026 rates, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

4.j. Resolution Number 7718 executing the Letter Agreement for Professional Services with Olsson, Inc., for assistance in submitting the 2025 Air Emissions Inventory Report to the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE), as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

4.k. Resolution Number 7719 entering into a Farm Lease with Ethan Wright and Steve Wright.

4.l. Resolution Number 7720 entering into a Hay Lease with Mark Schaaf.

4.m. Resolution Number 7721 executing any and all documents necessary to release and discharge Marjorie A. Itzen, regarding the Contract for Donation of Real Estate dated November 1, 2021.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Ruh, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS - NONE

6. RESOLUTIONS - NONE

7. ORDINANCES

7.a. Ordinance approving the plat of Landmark Addition to the City of Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska.

schwartzkopf selling to landmark snacks, plat approved, 24.01 acres.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-4 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Absent, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 1 Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-4 be passed and approved. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

8. PUBLIC FORUM

9. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

9.a. Aquatic Park Study – *Waters Edge*

kyle with waters edge

visited 2x, once full & one empty
reviewed onsite amenities & recommendations
public engagement - online survey & 2 public meetings at library
concept planing
built in 1998 & in operation since
some structural deterioration - freeze & thaw - groundwater onsite
color change due to life of pool
staff done great job on maintenance
slide original construction - rust in seal structure repairs have been made numerous. need attention in near future if couple
places refabricated - mayor met life expectancy - not at end but nearing
wading pool - trees leaving debris & pumps located here 0 in decent condition however years of water/weather
filter room - originals typically last 20-25 years, treatment on records indicate they are performing. steel tanks start to wear
around the room - deterioration, infiltration of ground water no significant
some valves replaced by staff
bathouse - original construction floor new - seeing some movement of main walkway
ADA Audit - TT - JEO completed items identified was submitted into the report.

public engagement - online survey, public meetings
summary of online survey - majority Beatrice residents - strong support what was needed standard stuff see
from. programs? recreation high- swim lessons, birthdays, toddler time,

Tier 1 - recommended repairs - all needing repaired, slide, filter tanks, broken lines, concrete settlement, mechanical, changing
area - Eng Est \$500-2 million depending on when completed.

Tier 1 2nd slide - above ground Dyl - how long life? Kyle - 20-30

tier 2 upgrade - replace all in tier 1, and upgrade not have wading pool, have spray pad instead of sand volleyball - no standing
water, would optimize staff - parent oversee. adding shade, to activate for little kids

deep end diving boards stay, add more amenities - staff has a space reconfigured, concessions pretty small, break room & staff
area interior building adjustments - Eng Est - \$6-8 million based off recently bid projects

Ted - depends on construction time period

Kyle - if/when would look to do engineering work, design - in time frame to finish swim season, finalize & ready for look to have
contractor ready to go - some close early

Tier 3 Replacement - based on survey results - lazy river #1, how many lifeguards takes to operate this. what does it cost to
operate it, etc. look at site & address ground water, good asset with parking lot & building. stormwater channel, do not want to
move too far from original location. keep mechanical where it is, enter through now- shallow water pool, move deeper water
further north/east & third body to have deeper water away from groundwater issues. separate from shallow utilize are amenities -
trail, etc. Eng Est \$9-11 grows as looking at this option.

Eskra - slide package? deeper would be on sand volleyball. water bb, volleyball, etc. depth 11' water slide package on lazy
river - found opportunity deck runouts - slides not into would not have to go into lazy river for flexibility.

Ted - on committee - very good to work with, commutiy knows, this is all they do pools & it showed, no hesitations & very
knowledgeable. mentioned staff, Mark, closing in on 30 years, will be 10 years past original lasting date.

Ted - when will this be done? TT - funding sources to look at. sales tax bond - vote of people 2030-2029 after fire station
bonds. try to lineup, can work on funding, break ground over next couple years

Mike - possible to keep old while start o new? Kyle- it is, have to be careful. mechanical are in existing, needs to be
maintained while pool is open, doesn't mean it can't live somewhere else, grand island project not completed until 2027 - putting
in splash pad, mini golf, pick back up after season. would want to spell that out to the contractor to make sure communication is
open. safety, etc.

Hydo - seeing more of this facility, lazy river vs smaller items? Kyle - try to focus on finding right size for community. more
towards the larger side, but for beatrice's population not too large when benchmarked amouong other facilities. now see in
addition people want shade, single body of water - give kids a place to be. spray pads extremely popular, slides, needs to be
balance of what is appropriate with staff. Hydo - read comments - over & over why do we have a pool less than smaller
communities. even if we spend \$6-8 mil, still behind. I could go here to lazy river - offers something for everyone

Terry - not on committee - thanked -public input surprised how much we recieved. did committee say to lean toward which tier? Ted/Mike - wanted 3, pay for 1 if spend \$8 million why not go with Tier 3, make it a desitnation. tourism package, now want a staycation - spending day here instead of leaving
Hydo - seeing some leakage - people are leaving the community for other amenities
Kyle - could be other options as well to achieve goal.
ted - will be a multiyear process. need of plan ahead. Terry - today's numbers. Ted - thrilled with public input
Mayor - thank you work is yet to come, if anything we have a master concept plan & continue to meet - look for a grant - extra \$2-3 million go ahead & spend the money - hope to have by end of 2026 a plan to move forward.

9.b. City Administrator Evaluation.

Mayor - took time to evaluate City Administrator. 1st time but definitely right move.

#1 - very positive, not a surprise has put a lot of investment into this community
not Mayor's survey - used across city administrator's

overall evaluation score on 1-5 scale - right around 4.5-4.7 - really in a good spot with city administrator
overall citizen relation is a good score. many times community members ask us to do something, tough position to be in - could be timing, legal, etc. city administrator has to be the one that says no...
community developemnt complaints -

Overall no issues - fiscal responsibility - look at everything that has happened - poise for this community to grow. with TT guideace he & dept heads working hard. reflects on quality of our dept heads & employees - having a planner in skills of city administrator.

Affermative commets - not al, We have 8 people + Mayor -has to prioritzie, figures out to get
bombard dept head meetings - productive & light hearted - collaborative effort - leadherihp style fostered _____
very good handle on finances - hear about city' running out of money - will have challenges moving forward, legislature looking to take away, but TT has already taken some steps to see whnere

constructive feedback - 7 total - several duplicate
taking action sooner - violation - does try to give people opportunity - giving time - good customer service
making sure communicating & get it right - sometimes doesn't come accross.

Mayor - start off - make statement of appreciation & confidence. - get copy for file

Mike - council president - further wish - full confidence - get copy for file

mayor - thanks for all

Ted - we do not always agree, shocker, but always professional & ha always understood nothing is personal, few months ago talking to neighbor, always try to find a way to yes - how can we get this done, step by step, waterfall, pickleball, etc. he figures out a way to get to yes, sewer project on linocln street, do appreciate professionalism of it.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

10.a. The next regular City Council meeting is Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the BPS Administration Building Board Room.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:05 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

Erin Saathoff, City Clerk

Stan Wirth, Mayor