

**City of Bennet, Nebraska**

**City Council**

**Minutes for January 7, 2025**

**Regular Meeting**

The City Council ("Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska ("City"), convened for a regular business meeting on January 7, 2025, at 7:00PM at Bennet Elementary, 50 Dogwood St, Bennet, NE 68317, the same being open to the public and preceded by advanced 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.

Mayor Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. Roll call. Members in attendance: Josh Buck, Jesse Schmidt, Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg, Ryan Cheney. City Engineer Brian Schuele, City Clerk Sue Biltoft, and City Attorney David Solheim were also in attendance. A quorum being present, the meeting commenced.

The council reviewed items on the consent agenda, which included: (a) minutes for meeting of the Council on December 9, 2024; (b) claims for payment; (c) Treasurer's report; (d) Resolution 2025-1.1 appointing Tyler Anderson to the Planning Commission; and (e) approving Van Kirk Bros Payment App #3 in the amount of \$40,423.92. Zieg moved approval, and Schmidt seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney announced public comment.

Mayor Cheney re-introduced Resolution 2024-9.2 to approve the Water Purchase Agreement with Lancaster County Rural Water District #1. City Attorney David Solheim outlined changes since the last version and recommended approval. Zieg moved approval, and Buck seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

The Mayor and City Council discussed placing streetlights at Evergreen Place 1st Addition. No action taken. Will be placed on the February agenda as Old Business.

The Mayor and City Council discussed upgrading the office copier through a lease agreement with Matrix Business Systems. Buck moved approval, and Zieg seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Dan Zieg, in his personal capacity, presented a request to approve a 25' curb cut at 1025 Evergreen Road. Buck moved approval, and Simmons seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons; ABSTAIN: Zieg. Motion carried. The City Council also requested the City Attorney prepare an ordinance to amend the City Code to allow curb cuts up to 25' with any requests to exceed 25' to be approved by the City Engineer.

The Mayor and City Council discussed the parking situation on the east side of Whispering Pines Park. Referred to the Parks Committee.

The Mayor and City Council discussed a proposed contract with Olsson Inc to develop a Transportation Safety Action Plan under the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant. Zieg moved approval, and Simmons seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Kelly Langer presented updates and further information related to the Conditional Use Permit for 690 Monroe. In December 2024, Mr. Langer had requested a 2-year deadline to join the two primary use structures, creating a commercial space between them, and have a tenant in place, with the new business being operational by year 3. The Mayor and City Council reiterated that Mr. Langer needs to either splitting the lot so that each primary use structure has its own lot, or show substantial progress toward connecting the buildings by the deadline.

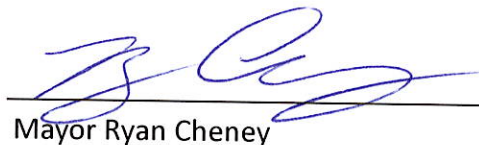
The Mayor and City Council reviewed written reports submitted by City staff.

Mayor Cheney opened the floor to public comment.

There being no further business, Zieg moved to adjourn, and Simmons seconded. Roll call. YES: Buck, Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.



City Attorney David Solheim  
Sitting in for the City Clerk



Mayor Ryan Cheney