

City of Bennet, Nebraska
City Council
Minutes April 8, 2024
Regular Meeting

The Bennet City Council (the "Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska (the "City") held a regular business meeting on April 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 March 11, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting Approval
- b. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT
- c. TREASURER'S REPORT
- d. RESOLUTION 2024-1.1, Appointing Planning Commission Members.

Zieg moved and Dorn 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.

David Russell, candidate for Lancaster County Commissioner 4th District introduced himself to the Mayor and Council. He shared that he would like to see more collaboration between the towns and the County.

The Homeowners Association for the Nemaha Valley Subdivision has funded three speed bumps to be installed on Hackberry Street between Harrison Street and Garden Street and would like to fund an additional two speed bumps for that stretch. Zieg moved and Bettendorf seconded a motion to approve the installation of two additional speed bumps purchased by the Nemaha Valley Homeowners Association to be located on Hackberry Street according to the Engineers location recommendations. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

The development fees for the new subdivisions were discussed. Engineer Brian Schuele shared that when communities get to a certain amount of growth, they implement development fees to support the expansion of the necessary infrastructure. He had provided spreadsheets that showed what fees would have been generated from the Evergreen Place and Cedar Brook Additions with the rates from Springfield, Hickman, and Waverly. The development fees for the new subdivisions will be reviewed by the Utility Committee.

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Zieg moved and Bettendorf seconded a motion to approve the estimate from H&L Asphalt LLC to seal coat 22 blocks for \$25,300.00. Roll call vote: Simmons, Zieg, Bettendorf, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

The Council discussed some of the renewal terms of the EMC Insurance Policy including the premium, the \$10,000 deductible for wind and hail per building, and buildings with roofs over 15 years being insured at actual cash value. They decided to get a bid from LARM to be reviewed by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will determine whether they should seek additional bids and then report back to the City Council with their recommendation.

In light of being halfway through the fiscal year, the Mayor and Council reviewed the budget and CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) projects that were planned for this year. Engineer Brian Schuele stated that the design plan for the water looping project is almost complete and should be able to go out for bid in May. The ARPA (American Relief Plan Act) funds that need to be committed by December 2024 will be used for the water looping project. Schuele also pointed out that the Subdivision Agreement for Cochrane Corner will need to be amended since part of the agreement entailed the developer constructing the main on Tyler Street. Attorney Solheim shared that the developers' attorney had reached out to him regarding renewing the agreements due to the two-year deadline getting close. Schuele also mentioned that the culvert at 480 Cottonwood would need to be done in conjunction with the street projects.

The Council discussed the 4th of July Celebration. The special event insurance will cost \$250 for an attendance of up to 500 people and \$600 if the attendance is 501-1,500 people. It does not cover fireworks, concessionaires, exhibitors, or vendors. The Council agreed that they were not in favor of the City managing the funds and felt that there needed to be a foundation established to manage the funds.

Submitted reports include Maintenance, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office, Engineer, and Code Enforcement Officer. Lincoln reminded the Council about Clean Up Day, which will be April 27th from 8am until noon. She also reported that she had completed 4 of the 9-hour federal grant training. When the grant agreement is completed, it will be submitted to NDOT for their review. Engineer Brian Schuele recommended implementing user fees on high-volume users.

Zieg moved and Dorn seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:12 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