

MINUTES
Regular MEETING
April 14, 2026

1 and 2. Roll Call and Call to Order Mayor Linda Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council Members J. Lewis, Dean, Socha, and Hayden. Also present: City Attorney Matt Munderloh, City Administrator Mike Gorman, Clerk Christie Donnermeyer, Deputy Clerk Jon Barnhart, Library Director Sami Stewart, Public Works Superintendent Tim Sheets, and Police Chief Bobby Martinez.

The Mayor noted the location of the open meetings act and stated one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at this meeting is available for examination or copying.

3. Pledge of Allegiance the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Proof of Publication the Proof of Publication was on the council desk.

5. Visitors/Correspondence Tyler Curtis, 223 E. Gardner addressed Council regarding Ordinance No. 849, e-bikes. He is not in favor of making them fully illegal. He suggested a more nuanced approach such as classifying them like ATVs or side-by-sides, abide by street laws, holding parents responsible, and imposing a 20-mph speed limit. He understands they pose problems, but he doesn't agree with making them illegal.

Linda Bogatz, 315 N. Spruce St, owner of Serenity Spa invited the Mayor and Council to the grand reopening ribbon cutting event on April 25, 2026 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Valley Waterloo Business Association will do the ribbon cutting.

Tim Sheets, Public Works Superintendent stated e-bikes are ruining the grass at the park and damaging the baseball field.

Brent Thiessen, 400 Park Ave. addressed Council with his frustrations regarding the drainage issue along Park Avenue and that no one has come forward with a resolution for the issue.

6. Approval of Agenda Council member Dean moved to approve the agenda. J. Lewis seconded. YES: Socha, Dean, J. Lewis and Hayden. NO: no one. Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda Council Member Socha moved to approve the consent agenda. J. Lewis seconded. YES: Socha, Dean and J. Lewis. NO: No one. ABSTAINED: Hayden. Motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were: March 2, 9, 10, and 23, 2026 city council meeting minutes; Treasurer's Report, March Payroll \$105456.76 & IRA \$3258.07; Keno Receipts \$6489.10; PeopleService Report, Minutes and/or statistics of the following boards and/or committees: January Library Board minutes; March Library statistics, March Cemetery Board minutes; reappointment of Jeremy Mayer to the Planning Commission (term 04/2029) and reappointment of Dean Slader to the Cemetery Board (term 04/2029); and the following bills: **Services/Utilities/Insurance:** Accufund \$2907.00; Aflac \$222.66; Am Legal Publishing \$250.00; Bamboo \$367.09; Benchmark Gov Solutions \$91.60; BlueCross BlueShield \$22281.22; Creative

Planning \$2409.00; DataShield \$199.28; DC Environmental Services \$4892.00; Eagle Engineering \$29854.16; Edmunds GovTech \$5687.50; FiveNines \$6390.20; FP Finance \$152.95; Fremont Dept Utilities \$44745.57; Goosmann Law \$7925.00; Granicus \$8992.17; Great Plains Comm \$1099.47; Guardian \$1736.83; JEO Consulting \$2422.50; Michael Matzen \$825.00; Midwest Alarm \$2170.43; Neb. Dept Revenue \$100.00; Neb. Law Enforcement \$500.00; Neb. Library Commission \$945.00; Neb. Mosquito & Vector Control \$135.00; Neb. Sweeping \$6543.02; Morgan White \$1228.62; OPPD \$17802.38; PeopleService \$36094.00; Retirement Plan Consultants \$601.85; Signal 88 \$1500.00; The Daily Record \$270.00; Verizon \$1409.52; Vrba Const \$20706.00; Waste Connections \$456.98; Workplace Screening \$70.20; Xpress \$1131.71; YMCA \$40.00; **Supplies/Equipment:** Amazon Bus \$3911.38; Arps \$610.06; Barco Products \$603.81; Bomgaars \$225.64; Bound to Stay Bound \$44.66; Cappel Auto \$18.99; Carl Jarl \$219.00; Cintas \$445.41; Core & Main \$583.58; Demco \$380.14; Elec Pump \$731.25; FNB Credit Card \$5137.39; FP Finance \$500.00; Great Plains Uniforms \$64.99; Happy Faces \$230.00; Helena Agri \$3023.17; Host Coffee \$243.09; JD Car Wash \$129.20; John Deere Financial \$201.93; Keystone Glass \$340.00; Love's \$1628.67; Menards Elkhorn \$610.06; Omni Engineering \$1033.84; One Office Solution \$168.00; Publication Printing \$107.70; Red Wing \$622.24; Rob's Oil \$1179.01; Strategic Air Comm \$187.50; Sunset Law Enforcement \$1465.45; United Rentals \$306.79; Valley Ace Hardware \$752.29; Valley Corp \$993.58; Waterloo Landscape \$238.00; **Bond/Loan/TIF Payments:** Ball Bank \$22392.65; Mallard \$440279.21; Bluewater \$1519493.17; **Reimburse/Refund:** Art of Craftsman \$650.00; Balerio C \$25.24; Boston, P \$150.00; Gafney, D & M \$150.00; Good Life Homes \$150.00; Gretna Plumbing \$190.00; Harpin, E \$113.90; Hayden, M \$999.07; HBC Homes \$1000.00; Heiden, L \$119.73; JES Capital Management \$150.00; Kerrigan, P \$150.00; Koborg, E \$150.00; Landmark Performance \$150.00; Stanger, L \$1000.00; VV Villas \$145.27.

8. Cornhusker State Games and Triathlon Eric Moser addressed Council regarding the date and route of the games. Council member Hayden moved to approve the race activities. J. Lewis seconded. YES: Socha, Dean, J. Lewis, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

9. Historical Society Dave Williams addressed Council with the plans the historical society has for the museum. They will be building a new building, procuring a life-size mammoth for display and are remodeling the current space. They would like the City's support and consideration of hiring a part-time employee to split hours between the museum and Library. They are having difficulty staffing the museum with volunteers. The museum would need this person approximately 20 hours per week (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). The part-time person's salary would be split between the Library and museum.

10. Library Library Director Stewart addressed Council regarding the request of the Library to close 2nd Street from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on May 30, 2026 for the Library Summer Kickoff party. Council member Hayden moved to approve the closure. Socha Seconded. YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha NO: No one. Motion carried.

11. Cemetery Board Kurt Muhle addressed Council regarding the program Wreaths Across America. The cemetery is pursuing registration to obtain wreaths for service member's graves in the Valley Cemetery. There are 50 veterans buried in the Valley Cemetery. Council member

Hayden moved to approve the cemetery pursuing registration. Socha seconded. YES: Socha, Dean, J. Lewis, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

12. Valley Days Foundation Tyler Curtis, President of Valley Days Foundation, 223 East Gardiner St. addressed Council and provided an update on past board members stepping down with a new board in place. He requested an increase in Keno funds from \$5,000 to \$7,500 for the Valley Days event citing rising costs. Council member Dean motioned to approve the Keno fund request for Valley Days Foundation in the amount of \$7,500.00. Hayden seconded. YES: Socha, Dean, J. Lewis, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

13. Water Advisory Committee Council member J. Lewis provided an overview and purpose of formation of a water advisory committee. City Attorney Munderloh asked if a committee currently exists, the answer was no. City Attorney Munderloh made some recommendations. Member Dean recommended membership from designated zones within the City to ensure all areas of the City are represented. Member J. Lewis asked if zones would be possible, City Attorney Munderloh stated yes and explained how it would work. City Attorney Munderloh provided a pathway forward to eventually make it an action item for the next meeting.

14. Ginger Cove and Ginger Woods City Administrator Gorman addressed Council with an overview and update on the connector road between Ginger Woods and Ginger Cove. He stated this would be a Ginger Cove project in the amount of \$120,000 for the connector road. He was before council to gauge if the City would consider splitting the cost of the project 50/50. He stated if the city did pay 50% of the cost that Ginger Cove would be asked to pay the remaining 50% and deed a right-of-way to the City for construction of the road. If paying 50% was acceptable it would be addressed as part of the upcoming 2027 budget. Dave Coover, 15 Ginger Cove Rd, addressed Council to discuss the feedback he received from residents in Ginger Cove. He is uncertain of the legal authority the HOA has to deed the right-of-way to the City. He stated residents are opposing providing funding for the project, citing property and sales taxes are meant to fund infrastructure and should be used for the connector road. The main reason for this project is safety. He stated in new developments, the developer would be required to pay for this type of project but would recover those costs through lot prices. However, Ginger Cove is not able to do that because it was annexed along with the current issue. He reiterated their commitment to work with the city. Member Dean inquired about the willingness of the neighborhood as well as the expense to the City. Mr. Coover acknowledged this will take time not wanting to rush the project. There was discussion on the material used for the roads in Ginger Cove and costs associated with same.

15. Proclamations The Mayor read the following proclamations: National Library Week April 19-25, 2026; Arbor Day April 24, 2026; and Professional Municipal Clerks Week May 3-9, 2026.

16. Request for Proposals City Administrator Gorman addressed Council noting the decision to direct staff to move forward with the process of replacing the pool. He provided a status update of plans for the pool. He discussed securing a consultant using ARPA funds as the first step; the cost, less than \$40,000. He stated should the RFP be approved, he would like to have a selection committee review the proposals and assist in the decision for recommendation to the council. He suggested a committee of seven members, two of which would be council members. Member Hayden wanted to know what the process for notification for participation would be. He reiterated

that this is a fast-moving process. City Attorney Munderloh stated that a decision should be made about committee participation due to the speed things are moving. City Attorney Munderloh stated less than a quorum should comprise the committee. Mayor L. Lewis asked City Attorney Munderloh if it would be fine to have two Council members and herself on the committee to which he answered yes. Members Socha and Dean volunteered to be part of the committee. Member J. Lewis motioned to authorize the publication for a request for proposals from qualified consultants to provide conceptual designs, public engagement services, and cost estimates for a new municipal pool. Hayden seconded. YES: Socha, Dean, J. Lewis, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

17. Resolution No. 2026-17 City Attorney Munderloh addressed Council and discussed the Interlocal Agreement for electrical and building inspections with Douglas County. This is the agreement the county board is prepared to approve as soon as next week provided a signature page is given to them by 2:00 p.m. April 15, 2026. The major difference between the previous interlocal and the current is the electrical permitting process will be completely handled by Douglas County. He recommended passage of the resolution approving the interlocal agreement. Council member J. Lewis moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-17 Interlocal Agreement with Douglas County for cooperative inspection services. Hayden seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

18. Ordinance No. 849 Chief Martinez addressed Council to clarify the need for the revision to the Municipal Code concerning e-bikes. E-bikes have always been illegal per State statute. There is a need for clarification regarding e-bikes and e-motorcycles for better enforcement along with safety concerns. Member Hayden asked City Attorney Munderloh if he agreed with the Ordinance amendment to which he confirmed. Member J. Lewis asked if the bikes are self-propelled to which City Attorney Munderloh provided more clarification. Amending Municipal Code Section 73.065 making it unlawful to operate any mini-bike or similar miniature vehicle on any street to highway. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VALLEY, NEBRASKA, AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 73.065 (MAKING IT UNLAWFUL TO OPERATE ANY MINI-BIKE OR SIMILAR MINIATURE VEHICLE ON ANY STREET OR HIGHWAY); TO INCLUDE ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES/E-MOTORCYCLES AMONG THE TYPE OF VEHICLES PROHIBITED; PROVIDING A PENALTY; REPEALING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Member Socha moved to introduce Ordinance No. 849 on the first reading. J. Lewis seconded. YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. Motion carried. Said Ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Council member Hayden moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days suspended. Socha seconded the motion to suspend the rule and the following council members voted YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. The motion to suspend the rule was adopted and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said Ordinance. The Mayor then declared the Ordinance adopted. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Ordinance is on file at City Hall.

19. Ordinance No. 850 Amending Municipal Code Section 92.07 pertaining to the keeping of chickens, licensing, and restrictions. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VALLEY, NEBRASKA, AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 92.07 (PERTAINING TO THE

KEEPING OF CHICKENS, LICENSING, AND RESTRICTIONS); TO REQUIRE ANNUAL LICENSING AND AN ANNUAL LICENSING FEE; PROVIDING A PENALTY; REPEALING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Member Hayden moved to introduce Ordinance No. 850 on the first reading. Dean seconded. YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. Motion carried. Said Ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Council member Hayden moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days suspended. J. Lewis seconded the motion to suspend the rule and the following council members voted YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. The motion to suspend the rule was adopted and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said Ordinance. The Mayor then declared the Ordinance adopted. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Ordinance is on file at City Hall.

20. **Ordinance No. 851** permitting golf car vehicles within the corporate limits of the City of Valley. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VALLEY, NEBRASKA, PERMITTING THE OPERATION OF GOLF CAR VEHICLES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY; PROVIDING REGULATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATED THERETO; REPEALING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. City Attorney Munderloh addressed council with an overview of the Ordinance along with the reasons for not requiring lights and flags on the golf car vehicles. Member Dean discussed requiring permits for ATVs and golf car vehicles. Mayor L. Lewis recommended bringing up the permitting process at another meeting. Further discussions were held regarding permitting, licensure, flags and not requiring lights on golf car vehicles. City Attorney Munderloh provided recommendations on rewriting the Ordinance to include a requirement for annual licensing and flags. He recommended a separate Ordinance amending code section 73.046 if Council wants to include annual licensing for ATVs and UTVs. He recommended tabling Ordinance No. 851 at this time if the Council wants to proceed with including the requirements for annual licensing and flags on golf car vehicles. Member Dean confirmed with Chief Martinez support of the Ordinance. Member Hayden asked when the Ordinance would take effect if it were passed next month and how it would conflict with the current permitting/licensing deadline established for pets. City Attorney Munderloh stated it would take effect 15 days after passage but suggested conducting a public education campaign with a grace period. Member Hayden motioned to table Ordinance No. 851. Dean seconded. YES: Hayden, Dean, Socha, J. Lewis. NO: No one. Motion carried.

21, **Ordinance No. 852** amending Section 5.06 of the City of Valley Zoning regulations relating to resident/commercial institutions group care homes in zoning districts R-1, R-2, and R-3. City Engineer Perry provided an overview of the Ordinance. Mayor L. Lewis opened the public hearing. No one spoke. Mayor L. Lewis closed the public hearing. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 5.06 OF THE CITY OF VALLEY ZONING REGULATIONS TO PERMIT RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL INSTITUTIONS, GROUP CARE HOME AS A CONDITIONAL USE IN ZONING DISTRICTS R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL), R-2 (MEDIUM/HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL), AND R-3 (LAKEFRONT RESIDENTIAL); PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE, PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES

IN CONFLICT HEREWITH. Member Hayden moved to introduce Ordinance 852 on the first reading. J. Lewis seconded. YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. Motion carried. Said Ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Council member Hayden moved the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days suspended. J. Lewis seconded the motion to suspend the rule and the following council members voted YES: Hayden, J. Lewis, Dean, Socha. NO: No one. The motion to suspend the rule was adopted and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said Ordinance. The Mayor then declared the Ordinance adopted. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Ordinance is on file at City Hall.

22. City Engineer

Council member Hayden moved to approve Contractor's Change Order No. 3 for an increase in the amount of \$134,581.78 from Eriksen Construction for water treatment plant expansion. Socha seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

Council member Hayden moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-18 approving contractor's application for payment no. 15 in the amount of \$810,000.00 from Eriksen Construction for the water treatment plant expansion. Dean seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

Council member Hayden moved to approve the proposal in the amount of \$46,601.00 from Jetco for SCADA software and computer upgrade for water treatment plant expansion. J. Lewis seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

Council member J. Lewis moved to approve Contractor's Change Order No. 2 (final) for an increase in the amount of \$16,838.64 from 2 the T Construction for Park Ave. and Platte St. paving improvements. Dean seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean, and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried.

Council member Dean moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-19 approving contractor's application for payment no. 5 in the amount of \$8,960.55 from 2 the T Construction for Park Ave and Platte St. paving improvements. J. Lewis seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

Council member J. Lewis moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-20 authorizing Core Bank to disburse to the City of Valley the amount of \$2,330.00 for payment of Eagle Engineering's invoice for Valley Landing street paving improvements. Hayden seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean, and Hayden. NO: no one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

Council member Hayden moved to approve Change Order No. 1 for an increase in the amount of \$203,202.00 from Vrba Construction for FY26 water main replacement. Member Socha asked about Park Avenue status. Member Hayden asked if there would be drains on the west side of Park Street, to which the City Engineer confirmed and provided more explanation. More discussions

were held regarding the issues on Park Avenue and the City Engineer's solution to address the problem. Member Hayden proposed tabling this item to wait for more information. Discussion was held regarding property damage on a private driveway due to contractor equipment. The City Engineer stated memos were provided last year addressing the issue. Member Hayden asked about potential future impacts to which the City Engineer explained that any impacts would have been seen immediately. City Engineer Perry explained before and after pictures were taken of the 400 S Park Avenue property which had the contractor equipment on it and it showed no new cracking or displacement of the driveway. Member J. Lewis stated he would like to rescind his approval of FY26 Water Main Replacement and table the discussion to which Members Dean and Hayden agreed due to needing more information. City Attorney Munderloh went over proper procedure for rescinding votes for FY26 Water Main Replacement. Member Hayden motioned to rescind the vote and table the item for more discussion, J. Lewis seconded. YES: Hayden, Dean, Socha, J. Lewis. NO: No one. Motion carried.

Council member Hayden moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-21 approving contractor's application for payment no. 1 in the amount of \$23,400.00 from Vrba Construction for lift station pump replacements (Ginger Woods No. 3). Socha seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

Council member Hayden moved for passage of Resolution No. 2026-22 approving contractor's application for payment no. 1 in the amount of \$8,460.00 from Vrba Construction for lift station pump replacements (Legacy Valley). J. Lewis seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean and Hayden. NO: No one. Motion carried. A true, correct, and complete copy of said Resolution is on file at City Hall.

City Engineer Perry provided an overview of the following project: working with City Administrator Gorman and Water Superintendent Adair on the water main replacement project for presentation at the June meeting; working with the developers for Champion Shores and Catalina.

23. PeopleService Mike Adair addressed Council with an overview of the following: flushing hydrants and the disruption to water service within the next week or two until flushing is complete. He discussed the clean drain campaign to address flushing wipes and other non-biodegradable materials and the damage this causes to lift stations. There was also discussion held regarding voluntary water conservation of alternating odd and even houses when watering yards during the summer months. Member Dean asked why no fines are issued for those not abiding by the Ordinance; Mr. Adair stated there are not enough staff to enforce. Member Socha asked about meter status. Mr. Adair stated we will never get to 100% working meters because of it being a continuous process with equipment malfunctions. Member Socha asked about the process for water shutoffs to which Mr. Adair provided clarification.

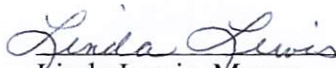
24. Police Department Chief Martinez had nothing to report. Officer Geoffrey Willmann was recognized for his service suppressing a fire at Con Amor before the fire department arrived.

25. City Attorney City Attorney Munderloh had nothing to report.

26. **Mayor's Report** Mayor L. Lewis reminded everyone that Planning Commission will not meet in April; Twin Rivers YMCA Annual Dinner & Auction April 17, City-wide Clean-up day April 18; and Valley Cemetery Clean-up on April 16.

27. **Upcoming Items** the Mayor reviewed these during the Mayor's report.

28. **Adjourn** Council member Hayden moved to adjourn. Dean seconded. YES: J. Lewis, Socha, Dean, and Hayden. NO: No one, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.


Linda Lewis, Mayor


Christie Donnermeyer, City Clerk