

MINUTES OF A WAVERLY CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 8, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Abbey Pascoe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Pascoe acknowledged the Open Meetings Act Poster located on the south wall of the Council Chambers. Mayor Abbey Pascoe and Council Members David Jespersen, Dave Nielson, and Aaron Delahoyde were in attendance. Council Member Allison Stark was absent. Other City Officials present were City Administrator Stephanie Fisher, City Attorney Anthony Aerts, and City Clerk Megan Frye. Others present were Disaster Preparedness Manager Terry Spoor. Notice of the Meeting and Agenda were given to the Mayor and all Members of the City Council prior to the Meeting. Notice of the Meeting was posted at Russ's Market Express, the US Post Office, the City Office, and the City website (citywaverly.com).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Jespersen moved to adopt the Agenda as presented. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Jespersen, Nielson, and Delahoyde. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the March 25, 2025 City Council Meeting

Consideration of Resolution 25-04 authorizing no parking signs along N 148th Street on July 4, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the Fourth of July Parade.

Consideration of the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce July, 4, 2025 Parade Route.

Consideration of the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce use of Lawson Park for the July 4, 2025 Community Fireworks Display.

Consideration of a contribution of one-half of the firework retail license revenues to the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce for the Community Fireworks Display in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Nielson, Delahoyde, and Jespersen. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the March 25, 2025 City Council Meeting

Consent Agenda.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Claims for payment

Claims for Payment: March 26 th - April 8 th , 2025		
Group A		
Vendor	Description	Amount
Marc Burt	Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 100.00
Ethan McClellen	Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 100.00
Eric Peterson	Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 100.00
Andrew Ruder	Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 100.00
ADP Fees	Payroll Fees	\$ 190.18
ADP Payroll	Payroll	\$ 42,000.20
ALLO Communications	Phone/Internet Services	\$ 885.62
Black Hills Energy	Natural gas	\$ 729.44
Colonial Life	Insurance	\$ 43.92
Core & Main	Meter & Readout Purchase	\$ 24,621.99
Cubby's, Inc.	Fuel	\$ 2,461.30
DataVizion, LLC	Microsoft 365 Business, Support, Backup Services	\$ 1,773.36
Hamilton Equipment Co.	Cutting edge, bolts and lock return	\$ (794.86)
Hawkins, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 2,148.90
HBE LLP	Year End 2024 Audit	\$ 22,196.31
Heermann Economic Development	Economic development consulting services	\$ 2,900.00
Horizon Bank	Monthly ACH Fees	\$ 10.00
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	New Well Siting, 134 & Hwy 6 Drainage Improvement	\$ 6,732.50
John Hancock USA	Retirement	\$ 3,663.11
Karly Schnieder	Volleyball tournament refund	\$ 150.00
Lancaster Co. Sheriff Office	April 2025	\$ 38,093.00
Lancaster County Engineering	Signs-address signage change	\$ 210.48
Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies	\$ 1,533.20
Lincoln Electric System	Electricity	\$ 19,772.74
Logan Contractors Supply, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 2,720.30
MacQueen Emergency	Jackets & pants	\$ 12,122.00
Mammoth Station	Fuel	\$ 47.42
Menards-Lincoln North	Supplies	\$ 1,695.84
Meyer's Equipment Mfg. Corp.	Single axle spreader w/ freight	\$ 40,230.13
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.	Lab fees	\$ 407.59
Nebraska Dept Revenue Waste	Utility Sales Tax	\$ 8,977.23
Nebraska Landscape Solutions	Supplies	\$ 363.44
NMC, INC.	Supplies	\$ 273.95
One Call Concepts, Inc.	One-Call Service	\$ 65.95
Paul Davis Restoration, Inc.	Services	\$ 250.00
Pavers Inc.	Supplies	\$ 105.84
Pinnacle Bank	Supplies	\$ 3,889.97
Production Creek Specialty Adv	Park Supplies	\$ 195.00
S & L Trenching LLC	Sewer service lines - Danvers St	\$ 3,750.00
Small Engine Specialists	Supplies	\$ 969.98
Tell Hanes	EMT class reimbursement	\$ 197.00
The Voice News	Advertising & Printing	\$ 153.72

Tony's Lawn Care LLC	Fertilizer-Lawson Park Field 1	\$ 126.00
Total Tool Supply, Inc.	Supplies	\$ 549.60
U.S. Postmaster	Stamps/Postage	\$ 292.00
U.S. Bank Equipment Finance	Ricoh Copier	\$ 143.95
Uribe Refuse Services	Restroom Rental	\$ 96.00
Visual Edge IT	Copies	\$ 99.74
Whitehead Oil Co.	Fuel	\$ 245.25
Claims Group A Total		\$ 247,689.29

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve claims in the amount of \$247,689.29. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Delahoyde, Jespersen, Nielson. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Treasurer's Report and Budget & Expense Report

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve Treasurer's Report and Budget & Expense Report. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Jespersen, Nielson, and Delahoyde. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of Resolution 25-04 authorizing no parking signs along N 148th Street on July 4, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the Fourth of July Parade.

Consent Agenda.

Consideration of Resolution 25-05 approving new Fire/Rescue Department Member Shelby Miller.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve Resolution 25-05 approving new Fire/Rescue Department Member Shelby Miller. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

Introduction of Miller; Mayor Pascoe thanked Miller for joining.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Nielson, Delahoyde, and Jespersen. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

NEBRASKA CLASS / NPAIT MERGER

Consideration of a Letter of Intent to pass a resolution authorizing the investment of funds with Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT).

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve Letter of Intent to pass a resolution authorizing the investment of funds with Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT). Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

City Administrator Fisher explained currently the City of Waverly has funds invested with Nebraska CLASS, a public funds investment company and they are merging with NPAIT so we will now have NPAIT as the organization in charge of investments. The City of Waverly used NPAIT years ago and we have great comfort in working with them.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Delahoyde, Jespersen, and Nielson. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Consideration of Resolution No. 25-06 the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) Enabling Resolution

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve Resolution No. 25-06 the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) Enabling Resolution. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

City Administrator Fisher explained this outlines the representatives authorized to do the day-to-day operations and Mayor Pascoe added this is the same as with Nebraska CLASS.

The following Council Members voted “YEA”: Jespersen, Nielson, and Delahoyde. The following Council Members voted “NAY”: None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Presentation - Understanding Waverly's Water Supply.

City Administrator Fisher provided information regarding the water system and our current situation. Fisher reported two snow events in March helped improve drought conditions, shifting the classification for northern Lancaster County from a moderate drought up to an abnormally dry intensity, but the region is still experiencing below-average moisture levels. During the winter months when there is no outdoor watering, Waverly averages about 400,000 gallons of water usage per day and as the weather warms up and outdoor watering begins, that daily demand can easily double or even triple.

Fisher shared precipitation from 1950 to present and advised in the past 5 years we have seen less than 30” of precipitation each year, with 2022 the driest year at just 19.92”. This long-term trend of reduced precipitation puts additional stress on our water supply, especially during high-demand periods. Fisher shared the static water levels—the depth from the ground surface to the water in the well when it is not actively pumping—over the past 5 years, which have dropped 10-12’ over time. Fisher advised the city monitors static levels of each well to track trends, plan for future demand, and make informed decisions about water conservation, infrastructure, and new well development. Fisher stated during dry conditions, groundwater usage increases everywhere, resulting in declining static water levels across the region affecting the many types of wells across the state.

Fisher shared the City’s course of action, starting with exploratory drilling later this year in targeted areas to evaluate future groundwater availability and potential pumping capacities in the Waverly area. This project will assess up to 13 possible sites for the development of a new well, testing both water quality and site suitability to determine the most viable location. Based on the results of these test wells, we may move forward with the process of adding a new production well as early as next year. All related study documents are available on our website for public review. There are 4 areas designated from Olsson’s Well Siting Study: Confluence, Camp Creek, Salt Creek, and Existing Wellfield. The city is now working with JEO to develop information to share with property owners and manage the test well program.

Fisher shared information shared by Dave Miesbach’s City Council meeting presentation: Well depth and placement are limited by geology. Groundwater is replenished by recharge. Groundwater recharge is slow at about 2.3 inches per year. Groundwater movement is slow at about 110-160 feet per year. Drought conditions limit recharge. Fisher stated all of our wells are drilled to bedrock, as deep as they can be. If there’s not water coming to the top of the earth, there’s no water to trickle down to the aquifer.

Fisher shared information from the UNL Extension when Dr. Loren Giesler and Sarah Browning presented on the topic of lawn watering and fertilizing. In the spring and fall, our lawns need approximately 1” of water per week and during the summer when it’s hot and dry, clay type soil needs 1.5” per week and sandy soils need approximately 2” per week. Kentucky Bluegrass is extremely drought tolerant and can go dormant then be restored when it has enough rain. They recommended watering deeply and infrequently, also known as “soak and cycle”. Look for wilting symptoms and you may need

to water your lawn: your lawn may change in color and leaf blades don't spring back. Fisher stated you can also test the moisture with a screwdriver and the City also has free moisture testers available to residents which work really well to tell you when to water your lawn.

Fisher stated we are in a 365-day conservation policy currently with a lawn watering schedule in place because water conservation remains the most powerful and effective tool for managing demand. Fisher shared the watering schedule: Even numbered houses water on Sundays and Wednesdays and Odd numbered houses water on Tuesdays and Saturdays; No watering between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on any day, when it's the hottest part of the day and you lose water due to evaporation. Fisher noted with the lawn watering schedule, everyone is still able to water gardens, water bushes/shrubs, water trees, wash vehicles, and fill up swimming pools/hot tubs. The only thing we are asking is people work on water conservation on water that is used on their lawns. We thank everyone doing their part to help with conservation efforts and if there are any questions, please reach out to us at the City Office. There is also a wealth of information on our website; there's links in this PowerPoint presentation and links for the material covered in the PowerPoint also.

Council Member Jespersen addressed concerns seen on social media: why residents must conserve water, but new homes are still being built. Fisher responded our current infrastructure is sufficient to serve a growing population. Right now, we are limited materially by the decreasing levels because of a drought situation. Water is a natural resource that we cannot renew on our own so conservation is always a good practice. Jespersen added a study concluded that we have the proper infrastructure for up to 10,000 people and we are not even at 5,000 people. Jespersen recalled the conservation measures were established according to other towns similar sizes around our area to help build our conservation measures. Mayor Pascoe shared examples of strict conservation measures enacted in southeast Nebraska communities due to regional drought issue, stating it's not just in Waverly. Pascoe stated we are trying to conserve until we can get out of a drought and allow our aquifer to recharge. Jespersen noted expert recommendations on lawn irrigation. Pascoe advised of the potential usage charges over 10,000 gallons of water that were voted down because the council didn't want to do that; they would rather use conservation efforts. Council Member Nielson stated when we get back to normal rainfall, our aquifers will replenish, and we will get back to normal.

Council Member Jespersen addressed the misconceptions of the watering schedule seen on social media—the alternate watering schedule only refers to lawn irrigation/watering and residents are encouraged to continue watering gardens, bushes, and trees—we want to see new trees planted in the city. Jespersen provided examples of other public utility conservation efforts. Council Member Delahoyde agreed with education over penalization, just need everyone to follow guidelines. Council Member Nielson advised I water once a week according to the UNL recommendations and my lawn is just as good as most in Waverly.

Jespersen advised the proper way to address concerns is to contact the city office or council members and Jespersen encouraged emailing council members any questions. Pascoe stated we are sharing information by recording this meeting and putting out a newsletter, both of which has had information about our water in it. Pascoe stated we are really trying to put out as much information as possible in the right avenue and the right channels to dispel any kind of misinformation that could be out there. Pascoe encouraged questions be asked to city officials.

Terry Spoor asked if the city considered any plan or contingences in the event this is not a cyclical event, and the downward precipitation trend continues. Nielson responded the city is trying to find new water for wells. Jespersen stated we have reached out to the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County Rural Water—both were not interested. Spoor added it appears we are at a high risk of our overall precipitation decreasing over our lifetimes or perhaps several generations and I just want to make sure the city

considers this, particularly when we're expanding additional users. Jespersen stated the Lincoln answer seems like the obvious because their pipe runs right through the city but it is far more complicated than just tapping in. Spoor noted the cost. City Administrator Fisher stated and if there is a continued decline in static water levels, it won't just be the city of Waverly; it will be regional issue so I can assure you that every community is monitoring this as much as we are. Spoor advised green yards are part of social norms that were created but is a very artificial construct—I don't water my yard.

Consideration of an agreement with the State of Nebraska Department of Transportation for Advance Warning Beacons and Underpavement Traffic Sensors at the Intersection of US Highway 6 and North 141st Street in Waverly.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve agreement with the State of Nebraska Department of Transportation for Advance Warning Beacons and Underpavement Traffic Sensors at the Intersection of US Highway 6 and North 141st Street in Waverly. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

Mayor Pascoe stated I asked for warning lights to be installed on Highway 6 and both east and west of N 141st Street three years ago and it is finally going to happen but won't happen until November. Pascoe advised the lights tells drivers to slow down; hopefully this will help prevent a few accidents, especially encourage semis to slow down. Delahoyde asked if the cost was budgeted and City Administrator Fisher responded yes, but we won't receive the invoice until next budget year.

The following Council Members voted “YEA”: Nielson, Delahoyde, and Jespersen. The following Council Members voted “NAY”: None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Consideration of the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce July, 4, 2025 Parade Route. Consideration of the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce use of Lawson Park for the July 4, 2025 Community Fireworks Display.

Consent Agenda.

Consideration of a contribution of one-half of the firework retail license revenues to the Waverly Community Chamber of Commerce for the Community Fireworks Display in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Consent Agenda.

Consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign a Letter of Support for the Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council's application to establish a Middle-Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund in Lancaster County and the City of Waverly.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve authorizing the mayor to sign a Letter of Support for the Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council's application to establish a Middle-Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund in Lancaster County and the City of Waverly. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

City Administrator Fisher stated prior to this year, any community in Lancaster County was not eligible and the legislature made a change to the qualifications to that so now other communities outside of Lincoln in Lancaster County are eligible for those funds. Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND) also operates as Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council (SENAHC) is applying for middle income workforce housing funds to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED), asking for \$1 million in workforce housing funds used for down payment assistance and construction costs, with some focus on Waverly—being the largest community in Lancaster County. I've tried to work closely with them to show our desire to get some affordable housing in our community. The projects may include infill lots or vacant lots that need uplift; if lots become available those will be targeted. Fisher stated for this program, the City would be committing up to \$10,000, which targets more affordable

homes with intentions of selling price just under \$300,000, up to 1300 sq ft home with an unfinished basement.

The following Council Members voted “YEA”: Delahoyde, Jespersen, and Nielson. The following Council Members voted “NAY”: None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the Letter of Commitment for the Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council (SENAHC) Middle-Income Workforce Housing Grant Application matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve authorizing the mayor to sign the Letter of Commitment for the Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council (SENAHC) Middle-Income Workforce Housing Grant Application matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted “YEA”: Jespersen, Nielson, and Delahoyde. The following Council Members voted “NAY”: None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign a Letter of Support for the Nebraska Housing Resource's application for investment funds from the Middle-Income Workforce Housing Funds for builder construction loans on qualified new single family for sale houses in Waverly.

Council Member Jespersen moved to approve authorizing the mayor to sign a Letter of Support for the Nebraska Housing Resource's application for investment funds from the Middle-Income Workforce Housing Funds for builder construction loans on qualified new single family for sale houses in Waverly. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

City Administrator Fisher stated this is another workforce housing program with the Nebraska Housing Resource Council, who will also apply for middle income housing funds from DED; they are requesting a letter of support only—no matching funds from the city. If awarded funds, they will be used for builder construction loans to buy down the interest rate on construction projects.

The following Council Members voted “YEA”: Nielson, Delahoyde, and Jespersen. The following Council Members voted “NAY”: None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Services (Park & Recreation): Council Member Stark

City Administrator Fisher reported we have hired a new Parks and Recreation Director as of yesterday, Clayton Hufford, and he will start April 21. He currently works at UNO as the Assistant Director of Competitive Sports, he has worked with Special Olympics, has led a campus field rejuvenation project, and manages the 12 sport clubs. He is excited to get started and we are excited to have him here.

Fisher reported the restrooms in Wayne Park have been opened. Parks and Rec Assistant Manning has been working with schools to get the baseball games up and going at Lawson Park. The school district is making arrangements to improve the catcher's area around the bull pens at Lawson at their expense; putting in about \$1,300 worth of work out there and we appreciate that cooperative attitude with the school. Aquatics Manager Hagaman is working on getting everything set up for the pool; we are starting new software, getting all lifeguards and other staff hired. She has been doing a really great job. Kudos also to City Treasurer Cadwell who has really been helping getting things set up with the new software at the pool. Without a Park and Rec Director, we are all splitting tasks. The Aquatic Center will open the Saturday before Memorial Day. All sign-ups for pool passes will be online this year, getting ready to go live. We've been hiring seasonal staff for the summer; we have some returning parks seasonal staff and all of our mowing staff is returning. Everybody is working hard getting ready to go for the summer. The goal is hire about 30 lifeguards and we are nearly staffed.

Public Works (Utilities & Street): Council Member Delahoyde

Council Member Delahoyde reported the new manure spreader arrived today for the wastewater biosolids application, right after they finished up spreading 79 tons of dry biosolids on the fields. They crack sealed N 130th Street, they've been out using the street sweeper all week to clean the streets from the winter storms and have done a really nice job. trying to get up the sand and gravel for 5 days and are now finished until they get dirty again. School zone flashers were repaired on Amberly Road. 15 sewer laterals were televised for the water main replacement project. They have been replacing the water lines on Danvers Street and the water main is in the ground and hooked up to the N 143rd street water main. The project should be done in a few weeks.

Public Health (Fire & Safety): Council Member Jespersen

Council Member Jespersen reported there were 10 Calls for Service so far in April, the fire department received a \$1,000 grant from Frontier to be used toward grain auger grain entrapment, which is extremely important. We also have a new member that was approved tonight.

Fiscal and Economic Development: Council Member Nielson

No report.

City Administrator Fisher

City Administrator Fisher reported I closed out the CCCFF Grant which was the \$562,000 grant we received from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for our Aquatic Center. We made our final reimbursement request for \$281,000 and received those funds, so now we will be able to refinance that second bond that we had down to a \$1.5 million bond. Approval for the refinance will be on an upcoming meeting. Tree City USA Arbor Day Celebration is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 25 at the intermediate school, we are working with Justin Evertson—more information to come.

On Waverly Ridge, the sewer is about 90% installed for the entire first phase, the box culverts are about 70% complete, they are just getting started on the water, storm sewers and paving will come after that.

Mayor Pascoe stated over the past couple weeks, we only have 13 employees and when we are down one employee, the city employees feel it. I just want to take a quick moment to express my gratitude to everyone for picking up the slack. Parks Assistant Manning has only been here 9 months and has done an incredible job including stepping up and getting the high school baseball games going up to their standards. I want to give kudos to 4 city mowers—all the branches in Wayne Park from all the storms needed picked up prior to starting to mow and they all decided to take care of that themselves. A lot of times these people who work for the city only hear negative comments about what doesn't get done so I just want to thank them for all the tireless, extra work on top of their actual job they have been doing the last several weeks. Great work and thank you; and hopefully it gets easier in the next couple of weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Jespersen moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m. Council Member Nielson seconded the motion.

The following Council Members voted "YEA": Delahoyde, Jespersen, and Nielson. The following Council Members voted "NAY": None. Motion Carried. 3-0.

Abbey L. Pascoe
Mayor

Megan K. Frye
City Clerk/Human Resources Assistant