

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, August 3, 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: Present, Doyle: Present, Eckhoff: Absent, 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. CONSENT AGENDA

3.a. Approve agenda as submitted.

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

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

3.d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on July 20, 2026, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.

3.e. Approval of Treasurer's Report of Claims in the amount of \$773,717.23.

3.f. Approval of Envision Landscaping claim in the amount of \$159.00.

3.g. Approval of Scott McLain, dba MDDS, LLC, claim in the amount of \$8,400.00.

3.h. Approval of BASWA Report of Claims in the amount of \$64,319.10.

3.i. Approval of BPW Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,618,022.07.

3.j. Approval of Pay Request #11 in the amount of \$333,692.52 to Building Crafts, Inc., for the WPC Grit Improvements project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

3.k. Approval of Change Order #1 increase in the amount of \$2,115.00 and Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$42,839.30 to Clausen & Sons Dirt Work, Inc., for the Hannibal Park Field No. 8 project.

3.l. Approval of Change Order #1 increase in the amount of \$1,890.00 and Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$87,960.74 to R.L. Tiemann Construction, Inc., for the 7th Street, Arthur to Monroe, Concrete Reconstruction 2026 project.

3.m. Approval of Change Order #2 decrease in the amount of \$19,058.82 and Final Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$404,513.96 to R.L. Tiemann Construction, Inc., for the Ella Street, 2nd to 3rd Street Concrete Reconstruction Project – 2025.

3.n. Approval of certificate of substantial completion for the 4th & 5th Street Downtown Improvement Project.

3.o. Approval of special designated license for St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church for a fundraiser on November 14, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., at Holiday Inn Express, 4005 North 6th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

3.p. Resolution Number 7822 executing the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance Form for the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

3.q. Resolution Number 7823 submitting Payment Request #11 to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for the reimbursement of eligible costs for the Downtown Revitalization Project 23-DTR-002.

3.r. Resolution Number 7824 granting permission for the Beatrice Humane Society to hold a “Doggie Swim Evening” fundraiser at the Big Blue Water Park on August 18, 2026.

3.s. Resolution Number 7825 executing the Agreement with Heartland Business Systems for multi-factor authentication licenses for the City.

3.t. Resolution Number 7826 executing the Agreement with Carahsoft Technology Corp for Samsara IoT gateways, dual-facing AI dash cameras, and related analytics licenses for the City’s sanitation vehicles.

3.u. Resolution Number 7827 executing the Amended and Restated Exhibit A Addendum to and Amendment of Administrative Services Agreement to reflect the improved pricing and rebate terms negotiated by RxBenefits, Inc.

Ruh - item t - why? TT - cameras on sanitation vehicles currently on fire vehicles past year. AI - stretch used by vendor. determine if workers are distracted, hard break, speeding, etc., rectify driving issues. Ruh - help with time if not picked up? TT - yes, currently if no pickup, driver takes picture & sends to city hall, this will record it.

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

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

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS - None

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.a. Resolution Number 7828 executing the Second Amendment to the Contract for Sale of Real Estate with Hoppe & Son, LLC, to extend the closing date.

closing was set for August 7th, takes longer than 5 days, extending closing date to September 2, 2026, to finalize paperwork. no issues.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7828 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

6. ORDINANCES

6.a. Ordinance adding Section 16-234 to the Beatrice City Code regarding registration requirements for parked vehicles.

when we recodified, we removed a number of items covered under state statute. in doing that, dealt with parking vehicle on street that is unregistered. this will put it back. typo in section c. TR - c. who evidence would go against, it says driver now, but it should say owner. Barnard, Fairbanks - amended ordinance - 7-0

jim nelson, pointed out section 2 that should say owner. section a says park - says should be the owner, not last person to drive or park vehicle. TT - that was how it was in originally. TR - coming back to owner. TF - not a big deal, wait & have judge review & come back with an amendment if needed.

Hydo - isn't in state law? TT - parking is not, Hydo - remind people that you cannot park a vehicle on property and not be registered, that is incorrect information.

TD Doyle - should we change this? TR - never come up with court cases in past

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-24 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Eckhoff: Absent, Barnard: Yea, Doyle: 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 26-24 be passed and approved. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

7. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

7.a. Tourism Update - Gage Development Coalition

Caleb, placer AI, help him & office to determine data into actionable pieces of info for more well defined decisions. average stay 3.1 days, how do we keep them longer.

two things not on paper on page 2 - feb 2025 - lowest peak, 6.9 thousnd trips. aril 3036 13.5 thousand trips to city. visitor origins - core based statistical area - where coming from 38,000 from Omaha - do we want ot put billboards that say billboards to visit Beatrice/ KC - put up, try to galvanize people to come visit - visit gage county, stake your claim good to see Omaha citizens visiting Beatrice.

ted - we have sales tax - can that be overlapped with this info. are they spending more \$ or just here?

Eskra - just moving forward or go back? Caleb - can go back believe can go back to 2019 & pull within 2 weeks after event. more real time event data

day visitor - red concern.

leakage Trent - seasonal tracking - this does it for.

leakage destination - where before or after - is Beatrice a destination city?

leaderboard top 10 cities - Omaha, Lincoln, grand island,

747 businesses in Beatrice, out of those, 734 - employee size
unmet market demand - page 1 of 10 pages goes 20 miles out

Tobias - most visors \$478,000 - \$100,000 lower than highest in 1.5 years

Ted - amenities we provide bring people here, would be curious when tournaments are going on & how many people are visiting.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

8.a. The next regular City Council meeting is August 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 6:49 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

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

Erin Saathoff, City Clerk

Stan Wirth, Mayor