

**City of Bennet, Nebraska**  
**City Council**  
**Minutes December 8, 2025**  
**Regular Meeting**

The City Council (“Council”) of the City of Bennet, Nebraska (“City”), convened for a regular business meeting on December 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM, at the Bennet City Hall, 685 Monroe, Bennet, NE 68317, the same being open to the public and preceded by advance publicized notice duly given in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, having set forth (a) the time, date, and place of the meeting, (b) that the meeting would be open to 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 on December 5, 2025.

Mayor Ryan Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. City Clerk Sue Bilstoft conducted roll call. Council Members in attendance were Josh Buck, Jesse Schmidt, Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg. City Attorney David Solheim and his colleague Matt Blaser, City Engineer Brian Schuele and City Utility Superintendent Zach Fergus, were also in attendance. A quorum being present, the meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 3. a. MINUTES of November 10, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting Approval
- 3. b. CLAIMS for Payment
- 3. c. Treasurers Report
- 3. d Resolution 2025-12.2 Master Fee Schedule
- 3.e. Resolution 2025-12.4 Setting Water Usage Rate – Bennet Elementary School

Zeig moved and Simmons seconded a motion that all items under the consent agenda be approved as presented. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney announced public comment.

Mayor Cheney introduced the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Bennet and Resolution 2025-11.3 to adopt such plan. Discussion was held on changes that were made by Brian Schuele. Simmons moved and Zieg seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2025-11.3 and to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney introduced the updated Uribe Refuse Services Contract. Matt Blaser, Solheim Law Office, explained the changes that were made to the original three-year bid submitted by Uribe. The new contract will be for a five-year period with two annual options to renew. This contract is for residential curbside pickup only. Buck moved to approve the updated agreement with Uribe, Simmons seconded. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg, Buck. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the costs associated with inspection of the Post Office Building and the lease renewal. This item was tabled until January 2026 meeting.

Brian Schuele introduced the Performance Specification for companies wishing to submit a bid for the construction of the new Maintenance Building. Simmons moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to

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approve solicitation of bids with work to be completed by August 31, 2026. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney announced the Annual Reorganization and requested nominations for City Council President. Schmidt moved and Buck seconded a motion to nominate Pete Simmons as Council President. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Buck. ABSTAIN: Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney presented the current list of City Council Committee appointments and re-appointed members to remain on the same committees. The 2026 City Council Committee Appointments: Finance = Pete Simmons, Jesse Schmidt; Housing = Jesse Schmidt, Dan Zieg; Streets = Josh Buck, Pete Simmons; Parks = Josh Buck, Jesse Schmidt; Personnel = Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg; Utilities = Josh Buck, Dan Zieg

Mayor Cheney introduced Resolution 2025-12-1 Appointment of Officials. Zieg moved and Simmons seconded to approve Resolution 2025-12.1. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg, Buck. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney introduced Resolution 2025.12-3 Setting Salaries of Positions for cost-of-living increase. Discussion was held on using an actual dollar amount versus percentage. Zieg moved and Schmidt seconded a motion all City Employee salaries be increased by six percent effective January 1, 2026. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

The council reviewed written reports submitted by City staff and other communications.

Zieg moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to go into closed session at 8:11 pm to discuss litigation. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

City Council returned to open session at 8:36 pm.

There being no further business, Schmidt moved and Buck seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg, Buck. Motion carried.

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City Clerk Sue Biltoft  
City of Bennet, NE

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Mayor, Ryan Cheney  
City of Bennet, NE