

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL – YORK, NEBRAKSA
September 17, 2026

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT OF BUDGET HEARING MEETING

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of York, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 5:44 o'clock p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The Mayor announced that the Open Meetings Act was posted on the East Wall of the Council Chambers.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the York News Times on September 8, 2026, the City's designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment and receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice to the Mayor and City Council for this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor: Barry Redfern: Present. Councilmembers: Doreen Lopez: Present, Jeff McGregor: Present, Tony North: Present, Jeff Pieper: Present, Stephen Postier: Present, Jennifer Sheppard: Present, Scott Van Esch: Present, Jerry Wilkinson: Present. The following City Officials were present: City Administrator Dr. Sue Crawford, City Attorney Charles Campbell, Police Chief Ed Tjaden, Building Inspector Gregg Heiden, Parks and Recreation Director Cheree Folts, Treasure Pellie Thomas, Library Director Dr. Holli Duggan and Clerk Amanda Ring.

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2026 meeting. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Scott Van Esch. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Claims of Elected Officials

Motion to approve the claim for Tony North of North Printing and Office Supply in the amount of \$3,562.17. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Jeff McGregor. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Abstain (With Conflict), Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Motion to approve the claim for Jerry Wilkinson of JMW News (Melanie Wilkinson) in the amount of \$200.00. Ayes with a motion by Stephen Postier and a second by Jeff McGregor.

Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Abstain (With Conflict), Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Claims

Motion to approve the claims for September 3, 2026 through September 17, 2026. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Doreen Lopez. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Cash Balances for August 2026

Motion to approve the cash balances for the month of August 2026. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Jennifer Sheppard. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Department Activities Reports for August 2026

Motion to approve the departmental activities reports for the month of August 2026. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Jeff McGregor. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

City Administrator Report

Dr. Crawford thanked the city staff for all their contributions to help make Yorkfest successful. She thanked the Chamber and all other organizations that were involved in making Yorkfest a wonderful weekend for all. She shared that the Library is currently going through a strategic planning process. If a person would like to give input, there is a survey on the library's website or there are public meetings available to attend as well.

SGH Concepts – Library Wall Replacement

Dr. Duggan shared this project was put out to bid. Two proposals were received. This door will be a manual door instead of electric. The public works helped the library to dispose of the old door and repair the wall. SGH reduced their bid because some of that work had been done. This project will be paid for from next year's budget.

Motion to approve the bid from SGH Concepts for a Modernfold Installed wall for the Library in the amount of \$29,030.00. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Tony North. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: September 17, 2026, marks the two hundred and thirty-ninth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and
WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and
WHEREAS: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designation September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,
NOW, THEREFORE I, Barry Redfern by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of York in the City of York do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as

CONSTITUTION WEEK

AND ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals of the Framers of the constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this seventeenth day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-six.

Motion to approve the Proclamation for Constitution week, September 17 through September 23, 2026. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Scott Van Esch. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Public Hearing – Special Use Permit

The Mayor stated this was the time and place for a public hearing for a special use permit filed by J&L Enterprises for an RV Storage facility. Jim Daws, 1091 N. 7th Street, Seward, shared that he owns the ground and is looking for another way to generate revenue. He wants to construct a building that is 192' by 42'. It will be open to the east. Gregg stated this area was zoned C3 and does require a special use permit for this type of facility. There is a 25' setback on the south and west sides and this special use was recommended by the Planning Commission. There was no other public comment.

Motion to approve the Special Use permit filed by J&L Enterprises for Lot 2, Commerce Subdivision 1st Platting, Replats of Lots 2 & 3, for the purpose of RV Storage. Ayes with a motion by Tony North and a second by Jeff McGregor. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Resolution 2026-26 – Amend Preliminary Property Tax Rate

RESOLUTION 2026-26

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL of the City of York, Nebraska:

That the City of York, Nebraska, has determined the necessity to amend the preliminary property tax rate as certified by the York County Clerk.

That the Mayor and City Council have published notice of a public hearing called for the purpose of receiving testimony on such proposed amendment as provided for in Section 55 of L.B. 693 of the 94th Legislative Second Session.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of York, Nebraska, do hereby determine the necessity to amend the preliminary property tax rate, the amended rate to be determined after the budget documents are prepared.

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-26 to amend the preliminary property tax rate as certified by the York County Clerk. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Jerry Wilkinson. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Resolution 2026-27 – Property Tax Rate

RESOLUTION 2026-27

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that Governing Body of the City of York pass by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request; and
WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the City of York, by a majority vote, resolves that:

- 1) The 2026-2027 property tax request be set
General Fund: \$ 2,072,366.61
Bond Fund: \$ 0.00
- 2) The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by two percent.
- 3) The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by new total assessed value of property, would be \$0.224899 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 4) The City of York proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.230 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 5) Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the City of York will increase last year's budget by 37%.
- 6) A copy of this resolution will be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2026.

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-27 to set the property tax rate at \$0.230. Ayes with a motion by Jennifer Sheppard and a second by Jeff McGregor. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Ordinance No. 2448 –

ORDINANCE NO. 2448

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE BUDGET STATEMENT TO BE TERMED THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL; TO APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Councilmember Postier stated that he would like to see a full detailed budget on the website. The Mayor thanked the Council and department heads for all the hard work that goes into completing the budget.

Motion to suspend the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days for Ordinance No. 2448. The motion was adopted by a three-fourths vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said Ordinance on its second and third readings. Ayes with a motion by Jerry Wilkinson and a second by Jeff Pieper. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2448 to adopt the budget statement to be termed the annual appropriation bill, to appropriate sums for necessary expenses and liabilities. Ayes with a motion by Scott Van Esch and a second by Doreen Lopez. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Second Reading:

Ordinance No. 2449 —

ORDINANCE NO. 2449

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YORK, NEBRASKA TO AMEND SECTION 52-229 (ORDINANCE NO. 2431) TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR "SCOOTERS": TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THIS ORDINANCE.

The Mayor stated this was the second reading for this ordinance. Councilmember North shared that this is a starting point and is a moving target. Third reading will be October 1, 2026.

Public Hearing on Updating Uses in the A-L Zoning District

The Mayor announced this is the time and place for a public hearing on updating special uses in the Agricultural (A-L) Zoning district. Gregg shared with the Council that this ordinance was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission. Dr. Crawford clarified that this ordinance would allow for the option of someone to submit a special use permit and that permit would still have to be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission and Council. Lisa Hurley, YCDC, 601 N. Lincoln Ave, York, shared that there was a young business owner who would appreciate the update for this special use in the ag zoning district. This would be the best option for him to continue with his business. Michael Runge, 1210 Road 15, York, stated again that this was just approving the option for a special use permit. He stated that since the business owner was brought up by Lisa, he wanted to share his concerns as the property for this business is right across the road from his house. He does not think that it meets the city's comp plan criteria for low-density housing. He has concerns about noise and traffic for the business should a special use permit be approved. He sits on the Planning Commission, and he stated this was only recommended by a 4-3 vote. He doesn't feel the building is big enough and that a better place for this type of business would be in the new industrial park area. There was no other public comment. Discussion was had among council about allowing the opportunity for these businesses. The special use permit would still have to be reviewed and approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 2450

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YORK, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND ARTICLE VI “A-L” AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO AUTHORIZE EQUIPMENT REPAIR SERVICES BY SPECIAL PERMIT; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND CONFLICTS HEREWITH; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THIS ORDINANCE.

Motion to suspend the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days for Ordinance No. 2450. The motion was adopted by a three-fourths vote of the Council and the statutory rule suspended for consideration of said Ordinance on its second and third readings. Ayes with a motion by Stephen Postier and a second by Jerry Wilkinson. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Moton to approve Ordinance No. 2450 to amend Article VI "A-L" Agricultural District to authorize equipment repair services by special permit, repeal all ordinances and conflicts herewith and provide an effective date. Ayes with a motion by Tony North and a second by Scott Van Esch. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Executive Session

Motion to go into closed session for discussion about potential real estate purchases and imminent litigation at 6:06 pm, to include Lisa Johnson and Dan Foreman from the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Scott Van Esch. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Motion to come out of closed session where no action was taken at 6:22 pm. Ayes with a motion by Jeff Pieper and a second by Tony North. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Motion to authorize a petition for eminent domain to be filed in the York County Court against McDonald's Corporation to obtain easements required for Project Access York. Ayes with a motion by Jeff McGregor and a second by Jennifer Sheppard. Jeff Pieper: Yea, Jeff McGregor: Yea, Doreen Lopez: Yea, Tony North: Yea, Jennifer Sheppard: Yea, Stephen Postier: Yea, Jerry Wilkinson: Yea, Scott Van Esch: Yea.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting, the time being 6:25 p.m.

Amanda Ring, City Clerk

Barry Redfern, Mayor