

City of Bennet, Nebraska
City Council
Minutes June 8, 2026
Regular Meeting

The City Council ("Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska ("City"), convened for a regular business meeting on June 8, 2026 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 June 5, 2026.

Mayor Ryan Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. City Clerk Sue Biltoft conducted roll call. Council Members in attendance: Jesse Schmidt, Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg. Absent: Josh Buck. Also in attendance were City Attorney David Solheim, Deputy City Attorney Matt Blaser and Utility Superintendent Zach Fergus. 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 of May 11, 2026, City Council Regular Meeting Approval
- 3.b. Claims for Payment
- 3.e. Treasurers Report
- 3.d. RESOLUTION 2026-6.1 Approval of Big Ten Block Party Application

Zieg moved and Schmidt seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote: YES: Schmidt, Simmons, Zieg. ABSENT: Buck. Motion carried.

Attorney Solheim requested the Quincy Street Replat Agreement be tabled until July.

Mayor Cheney introduced the list of CIP projects and discussion was held on fiscal years affected. Utility Superintendent Zach Fergus gave an overview of the requests he included. City Engineer Brian Schuele had made some changes of previous requests, and City Clerk Biltoft explained changes that she had requested.

Mayor Cheney introduced the RESOLUTION 2026-5.3 Adopt Revised Employee Handbook. The previous version had been revised to include on-call pay and background checks for new employees. Zieg moved and Simmons seconded a motion to approve RESOLUTION 2026-5.3 and adopt the revised handbook. Roll call vote: YES: Simmons, Zieg, Schmidt. ABSENT: Buck. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney introduced the topic of rate increases needed for water and sewer service fees and usage as recommended by Michael Hoback, Auditor. After discussion it was decided to review and include in the budget hearings in August.

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Clint Pebley updated the council regarding the Bennet Builders fundraising for the toddler playground equipment. Once the funds are received from the Nebraska Community Foundation, the equipment will be ordered.

Gary Judds did not appear for his agenda request to discuss regulations.

Mayor Cheney introduced an item requested by City Engineer Schuele regarding the approval of striping of on-street shared use bike/pedestrian path on Jefferson Street from Cottonwood to school entrance. After discussion this was tabled until July when Schuele can be present to for questions and discussions.

Zieg moved and Simmons seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:51 pm. Roll call vote: YES: Zieg, Schmidt, Simmons. ABSENT: Josh Buck. Motion carried.

City Clerk Sue Biltoft
City of Bennet, NE

Mayor, Ryan Cheney
City of Bennet, NE