

**City of Bennet, Nebraska
City Council
Minutes May 12, 2025
Regular Meeting**

The Bennet City Council (the "Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska (the "City") held a Regular business meeting on May 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM, at the Bennet City Hall, 685 Monroe, Bennet, NE 68317 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 PM and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. City Clerk Sue Bilstoft conducted roll call. Council Members in attendance were Josh Buck: Present, Jesse Schmidt: Present, Pete Simmons: Present, Dan Zieg: Present. Also being present, Attorney David Solheim and Deputy City Clerk, Michelle Olesen. 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:

- 3 (a) Minutes for meeting of the Council on April 14, 20253
- 3 (b) Claims for payment
- 3 (c) Treasurer's report
- 3 (d) Resolution 2025-5.2 Surplus of 1999 GMC Pickup

Moved Resolution 2025-5.2 to Unfinished Business.

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

Brian Schuele, Olsson Engineering, explained the grant process and is hoping to have a trail committee meeting before the June City Council meeting on the 9th. Zieg moved and Buck seconded a motion to approve Olsson Engineering to re-start the SS4A planning process. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on Ryan Cheney's request to change the right-of-way on Quincy Street. Schuele mentioned that all owners would need to re-plat their properties in order to move the right-a-way to the appropriate area. The item was tabled until the Fire Department is informed of the request.

The new effective date in the Resolution 2025-4.3 Lawn Water Restrictions aligns with the dates now enforced by Rural Water District #1, which was April 1st of this year. Zieg moved and Buck seconded a motion to approve the dates in the Resolution 2025-4.3 Lawn Water Restrictions. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg, Schmidt. Motion carried.

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Jesse Schmidt provided documentation for the ALLO proposal for internet, IT services and telephone for the City of Bennet. Prior to making a decision the costs of terminating the current contracts will need to be calculated. Schmidt is to provide a list of current ALLO customers for the City Clerk to check on recommendations/reviews.

Simmons moved and Buck seconded a motion to move 6H to 6A. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Lilile Chambers presented plans for the 4th of July celebrations and provided contracts to be signed for the fireworks. Attorney Solheim drafted a letter to NDOT to allow for the parade to be on Highway 43 (Monroe Street) again this year. Zeig moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to authorize Mayor Cheney to approve the letter for NDOT and a formal resolution to be approved at the June meeting. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg.

Garbage fees were moved to the Master Fee schedule. Buck moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to send RFP's for curbside and compactor service. Roll call vote: YES: Simmons, Schmidt, Buck. NAY: Zieg. Motion carried.

The Panthers Ballclub has requested a shed like the one at the T-Ball field to place at the South Ballfield for storage of ball equipment. Scott Ringland provided a quote from Mid-America Structures. Mayor Cheney will speak with Scott about getting additional bids.

The current dates for the Splashpad will be the same as last year and will be opening on Saturday, May 24th. Water usage will be re-evaluated after two weeks of use.

A proposal to increase the employee insurance stipend was presented. Zieg moved and Buck seconded a motion for approval of Resolution 2025-5.3 increasing the monthly rate to \$1,000 with proof of insurance. Schmidt indicated he would like to provide more information at the next meeting. Roll call vote: YES: Zieg, Buck. NAY: Simmons, Schmidt. Tie breaker vote: NAY: Cheney. Motion failed.

Schmidt presented additional information regarding ALLO and investment opportunities with SLGSafe Treasury Securities.

The Mayor and City Council discussed changes in the Master Fee schedule to list new curb cut and garbage fees and updating the fee schedule. Zieg moved approval and Schmidt seconded. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Zieg moved and Buck seconded a motion to approve recommended building permit changes on the Master Fee Schedule. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Zieg, Buck, Simmons. Motion carried.

Zach Fergus, City Utilities Superintendent, reported there is used sewer etter available for purchase for \$37,500.00. It is currently being used by the City of Ashland but will be available later this summer. The machine will be inspected and repaired before purchase is final. Zieg moved and Simmons seconded a motion to approve purchase of the sewer jetter for \$37,500 contingent on passing the inspection and approved by the mayor. Roll call vote: YES: Zieg, Simmons, Buck NAY: Schmidt. Motion carried.

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The Lancaster County Roads Department sent a letter terminating the interlocal agreement with the City of Bennet for care of 162nd (Tyler Street) from Cottonwood. Mayor Cheney will ask about a possible maintenance agreement with Vasa construction for the June meeting.

There being no other business, Zieg moved and Simmons seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm. Roll call vote: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

City Clerk Sue Biltoft
City of Bennet, NE

Mayor, Ryan Cheney
City of Bennet, NE