

CITY OF IMPERIAL CITY COUNCIL

December 22, 2025

Regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Imperial was held in the Council Chambers, City Council Chambers, 740 Court Street, Imperial, NE 69033 on December 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by notice of meeting being published in the Imperial Republican and posted at the Imperial Lied Library, City Office and Imperial Post Office and on the City of Imperial's website at <http://www.Imperial-NE.com>. Notice of this meeting was communicated in advance notice to the Mayor and Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Craig Loeffler called the meeting to order and instructed the Administrator to call the roll, with the following results:

Present: Nick Colton, Jan Elliott, Julie Gockley, John Miller. Others present: Administrator Tyler Pribbeno, Public Works Superintendent Pat Davison, Chief Chad Ostmeier, City Attorney Josh Wendell, Ron Berry, Jeremy Summers, Manor Administrator Shane Filipi, Gina Blocher, Jill Moline and City Clerk Sarah Hoskovec recording the minutes.

A quorum was declared present, and the meeting continued.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The Mayor announced this meeting is being conducted pursuant to the Nebraska Open Public Meetings Act and that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the east wall of the Chambers.

Jo Leyland arrived at 6:01 pm.

Motion by Julie Gockley: To approve the consent agenda as presented and file the Treasurer's report for audit, second by John Miller. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Craig Loeffler opened the public hearing for the conditional use application for 420 Holland Street at 6:04 pm.

Administrator Tyler Pribbeno discussed the application is by Tammy Siverson for Rainbow Promise Preschool at the United Methodist Church. Rainbow Promise would like the facility to be utilized as a child care "Center" in order to receive subsidies from the State of Nebraska and to help with food assistance.

Chief Chad Ostmeier discussed the resolution for the installation of the auto license reader.

Motion by Jan Elliott: To introduce Resolution R25-12-01 and move for its adoption, second by Nick Colton. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Craig Loeffler read Resolution R25-12-01.

RESOLUTION NO R25-12-01

A Resolution by the City of Imperial, Nebraska to approve an the installation and operation of automatic license plate reader cameras in the City of Imperial.

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial desires to improve their law enforcement abilities by installing an automatic license plate reader (ALPR hereinafter) in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial has entered into an agreement with the Verkada to provide for the purchase and licensing of ALPRs and the operation and storage of data captured by the ALPRs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial has entered into an agreement with the State of Nebraska to permit installation of the ALPR hardware in the highway right-of-way owned by the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial desires to install, operate, and maintain the ALPR system on or along the State of Nebraska right-of-way.

THEREFORE be it resolved the following:

1. The City of Imperial shall hereafter continue to install, operate, and maintain the ALPR system which is being installed pursuant to the agreements with Verkada and the State of Nebraska.

Passed this 22nd day of December 2025

Chief Ostmeyer discussed the Innovative Drone Solutions purchase contract agreement and invoice in the amount of \$12,600.99. The contract agreement states the purchaser must comply with FAA guidelines. Ostmeyer states the police department will receive 107 license training. The IPD has received a grant in the amount of \$4,000.00 to go towards the drone purchase. Ostmeyer states there are several beneficial ways to utilize the drone.

Motion by Julie Gockley: To approve the purchase agreement and payment from Innovative Drone Solutions and authorize the Chief of Police to sign on behalf, second by John Miller. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Chief Ostmeyer discussed the Nebraska State Patrol TraCS sublicense agreement. The TraCS software is also known as "Traffic and Criminal Software". The software allows the police department to utilize the GPS system and allows staff to upload accident reports online. Ostmeyer states they are have to mail accident reports now. Cost is \$37.50 a month per officer.

Motion by Jan Elliott: To approve the NE State Patrol software TraCS agreement for shared software services pursuant to the software sharing agreement and authorize Chief Chad Ostmeyer to sign on behalf, second by John Miller. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Tyler Hilmer from Miller and Associates, Mike Rodgers from Gilmore Bell and Bill Arth from Piper Sandler joined the meeting via ZOOM at 6:18 pm.

Administrator Tyler Pribbeno discussed with the Council regarding a \$1.1 million dollar bond to fund the City Square renovation, which fell exceedingly short of funds. The City will need to spend additional funds to receive the remaining \$281,000.00 from the grant. Bill Arth states the

bond is for 20 years at a maximum of 5.25%. Mike Rodgers, bond attorney, states it will be a Municipal Improvement Bond, subject to local sales tax and if no sales tax is available, property tax levy will be used to fund the bond. The City cannot levy a special bond levy for the repayment of the MIB's bond. The bond will be tax exempt and has separate rules of how the funds are spent. Rodgers states the Ordinance will need passed relatively soon in order to receive the funds by January 22nd, and the second and third reading of the ordinance need to be waived by the Council if the Council wishes to proceed down this path. Council member Jan Elliott discussed the possibility of making accelerated payments for early payoff but Rodgers states that is not an option until after five years. Arth states the bond purchasers like to have a long time guarantee to not have early repayment. Elliott states the City will pay \$657,000.00 in interest over 20 years. Arth states the bond will be interest only payments until 2030 due to already established bonds to be paid off by 2029, to make sure sales tax is able to fund the bond. The City sales tax is due to expire December 2026 and will need to be on the ballot early 2026. If the City sales tax does not pass, this gives the City flexibility to defer the principal payment. On average, the City receives \$40,000.00 a month in sales tax, half to economic development and half to community development with the 1%. There are three bonds directly paid from community development, totaling \$170,000.00 annually. Pribbeno states the funds for this bond will be paid through community development. Annually we receive \$240,000.00 from sales tax for community development. Elliott discussed the concern of passing the second and third readings of the ordinance, feels too rushed. Pribbeno states the difficult part of not waiving the second and third readings, contractors are expecting their funds and does not want them to wait any longer than they need to. The in-kind services are difficult to pay back since the time tracking is not always recorded. Clerk Sarah Hoskovec states the wages from the in-kind services came from the parks department, which is property tax money. Pribbeno is concerned the State will not reimburse the remaining grant money if the Council decides not to construct the restrooms, gazebo and trash enclosures. Either direction the Council decides, the bond funds will total \$1.1 million, which still may not be enough to finish the project. Only \$600,000.00 has been paid out and there are no community development funds left to finish the project.

Mike Rodgers and Bill Arth left the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Motion by Nick Colton: To introduce Ordinance No. 25-12-02 and move to waive the second and third readings so that it may be adopted at this meeting, second by Julie Gockley. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Craig Loeffler read Ordinance 25-12-02 by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-12-02

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF TAX SUPPORTED MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2026, OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL, NEBRASKA, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED 1,100,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO BE OWNED BY THE CITY; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID BONDS; PLEDGING FUNDS TO BE RECEIVED BY A SALES AND USE TAX AND PROPERTY TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF SAID TAXES TO PAY THE SAME; PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE DELIVERY OF THE BONDS TO THE PURCHASER; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF BOND

PROCEEDS; AND ORDERING THE ORDINANCE PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET OR ELECTRONIC FORM.

Motion by Nick Colton: To adopt Ordinance No. 25-12-02 as amended, second by John Miller. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Motion by Nick Colton: To amend Ordinance 25-12-02, paragraph B, Section 1, to read "Pursuant to Ordinance 06-11-02 of the City, approved November 13, 2006, the sales tax will expire December 31, 2026", second by Jan Elliott. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Loeffler closed the public hearing at 7:42 pm.

Motion by Jan Elliott: To introduce Resolution R25-12-02 and move for its adoption, second by Julie Gockley. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Loeffler read Resolution R25-12-02.

RESOLUTION NO R25-12-02

A Resolution by the City of Imperial, Nebraska pursuant to City of Imperial Zoning Code §1405 and §502 to issue a conditional use permit to Imperial United Methodist Church, ("Applicant" hereinafter) for the operation of a residence as a short-term rental on the real estate described as: Lots 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 21 Schroder Addition to the City of Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska (hereinafter referred to as the "Subject Real Estate").

WHEREAS, Applicant has submitted to the City of Imperial an application for conditional use permit for the operation of a building in a residentially zoned area as child care center on the Subject Real Estate as defined in the City of Imperial Zoning Ordinance. A copy of said application is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Applicant's application for conditional use permit on December 16, 2025, said public hearing was held after public notice of said hearing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Planning Commission issued a recommendation that the Applicant's application for conditional use permit be granted for the use of the Subject Real Estate located in an area zoned as R-1 residential as a child care center as described in the Application and defined in the City of Imperial Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial Planning Commission did not recommend any following restrictions to reduce or minimize any potential injurious effects of the Applicant's conditional use on the Subject Real Estate upon other property in the neighborhood and to carry out the general purpose and intent of these regulations.

WHEREAS, a public hearing regarding the Applicant's application for conditional use permit was held by the City of Imperial City Council on December 22, 2025, following public notice of said hearing. At said hearing all persons interested in the issuance of the Applicant's requested conditional use permit were permitted to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the City of Imperial City Council and Mayor desire to issue to the Applicant a conditional use permit for the Subject Real Estate as provided herein.

THEREFORE be it resolved the following:

1. The City of Imperial hereby adopts the following findings of fact as required by City of Imperial Zoning Code §1405
 - a. The Applicant's Subject Real Estate is zoned as residential R-1 as provided in the City of Imperial Zoning Ordinance.
 - b. The Applicant's proposed conditional use complies with all applicable provisions of the City of Imperial Zoning Code, including intensity of use regulations, yard regulations and use limitations.
 - c. The Applicant's proposed conditional use Subject Real Estate will not adversely affect the welfare or convenience of the public.
 - d. The Applicant's proposed conditional use will not cause substantial injury to the value of other property in the neighborhood in which it is to be located.
 - e. The location and size of the Applicant's proposed conditional use, the nature and intensity of the operation involved in or conducted in connection with it, and the location of the site with respect to the streets giving access to it are such that the conditional use will not dominate the immediate neighborhood so as to prevent development and use of the neighboring property in accordance with the applicable zoning district regulations. The City Council has specifically considered the location, nature and height of buildings, structures, walls and fences on the Applicant's site and the nature and extent of landscaping and screening on the site.
 - f. The existing utility, drainage, and other necessary facilities are anticipated to be sufficient to support the conditional use granted by this Resolution.
 - g. Adequate access roads or entrance and exit drives will be provided and shall be so designated to prevent traffic hazards and to minimize traffic congestion in public streets and alleys.
2. The City of Imperial finds that the Applicant's real estate for which the Applicant is requesting a conditional use permit is located in the City of Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska.
3. The City of Imperial City Council does hereby grant the Applicant's application for conditional use permit as specifically provided in this Resolution. This issuance of conditional use permit shall be specific to the Applicant and for the Subject Real Estate. This Resolution shall expire automatically in the event title to the Subject Real Estate is transferred from the Applicant or when the Applicant no longer uses the Subject Real Estate for the permitted conditional use.
4. The City of Imperial has considered the nature of the Applicant's conditional use and the location of the conditional use. The City of Imperial finds it is not necessary to impose any additional requirements for the issuance of the Applicant's conditional use permit.

Passed this 22 day of December 2025.

Tyler Hillmer discussed Miller Construction is still willing to accept the original bid to construct the restroom, gazebo and trash enclosure for the City Square. Pribbeno states it would cost an additional \$20-25k in architectural fees to a different structure. Hillmer states the scope of the project has not changed and the City would be allowed to do a change order if the City would change the restroom from block to wood. Hillmer had never been contacted by the City to try for multiple bids for the restroom following changes suggested by the Council in order to be fair to all bidders. City Attorney Josh Wendell states since there is only one bidder, the City should be allowed a change order and is fine with that decision. There would be no other engineering fees. The original contracted bid for the restroom was \$334,000.00 and the bid would decrease with a change of structure. Pribbeno's recommendation is to finish the City Square project since the City needs to bond \$1.1 million dollars to seek additional reimbursement to cover some of

the costs, even if the City does not finish the project the City has to bond the funds. City Council Julie Gockley believes it will cost the City much more to finish the project.

Chief Ostmeyer left the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Council member Nick Colton believes the City should finish the project and bond the funds. City Clerk Sarah Hoskovec states the general account cannot service funds for the bond since the City paid for a street project earlier in the year. Pribbeno states he would like to utilize the community development funds as much as possible, and encourages not to go above \$1.1 million. Hoskovec states the funds cannot be utilized from the utility fund per the auditor since some of those funds were utilized for the Manor. Hillmer suggest accepting the contract for Miller Construction and plan on a change order in January.

Tyler Hillmer left the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Motion by Nick Colton: To approve the Miller Construction bid in the amount of \$334,000.00 to construct the City Square restroom, gazebo and trash enclosures, second by Jan Elliott. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Pribbeno discussed the utility and transfer station write off list. This is for utility customers who have either left town or have cancelled their services and not paid. The transfer station past due customers have been declined charging. Pribbeno states the City does not utilize an external collection agency.

Motion by Julie Gockley: To approve the utility billing and accounts receivable write offs for 2025 as presented, second by Nick Colton. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Nay, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Manor Administrator Shane Filipi updated the Council on Manor operations. Census: 29 assisted living, 28 nursing home, 2 admits coming in January. The Director of Nursing position has been filled by Alicia Ridlen. The new medical director will start January 1, 2026, along with a mid-level being in the facility two times a week. There was a loss of \$2,600.00 in November. The Manor and Hospital have consulted and Filipi has high hopes in moving forward with the facility. Gina Blocher is concerned the residents are not able to watch local channels. Filipi states the Manor has a five year contract with Direct TV.

Shane Filipi and Jeremy Summers left the meeting at 8:03 pm.

Pribbeno discussed the approval of Eakes Office Supply quote for office furniture in the City office. The Council would like the office to receive another quote.

Pribbeno discussed the contract for PSN for utility provider services. Colton discussed concerns of the contract terms and conditions. The contract states a three year contract with an automatic renewal. Colton is concerned regarding the auto renewal and would like to see a 90 day notice and a one year contract renewal. Pribbeno will contact PSN. No action taken.

No action taken regarding Harris Local Government for printing.

Wage ordinance is for the new building/zoning inspector, Jeff Lempke, Assistant Building Inspector Nick Schultz and the Manor DON Alicia Ridlen.

Motion by Julie Gockley: To introduce Ordinance No. 25-12-01 and move to waive the second and third readings so that it may be adopted at this meeting, second by Nick Colton. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Mayor Craig Loeffler read Ordinance 25-12-01 by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-12-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL, NEBRASKA, amending established annualized salaries and wages for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026 of the City Officers and Employees; repealing all prior conflicting ordinances and ordering the publication of this Ordinance in pamphlet form.

Motion by Julie Gockley: To adopt Ordinance No. 25-12-01 as presented, second by Jan Elliott. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Chief Ostmeyer arrived at 8:38 pm. Jo Leyland left the meeting at 8:38 pm.

Chief Ostmeyer discussed updating the Imperial Police Departments Duty to Intervene policy. This is required by the Crime Commission in order to receive grant money from the State. This will be up to code with the League of Risk Management. This protects officers who are being retaliated against.

Motion by Nick Colton: To approve Section 7.25 in the City of Imperial policy manual as presented, second by Jan Elliott. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

Motion by Nick Colton: To approve general checks 26602-26656 in the amount of \$152,543.78 and utility checks 25605-25659 in the amount of \$397,561.94, second by Jan Elliott. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

No superintendent reports given.

Motion by Jan Elliott: To adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, second by Nick Colton. On call for the vote, the following votes were shown on the voting lights: Nick Colton: Yea, Jan Elliott: Yea, Julie Gockley: Yea, John Miller: Yea. Motion Carried.

SEAL:

Mayor

Attest: City Clerk