

**City of Bennet, Nebraska
City Council
Minutes June 12, 2023
Regular Meeting**

The Bennet City Council (the “Council”) of the City of Bennet, Nebraska (the “City”) held a regular business meeting on Monday June 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., 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

1. MINUTES of May 8, 2023, City Council Regular Meeting Approval
2. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT
3. TREASURER’S REPORT
4. **RESOLUTION 2023-6.1**, approving request of Big Ten Tavern for a Block Party permit to close a portion of the east/west alley in Block 41 for a beer garden July 1st through July 3rd, 2022.
5. **RESOLUTION 2023-6.2**, a resolution authorizing the use of the Bennet South Ball Field, including the concession stand, for fireworks display on July 3, 2023, and the closure of designated streets for a parade and community celebration activities July 4th, 2023.

Simmons moved and Bettendorf 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.

Nicole Kobus with SparqData gave a presentation on the Sparq Meeting Program. The Sparq Meeting Program is a cloud-based program that interfaces agenda’s, meeting materials, and minutes.

Cameron Jensen submitted an agenda request that the City provide cardboard recycling at the refuse site. Jensen was not in attendance. The Council discussed the cost and logistics of monitoring it for compliance. No action was taken.

The Mayor suggested and the Council agreed to address the discussion of Celebrate Bennet 4th of July Celebration prior to the following agenda items. Kirsten and Eric McMann were in attendance to represent the Celebrate Bennet 4th of July Committee. Kirsten reported that it will be a scaled down version this year. They will have the cake walk, flag retirement, concessions, and fireworks on the 3rd. The 4th will have the same street closures, the fun run, breakfast at the Fire Station, parade, BMX show, food trucks and firehose. Tailored Life 360 is tentatively hosting the craft fair on their patio. There will be no kids rides this year. The Committee did not solicit funds this year and there should be some funds

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remaining to turn them over to the new group sponsoring the event next year. The Council questioned how many volunteers were needed the day of the event. Kirsten replied 6-8 people were needed for the parade, 6 people parking cars for the fireworks and people to cleanup. If the pedal pull was brought back 6 people would be needed for that and stated that bringing in the food trucks is a lot less work.

Mayor Cheney introduced Ordinance 2023-6.1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BENNET, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO VACATE THE NORTH-SOUTH ALLEY AND EAST-WEST ALLEY IN BLOCK 1, WEST BENNET ADDITION TO THE CITY OF BENNET, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, WITH TITLE REVERTING TO THE ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS; TO MAKE FINDINGS; TO RESERVE RIGHTS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Zieg moved and Bettendorf seconded a motion to waive the three-reading rule for ordinance 2023-6.1. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried. Zieg moved and Dorn seconded a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-6.1. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney introduced Ordinance 2023-6.2, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BENNET, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND SECTION 150.002 OF THE CITY CODE TO CHANGE THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Dorn moved and Zieg seconded a motion to waive the three-reading rule for ordinance 2023-6.2. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried. Dorn moved and Bettendorf seconded a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-6.2. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

A pre-recorded presentation of the TextMyGov program was played for the Mayor and Council. TextMyGov is a program that assists citizens with requests 24/7 by texting key words that direct them to the proper resources and allows the City to send notice to citizens.

The Mayor and City Council reviewed purposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects. The following list is the projects they agreed to forward to the Planning Commission for their recommendation.

Project #3 Office Equipment & Software; Continued without change \$2,500

Project #9 Water Model Main Looping \$475,000.00, keep at 2023/2024

Project #19 Water Storage Tank Rehab \$54,956 2023/2024

Project #23 Additional water storage facility; keep the same \$1,000,000.00 in 2024/2025

Project #30 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Rehab \$33,150.00 in 2023/2024

Project #32 Office Building/Maintenance shop (RWD bldg) \$500,000 in 2023/24

Project #33 Update/Repair Gazebo in Park, change to \$45,000 in 2023/24

Project #39 Replace Mower \$14,000 in 2023/2024

Project #40 Mapping Software for water/sewer/street \$15,000 in 2023/24

Project #41 Sewer Line Rehab Phase III \$50,000.00 in 2023/2024

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Project #42 Update PLC at WWTP \$50,000.00 in 2023/2024

Project #43 Lagoon Cleaning \$150,000.00 in 2024/2025

Project #44 Van Buren & Garden Street Area Inlet \$10,000.00 in 2023/24

Project #45 Cottonwood & Tyler Asphalt Paving/Curb \$1,500,000 in 2024/25

Project #46 Walking Path in Bennet Park \$10,000.00 in 2023/24

Project #48 Contribution to preschool park equipment \$10,000 2023/2024

Project #50 Dump Truck \$30,000 in 2024/2025

Project #51 Jetting Sewer Mans \$.60/foot in 2023/2024

Project #52 Brush Hog Mower \$5,000 in 2024/2025

Project #53 Sparq Meeting Program \$4,500.00 in 2023/2024

Project #54 Office Folding Machine \$2,500.00 in 2023/2024

Project #55 Chromebooks for Council Members & Staff \$1,392.60 2023/2024

Project #56 Tree Planting \$2,000 2023/2024

Project #57 Water Tower Park Walking Trail \$45,000 2024/2025

Project #58 Water Tower Park Parking Lot \$65,000 2024/2025

Project #59 City Trail System – Phase 1 \$2,500,000 2025/2026

Project # Asphalt Sealing

Submitted reports include Utility Superintendent, Sheriff's Office, Engineer, and Code Enforcement Officer. Code Enforcement Officer Marlene Sturdy added that she contacted all the residents that used over 30,000 gallons of water the prior month to remind them of the water restrictions and to let them know of the supply shortage.

Bettendorf moved and Simmons seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

City Clerk Michele Lincoln
City of Bennet, NE

Mayor, Ryan Cheney
City of Bennet, NE