

**City of Bennet, Nebraska  
City Council  
Minutes January 8, 2024  
Regular Meeting**

The Bennet City Council (the "Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska (the "City") held a regular business meeting on January 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM, at the Bennet City Hall, 685 Monroe Street in the City, the same being open to the public and preceded by advance publicized notice duly given in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 84, Article 14, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended, and having set forth (a) the time, date and place of the meeting; (b) that the meeting would be open to the attendance of the public; and (c) that the agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk and posted at the City Office, Post Office and First Nebraska Bank.

Mayor Ryan Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. City Clerk Michele Lincoln conducted roll call. Council Members in attendance were Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg, Steve Bettendorf, Justin Dorn, and Mayor Ryan Cheney. A quorum being present, and the meeting duly commenced, the following proceedings were taken while the meeting remained open to attendance by the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. MINUTES of December 11, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting Approval
- b. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT
- c. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dorn moved and Zieg seconded a motion that all items under the consent agenda be approved and accepted as presented. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

With an increase in expenses and staffing shortage due to the recent death of Transfer Site Attendant Terry Newman, the Mayor and Council discussed the hours, operation and staffing of the Refuse Transfer Site. Former Transfer Site Attendant Gary Judds volunteered to temporarily fill the position. There have been a couple of inquiries regarding the position, so the Council agreed to post it and accept applications. They discussed whether the current days and hours of operation need to be adjusted. The Utility Committee will evaluate the hours and customer usage. It was also mentioned that the days of operation may need to change dependent on staffing availability. The City recently renewed a contract with Uribe Refuse for hauling services which included a rate increase. Current dump fees were set in 2016 and are due for a significant increase for the service to support itself. With the thought of a significant increase, the Council discussed reaching out to service providers to get proposals for a franchise agreement. If a franchise agreement could be established allowing a lower rate for curbside service, they may be able to consider discontinuing the Transfer Site, which would allow that property to be repurposed for other uses such as an additional baseball field and recreational facilities. A request for proposals to establish a franchise agreement will be sent to interested garbage service providers.

The Council discussed purchasing an AED (Automated External Defibrillator). The Medic Source provided a quote of \$1,376.10. The Council agreed to purchase one for City Hall and suggested that we investigate possible grant funds to cover the purchase.

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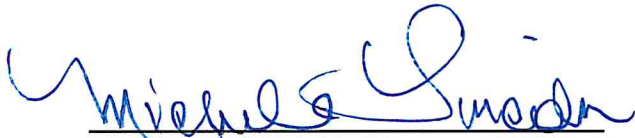
The Utility Committee reviewed the Master Fee Schedule but thought with the discussion of adding additional fees (Subdivision Fees), they should take another look at it.

H&L Asphalt LLC reached out to Utility Superintendent Russ Jones to see if Bennet would be interested in two pallets of asphalt crack sealant at a reduced price due to an over purchase from another job. His offer was to apply the two pallets for \$11,000.00. Bettendorf moved and Zieg seconded a motion to approve the estimate of \$11,000 from H&L Asphalt LLC for crack cleaning and two pallets of Hot Rubber Crack Sealing applied with the payment of a 25% deposit. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

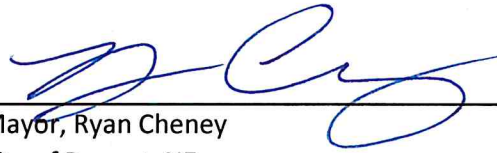
The discussion of development fees for new subdivisions was tabled until the February meeting.

Submitted reports include Utility Superintendent and Lancaster County Sheriff's Office. Utility Superintendent Russ Jones clarified the placement of the speed bumps on Hackberry Street. The three speed bumps purchased by the Nemaha Valley Subdivision Homeowners Association will start on the west end of Hackberry Street and go east at the recommended spacing by the City Engineer.

Zieg moved and Simmons seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:42. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.



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City Clerk, Michele Lincoln  
City of Bennet, NE



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Mayor, Ryan Cheney  
City of Bennet, NE